



April 2011

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Photograph by Peter Linenthal

An emergency meeting was held late last month at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House to address an increase in violence in the community. Seven youths have been murdered and four others wounded at the Annex-Terrace housing complex in the last three months. At the gathering forty people discussed the lack of positive youth programs and the pressures on working and single parents. In the photograph from left to right are Doloriette Hopkins (Nabe volunteer), Yessy Rodriguez (Hill parent), Sharon Johnson (Nabe youth program manager), Shakeel Ali (meeting chair & consultant with the Department of Children, Youth and Families, DCYF), Edward Hatter (Nabe director), and Kathi Kuhnel (Nabe intern). More coverage in next month's *View*.

Child Care Centers in Bayview, Potrero Hill Face Funding Cuts

By Sasha Lekach

The Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco, which operates child care facilities and energy assistance programs throughout the City, has cleared its name after a 2009 audit revealed misuse of funds. The California State Auditor had accused EOC board members of improperly using a half million dollars in public monies to pay for casino trips and Christmas bonuses. With a new board in place, the Auditor gave the council a clean bill of accounting health in late 2010. But EOC, which serves San Francisco's poorest families, now faces a new set

of challenges: budget cuts.

EOC provides child care services at 12 programs citywide, and energy assistance to San Francisco families who earn less than 75 percent of the state's median income. EOC's Potrero Hill Family Resource Center (PHFRC), located in the Annex-Terrace housing complex, supports one of the City's few infant care centers, and provides daily care to 16 two to four year-olds. Through the Oscaryne Williams Center of Hope and Cleo Wallace Childcare Center, PHFRC also offers a food pantry and parenting classes, employment services and community outings. In Bayview, EOC offers child care at the Martin Luther King Community Center Child Care Program, located on Cashmere Street.

EOC is funded through federal, state and local agencies. "We are fighting different issues, at different levels," said EOC's interim executive director Dennis Yee. In his 2011 to 2012 budget, President Barak Obama proposed to cut the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

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see EOC page 5

Buena Vista - Horace Mann Merger Prompts Growing Pains

By Bailey Debruynkops

This August, Buena Vista Alternative Elementary School, a kindergarten through fifth grade Spanish immersion school, will merge into Horace Mann Middle School, located on Valencia Street. Together the two San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) institutions will create the only kindergarten through eighth grade school in the Mission, and will be wholly Spanish immersion.

Buena Vista Alternative Elementary is currently located adjacent to Potrero Del Sol Park. A charming mosaic mural depicting children flying above Potrero Hill blankets the building's facade, which is bordered by two cul-de-sacs and the park. The school recently launched a campus-wide green initiative to complement its school garden class. Relocating to Horace Mann, a bustling urban middle school neighboring City College's Mission campus, will be a considerable transition for Buena Vista's students, parents, and faculty.

The arrangement, announced by SFUSD superintendent Jose Garcia at the end of January, took many parents and teachers by surprise. And there's been some uneasiness about the merger. Horace Mann's

assistant principal, Adelina Aramburo, offered a widely-felt sentiment, "There is a nervousness; a wariness of change...it will be a rocky road. Some families are really pro, with the potential for siblings in various grades at one location, and of course some families are more hesitant."

Pre-teens at Horace Mann may have mixed emotions about being invaded by younger students. "The students I've talked to have said it sounds like it will be great to have little kids around, but I'm not sure they truly understand what's going on," said Aramburo.

The details of Buena Vista's scheduled August 15th move are still being worked out. According to Buena Vista principal Larry Alegre, "It's difficult for us to leave Buena Vista because it was just totally renovated. We just went through a couple years of construction and it took a toll on teachers. We are looking forward to more space, being more centrally located and closer to the library. We've had very little parking and safety problems, being close to the park, so we are concerned about that. I think it's going to be okay; I worked at Cesar Chavez for 10 years."

Public schools in the Mission have had a shortage of language programs for students entering

sixth grade. Horace Mann with the Buena Vista Program - the combined