

School District Denies K-8 School at International Studies Academy Campus



BY KEITH BURBANK

In a surprise announcement last month, the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) said that it was eliminating the middle school that was located at the Enola Maxwell campus, and will replace it for one year with a charter school, Kipp High School, which will share the site with International Studies Academy (ISA). The decision angered many parents of Daniel Webster Elementary School students, who have been pressing the district to locate a kindergarten through eighth grade school at Maxwell. A K-8 school is needed, advocates insist, to keep families in the City and provide for the population wave moving to or near the Hill.

ISA community hadn't been engaged as part of the proposal to site a K-8 school where the high school currently operates.

Daniel Webster parents had pressed for a decision to site a K-8 school at Maxwell last spring, at a meeting with the San Francisco Board of Supervisor's Joint City and School Board Select Committee. At that assembly, SFUSD said a decision hinged in part on a demographic analysis. The district didn't respond to a request by the *View* for a copy of that analysis.

"Family flight is a very real issue in our City. We need to keep families in San Francisco. Ten thousand residential units are being built in our attendance area. We need a solution."

STACEY BARTLETT, DANIEL WEBSTER PARENT AND DIRECTOR OF PKDW PRESCHOOL

"It's been made," said Richard Carranza, superintendent, SFUSD, at a meeting of concerned parents held at Daniel Webster's auditorium. "The [co-location] decision has been made. It's legally binding...It's my decision" Carranza expressed regret that the announcement came "out of the blue." But, he said the decision wasn't arbitrary. Carranza was distressed that the Daniel Webster community felt as if it hadn't been heard by the district, but he was deeply troubled that the

California law requires the district to provide space for charter schools. According to the California Department of Education's website, "Proposi-

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Porpoises Return to the Bay

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

In 2008, harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) — marine mammals related to whales and dolphins — returned to the San Francisco Bay after a roughly seventy year absence. "The porpoises are back," said Bill Keener, environmental lawyer and former Marine Mammal Center executive director. "They're alive and well. If you stand on the Golden Gate Bridge after high tide, you'd see one hundred plus in an hour. I never expected to see them back in the San Francisco Bay."

from 2007 to 2009, which led to increased salt levels in the water, more suitable for "schooling marine fish, such as herring, anchovy, and jacksmelt," according to an article by Keener that appeared in the July 2011 edition of *Bay Nature Magazine*. In the 1980's, mass fishing nets, known as gill nets, were banned from the Bay. This led to more schooling fish, and eliminated deaths caused when porpoises were accidentally caught or injured. Pollution in the Bay has also been reduced. Today, there's an estimated 9,000 harbor porpoises in West Coast waters, from San Mateo County to Mendocino County, and perhaps 600 of them in the Bay.

While the porpoises' return has been celebrated by environmental-

Porpoises started to disappear from the Bay well before the middle of the last century; environmental factors related to rising shipping traffic likely drove the marine mammals away. During World War II, the U.S. Navy installed a steel net that spanned from San Francisco to Sausalito to protect the region from submarine attacks. The net kept the porpoises out, and, by straining the current, created an underwater cacophony that would have made it difficult for the animals to communicate and hunt.



ists, some remain concerned about the population's future viability. "There's still much to be done to improve the water quality of the Bay. If many of us still don't want to swim in and fish in it, why would a large

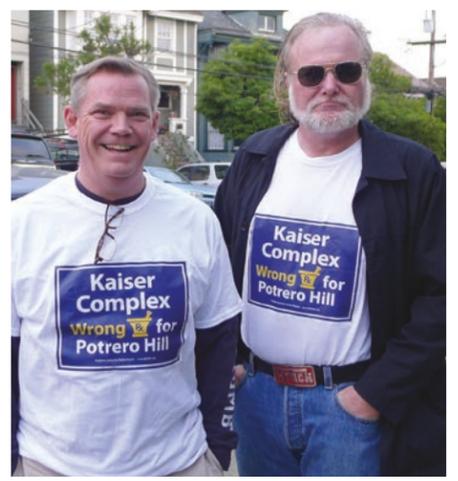
The porpoises' return may be related to a rise in fish population caused by unusually low rainfall

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Kaiser Permanente Floasts Revised Plans for Proposed Development

BY KEITH BURBANK

Kaiser Permanente shared its plans for a new development at 16th and Mississippi streets at an open house last month, drawing a crowd of San Franciscans opposed to and in support of the project, as well as those who want it sited in Bayview. Groups representing these three perspectives came wearing t-shirts expressing their views, as residents crowded Daniel Webster Elementary School's auditorium to view information boards and speak with Kaiser representatives.



Potrero Hill residents wearing the Save-The-Hill t-shirts at a packed Kaiser meeting held at Daniel Webster cafeteria last month. PHOTOGRAPHS BY R. MILLER

"All the people who are against it, they don't live here," said Joey D'Angelo, homeowner association president at 999 16th Street, next door to the planned development. D'Angelo related how a building resident's car was recently stolen, but after the thieves were unable to drive it more than a block because it was in ill-repair, they abandoned it in the middle

of the street, where police found it. "The crime is out of control," D'Angelo said. According to D'Angelo, residents of his building would be nearly as happy with a nuclear power plant next

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PUBLISHER'S VIEW

Middle School

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

Seven years ago, my wife, Debbie, and I opened a letter from the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), and jumped for joy. More accurately, Debbie did the jumping; I limited myself to a few fist pumps. Our daughter, Sara, had gotten into Alvarado Elementary School's Spanish immersion track, a well-respected program that had a history of strong parental support. We'd won the school lottery, in which the City's kids are assigned schools based on a formula that's supposed to encourage educational equity.

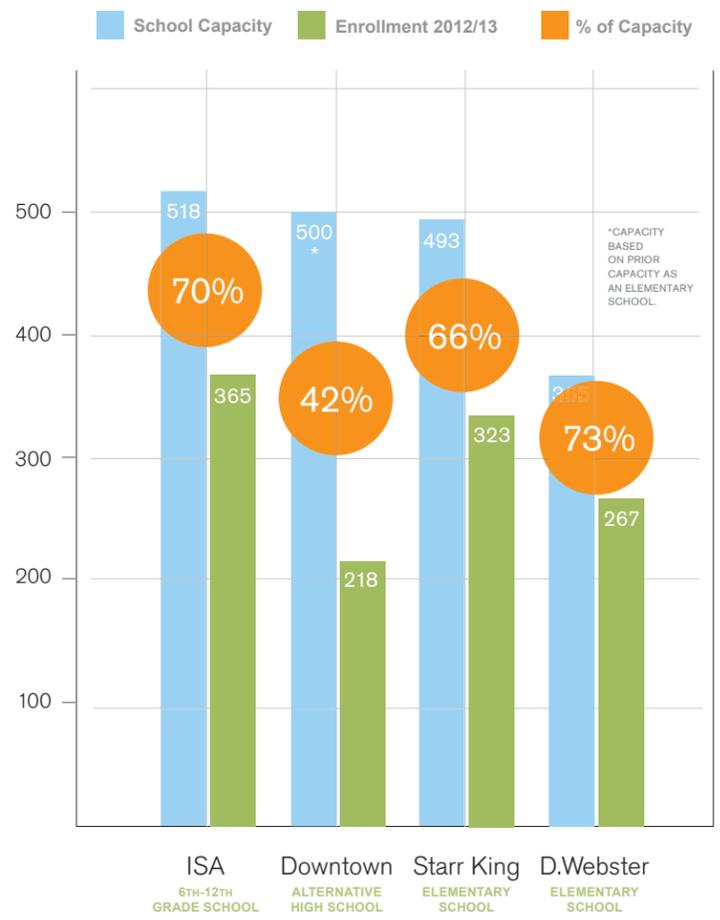
In the end Alvarado wasn't a good match for Sara's learning needs; she transferred to Brandeis Hillel Day School in third grade. But the happiness we'd experienced in the moment we read the letter is easy to recall, a highlight of our daughter's young life.

And that's plain wrong. At the time we received the district's correspondence we lived right across the street from what was then International Studies Academy (ISA) — occupying a site originally built for Patrick Henry Elementary School — and a (long) walk away from Buena Vista, Daniel Webster and Starr King elementary schools. Yet, in 2006, there were no compelling elementary school options in Potrero Hill. Just one Spanish immersion program was offered, with bottom-scraping academic performance at Daniel Webster and Starr King. The very idea that a parent had, and has, to "win the lottery" for their child to attend a school that can be trusted to provide a solid — better yet, superlative — education may speak to a kind of chance-based equity, but hardly reflects academic justice.

Today, an improved Buena Vista has moved off the Hill. Changing demographics, the addition of language immersion tracks, and energetic parental support have lifted Starr King and Daniel Webster to better academic performance. While challenges remain, both schools offer Dogpatch and Potrero Hill parents compelling educational options for their children. But only until fifth grade. Next year the community will have two elementary schools, two high schools — one of which, Downtown, caters to extension students — and no middle school.

Dogpatch and Potrero Hill may be the most community-minded neighborhoods in the City. Civic spirit is amply demonstrated by one of San Francisco's most active and engaged merchants associations, multiple boosterish- and park-oriented groups, chatter-filled neighborhood listservs, and, ahem, the City's longest-running neighborhood newspaper. The fast growing community has earned its multiple pre-schools and steadily improving elementary schools. And it deserves an excellent middle school.

Potrero Hill School Capacity and Enrollment



The hole our community's children encounter when they reach sixth grade is unconscionable. It should be filled by extending Daniel Webster to eighth grade, or adding a high-quality middle school that offers multiple language tracks. There are lots of ways to create an educational infrastructure that achieves this goal. Downtown High School currently occupies Patrick Henry's former campus, and is significantly undersubscribed. ISA, now to be co-located with Kipp, is on a middle school site. Daniel Webster's buildings formerly supported administrative offices. A school site has been set aside in Mission Bay. Private schools in the area have converted medical offices, or carved out space in new developments.

The problem isn't an absence of building capacity, but one of political will. SFUSD should do the right thing by our community, or we should band together with other neglected neighborhoods and vote its school board members out of office, replaced by one or more civic-minded individuals who've repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to our children.

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mammal, sitting at the top of the food chain?" questioned Save the Bay in a press release issued earlier this year. The nonprofit wants the State Water Resources Control Board — San Francisco Bay to clean-up the Bay, particularly related to pollution emitted by C&H Sugar and Tesoro Refining, a plant that converts oil and gas to petroleum. Save the Bay collected more than 10,000 signatures on a recent petition urging the Water Board to more strictly enforce the Clean Water Act.

"Most of what we know about harbor porpoises is based on the examination of stranded animals — carcasses," Keener wrote. "With their regular appearance in the Bay, we now had a chance to learn how they live in their element." Keener noted that the current porpoise population is relatively healthy. Porpoises aren't washing up dead on shore in large numbers, though a small number were killed a few years ago. The cause is still undetermined, but Keener believes many of the dead animals suffered from domoic acid



toxicosis. Domoic acid is created by a harmful algae bloom, often referred to as a "red tide." Red tide occurs when algae accumulates rapidly, and can cause mortalities of coastal animals. Porpoises can also be attacked by dolphins, but like the red tide algae incident, these are rare.

"I studied them a lot in the 80s off-shore," Keener recalled. "If you approach them in a boat they'll run away from you. Now, we can give them individual IDs to track them over time and get pictures to observe what they're doing socially." The same breed of harbor porpoises inhabits European coasts, but aren't as healthy due to pollution, with declining populations. "What we're learning about their behavior, particularly their breeding habits and the appeal of the Bay to mothers with babies, might help them," explained Keener.

Keener, working with three cetacean specialists and co-investigators — Izzy Szczepaniak, Jonathan Stern, and Marc Webber — discovered an all-white porpoise that they named, "Mini-Moby." Only five white harbor porpoises have been identified in the scientific literature, the earliest dating to 1911. "People should go look for themselves," Keener insisted. "One of the hardest to observe animals is one of the easiest to observe from San Francisco. The Golden Gate Bridge has become an observatory. It's good to take binoculars."

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SHORT CUTS

Aggressive Headlines

After last month's *View* went to print—with an article headlined “District 10 Supervisor Dodges *View*'s Inquiry About Development”—the paper was contacted by **Andrea Bruss**, an aide to District 10 Supervisor **Malia Cohen**. Bruss emailed the following about the subject of the story, a proposed development on Hooper Street: “I would say that we discussed this proposal when the project sponsor, Dan Murphy, filed his Preliminary Project Application (PPA) with the Planning Department about a year ago. As we discussed on the phone, the Planning Department provided extensive comments on this PPA. I would defer to the Planning Department's comments, but I believe that as proposed today, this project would need zoning changes in order to move forward as currently proposed. Before the Supervisor would consider supporting or sponsoring any re-zoning of this property, the project sponsor would need community support and to continue to work to address the concerns raised by the Planning Department. Apart from Mr. Murphy's project, the Supervisor has been working with Planning Department staff to look at potential changes to the code that would facilitate construction of new PDR space, given the significant demand we are seeing in San Francisco for PDR.” A pretty fulsome answer, which can hardly be considered a dodge. Perhaps, as described in the article, the fact that the developer immediately called the *View* back after the paper contacted the supervisor's office, while the *View* didn't hear back from the supervisor until its deadline had passed, was merely a coincidence.

Stop Signs

Earlier this year the **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)** decided to place stop signs at 17th and Missouri streets, making that intersection an all-way stop. However, SFMTA doesn't want to install “cross traffic does not stop” signs on Pennsylvania Avenue at Mariposa and 18th Streets, and Texas and 18th streets, based on a review of collision history, which suggests the intersections are operating safely. In addition, a north-

bound stop message on Pennsylvania Avenue at 18th Street is being restored, an 18 foot red zone on the south side of 18th Street, just west of Pennsylvania Avenue, is being repainted and extended to a new total length of 20 feet, and transverse crosswalk markings at this intersection are being modified to the more visible staggered continental style.

Neighborhood House

In late-2010, with little public notice, the **Potrero Hill Neighborhood House (Nabe)** sold the almost century-old corner garden, located across the road from the nonprofit, to **Thomas G. Keegan, Krista Henry Keegan, Eugene J. Keegan** and **Miriam McGuinness**. The Nabe cashed in the De Haro Street and Southern Heights Avenue lot to make up for a steep decline in City funding. The 3,362 square-foot property, which is zoned for a two unit building, was purchased for roughly \$330,000 two months after it was placed on the market, significantly less than other lot sales in the neighborhood. Now, a four-story building with two 4,000 square foot units is being planned for the site. Each unit will have six bedrooms, multiple decks, an indoor elevator to the fourth floor rooftop deck on top, and a nice view of the Nabe's less well-off clients as they enter the nonprofit. Seniors who rely on the Nabe's lunch program are concerned that the development will make nearby parking that much harder... In the meantime, the Nabe is facing a \$17,000 budget shortfall this year, and has no more land to sell. According to executive director **Edward Hatter**, the **San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH)** unexpectedly cut funding for the Nabe's youth substance abuse program. DPH is experiencing a multi-million deficit itself, which may have contributed to the cuts. “We've been here before,” Hatter said. “We've got to meet the mission.” Blues, Brews, and BBQ, a Nabe fundraiser, is scheduled for June 15, 2013. Tickets are \$35 a person, dinner included.

No Pony

Last April, 1,570 **San Francisco Youth Baseball League (SFYBL)**

players showed up at AT&T Park for the **San Francisco Giant's** tribute to youth baseball, known as “PONY day.” But Potrero Hill's t-ball team, the **Jackson Park Spartans**, was turned away from the event. Although the team made a timely request for tickets, they were told that PONY day was “sold out.” “I was talking to my friend from Pac. Heights,” said Pennsylvania Street resident **Justin Hughes**, who has sons on the team. “I go, so are you going to PONY day? He said, yes, of course, we got all the tickets we asked for. “I'm just wondering if they only picked the people on the good side of town.” According to **Connie Chan**, director of public affairs at the **San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department**, which runs SFYBL in partnership with the **San Francisco Fire Department**, the tickets were distributed first come, first serve by a computer system. Last year 500 tickets had been more than enough to meet demand; this year the departments hadn't considered that they'd run out, with 1,500 tickets available. On behalf of both departments Chan expressed deep regrets to the children who didn't get to attend. For his part, Hughes brought the Spartans to the event without tickets, and they were let in, but left before the game started.

More Police

The **San Francisco Police Department** just added 43 graduates from its Academy. The new officers range in age from 22 to 49, and include many with masters and bachelor degrees. Eight of the freshman police have been assigned to the Bayview District...A pilot program was launched this month in which 10 officers will carry Samsung smartphones, with either Verizon or Sprint service, to see which one has the best reception in Potrero Hill. It's hoped that the phones will keep officers on the street longer, since they won't have to go to the station to send emails, and will have quick access to mug shots, **California Department of Motor Vehicle** data, electronic maps, and a crime data warehouse...Officers **Mike Chantal** and **Marquita Booth** are on “foot beat” seven days a week, sometimes overlapping one another, from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., patrolling 18th and 20th streets to the waterfront.

Vignettes

Last month, Hill-based **Sköna Advertising, Inc.**, launched a series of one-minute vignettes chronicling the people and businesses that embody the plucky, artsy spirit of Southside San Francisco. The collection of videos features 10 businesses and organizations that express the artisan, learned-hand ideals that characterize the community. “What once was an industrial, downtrodden area is now such a hot spot that *The Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times* have taken notice, but the spirit of the neighborhood has remained unchanged,” said **Scott Springer**, Sköna Advertising, Inc.'s creative director and partner. The vignettes include **Recchuiti Confections**, **Rickshaw Bagworks** and **Papa November**. The series also showcases the people behind the Taste of Potrero, an annual food event and fundraiser for **Daniel Webster Elementary School**. The shorts can be viewed at vignettesf.com.



Pizza Delivery

For those who want to take a brief break from **Goat Hill Pizza**, Dogpatch resident **Jared Doumani** has convinced Amici's East Coast Pizzeria to deliver to the neighborhood, at least until 8 p.m. After three of its drivers were mugged several years ago, Amici's stopped delivering to Dogpatch. Doumani brokered a meeting with the pizzeria's owner, Mike Forter, a police lieutenant at the Bayview station and Amici's head driver... **Five Markets**, the post office cum video store on 24th and Bryant streets has replaced the videos—felled by Netflix and other new-fangled services—with organic groceries, including vegetables and refrigerated items...

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Letters to the Editor

Editor,

I'm writing in regards to your April 2013 article headlined “Changes May Be Afoot at the Housing Authority, or Not.” Might I suggest for your next issue: “Breaking News: World May End Tomorrow, or Not.”

Thank you (or not).

Matthew Condrin, Tennessee Street

Editor,

The Assembly Bill 109 article written by Regina Anavy had information that was completely inaccurate (“Uptick in Property Crime Follows Prison Releases,” May). She stated that of the inmates that

left prison to go to county probation supervision none “...had been convicted of violent felonies, violent sex crimes, or...had used a gun in the commission of a felony...” That is absolutely false. I work for the state's fugitive unit, and have seen many parolees taken from parole to probation with multiple violent felonies, as long as the last offense was non-violent. This false information has been perpetuated since the inception of AB 109.

**CJ Dobbs
Los Angeles**

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City Budget Discussed at Town Hall Meeting

BY LEEANDREA MORTON

Last spring Southside residents gathered for the opportunity speak to City officials — Mayor Ed Lee, District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, District 11 Supervisor John Avalos, and District 2 Supervisor and Budget and Finance Committee chair Mark Farrell — about the municipal budget at a meeting held at the Southeast Community Facility in Bayview. On a Monday evening the Alex Pitcher Jr., Community Room overflowed with San Franciscans of all ages and ethnicities, ready to listen to or be heard by their neighbors and City officials. Shamann Walton, Young Community Developers' executive director, moderated the meeting.

Katie Howard, the Mayor' budget director, kicked things off by giving an overview of the municipal budget. "The City's budget overall is \$7.4 billion annually," noted Howard, "The biggest source of revenue, 32 percent, is property tax."

Following opening remarks, community organizations working in Districts 10 and 11 presented an overview of issues. A parent with children at Daniel Webster Elementary School suggested that to "keep families in San Francisco... affordable housing and quality public schools," need to be created. According to David Chan, from the Asian Pacific American Community Center, "Bayview-Hunters point is where there is more land to develop. We are not doing well economically, but we are rich in spirit and we are rich in talent!"

"We are under-resourced as a district," said Gwen Brown. "We want to make District 11 as welcoming and inviting as other districts in San Francisco."

Eric McDonald, executive vice president of United Way of the Bay Area, emphasized the importance of "creating a group of young people who will be prepared for higher education and the growing workforce."

Representatives from Girls 2000, an out of school time program designed to bridge the gap between poverty and success for young women in Hunters Point, argued against a recent \$110,000 City funding cut. "I can always go to them when I need them," one young woman attested. Other advocates called for funding

for the Bayview Opera House and Thick House, investment in the Mental Health Board's efforts to improve services, continued employment and internship opportunities, housing for senior citizens, street improvements, and increased wages for home health care workers.

Violence prevention was also raised as an area of importance. One woman described the death of a 20-year-old young man she knew; a man deployed a megaphone and distributed fliers to garner attention to the same cause.

Some speakers made more personal appeals. A Vietnam veteran in need of housing announced his phone number, 410.5756, asking those who could assist to contact him. Another man insisted that Whites were driving Blacks out of the City by reducing funding for needed programs. "The City was once 28 percent black and now it's only six percent," he said. In addition to these anguished messages, a Chinese-American woman gave an emotional account of her experience living in a country where she and her family are unable to communicate their needs due to language barriers. A Chinese translator helped her convey her thoughts, adding, "It is not any one group's fault that we cannot communicate, but it must be addressed."

Supervisor Farrell closed the comment period, "There will be a budget meeting at City Hall in the next two months and we welcome all to attend. It is open to the public. Please bring any comments that you want to make." The City's budget will be adopted by this July. "Keep working with us, we need your input," concluded Lee.

"The Budget Town Hall was what I expected it to be," said Cohen, following the meeting. "I had heard from speakers previously because many just had their funding cut. I wish there would have been more talk about the big picture, as opposed to what we did here with individual organizations lamenting over the loss of dollars." Cohen implored the public to call or email her office with their budget priorities. "I would like to encourage *Potrero View* readers to become more involved in the democratic process. I need them to weigh in to guide my focus."

DISTRICT from Front Page

tion 39, introduced in the November 2000 ballot, amended California Education Code (EC) Section 47614, with the intent that public school facilities should be shared fairly among all public school pupils, including those in charter schools." Carranza said the district evaluated three potential spaces for Kipp, but the charter school wanted to be located in Potrero Hill.

According to Carranza, Daniel Webster needs to significantly improve its academic performance. He said the level of student achievement at the school is half the district's overall level, with African-American students at Daniel Webster lagging behind black students at other schools. Carranza asserted that better supporting education at the K-5 campus is of more immediate concern than expansion. He said in the 2013/14 academic year the district will provide Daniel Webster with additional literacy and intervention coaches.

Hill resident Stacey Bartlett, one of the strongest advocates for change in the neighborhood's schools, responded to Carranza by stating that school reformers had proposed that the district create a K-8 school on the Hill in 2011. Parents sent letters requesting such a campus to district officials and the Board of Education, with no response. Family flight is a very real issue in the City, Bartlett said. "We need to keep our middle class families in San Francisco." Ten thousand residential units are being built in Webster's attendance area, she said. "We need a solution. We need for you to put all the options on the table."

"I'm tired of the flight," said Lori True, Daniel Webster Parent Teacher Association president. According to True, the school wasn't her first choice for her children, but then she met other Daniel Webster parents and became familiar with the school. "This is a group I can get behind," she said. "I have been equally disappointed with the district. I knew six through 12th [grade] was not a good configuration [for ISA]... There has been no meaningful communication with us,"

"I want all kids to succeed," True said, noting that she's a parent of two African-American children. But she said that the district is more concerned with politics, and is disrespecting parents.

According to Carranza, some

communities felt victimized by K-8 proposal. "I want to hit the reset button," he said.

"It's the beginning of a conversation," said Moraima Machado, Webster's principal. "We are here because of the kids."

K-8 advocates persisted even after the meeting's one hour time limit elapsed. Rhode Island Street resident and City College of San Francisco employee Tim Killikelly said he wants his son to go to school alongside other community members. He doesn't want to move to the suburbs, he said.

San Francisco Board of Supervisor District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen said she was "disappointed" by the decision. According to Cohen, the district has made many commitments that it didn't honor, and has not been transparent in its decision-making process.

"SFUSD remains committed to studying the overall enrollment needs of the district and to considering a range of options to accommodate any anticipated enrollment growth," Gentle Blythe, executive director, public outreach and communications, SFUSD, wrote in an email to *the View*. "This work will continue through the coming year and for the foreseeable future. It's important to remember that SFUSD has a choice-based enrollment system, not a neighborhood based system..."

Heidi Williams, a parent to a first-grader at Daniel Webster said she wants to believe public education will work in San Francisco. "By undermining the school, you will undermine the neighborhood, she said. "You need to fix this."

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door as with the Kaiser development.

But Hunters Point resident Christina Sandoval, of Neighbors United for Medical Equity, said the project needs to be located in Bayview. "It's a good proposal," she said. But, "it needs to come to the Bayview." According to Sandoval, Hill residents don't want the project, which they fear will cause traffic congestion and parking problems, non-issues for Bayview residents because they're used to managing congestion and parking related to Candlestick Park.

Sandoval had heard that roughly

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one-third of Bayview-Hunters Point's population are Kaiser members, compared with one-twentieth of Hill residents. However, based on Kaiser data, about one-quarter of the population in the 94124 zip code are Kaiser members, and roughly one-fifth of those in 94107 rely on the health care provider.

Bayview-Hunters Point and Hill residents currently must travel to the Kaiser facilities on Geary Boulevard or in South San Francisco to receive services. Sandoval thought Candlestick Park might be a good location for

According to Kaiser media relations specialist, Joe Fragola, the health care provider expects to see 2,700 patients per day at the new facility. Save the Hill member, Yvonne Gavre, a Mariposa Street resident who opposes the project, said the nearby University of California San Francisco (UCSF) campus isn't even fully built-out, and the population density in the area is already high. The adjacent roads are so snarled during commute times that Gavre said that she can't rely on 16th and 17th streets to get to work on time.

Arcadia Smalls, another Save the Hill supporter, said traffic and parking congestion will worsen after

Arcadia Smalls, another Save the Hill supporter, said traffic and parking congestion will worsen after UCSF opens its Children's Hospital. And people already park on the Hill to attend Giants games at AT&T Park.

the new development, and believes that job opportunities created by Kaiser would benefit Southside residents, including her possibly, as she has medical training. "This would be a great opportunity for me," Sandoval said.

Walden Development owns the property on which the project would be located, which spans 3.5 acres and currently houses the Cor-o-van building. The development proposal includes residential and medical complexes. The medical component would feature outpatient services, such as pediatrics, physical therapy and dermatology. The residential element would consist of 189 units.

UCSF opens its Children's Hospital. And people already park on the Hill to attend Giants games at AT&T Park, she asserted.

In the face of community opposition, Kaiser has made some changes to the project. Building heights have been lowered, to five stories and 68 feet high, after the company dropped plans to put mechanical equipment on the roofs. According to Save the Hill, that change was "the only design modification worth noting."

Kaiser also reduced the number of parking spaces to 434, from 579. "We believe that's the right size,"

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Mariposa-Utah Street Neighborhood Association Challenges Development

BY KEITH BURBANK

Residents of the Potrero Hill neighborhood west of Highway 101 are unhappy with a proposal to develop a six-story apartment building on Potrero Avenue and Mariposa Street. At a presentation last month to District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen and other City officials, the Verdi Club and Mariposa-Utah Street Neighborhood Association (MUNA) insisted that the project doesn't fit with the character of the surrounding community. "It's a monstrosity," said Dean Dinelli, president of the Verdi Club, an Italian-American social club established in 1916. The Club would share a wall with the new building.

Under current zoning laws, the project can be built as proposed. And the San Francisco Planning Department granted the developer, SIA Consulting, an exemption from conducting an environmental impact review (EIR) because the proposal is consistent with development density allowed under the *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan*. Planning Department representative, Adam Varat, Connecticut Street resident and Potrero Boosters vice president Dick Millet asked if the community could get an exemption [from the project], since the developer got an exemption, a comment that brought cheers from the crowd. Though the Planning Department granted an EIR exemption, the developer must mitigate potential



Adam Varat, Planner / Urban Designer, San Francisco Planning Department, provided background on the *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan* to meeting attendees. PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEITH BURBANK

asbestos hazards.

Naturally occurring asbestos at the site may be released during construction, potentially posing health risks to seniors and children, according to MUNA. And although Title 17, Section 93105 of the California Code of Regulations requires SIA Consulting to assess the presence of at-risk populations in the area, MUNA asserted that the Planning Department hasn't held the developer to that requirement.

The Verdi Club and MUNA's appeal of the Planning Department's EIR exemption will be heard on June 20. "We think a six-story building is not compatible with the neighborhood," said Jean Bogiages, MUNA's chair,

MARIPOSA-UTAH page 7

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San Francisco Board of Supervisors Hosts Hearing on MTA Parking Plans

BY KEITH BURBANK

Last month the San Francisco Board of Supervisor's Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee asked San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's (SFMTA) director of transportation, Ed Reiskin, to discuss the agency's parking meter plans. Committee members presiding over the hearing included District 9 Supervisor David Campos, who represents the Mission, District 1 Supervisor Eric Mar; and District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell, who sat in for District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee, who couldn't be present, with District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen also in attendance. Reiskin answered questions from the supervisors, provided data on parking revenues, and explained the rationale driving parking meter expansion.

The "MTA is on the wrong track," said Cohen, who explained that her main frustration with the agency relates to its lack of a comprehensive planning, with SFMTA's transit, parking and enforcement divisions going in different directions. The supervisor added that transportation and associated infrastructure wasn't keeping up with development and growth in her district. Worse, complained Cohen, in some instances SFMTA has been considering cuts in service, has been inconsistent in its enforcement of the residential parking permit program, and the agency's plans don't adequately acknowledge the parking needs of production, distribution, and repair (PDR) businesses.

"After 16 months they're [the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency] still trying to convince us that parking meters are the right decision for us," said Angela Sinicropi, a PDR business owner in the Mission. The committee had asked Sinicropi to make a presentation on behalf of the North East Mission Coalition, a group of residents, workers, business and property owners. Sinicropi added that under SFMTA's current parking meter plans PDR businesses fear being driven out of business. She said PDR businesses don't need the kind of turnover meters provide. "We

need all day, long-term parking," she told the committee.

The coalition wants a preferential permit zone established in northeast Mission, an area with a concentration of PDR businesses. In the zone residents and businesses would be offered permits that would exempt them from parking regulations, such as time limits and meters. The coalition collected roughly 250 signatures on a petition supporting the zone, and 50 more signatures oppos-

"MTA is on the wrong track."

MALIA COHEN, DISTRICT 10 SUPERVISOR

ing SFMTA's plans to expand metered parking in the area, though Sinicropi acknowledged that some businesses in the Mission have requested meters.

Campos said he appreciated the agency's effort to listen to the community. But he pointed out that the *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan* calls for protecting PDR businesses, and asked that SFMTA follow this policy.

Reiskin acknowledged that parking management affects the economic viability of commercial districts. But he said the City must manage parking to ensure it's available. According to Reiskin, circling drivers represent 20 to 30 percent of San Francisco's traffic. Circling creates not only congestion, but distracted driving, which becomes a pedestrian safety issue, Reiskin said. He added that San Francisco is the second most dense city in the nation, with another 100,000 people expected to move to the municipality in the next 30 years.

In response to a question from Farrell, Reiskin reported that the SFMTA receives \$50 million in annual revenue from parking meters, half of which is from citations, which have been steadily declining during the last several years. Overall, SFMTA collects \$200 million from parking-related activities; the agency's operating budget this year is \$830 million. Farrell said residents have claimed the parking meter expansion effort is a "money grab;" Reiskin denied that characterization.

Farrell asked the transportation di-



rector how parking management efforts can meet the needs of families—especially ones with multiple children, and both parents working—who depend on cars. According to Reiskin, automobiles will always have a place in San Francisco. But by managing parking, SFMTA is trying to encourage people to take public transit when they have a choice, or would have a choice if public transit were a viable option. He told the committee his agency must improve the viability of public transit for everyone.

Farrell said residents have told him that SFMTA seems to be making car ownership more challenging, rather than making public transit more attractive. "I hear that time and time again," Farrell said. The supervisor insisted that making transit more attractive should come first. But while Reiskin acknowledged that SFMTA needs to make transit and other forms of transportation more accessible, he said his agency needs to improve every part of the system simultaneously.

Campos told Reiskin that there should be no artificial deadline for the parking meter expansion. Instead, SFMTA should be sure to hear the concerns of residents and business owners.

"We'll continue to take the time that it needs," Reiskin responded.



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LETTERS page 3

Editor,

The Mayor's Office of Housing is considering building a homeless shelter at 2111 Jennings Avenue (see "Proposed Bayview Homeless Shelter Draws Ire from Residents," April). The proposed shelter's location is a particularly poor choice. The City wants to locate the shelter at the center of four schools, leaving children who would normally walk to school to navigate meaner streets in search of an education.

A 2011 study commissioned by the City revealed that 31 percent of San Francisco's homeless population has a substance abuse problem so severe that it prevents them from holding a job or keeping housing. Despite this, the City proposes to centralize the homeless in Bayview, in an area with significant narcotics traffic. Such a move would deliver government-sanctioned customers to drug dealers, encourage the dealers to recruit more of the neighborhood's young people to serve these new customers, and virtually guarantee more violent wrangling over turf.

Residents of the area are adamantly opposed to this project. Even though the City has restricted turnout at discussion and outreach meetings by holding them too early in the evening for most working people to attend, and by limiting notice of the meetings, the response of residents to this proposal has been clear and emphatic.

Bayview has more than its fair share of homeless shelters. Recently, residents have warily accepted the construction of another homeless facility at 660 Third Street. If the City needs to bolster services for the homeless, it should locate them in neighborhoods, such as Pacific Heights or the Marina, which have proportionately fewer shelters.

At a time when the City is cutting services that the community wants, it makes little sense for the Mayor to waste time and money fighting his own constituents. This proposed shelter has a host of problems related to its location and potential for legal liability. The Mayor should immediately cancel the project.

Jonathan G., Revere Avenue

Editor,

As a Kaiser Permanente member for about 50 years, I remind you that we who live on Potrero Hill welcome their services for those of us members who would benefit. The health care provider isn't planning to offer emergency room service, and is thus of little benefit to the Bayview bums and other freeloaders. I do agree that there should be no attached housing, high-rise, "affordable" or otherwise. But then, I'm against all housing developments adding to our already overcrowded City.

Bill Reque, Connecticut Street

Editor,

Maureen DeBoer *Your Neighbor Bringing Good Neighbors to Potrero Hill*



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KAISER page 5

said Cameron White, Kaiser Permanente senior project manager. "We've carefully designed this to minimize congestion." According to White, an extension of Owens Street will improve the traffic situation. In addition, she said that the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency is proposing to route the 22-bus along 16th Street, going right by the Kaiser offices, and a Kaiser shuttle system will serve the new complex. Fragola said it was too early in the process to identify the shuttle's route.

Randy Wittorp, public affairs director for Kaiser's San Francisco Medical Center, said the health care provider selected the proposed location because it's more central to Dogpatch, Potrero Hill, and the Mission than Bayview. When the area's population grows, so too will Kaiser's patient base, he said. Wittorp pointed out the proposed project would have 1.3 acres of open space, which Kaiser would maintain in perpetuity. "The spirit of it [the open space] is it reflects a wellness environment," said Antonia Bava, Antonia Bava Landscape Architects, a consultant on the project. One portion of the open space would consist of an east-west corridor running between the medical offices and the residences. Called Potrero Plaza, the area would be roughly 15,800 square feet. A separate space, Pedestrian Way, would extend between 16th and 17th streets, connecting to Potrero Plaza. That area would be roughly 12,000 square feet.

According to Wittorp, Kaiser

would make a conference room within the medical complex available to community groups. Other amenities include a ground floor healthy education department, with a healthy living store open to the public. People would be able to talk with a health educator about their concerns, such as quitting smoking. And anyone in the community would be able to take free classes offered by Kaiser, for such things as managing stress. The ground floor would also house a pharmacy, optical services and a locally-staffed cafe.

Mississippi Street resident Mark Hurley, who has been a Kaiser member for more than 40 years, said he likes the project. According to Hurley, the area needs more medical services and he can't argue with the complexes' height because it won't take any views away. "I'm really in favor it," he said.

MARIPOSA-UTAH page 5

and the meeting's lead organizer. According to Bogiages, San Francisco General Hospital is the only nearby building that's similar in size to the proposed six-story building. One-, two- and three-story residential and industrial buildings line Potrero Avenue from 16th to 24th streets. Of the residential buildings, 50 are two stories high, 23 are one story, and 14 are three stories, according to data compiled by MUNA. Only one industrial building is three stories high; the remaining 18 are equally divided between one- and two-stories. MUNA

MARIPOSA-UTAH page 8



Smashburger Replaces Blockbuster at Potrero Center on 16th Street

BY LIZ MELCHOR

A couple of new tenants have moved into the Potrero Center. Smashburger, a restaurant with 200 locations across the world, is moving into the former Blockbuster space. And another branch of the Vitamin Shoppe has opened next door.

Last year, Equity One, a real estate investment trust, bought the Center for \$111 million, prompting speculation about what might happen to the strangely suburban mall wedged between the Mission and Potrero Hill. Current zoning allows for housing, but Equity One, which owns real estate throughout the country, is strictly in the mall business. Even so, the company declined to comment on their future development plans, and whether or not that would include housing. The real estate business is

focusing most of its efforts on another San Francisco property it owns, Seramonte Center.

Blockbuster, which was in its prime a little less than a decade ago, left its Center space in 2011 leaving a lingering vacancy, now to be replaced by what two years ago *Forbes* magazine called America's Most Promising Company, Smashburger. Smashburger is the new breed of fast food; the fast casual restaurant. It's named for its hamburger-making technique: fresh, never frozen, Angus beef is "smashed" onto the hot grill to sear in the flavor. There's a menu, but the focus is on the "create your own" option, with interesting sides like fried pickles and veggie frites. And they have something the McDonald's across the street doesn't: craft beer.

SMASHBURGER page 15

Congratulations 2012 Zephyr Real Estate Top Producers!



Front Row (left to right): **Tim Gullicksen** (Company Top Producer), **Danielle Lazier** (Noe Valley Top Producer), **Deborah Nguyen** (Company Top 10), **Bonnie Spindler** (Upper Market Top Producer). Back Row (left to right): **Richard Meyerson** (Company Top 10), **Laura Kaufman** (Company Top 10), **Don Woolhouse** (Company Top 10), **Bill Kitchen** (Company Top 10), **Britton Jackson** (Company Top 10), **Amy Clemens** (Company Top 10).



Third Street Police Station to be Rented

BY LIZ MELCHOR

A little over a year ago, a fire broke out at the abandoned police station on the corner of Third and 20th streets, causing \$200,000 worth of damage to a building that had sat vacant for more than 15 years. Now, finally, the City is getting ready to put the property up for lease. "We have not been great shepherds of this building at all," said John Updike, director of real estate for the City and County of San Francisco.

According to Updike, the City will offer the property for a long-term lease, with the expectation that the tenant will foot the bill for needed, substantial, capital improvements. Any new occupant must be willing to give the former police station some serious TLC.

Some Dogpatch residents are wary of the City's soon to be issued lease tender. They were disappointed with how abandoned Fire Station Number 16, at 909 Tennessee Street, was handled. That building sold for a little more than \$1.3 million to Wayne de Greere, who had made money in the first technology boom. After the fire station was sold, the community had little say in what was to become of it. While the Tennessee Street property is still in the midst of the planning process, it looks like it will be renovated into a combination of housing and commercial space. "When we put up the fire station for sale, that was just a spec sale to the highest bidder. This will be different," said Updike.

For one, money isn't the only factor motivating the lease of the Third Street police station, according to Updike. "We are in a financial position where we can put more emphasis on the user," he said. Updike made a presentation at the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association earlier this year, during when he talked about the building's history and possibilities for its future. He wants the community to



be involved in the leasing process, and hinted that the City would like to see a community-minded tenant take over the space. The Police Commission, the original stewards of the building, has advocated that the property serve the neighborhood.

John Warner, owner of Dogpatch Café across the street, seconds that sentiment. "Ultimately, I would rather see anything there other than the bombed out shell," said Warner. "But what I and a lot of neighborhood players really want to see is something of an arts and culture use."

Stephen Antonaros, an architect with offices across the street from the station, expressed design and safety concerns. He'd prefer something that would be open 24-hours. "Design-wise, I think the building should be reimagined to open onto the rear patio and less onto Third Street. A big outdoor space could really transform a sense of place," he said.

While those sorts of specifics are in the future, Updike noted that a number of organizations and individuals have expressed interest in the building. Though he wouldn't name names, he explained that the interested parties are "food purveyors, but something unique and more viable; not just a typical restaurant."

Above The abandoned police station on 20th and Third streets sits vacant, except for the homeless who camp inside. In 2012 the structure experienced a two-alarm fire, requiring 60 fire-fighters to quell the blaze. PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

Bayview-based Old Skool Cafe—a nonprofit that educates at-risk youth through dinner theater—and Artspan have both expressed interest in taking over the building in the past.

According to Updike, request for proposals—the official notice for interested parties to offer the City lease terms—will be released by the end of the summer. The Board of Supervisors will ultimately determine who will occupy the building, with a vote that Updike expects this fall. The neighborhood is encouraged to participate in the process. "We will engage the community," said Updike.

MARIPOSA-UTAH page 7

did not count ground floor garages as a story.

The Club and Rock Band Land, a music school for kids which shares the sound system and stage at the Verdi Club, are also worried that the addition of a large residential building will ultimately act to limit their operations. The two businesses are concerned the residents of the new development will complain about the volume of music coming from their activities. "Without any plan on the part of the architects to acknowledge the existing, long-established neighboring business, it seems likely that we will be confronted with sound complaints that could threaten our businesses," said Brian Gorman, creator and co-director, Rock Band Land. Dinelli said residents may also complain about the exhaust coming from the Verdi Club's kitchen.

In addition, residents are concerned that there's too little parking for the planned development. According to MUNA, SIA Consulting is proposing to provide 46 parking spaces for 77 residential units. "They're going to park where you live," said Juan Jayo, who serves on MUNA's board of directors. In addition to the vehicles directly associated with the development, Sunny Auto Body, which currently stores cars on the lot of the proposed building, will have to move some of its vehicles to the street if the development is built.

MARIPOSA-UTAH page 11

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“Chic Happens” to Jeweler Elisa Heiken

JIM VAN BUSKIRK

Elisa Heiken has always loved jewelry. But it wasn't until she moved to Potrero Hill late last year that she developed her line, Chic Happens, and started selling ornaments. Heiken, her boyfriend, Magnus, and Miniature Pinscher, Max, had been looking for a dog-friendly neighborhood. After surveying several possibilities, they happily selected an apartment located at 18th and San Bruno streets.

Heiken received a doctorate in psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology in North Beach. She's proud to be a third generation psychologist, following the path taken by her father and grandfather. Heiken isn't a practitioner; she works as a researcher for Ubisoft, using psychological theory to improve video games, making them more fulfilling for players. Ubisoft is one of the world's largest video game publishing/development companies, focusing on Facebook and mobile games. “I...help conduct user testing to ensure that the game experience is as it's intended to be. After the games are released, I also dabble in the marketing efforts.”

As a “side project” Heiken decided to pursue her love of jewelry. Her mom dabbled with art school, but afraid she might not be able to make a living as an artist, turned to nursing. Heiken also had an aunt who made jewelry, exposing her at a young age to the thrill of creating a pair of earrings. Growing up in Florida, Heiken said she wore so many bracelets — “up to here,”



she indicated — that her forearms were white in comparison to the rest of her tanned body.

In college, Heiken found that making jewelry helped her relax. She made gifts for friends, often receiving compliments on her work. When she was stopped on the street and asked about her creations, she didn't have a good way for people to contact her. She saw an opportunity, and founded Zaarly, an online marketplace that helps launch small businesses. The site hosts artisans, experts and entrepreneurs in categories such as business, home, and creative services; cooking and baking; lessons and learning; and handmade creations. Heiken also joined Next-Door, the neighborhood-based social networking site, to get the word out on her enterprise.

A beautiful, doe-eyed brunette, Heiken loves word play, idioms and curse words. She initially tested

several names for her line, including “Tongue in Chic,” but some people were confused or thought there was a sexual reference, so Heiken went with “Chic Happens” because “I thought it was funny.”

Heiken starting selling jewelry earlier this year, admitting that she's in the “very early stages” of her line, with everything made to order. “I have all the materials and can make pieces quickly.” She described her work as “edgy” and “inspired by San Francisco.” “Stuff I'd like to wear,” she added. Heiken works on the coffee table in her living room, and hopes if the line takes off to secure a designated space.

Her “I Love SF” earrings and necklaces feature a tiny cast Golden Gate Bridge. “Hamsa” incorporates the Jewish Star of David into the traditional open hand Arabic symbol of protection. And “Leaf Me Alone” features — you guessed it — a filigree



Left Several of Elisa Heiken's designs. Above The jeweler herself, wearing earrings she designed. PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE

leaf. The line also includes bracelets, and the work often incorporates jade or other stones and gemstones. Heiken has some pieces featuring vintage sterling cable cars in the works.

Heiken is currently mulling over how to develop a website that highlights her two seemingly disparate personas: psychologist and jeweler. In the former she's behind the scenes, and not fully in control of the product. But as a jeweler she enjoys having complete creative control. “I'm obsessed,” she said about collecting, making and wearing jewelry. After the interview concluded, Heiken was going home to investigate acquiring ElisaHeiken.com. Watch for it.

Heiken's jewelry can be found at www.zaarly.com/elisa.



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MARIPOSA-UTAH page 8

Project opponents also claim that the green space proposed for the development doesn't meet *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan* requirements. The plan calls for useable open space; MUNA said the development's only green space consists of two roof decks. In addition, MUNA claimed that the proposed building would cast shadows on the east side of Potrero Avenue, eliminating light to homeowners' gardens, and hampering their ability to plant and grow food. "We think that's an issue," Bogiages said.

SIA Consulting didn't return calls or an email from the *View* seeking comment.

LETTERS page 6

Kaiser Permanente and Walden Development would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to attend our community meeting on May 8. We appreciate the active participation of so many dedicated residents in this important community process.

In total, more than 225 residents participated in the informational open house at Daniel Webster Elementary School, providing insightful comments and feedback on the proposed doctors' offices and residences at 16th and Mississippi streets. Among the at-

LETTERS page 15



Left Dr. Marcy Adelman presents a rendering of the 55 Laguna project, featuring a renovated Richardson Hall with retail space, new Openhouse offices and 40 apartments. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOEL EVANS

Hill Resident Helps LGBT Seniors

BY SIMON STAHL

LGBT seniors can face unique obstacles. As they age they're more likely to be single, living alone, and without children or any connection to family. Partners and adult children assist the elderly in accessing social services and navigating life challenges. Without support networks, it can be difficult for aging members of the LGBT community to secure the housing, healthcare, and living assistance they need.

Kansas Street resident Marcy Adelman, is working to connect San Francisco's 25,000 LGBT seniors with the assistance they need through research, policy discussion, and community outreach programs. She serves on numerous advisory councils, including the San Francisco Aging

and Adult Services Commission, AARP California Livable Communities, and University of California, San Francisco Lesbian Health Resource Center. Her work has been recognized with the Advocate Innovator of the Year Award, the Purpose Prize, and KQED's Community Hero Award. Adelman is also the founder of Openhouse, a nonprofit that assists LGBT seniors with housing, direct services, and community programs that offer everything from HIV support to friendly visits.

Adelman moved to San Francisco from Massachusetts in the 1970's to live an "out life" and study clinical psychology at the Wright Institute, where she received her Ph.D. She grew up in an intergenerational family, and couldn't imagine living in a community that didn't embrace seniors.

She's been advocating on their behalf ever since.

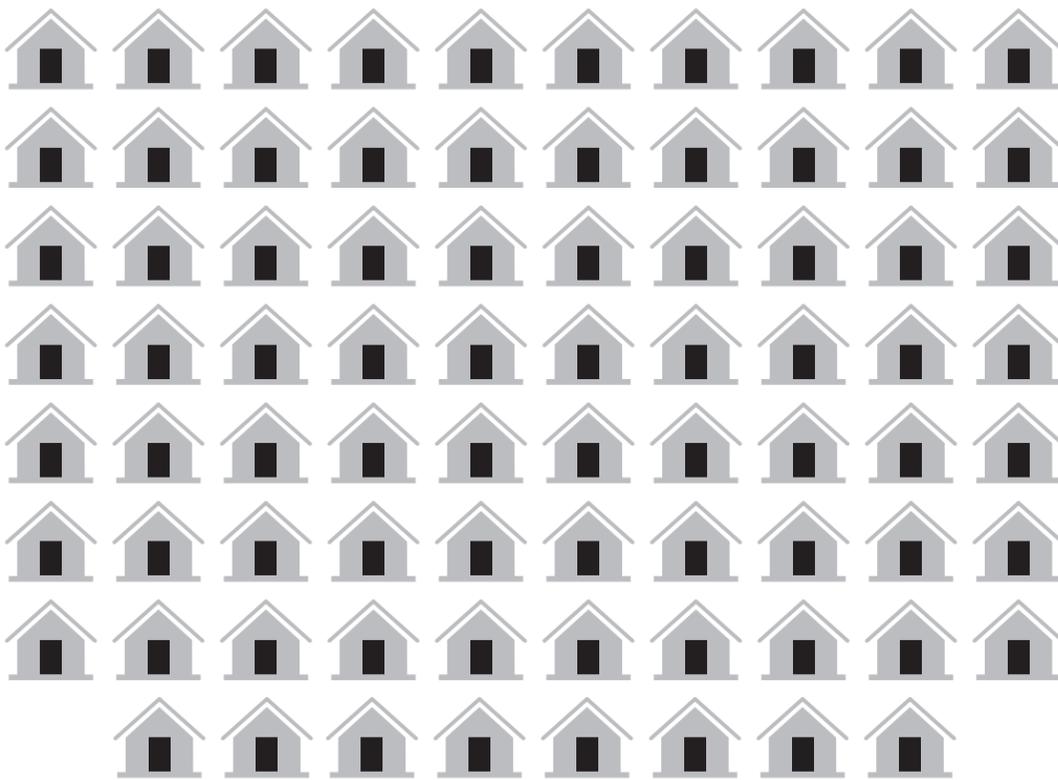
"Because there's a lack of research and hard data on LGBT aging, it's been hard to develop policy and programs," said Adelman in a phone interview. "Last October, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors established an LGBT Aging Policy Task Force, with an 18-month timeline to bring back actionable policy recommendations to improve the lives of LGBT seniors."

The Task Force reflects a first of its kind effort in the nation. The survey will provide it with data from which it can determine how best to help an often overlooked demographic. "We are building an infrastructure responsive to our needs as we age; the Task Force is a very important part of enriching that infrastructure in a thoughtful and strategic way...I encourage people to get involved and get engaged," said Adelman.

San Franciscans who are at least sixty years old and identify as LGBT are encouraged to take a confidential survey at caringandaging.org/survey until June 4, or obtain a hard copy from Meals on Wheels by calling 920.1111.

Seniors seeking assistance or anyone who wishes to volunteer can find more information by calling 296.8995 or online at openhouse-sf.org

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS FROM SOMA TO BAYVIEW

SF Shines Brings Façade Improvements to Bayview

BY BEN CHRISTOPHER

The City's proposition couldn't have come at a better time for Eskender Aseged. After seven years as a "nomad" restaurateur, the owner and chef of the Ethiopian pop-up, Radio Africa, had begun scouting for a permanent location when a City Hall official offered him financial assistance if he'd locate in Bayview. The arrangement, it seemed, would be mutually beneficial. "I was looking to move to an underserved neighborhood. I didn't want to be just another restaurant on Valencia Street," Aseged said. As for the City, "Their idea was to get businesspeople — particularly minority businesspeople — to move into the Bayview to improve the whole neighborhood."

The City was prepared to throw big dollars behind that goal. From the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation came the location itself, the ground floor of a new four-story building at the corner of Third and Oakdale. Additional funding for construction was provided by the Mayor's Office of Housing. And a little known program called SF Shines paid for the restaurant's signage, exterior lighting, and its paint job before the restaurant opened last year.

Managed by the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), the SF Shines Program is a citywide initiative to spruce up 25 commercial corridors. With a special focus on Bayview-Hunters Point, SF Shines provides up to \$75,000 for businesses to repaint weather-worn

sidings, replace neglected signage, and reposition security grates — those rusty-hinged markers of a "rough" neighborhood — behind storefront windows.

Once supported by the defunct San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, SF Shines has been funded by general tax dollars since 2011, and has expanded to support beautification projects by existing businesses. The program is part of a larger City Hall effort to persuade entrepreneurs to venture outside San Francisco's more established commercial strips to set up shop in the Tenderloin, Portola, Excelsior, Visitation Valley, and in Bayview, along Third Street.

While SF Shines' cosmetic scope may sound narrow, according to Joaquín Torres, OEWD's deputy director, façade improvement — and as is increasingly being funded by program, interior renovation — is about more than aesthetics. "[The program's] objectives include increasing economic vitality, enhancing neighborhood landscape, promoting pedestrian-oriented design, restoring historic and architectural character, encouraging investment in the neighborhood, and creating and retaining jobs," he said in an emailed response. A pleasant and inviting entrance can initiate a whole cascade of positive developments to a community. It's a kind of "broken windows" theory in reverse.

With \$900,000 worth of grants distributed to 27 Third Street businesses — of 38 recipients citywide — Torres and his colleagues



La Laguna Tacqueira, 3406 Third Street, received \$30,000 for facade improvements, triggering an increase in sales directly after the renovation completion. PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

and Deli, Auntie April's soul food restaurant, and the Bayview Barber College will help usher much bigger changes to the neighborhood.

La Shon Walker — Bayview Merchants' Association (BMA) president,

are banking on the fact that small, seemingly superficial improvements at businesses like Kennedy's Market

SHINE *Southside* page 14

As Neighborhood Transforms, Bayview-Hunters Point Still Plagued By Trash

BY BEN CHRISTOPHER

Robert Davis has seen Bayview change over the last few years. From his house on Quesada Avenue, the gelato business owner and community activist has watched as trendy restaurants and modern condominium complexes have popped up amongst the fast food restaurants and corner stores on Third Street, followed by an influx of new residents seeking more affordable, sunnier living. But for all that change, Davis said, one thing has remained a predictable and pernicious constant: when it comes to trash Bayview is still San Francisco's most dumped-on community.

The litter finds its way to the street through varied routes, according to Davis. Mounds of candy wrappers and empty soda cans are routinely left by the teenagers who congregate across the street from his house. Stained futons and ripped sofas are discarded along the sur-

rounding sidewalks at the end of each month. And piles of construction debris are surreptitiously deposited along the warehouse and lot-lined avenues that run towards the Bay and beneath Interstate-280.

"I sweep out front every day," Davis said with a shake of his head, an acknowledgement of the Sisyphean nature of the task. "The amount of trash is just shocking."

Davis isn't alone in recognizing the district's singular problem with trash. According to statistics compiled by the San Francisco Department of Public Works (DPW) and the City's waste management provider, Recology, five of San Francisco's top "hotspots" — the corners, lots, and underpasses for which the City receives the most "calls for service" — are within a ten minute walk of Third Street. While DPW doesn't track the \$4 million it spent last year dealing with illegal trash by neighborhood, according to the

department's director, Mohammad Nuru, Bayview-Hunters Point is DPW's "biggest challenge."

Partly in an effort to address his community's garbage woes, Davis joined a number of his neighbors to form BRITE, Bayview Residents Improving Their Environment. Since coming together in 2011, the loose coalition of civic-minded locals have been pushing both DPW and the San Francisco Police Department to take a more aggressive stance towards those who trash the community.

"While the DPW does a good job cleaning [the trash] up, the perpetrators are not caught or fined," said Alka Joshi, BRITE's communications director. Making a distinction between residents who can't afford trash service and those "who have the resources, but choose to dump on the street anyway," Joshi pointed to DPW and Recology's known hotspot list as a good place to start more vigorous policing.

"We know where they dump, so why can't we catch them?" she asked. "Can a program be instituted to penalize the transgressors, to let them know that it's not okay to dump on the street and that San Francisco taxpayers are having to pick up the slack?"

DPW officials admit that penalties are rare, with little success in nabbing illicit litterers. Two years ago, the neighborhood's anti-trash efforts received an unprecedented amount of media attention after a CSI-worthy DPW investigation into the routine dumping of construction debris along less-trafficked alleys led to the successful prosecution of two Bayview roofing companies. To compile the necessary evidence, the department pulled out all the investigatory stops. They poured over the offending trash heaps for incriminating evidence, cross-checked roofing

TRASH *Southside* page 14

TRASH from Front page

permits with calls for service times, and even slipped GPS tracking devices into the rubble piles of suspect contractors.

“It was a very sophisticated investigation that required a lot of time and a lot of energy,” said DPW’s Nuru, himself a long-time Bayview resident, speaking with a mix of pride and frustration. That a single case required so many resources and staff hours to successfully pursue is exactly the problem. “These guys are very sophisticated,” he said, referring to commercial dumpers. Collecting 14.5 million tons of San Franciscan’s illegal trash throughout the City last year, and responding to some 62 daily calls for service, the department doesn’t have the resources to regularly play detective.

Still, according to Dan Dodt, the volume of commercial dumping has waned; it’s everything else that’s getting worse. “DPW is doing an outstanding job of picking things up,” said the 33-year Bayview resident, small business owner, and BRITE member. But discarded furniture, improperly disposed household garbage, and individual pieces of trash continues to mount.

Dodt recalled encountering a DPW employee picking up trash on Third Street. Stopping to thank the civil servant for her work to keep the neighborhood clean, both watched, he said, as a woman emerged from a nearby corner store with two trash

bags in hand, only to drop them next to a postal box. Confronting the curbside dumper together, the woman appeared to be perplexed. “She told us that she assumed that the City would just come and pick it up,” he said. “In a lot of cases there may just be a lack of understanding of how the system works. It’s possible the solution is an educational one.”

Education has been the goal of the Mayor’s “Don’t Leave It On the Sidewalk!” campaign, in which the City officials have gone door-to-door instructing Bayview residents on proper disposal techniques while urging them to report offenders. DPW is also hoping to reduce dumping through deterrence. The department is targeting the known hotspots with additional patrols and signage. In the next few months, a new hotline will be launched which, unlike the general City service number 311, will provide a direct line to trash pick-up services. And Nuru said that he’s hoping to step up enforcement efforts. “Only trained police officers should be dealing with these dumpers,” he said. “But in this neighborhood, where the police have so many other issues to deal with, this doesn’t show up very high on the radar screen.”

DPW is attempting to secure funding to hire retired sheriffs and police officers who live in the neighborhood to monitor particularly troublesome blocks, a program which should launch within a few months.

But according to the DPW director, the more routine “nuisance” dumping—discarded tires, bags of

trash left on the curb, and littering—is a problem that plagues the City as a whole. Contrary to the perceptions of frustrated residents like Davis and Dodt, on a ton-for-ton basis, “Residential dumping isn’t as bad here anymore,” he said. “Anyway, it’s no worse than what you would see in the Mission.”

SHINE from Southside page 13

real-estate agent, and former manager at the Bayview’s Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, an SF Shine partner program—said she’s already seen some of those changes. “We know that people like pretty things,” said Walker. “When you come across a place that looks clean and freshly painted, you’re much more likely to stop in.”

Renato Guerrero, BMA’s treasurer and the owner of La Laguna Taqueria, recently received a \$30,000 façade improvement grant. Guerrero saw an immediate uptick in business after finishing his renovation. While it might be impossible to directly link the new sign outside to a spike in taco sales, according to Walker many grant-funded improvements along Third Street have improved the overall quality of life in the neighborhood. And that’s good for business.

But Walker admitted that efforts to beautify the neighborhood have a long way to go. The program’s \$300,000 annual budget notwith-

standing, any casual stroller along Third will note that the street suffers no shortage of tagged windows and dreaded security grates. Even grants as high as \$75,000 aren’t enough to entice many would-be tenants to risk setting up shop in a neighborhood that many still consider peripheral.

That’s why, according to OEWD, City officials have been careful to gauge the needs of the community before wooing outside tenants to the neighborhood. Efforts to recruit businesses like Radio Africa and Limon Rotisserie to Third Street were in response to community surveys that found that residents wanted more sit-down restaurants.

A year after opening, Asedeg said his restaurant’s relationship with the surrounding community is still evolving. Though he helped establish a public garden across the street from his eatery, where locals are invited to participate and learn about urban agriculture, based on his own friendly questioning of his patrons, he believes only “20 or 30 percent” come from the neighborhood. This may disappoint those hoping for more community-oriented development along Third Street, but Asedeg sees no reason to fret over his restaurant’s wide-ranging draw. It’s just a sign that Bayview is garnering more recognition across the City. He experienced similar change in the Mission District. “I’ve seen how the perception of the entire neighborhood has changed, how the Mission has blossomed,” he said. “I think that’s possible in the Bayview.”



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LETTERS page 11

tendeas were numerous local residents who were excited by the prospect of having their family doctor or child's pediatrician significantly closer to them.

Moving forward, we'll continue looking for ways to craft a project that both enhances access to health care on the City's east side and meets the needs of the community.

Overall, we are very encouraged by the positive comments regarding the project and look forward to continuing our conversations within the community.

Randy Wittorp, Kaiser Permanente

SMASHBURGER page 7

Smashburger, a restaurant that previously had no Bay Area locations, isn't testing the San Francisco market. The company will be opening five outlets in the region this year, including in Novato, San Jose, and Mill Valley.

Whit Moses, a Mission resident, wasn't especially excited about Smashburger coming to his neighborhood. He remembered them from his time in Denver, where the enterprise started. "They attempt to be like Super Duper, but at the end of the day they are not as good as Super Duper," he said. Super Duper has done well over the last few years as well, with five Bay Area locations. A great hamburger can still attract a crowd.

Bayview Professor Goes to Harvard

BY KEITH BURBANK

Bayview resident, musician and anthropologist, Dr. Jose Cuellar, spent last spring at Harvard University, researching and recording musical instruments as a Hrdy Fellow at the Peabody Museum. But Cuellar did more than just academic work, reaching out to Cambridge youth and drawing 300 people to a musical event held at the university, in an effort that wasn't part of his contract. "He's a bridge. A connector. A natural force in a gentle way," said Pedro Morales, of Cuellar. Morales, a first-year Masters student in theological studies, assisted Cuellar while the Bayview resident was at Harvard.

Harvard professor David Carrasco agreed, stating that Cuellar, who is a tenured professor at San Francisco State University (SFSU), created a link between the university and the community, something "very few people in academia know how to do."

According to Dr. Scott Sessions, a visiting scholar at Amherst College, who has known Cuellar for more than 20 years, it was the mix of Cuellar's musical abilities and his knowledge of anthropology that made him attractive to Harvard. Alejandro Murguia, a Bayview resident, San Francisco's poet laureate and a colleague of Cuellar's at SFSU, agreed. Murguia pointed to Cuellar's leadership of Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeno Band as contribut-

ing to Harvard's decision to recruit him. Cuellar uses the stage moniker "Dr. Loco" — a name he received from kids in Tijuana, where he conducted research — when he sings and plays saxophone and flutes in the band.

At Harvard, Cuellar recorded musical instruments from Mesoamerica, including whistles, flutes, rattles, and ocarinas; wind instruments shaped like elongated eggs, each with a mouthpiece and finger holes. The devices are hundreds to thousands of years old, and emerged from Mayan and other cultures. In addition to his research, Cuellar "created and conducted three public music programs," according to information from the Peabody Museum. "Fabulous Flutes, Marvelous Music" was part of the Peabody's family programming. "Music of the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands" was "a performance/talk co-sponsored by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. And "The Musical Impact of the Latino Diaspora" was a collective concert including students, faculty, and musicians from East Boston's ZUMiX, a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening community through music and the arts.

Roughly four years ago, Cuellar gave a lecture at Harvard that focused on the U.S. — Mexico borderlands. After the presentation, Barbara Fash, a Harvard professor and noted archeologist, expressed interest in bringing him to the university to do a project.

Carrasco and another Harvard professor, William L. Fash Jr. — Barbara's husband, who is also an archeologist — nominated Cuellar for the fellowship. Carrasco is one of Cuellar's best friends; the two have known one other since they were junior faculty at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Cuellar identifies as a "Tex-Mex Indian." His fraternal grandmother was Kikapu Indian. His fraternal grandfather was Coaltican Indian. His maternal grandfather was Huastec Indian, and his maternal grandmother may have been Jewish. She passed away when Cuellar's mother was five years old. His mother remembers her as having a fair complexion.

Cuellar was born and graduated from high school in San Antonio, Texas. "I was raised in the Southern Texas tradition," Cuellar said. Everyone in his family plays an instrument. "I'm convinced it is genetic," he said. "My dad played the trumpet and trombone. My brother plays the violin and piano. It would have been a sign that I was adopted if I couldn't play." In addition to researching, teaching and playing music, Cuellar is involved in social justice issues, conducting workshops, and playing saxophone, at a state correctional medical facility in Vacaville.

"He's one of the great teachers in America," Carrasco said.

"We're hoping he will be brought back on a more permanent basis," Morales said.

A MONTHLY UPDATE SPONSORED BY BRIDGE HOUSING

REBUILD POTRERO

VOLUME 33 • JUNE 2013

On April 25th, four Potrero Terrace and Annex (PTA) residents graduated from the HOPE SF Leadership Academy. They join 15 other PTA alumni that have completed this 14 week course led by the San Francisco Housing Authority and the Enterprise Foundation.



The HOPE SF Leadership Academy was founded in 2009 to provide residents living in HOPE SF communities the opportunity to learn about the real estate development process and what it means to be a community leader. All participants are required to attend ongoing workshops and seminars led by experts in the field. Topics include:

- Hope SF principles
- The real estate development process
- Affordable Housing finance
- Homeownership and mixed income communities
- Healthy homes
- Community Development and leadership

Additionally, HOPE SF Leadership Academy participants must organize a community service project. This year service projects included a successful youth basketball

tournament in Potrero coordinated by Niesha Brown. Niesha enjoyed the experience so much she plans to make it an annual community building event for all Potrero residents. Stella Scott and Rhoda Jarvis worked together to facilitate a special luncheon for the Potrero Grandmother's Group.

BRIDGE is inspired by the ongoing commitment that the HOPE SF Leadership Academy alumni have made to improve their community and we want to congratulate the recent graduates!

As always, please join us for these continuing activities:

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Dogpatch Wine Bar Gets Trivial

BY SASHA LEKACH

On Tuesday nights at Yield Wine Bar, customers are challenged to go beyond their knowledge of viticulture and enology and dig deep into politics, pop culture, current events, and other subjects, heavy and light, as part of a weekly pub-style trivia competition. Since 2011, the six-year-old wine and gourmet grub spot at 2490 Third Street has sponsored the contests, which are hosted by bar manager and quizmaster Nic Candito, a 25-year-old transplant from Sacramento.

The tradition started as a monthly event, but quickly grew in popularity, prompting Candito to designate every Tuesday as trivia night last year. Plus Candito and owner Chris Tavelli couldn't resist the alliteration of "Trivia Tuesday." The popular competition debuted at Yield's sister location, Pause Wine Bar, last fall.

The roughly 90 minute sessions test general knowledge in a style similar to Trivial Pursuit, with 25 questions that include "name that artist" after listening to clips of songs from different decades. At a trivia night last month, participants were asked what country newly elected president Nicolas Maduro leads (Venezuela); the meaning of ferroequinology (the study of trains, or "iron horses"); and to identify a Madonna 1980s tune. Typically, a half-dozen teams, with up to six team members each, compete against one another, with

the busiest night fielding more than a dozen squads.

The night is equal parts plain fun and pure competition—Candito calls it a "friendly rivalry"—with top-scoring teams earning tab discounts and bragging rights. Returning squads can vie to be the top players of the month, with a magnum of wine usually gifted to the winning team by the end of the series. Some crews win more than others, but there's plenty of sportsmanship, with first-place teams often offering pours from the winning wine bottle to the runner up.

Occasionally there are solo players, whom Candito said can fare pretty well, usually getting half the points in the roughly 35-point game. There's a team from a Dogpatch apartment complex, which regularly finds a spot at the bar, on a couch or at high-set tables. Tavelli looks forward to the weekly game. "It's his chance to see the neighborhood," Candito said. "He likes the hustle and bustle."

Candito compared the difficulty of each weekly match as analogous to the *New York Times'* crossword puzzle progression. Candito wants players scratching their heads, but he doesn't want to fill the game with stumpers that leaves everyone frustrated. "I don't want anyone to feel like they can't win," he said. So far no one has scored a perfect game.

Candito usually brainstorms what to include in the Tuesday sessions the day before with a colleague. He writes the game in the style of one of his former high school history teachers in Sacramento, who organizes his own trivia night in which Candito used to participate. It's tough to come up with questions with only one answer that aren't too obvious, which is why when an idea strikes—whether in the shower, while driving, on the bus or late at night—Candito jots it down.

Candito has a theatrical background and is a photography student

at the San Francisco Art Institute. He relies on his booming voice to host the trivia nights. "I'm human," he admitted, noting that he occasionally gets called out on his answers, but insisted that the judge's decision is final. Mostly he's monitoring the room's vibe. "I'm gauging if people are having fun," he said.

The quizmaster imparted some of his own trivia, including that his favorite question is Number 17; the presidential question. "I'm old-school, but only 25," he admitted. However, the highlight of his night is when everyone says "Hi Nic!" at the start of the game. Candito serves as moderator, waiter, bar manager, host and judge.

Yield strives for a relaxed, casual, living room feel. The weekly event matches with the bar's goal to create a welcoming place for everyone, from wine snobs to drinking neophytes. Customers are "genuinely surprised that we have trivia here," Candito said, with the game more associated with an Irish pub or dive bar.

Candito and Tavelli themselves are family; second cousins who have been working together since 2009. The two are eight years apart, and grew up in different regions of California, but after Candito turned 18 he started visiting his cousin in San Francisco. Now he's his right-hand man. "We are joined at the cellphone," Candito said,



Above Nic Candito, Yield's Quiz Master, spends hours each week creating a lively competition.

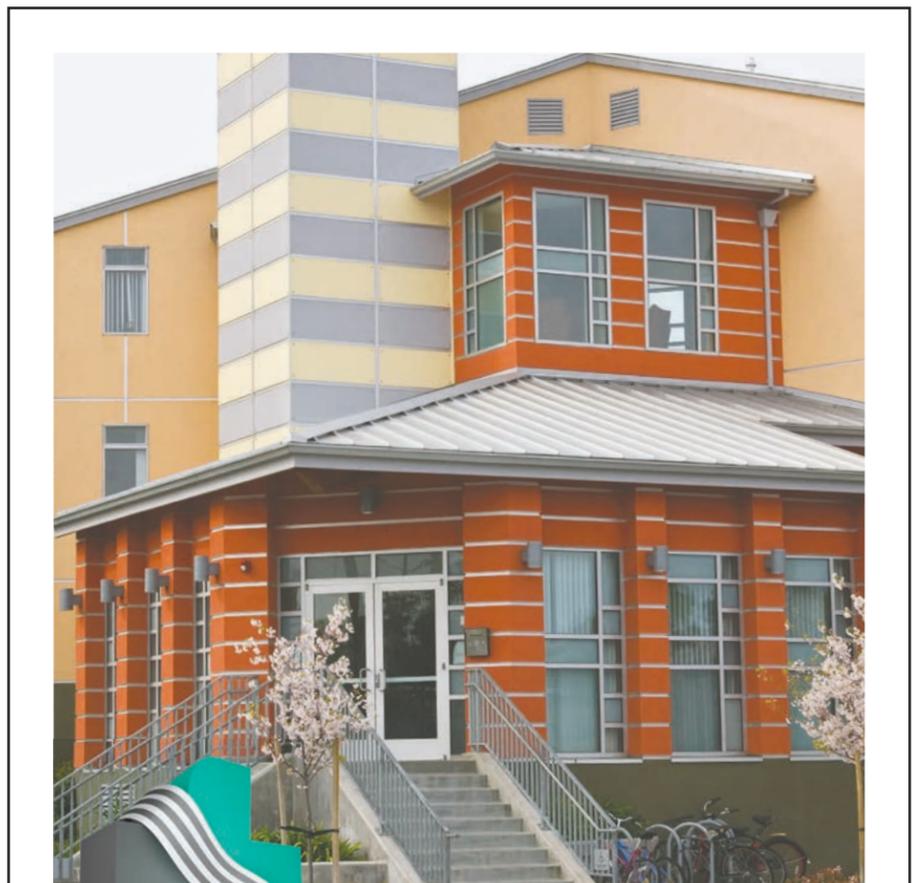
PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF NIC CANDITO

Below Left One of Dogpatch's first wine bars, Yield is on Third at 22nd Street.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

constantly communicating about all aspects of the business, from trivia to wine, menu choices, art displays and more. "If he didn't think I could do this job, I wouldn't have it." While there's no obligation to keep Candito employed, he and Tavelli fight, bicker, laugh and eat together like family, along with other staff that have become what Candito described as a second family at the two wine bar locations.

Candito encouraged curious or competitive locals to check out trivia night. "Just come in and play," he said. Entrance is free. However, it's advised to arrive well before the 7:30 p.m. start time to grab a spot for a team, or to sip some wine to get into the spirit of things.



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Thieves Repeatedly Steal “Safe and Clean Zone” Fence at McKinley Square

BY KEITH BURBANK

At McKinley Square someone has been stealing a fence around a small quadrant of the park’s grassy area designed to allow kids to roam safe and free from the residues left behind by dogs. Although no suspects have been identified in the fence-napping, suspicions center on potentially disgruntled dog owners, who prefer to use the flat green area on the top of the park rather than risk their pet in the fields of foxtails that cluster along the open space’s slopes.

“Dog owners are correct, the foxtails are nasty, and is a big reason I consider it very reasonable for dogs do use the grass area at McKinley Square,” said Cris Rys, a parent and McKinley Square Community Association (MSCA) member. “Hence my feeling of a safe and clean zone would keep everyone happy, as dogs could still enjoy the grass area of the park and so could kids.”

“It’s the poop,” said Hill resident Daniela Steinsapir. “Unfortunately, dog poop is not just an annoyance, it may also cause toxocariasis in young kids.” According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, toxocariasis, a parasitic disease also known as roundworm infection, “can cause serious illness, including organ damage and eye disease.” The disease can be contracted by swallowing dirt contaminated with dog or cat feces that contain Toxocara eggs, which occur when the dog or cat is infected with Toxocara. Although

it’s rare, people can also become infected from eating undercooked meat containing Toxocara larvae.

The “safe and clean zone” is making a trial run at McKinley Square, under the purview of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (RPD). The zone is cordoned off with a low fence made of PVC pipe and rope. It’s intended to enable kids to play safely without fear of aggressive dogs, and to keep them from stumbling across left-over dog feces. Though a common occurrence, off-leash dogs aren’t permitted at McKinley Square.

“McKinley [Square] is the closest park for us that has a kid zone and grass,” a Dogpatch resident said. “I’m disappointed about the clean safe fence being stolen over and over again...” there’s no grass in Dogpatch or Potrero Hill “that has open free access for humans with no feces and urine remnants.” After the fence around the zone was repeatedly removed, the resident started taking her daughter to play in Mission Bay. “The first time Chloë saw the open grass – empty and safe – she squealed with delight and rolled and ran and played, completely beside herself. I felt suddenly like living in Dogpatch was robbing her of an important part of childhood; roaming free at a park.”

According to Susanna Upton, a MCSA board member, “the open grassy area is nice for gathering and casual sports, such as soccer, frisbee, kite flying passing a ball and so on, and its seems this area will be greatly needed as the growing number of SF

children become school-aged. These children will need more than the enclosed playgrounds. They will need space to run and engage in casual sports...while the grassy space is not a dog play area, the owners of dogs have used this space to build community bonds that have been instrumental in positive park improvements, and park and neighborhood climate.”

“We love McKinley, and a patch of grass for young children is critically needed,” said Jill Alyse Davis, parent of two-year-old Eli and 11-month-old Gabriel. According to Alyse Davis, there’s a lack of “clean, safe, grassy space for babies and toddlers to explore.” Rather than keeping the current fence, which “is not a safe solution,” Alyse Davis said, she suggested moving the fence surrounding McKinley Square’s existing child play area to encompass some of the grass.

“I fully support a safe and clean zone,” said Jodie Shlicoff, a parent. “I love that neighbors care about the green space. For years now I have always wished I could have a picnic with the kids up there, since we have no yard at home. Not possible if it’s a full on dog run all the time.”

Anyone without a dog can access the zone, which even without the thefts is intended to be temporary, with the community ultimately deciding its fate. The fence was paid for through private donations; the zone is managed by RPD.

Since the fence was erected last month it has been stolen at least twice. “It appears last night between 10 p.m.



McKinley Park, about where the temporary fence was located. Many parents feel the chain-link fence bordering the playground should be moved ten feet into the grassy area so children have access to some dog-free grass.

and now [8:30 a.m.] someone again stole the safe & clean zone fence,” wrote Rys in a post to the Potrero Hill Parents Association Yahoo group. Rys thinks the vandalism is intended to create conflict, with whoever is taking the fence acting on their own. Many dog owners have expressed support for the zone, which enables them to let their dogs run free on the grass without worrying about potential conflicts with families. Rys added that the zone is small; dog owners have the balance of the park to run their dogs.

Some Hill residents are opposed to the fence. “I am not in support of the ‘clean and safe zone.’ This was not brought to the board for [a] vote,” said Upton, a dog owner.



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- 1133 - 19th Street
- 966 Carolina
- 514 Connecticut
- 1202-1204 19th Street
- 847 Kansas
- 1745 - 20th Street
- 415 Arkansas
- 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
- 727 San Bruno
- 788 Carolina
- 1230 - 18th Street
- 656 Arkansas
- 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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Peace of Mind and Body

BY OMAR KHAN

When Sally Shannon dies she wants music by Steve Winwood and Peter Tosh playing at her memorial service. She wants candles, lilacs, and an all-natural decor. The atmosphere should be marked not with cold solemnity, but rather warmed with the endearing conversations of her friends and family. Anecdotes; humorous, somber, but always heartfelt, should be served alongside a sumptuous meal of burritos and zinfandel, with decadent chocolate cake for dessert. Most importantly, the atmosphere must be open and comfortable. Because when Sally Shannon dies she wants her friends and family to be free to experience a full range of emotions, from deep sadness and pain to laughter and gratitude.

Shannon isn't planning on dying anytime soon. She's just part of a new wave of changing attitudes towards death in the United States. No stranger to taboo subjects, Shannon, a long-time LGBT and death rights activist and certified facilitator of "Leavelight: Holistic End of Life Planning," served as guest speaker for the first in a series of gatherings hosted by the newly formed SevenPonds.com, a website that provides information, local services, and end-of-life planning.

The event, relaxed and informal, took place in the bright and cozy office of the SevenPonds' Texas Street headquarters. Generous offerings of brie, camembert and wine accompa-

nied the gathering. Shannon, a former pupil of Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, ran an interactive discussion on motivating and procrastinating factors for end of life planning. In essence, why people decide to plan for their deaths, and why they don't.

"There's a new found openness on death", said Suzette Sherman, SevenPonds's founder. "People want to take more possession of their experience." Indeed, in an age where hospitalized deaths are declining in favor of dying in our own homes, more than six million Americans search "funeral home" online each month. A whopping 97 percent of Marin County residents opt for cremation rather than traditional burial. And demand for natural burial sites—burial without casket or headstone, with only a biodegradable wrap for the body—is increasing.

Time Magazine recently ran a cover story entitled "How to Die," chronicling the author's challenges in handling decisions involving his dying parents. *The New York Times* and *Huffington Post* feature columns on death and dying which offer guidance into death's nuanced and often unforeseen complications. And across America a new cultural phenomena known as "death cafés"—casual settings where visitors assemble and discuss death and dying over pastries and coffee—are gaining in visibility, particularly in California.

"Baby boomers are used to breaking boundaries", said Sherman. "The Bay Area is often on the forefront on a



Suzette Sherman, Seven Ponds founder and CEO.
PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE.

or "I don't know how to approach this," while the most common motivators are "I want to reduce the stress of my loved ones by documenting my wishes."

"You can never be too detailed", said Shannon, about end of life planning. From ensuring your pets are cared for, to making sure an executor has access to all of your web passwords, to the way your memorial services are conducted. These details, when left to the last minute, can cause needless stress not just to the dying but to their loved ones. "If you can just commit to planning just one little thing today, it's so much better than nothing", implored Shannon.

Sherman wants SevenPonds to offer a contemporary, holistic approach to the death planning process. The SevenPonds blog provides resources not only for devising wills and handling the legalities surrounding end of life, but also for coping with the emotional and spiritual upheavals of the dying process. "Redefining the image of dying has been so important", said Sherman. "It should be seen as a healthy, wholesome, natural part of life." Regardless of what resource a person is looking for at SevenPonds, the central theme is taking possession of one's death.

SevenPonds' next free event is "Choosing to Die at Home," June 17th at 6 p.m., 198 Texas Street. RSVP to pondering@sevenponds.com. See www.sevenponds.com for more information.

lot of things." The strong demand for death resources in California inspired Sherman, a Michigan native, to move to San Francisco in 2001. "We reach out to experts for professional advice... whatever we can do to make dying a more beautiful, sacred process."

During the talk, Shannon directed an interactive brainstorming session on such topics as advance care directives, heart wills—wills which, rather than conveying tangible property convey a message to loved ones—and tools for opening up conversations on death, all issues addressed on SevenPonds' website. Shannon offered insights into the psychological basis for why people constantly fail to plan. "There are procrastinators and motivators," she explained. Common procrastinating attitudes include "I don't have time"

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– Janet J.



Frameline37 Film Festival Features Potrero Hill Filmmakers

BY JIM VAN BUSKIRK

June is bustin' out all over — with films — at Frameline37. The San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival presents eleven days of queer cinema from June 20 to 30 at the Castro, Roxie and Victoria Theatres, and in Berkeley at the Rialto Cinemas Elmwood.

More than 60,000 film lovers, media artists, and members of LGBTQ communities from the Bay Area and across the globe are expected to attend the screenings of features, documentaries, and shorts curated from 700-plus submissions, representing more than thirty countries, including Poland, Ireland, South Korea, and Thailand.

Opening the festival at the Castro Theatre, *Concussion*, directed by Stacie Passon, is described as “a sexy and daring breakthrough drama about a wealthy lesbian housewife whose straight-laced lifestyle takes a drastic and rebellious turn following a head injury.” The closing night film is Darren Stein’s *G.B.F.*, “a timely feel-good comedy about a recently outed gay teen navigating tokenization and high school social structures.” In between will be scores of films, many of them made right in our own backyard.

Perhaps closest to home is *The Battle of AmfAR*, directed by Academy Award winners Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman, of Telling Pictures, whose offices are located on Potrero Hill. Their most recent documentary, produced by HBO, focuses on Hollywood icon Elizabeth Taylor and research scientist Dr. Mathilde Krim, who in the early 1980s joined forces to found the Foundation for AIDS Research.

Also set in the early years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic is a narrative film by Chris Mason Johnson. *Test* takes place in the San Francisco modern dance scene, in 1985, just



before the announcement of the first HIV test, and was largely filmed in San Francisco. Another documentary with local connections is *Big Joy: The Adventures of James Broughton*, directed by Eric Slade, Stephen Silha, and Dawn Logsdon, a portrait of the beloved Renaissance man in San Francisco’s counterculture; poet, filmmaker and advocate for sexual freedom.

There’s more joy in *Joy! Portrait of a Nun*, by director Joe Balass, in which Sister Missionary P. Delight and her fellow members of the Order of Perpetual Indulgence look back on decades of “faerie-fabulous radicalism and whip out their wimples for colorful celebration.” *Valencia*, based on the acclaimed novel by local literary figure Michele Tea, follows the adventures and misadventures of a young girl throughout the Mission, where it was filmed by eighteen different directors, many of them Bay Area-based, including Hilary Goldberg, Silas Howard, and Cheryl Dunye.

Christina Voros’ *Kink*, produced by James Franco, focuses on the former Armory building at Mission and 14th streets, now owned by

Kink.com, which has made big business of producing fetish pornography for purveyors of BDSM. James Franco also co-directed, with local filmmaker Travis Matthews, *Interior. Leather Bar*, which reimagines the infamous “lost” footage cut from the controversial 1980 crime thriller *Cruising* — in which Al Pacino infiltrated New York’s leather world — to create “a genre-defying exploration of Hollywood, censorship and sexual mores.” Screening with *Interior* will be Travis Matthews’ 33-minute short, *In Their Room: London*, part of a project that, since 2009, has been investigating sex and love via intimate interviews with gay men in Berlin, San Francisco, and now London.

Lewd & Lascivious is director Jallen Rix’s attempt to document an important incident at the 1965 New Year’s Ball at California Hall, which helped advance the civil rights of gay men and lesbians. And Yvette Flunder, bishop and founder of the Ark of Refuge, is one of the subjects of Yoruba Richen’s *The New Black*, which looks at African-American activists, citizens and clergy seeking to change attitudes toward LGBT rights within their communities and churches.

For more information: www.frameline.org.



Top Left, Right, Above Stills from Potrero Hill’s Telling Pictures’ *The Battle of AmfAR*, a documentary about Elizabeth Taylor and research scientist, Dr. Mathilde Krim, by Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman. IMAGES COURTESY OF LARSEN ASSOC.

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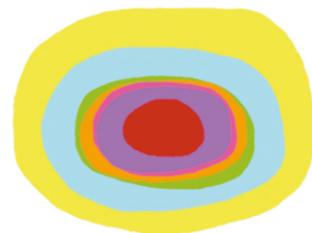
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE 2013

6 Benefit: Save The Hill

Help shape the future of development in Potrero Hill by supporting this grassroots organization's effort keep the proposed Kaiser office building off the hill. Join friends and neighbors at this benefit concert and auction, featuring Midtown Social, Ray Vaughn and DJ Ted Bagel Radio. Tickets: \$15. 7 p.m. Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th Street. Information: email@bottomofthehill.com

**6 Event: Asian Neighborhood Design's 40th Anniversary**

Support green jobs, public interest design and architecture and community development for disadvantaged residents and neighborhoods. Meet old friends and make new ones in the growing green collar economy by attending the 40th anniversary party of Asian Neighborhood Design (AND). Tickets: \$100, community rates/sliding scale available. 6 to 8 p.m. Adobe Systems, 601 Townsend Street. For information: larellano@andnet.org, 575.0423 ext. 200/204 or andnet.org, click on "Events."

6 Books: 82nd Annual California Book Awards

Since 1931, the California Book Awards have honored excellence among Golden State writers. At this special awards ceremony, the club will bestow gold and silver medals in several categories, including: fiction, nonfiction, first fiction, poetry, young adult, juvenile, Californiana and contribution to publishing. Awardees include View publisher's sister, Marissa Moss, for *A Soldier's Secret*. The best part is some literary giants and amazing writers will be speaking at the event. Tickets: \$20. 5:15 p.m. Check-in. 6 to 8 p.m. Awards Ceremony. The Commonwealth Club of California, 595 Market Street. Information: commonwealthclub.org.



ry, young adult, juvenile, Californiana and contribution to publishing.

Awardees include

View publisher's sister, Marissa Moss, for *A Soldier's Secret*. The best part is some literary giants and amazing writers will be speaking at the event. Tickets: \$20. 5:15 p.m. Check-in. 6 to 8 p.m. Awards Ceremony. The Commonwealth Club of California, 595 Market Street. Information: commonwealthclub.org.

7 Art Fundraiser: Playground Film Festival at Thick House

This fundraiser for Intersection for the Arts, *Changemaker Social* is an evening celebration of movement, the City, and how to make change. Expect a stunning Art auction, a flock of special guests, and a silent auction. Explore culinary artistry, inspired beverages, and bold live music. Exchange ideas with artists, activists, and change agents in a magnetic and artful setting. 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets: \$100. Intersection of the Arts, 925 Mission Street, Suite 109. Information: 626.2787 or theintersection.org

June 8 through September 17**Art: Travesia Journey of the Gray Whale**

Travesia: Journey of the Gray Whale is a bi-lingual exhibition presenting both artistic and scientific interpretations of the gray whale's story. The artistic component integrates mixed-media works by eight renowned contemporary Mexican artists—Triodo Collective, Ariel Guzik, Luis Orozco, Emilio Rangel, Alejandro Boneta, Alex Bolio, Balám Bartolomé and Pilar Villela—exploring themes of man's relationship with the gray whale, the underwater environment of the gray whale, their deep connection to the



land and their physical evolution as a species. The artists express these ideas through sculpture, video, animation,

stencil, sketch and light and shadow. The exhibition also documents the route of the whales' migration and the beauty of the El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve with photographic and video work by Alejandro Boneta. Free with Zoo Admission. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. San Francisco Zoo, Sloat Boulevard. and the Great Highway. Information: sfzoo.org.

8 Art: underCurrents and the Quest for Space

The Asian American Women Artists Association and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center join forces to present the politically charged, high impact exhibition, underCurrents & The Quest for Space. There are common stereotypes about Asian Americans that, when left unchallenged, can lead to misunderstandings, discrimination, and the continued invisibility of this group. Exploding these myths and imagining the larger space Asian Americans can inhabit in the American psyche are the focus of this multi-media, multi-disciplinary arts exhibition. Several Potrero Hill residents are participating in the show: Li Ma, MFA candidate at SFAI, Mido Lee, photographer from Taiwan, Xiaojie Zheng, from Wenzhou, China. Opening reception: May 2: 5 to 8 pm. Free. SOMArts, 934 Brannan Street. Information: info@aawaa.net

8 Music: Bay Choral Guild at St. Gregory's

Bay Choral Guild celebrates American song from Colonial days to the present. This concert is a tribute to the loveliness and variety of American song, spotlighting the immense breadth and creativity of our nation's leading composers from the 18th to the 21st centuries by composers working in the "classical" tradition, will be presented with selections by William Billings, Amy Beach, Steven

Sametz, Aaron Copeland, American popular genres, will range from gorgeously melodic Stephen Foster songs to rhythmic, exciting Irving Berlin, as well as familiar works by Richard Rodgers, Leonard Bernstein and Moses Hogan. \$25 General. \$20 Seniors. 8 to 10 p.m. St. Gregory's of Nyssa Episcopal, 500 De Haro Street. Information: 255.8100 or saintgregorys.org.

June 8 + 9 Music: 37th Annual San Francisco Folk Festival

Join the weekend's festivities at the 37th Annual SF Folk Festival, offering more than the 60 musical and dance performances and workshops—all free. There'll be food vendors and crafts by local artisans. Family-friendly. Free. Noon to 10 p.m. Presidio Middle School, 450 30th Avenue. Information: sffolkfest.org

9 Ride: Sunday Streets Bayview

Hit the streets by foot or bike and join the Bayview community for an action Sunday Streets, the Health and Arts Fair, and the Music Festival. Performances by Nitty Dupree's Studio of Dance, the amazing youth feats of Prescott Circus Theatre, and the soulful sounds of the Reed Fromer Trio. Free health screenings and art activities for kids of all ages. Free. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. From King and Third to the Bayview Opera House. For exact route: sundaystreets.com

**12 Workshop: Job Searching with Social Media**

Looking for a job is tough, especially when you have submitted dozens of resumes and cover letters without response. This class will provide actionable steps, utilizing social media, to help get your resume in the right hands. Free. 2 to 3:30 p.m. San Francisco Main Library, Computer Training Room, Fifth Floor. Information: 557.4277.

15 Benefit: Blues, Brews and Barbeque at the Nabe

Join friends and neighbors for delicious finger-licking brisket and toe-tapping music, featuring Bobby Webb and the Smooth Blues Bands, that benefits our very own Neighborhood House. \$35. 6 to 10 p.m. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. Information: 826.8080.



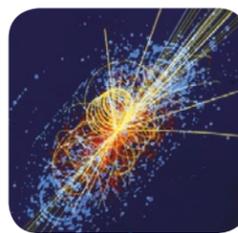
16 Father's Day
A free cup of coffee (or tea) to all dads on Father's Day! Farley's, 1315—18th Street.

25 Art: Evening with Jim Moran of Hamilton Wood Type Museum

The Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum is the only museum dedicated to the preservation, study, production and printing of wood type. With 1.5 million pieces of wood type and more than 1,000 styles and sizes of patterns, Hamilton's collection is one of the premier wood type collections in the world. Free. 6 to 8 p.m. San Francisco Center for the Book, 375 Rhode Island Street. Information: sfcbook.org.

**27 Science: Higgs: the Theory, the Discovery, and the Fate of the Universe**

2012 was a big year in high energy physics. The discovery of the Higgs boson may be one of the greatest collaborative achievements in history. Beyond shedding light on the way elementary particles acquire mass, understanding the Higgs mechanism will likely push the frontiers of fundamental science towards a greater understanding of our Universe. Two physicists, Maria Spiropulu, Ph.D., an experimental physicist from the CERN, and JoAnne Hewett, Ph.D., a theoretical physicist from SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, will discuss the prodigious and startling theoretical leaps and the epic experimental program that produced this monumental discovery. Lecture included in Admission. Adults only. 7:30 p.m. Exploratorium, Pier 15, Kanbar Forum. Information: exploratorium.edu.

**29 Kids Art: Elaborate Cardboard Picture Frames**

Spend the afternoon creating an elaborate and decorative picture frame using corrugated cardboard. Learn useful techniques in symmetry and ornamentation to create this dramatic effect. Free to members, \$10 for non-members. 1 to 3 p.m. Kids age six to 12. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. Information: sfmc.org/programs/families-kids.



Top Left At Dig, customers can choose from a selection of French and Italian wines. **Top Middle**, At Oliviers, there's no shortage of prime cuts of the freshest local meats. **Bottom Middle** La Fromagerie offers cheese like those found in every cheese shop in France. **Top Right** Diners come for the food, but return for the french service at Chez Papa.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE



The French Set-up Shop in Potrero

BY ADAM ZOLOT

There's no question that the French are at the top of a short list of the world's food giants. *Haute Cuisine* defined French culinary superiority throughout the 20th Century. Mid-century last *Nouvelle Cuisine* reinvented the French style by simplifying preparations and focusing on flavors. These days Paris remains the epicenter of café culture, bistro fare and *patisseries*. And a wave of modern cuisine has made its way into the unique *cave à manger*—food served in wine shops—that ironically resembles innovations emerging in Northern California's farm-to-table scene.

It's no surprise that I returned from a visit to Paris last winter packing a few extra pounds, thanks principally to the *Au Poivre* at Bistro Paul Bert. But, as the *San Francisco Chronicle* noted more than a decade ago, the distance between the City of Lights and the Dogpatch and Potrero Hill neighborhoods is far less than a trans-continental flight. The sunny side of the City features its own little *Saint-Germain-des-Prés*.

The most obvious and longstanding purveyors of everything French are the Chez guys. Chez Papa is the mature and sophisticated sibling in the group: go for the mussels, stay for the duck *confit*, and return for the *crème brûlée*. The restaurant has worked its formula for years; little is left to chance. It's traditional French bistro fare, done as properly as anywhere in San Francisco.

Many of us prefer a quickie with the younger, funkier, little sister Chez Maman; I know it means "mom," just indulge me here. Crepes, salads and burgers are the mainstays of this tiny bistro. The onion soup, salad *nicoise*, beef *tartare* and basic burger are all quite satisfying, alongside the

compelling *frites* and *Merguez*—spicy lamb—sausage. Now with an outpost in Hayes Valley, the Hill's little secret is out.

Les nouveaux enfants sur le bloc, that's the new kids on the block for the rest of us, have turned Dogpatch into



its own little French quartier, starting with La Fromagerie on Third Street in the American Industrial Center. Opened last year, this slice-of-heaven of a shop carries mostly French cheeses, with some legends of Spain and Italy thrown in for good measure; sample the Guttus blue. There are also plenty of lovely little grocery items on offer, including escargot, charcuterie and the delightful breads from brick oven Firebrand in Oakland.

Around the corner, on Illinois Street, Olivier's Butchery is the kind of place any food enthusiast dreams about having in their neighborhood. Beyond being an incredibly enthusiastic and warm host, Olivier is obsessed with his meats. He hand picks all of the carcasses himself. He utilizes the whole animal, and practices old world methods and tools to select, age and hand cut every piece to order. His French technique follows the natural seams between the muscles, which magically creates more juicy goodness. This is serious stuff; the quality shows and tastes in every cut.

At Minnesota and 22nd streets Dig Wines lauds itself as "an old-

school merchant de vin." Dig has an impressive collection of mostly French and Italian wines. The heavily curated offerings include wines that are "not your granddaddy's France," and feature classic regions joined with the offbeat and wonderful wines of Jura, Loire, Savoie, and Corsica.

On any given day I feel as though I can return to my Parisian holiday with just a few shorts steps from my home, with a longer walk taking me to Bonjour Patisserie in Showplace Square. And that's not even to mention the more than half-dozen non-food French-owned companies located in the area, which include Alter Eco, Blue Orange Games, and Bouvet.

Epicurean Zealot



// Adam Zolot was raised in the restaurant business, firmly establishing his passion for all things culinary. Adam has eaten his way through over 50 countries, developing a diverse palate and strong opinions which he shares uncensored on his blog *The Epicurean Zealot*. A long-time Potrero Resident, and Daniel Webster parent, Adam is excited to share his unique perspective on food with *The View*.

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 Monday CLOSED

LIBRARY NEWS

BY LYNNE BARNES, POTRERO BRANCH LIBRARIAN

Summer Reading for All Ages! Events & Prizes! June 1- August 1

Programs for Adults

The 55th Annual Potrero Hill Artists' Exhibition The City's oldest art show in is on display through July 26th. Drop by and enjoy the creative work of neighborhood artists!

Seed Starting 101. This class teaches the basics with an introduction to the SFPL seed library. You'll leave with one container, planted (correctly!) with your choice of vegetable. Sunday, June 16, 3 to 5 p.m.

Seed Saving 101. Learn how to identify, select, harvest, store, and use many varieties of vegetable and flower seeds, and, how to use the SFPL seed library. Sunday, June 23, 3 to 5 p.m.

Programs for Teens

Game On! Come play PS3 games on our big screen! We have a selection, but you can bring your own **T or E** rated games to share. Challenge your friends to determine who is the ultimate gamer! Snacks offered. Ages 10 to 18 welcome. For more information, contact Lisa at lfagundes@sfpl.org or 355.3822. Tuesdays, June 4, 11, and 18, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Cartooning Workshop for Teens. Teens will learn how to draw characters that have expression and movement. Materials will include pencils, markers and a sketchbook. You'll produce the start of a comic book. Taught by Cara Goldstein, with ten years of experience and a Yale National Teacher Fellow in 2010. Workshop limited to 15 people, registration begins two weeks in advance. Ages 12 to 18. For more info contact Lisa at lfagundes@sfpl.org 355.2822. Saturday, June 8, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Henna Tattoos for Teens. Free, safe, and temporary tattoos in the tradition of Africa and India led by Henna artist Rachel-Anne Palacios who will show and apply a design on participants. Limited to 25, ages 12 to 18. Requires parental permission. To register and request a permission form, contact Lisa at lfagundes@sfpl.org or 355.2822. Friday, June 28, 3:30 to 5p.m.

Programs for Children

Baby Rhyme and PlayTime. For infants up to eighteen months old and their caregiver. Tuesdays, June 4, 11, 18, and 25, 1:15 to 1:45 p.m.

Family Storytime. Featuring stories, songs and rhymes. For children from birth to five years old and their caregiver. Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 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. June's films will be *Bark*, *George*, *Bears*, *Beast of Monsieur Racine*, *Ben and Me*. For children ages three to eight. Wednesday, June 12, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Trash Mash Up. Join us for a craft program in which recyclable materials will be utilized to create something new in an effort to "reduce waste and see each other and our environment in a new way." Saturday, June 1, 4 to 5 p.m.

Jewelry Workshop. In this hands-on, workshop, local designer and entrepreneur Chelsea Robinson will guide you in creating your own beautiful bracelet, necklace or earrings. Materials provided. For children five and older. Friday, June 7, 1:15 to 3:15 p.m.

Connecting Honeybees and Kids in the City. Learn about honey bees with beekeeper/educator Tim Muhrlin. For ages three and older. Friday, June 14, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.

Make Art Workshop. Make greeting cards with the Museum of Craft and Design using a non-traditional material: balsa wood! For children of all ages. Saturday, June 15, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Destiny Arts Hip Hop Dance. Learn Hip Hop dance techniques while learning community awareness and conflict resolution skills. Through this process, gain body awareness and develop confidence. For children of all ages. Friday, June 21, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.

Lego Workshop. *Simple Machine & Powered Machines* are designed for ages eight and up. These kits enable children to be engineers, designers and scientists, making windmills, power cars, dogbots, clock mechanisms, letter balances and various vehicles. Limit 10 children per session: eight and above. Please call for a reservation: 355.2822. Tuesday, June 25, 3 to 5 p.m. and Thursday, June 27, 3 to 5 p.m.

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CRIME & SAFETY REPORT

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Two New Officers Keep the Beat

BY AMBER HAWKINS

Two months ago, Officers Marquita Booth and Mike Chantal were assigned Potrero Hill's newly defined Northside beat, patrolling the 18th and 20th streets commercial corridors and Dogpatch. Beat officers are assigned to a designated location defined by Bayview Captain Robert O'Sullivan. They work 10-hour shifts, patrolling in uniform on foot or bicycle.

Beat officers are community-oriented, making themselves visible as a way to decrease crime. According to Booth and Chantal, "It comes from an old term, but theoretically the concept is to abate crime by being highly visible and available to the neighborhoods' needs." The officers work with local businesses on security, provide crime prevention education, get to know community leaders, collaborate with neighborhood groups and business associations, and assist in making connections with other City departments.

"We can't be perfect, and we cannot solve every crime," Booth said. "People are not prone to commit crimes in front of us, but hopefully we can be close by to help if it happens."

Although recently assigned her beat, Booth has significant experience patrolling Bayview, where she's seen steady improvements. "When I walk through the neighborhood, the residents are happy to

see officers there to stop and speak with them about day to day issues," said Booth. "Even if it's just advice, that's what we're here for...folks just want to know we're human and we're normal and they want to be told the truth and know our limitations as officers. They want to know can you help me with this, if not, I can explain why or give advice or referrals."

Booth said she's been treated with overwhelming support and gratitude, and looks forward to getting to know the community even better. "One of the advantages of a steady beat officer is that you know who you're looking for," she said. "If you keep switching officers, they won't have enough time to learn." Another advantage to having a beat officer is continuity of communication. "All I can do is promise I will check my email and the message board every day. If someone needs to meet up to discuss an issue, I will make sure to contact them to find a time to meet," Booth said.

Booth has worked for the San Francisco Police Department for 21 years, patrolling the Bayview District for 12. She was awarded the International Association of Women Police Officer of the Year Award in 2001. Along with riding her motorcycle, she enjoys shooting pocket billiards, a sport for which she's won multiple medals.

To contact Officer Booth: *marquita.booth@sfgov.org*.



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Horoscope

The last week of May and first three weeks of June is the time of Gemini. Gemini's are about new things. If they're bored, they move on to something else. Master of none, but the encyclopedia of the zodiac, Gemini's, the third sign, are all about getting smarter all of the time, and telling everyone all the things they've learned.

The month of June is known for fun, travel, and weddings; people places and things. Enjoy. It's not the time to be serious; it's the time to celebrate, connect with friends and family, and remember to make sure fun is part of your life.

This month the largest planet, Jupiter, changes signs; it'll leave Gemini and move into Cancer. The change will make Cancers feel good, perhaps lazy. Cancers will miss opportunities because they decided to play, but if they resist the urge to kick-back they can gain a lot of ground. Jupiter is only in Cancer's sign once every 12 years; this is Cancer's year. Make it work.

Gemini

Money, money, money. It's out there waiting for you to collect. Focus on success and it's yours for the taking. It's also a time to assess what you value and determine if your priorities are right.

ILLUSTRATION BY AMY CURKENDALL

Cancer It's your year. Get out there and shine. People will like you for no reason. Opportunities should abound. But watch for a tendency to overindulge. You could end the year with a few extra pounds you'll need to shed.

Leo It's a year when soul searching will pay off. Spend less time in the spotlight, and you'll find yourself and build your confidence for next year, when Jupiter brings you good luck.

Virgo Make friends; tell friends you care. Make wishes on stars and work to make them come true. Jupiter is your friend this year; revel in friendships, hopes and dreams.

Libra Put your entrepreneur hat on and go for it. Jupiter is in your career house and business will grow. You'll thrive if you take advantage of this opportunity. Stop thinking about it and do it.

Scorpio Go back to school. Travel the world. Study with your guru. It's a year for learning and making yourself an even more well-rounded person. Expand your mind and you'll find new paths to follow.

Sagittarius You could get an unexpected inheritance, or just be showered by the generosity of others. It's

also a great year for sex. Tantric sex classes anyone?

Capricorn Stop working so hard and give romance some of your valuable time. You can create a true partnership with that special someone this year.

Aquarius Metaphysical studies will bring you great joy this year, and mundane tasks and chores will go easy on you, so enjoy the respite from duties.

Pisces This is the year to take your creativity out of the box and soar. Explore ideas, methods, mediums; paint, sing, and write. You'll amaze yourself if you find your inner talents.

Aries Take time for your family. Your bonds will strengthen and your life will have a solid foundation for years to come because of it. Learn to put others first.

Taurus This is the year for normally quiet Taurus to speak up. Your waters run deep, and people will be surprised and delighted at what you have to say. Don't be shy.

The View is offering this column, from Noe Valley resident Yvonne Walker, on an experimental basis. Please let us know what you think editor@potreroview.net.

Join us...

Monday, June 17th for a COMMUNITY MEETING

to discuss a proposed UCSF research building at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (SFGH)

UCSF proposes to build a new research building at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (SFGH) to comply with University of California seismic requirements. The new building would provide an improved, seismically resistant environment for research on the SFGH campus, which is an important part of the SFGH-UCSF partnership and a significant benefit to the SFGH patient population.

This second Community Meeting will give an overview of the proposed work that UCSF is considering at SFGH. We are in the early stages of this process. We are seeking your feedback at this meeting and at others in the future.

If you would like to be on UCSF's email notification list, please email community@cgr.ucsf.edu, specifying the campus site(s) of interest: SFGH, Parnassus, Mission Bay, Laurel Heights, Mount Zion.

UCSF fully ascribes to the Americans with Disabilities Act. If at any time you feel you have a need for accommodation, please contact 415-476-3206 or community@cgr.ucsf.edu with your suggested accommodation. For Spanish translation service please contact us at least 72 hours in advance at Barbara.Bagot-Lopez@ucsf.edu / 415.476.8318.



Monday, June 17, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

SFGH Hospital Cafeteria (2nd Floor) 1001 Potrero Avenue

For more information: Michele.Davis@ucsf.edu 415-476-3024

Para más información en español: Barbara.Bagot-Lopez@ucsf.edu 415-476-8318

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Acompáñenos...

el lunes 17 de junio para una REUNIÓN COMUNITARIA

para hablar acerca del propuesto edificio de investigación de UCSF en el Hospital General de San Francisco (SFGH)

UCSF está proponiendo construir un nuevo edificio de investigación en el Hospital General de San Francisco (SFGH) para cumplir con los requisitos antisísmicos de la Universidad de California. La nueva construcción proporcionaría un edificio mejorado y más resistente a los terremotos para la investigación en el campus de SFGH, lo cual es un componente esencial de la alianza entre SFGH y UCSF y ofrecería beneficios significativos a la población de pacientes del SFGH.

Esta segunda reunión comunitaria proporcionará una visión general de las obras propuestas que está considerando UCSF en SFGH. Estamos en las etapas tempranas de este proceso. Le solicitamos sus opiniones en esta reunión y en otras reuniones futuras.

Si le gustaría estar en la lista de notificación por correo electrónico de UCSF, por favor envíe un mensaje a community@cgr.ucsf.edu, especificando cuál es el campus que le interesa: SFGH, Parnassus, Mission Bay, Laurel Heights, Mount Zion.

UCSF cumple plenamente con la Ley de Americanos Incapacitados (Americans with Disabilities Act). Si en algún momento usted piensa que necesita una comodidad especial, por favor comuníquese con 415-476-3206 o community@cgr.ucsf.edu para sugerir su ajuste. Para pedir servicio de traducción al español, por favor comuníquese con Barbara.Bagot-Lopez@ucsf.edu / 415.476.8318 por lo menos 72 horas antes del evento.



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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: June 4th, 6 p.m.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association usually meets the second week of each odd-numbered month. Next meeting: **Wednesday, June 5, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. 654 Minnesota Street.** 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.

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 or email president@potreroboosters.org. Next meeting: June 25th, 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 or call 341.8949. Next meeting: June 11th, 10 a.m.

Potrero Hill Democratic Club 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: 309.1574, PHDemClub.org. Next meeting: June 4th, 6:45 pm.

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 For more information: www.starrkingopenspace.org; email the Board of Directors at starrkingboard@gmail.com; voice mail 633.6756.

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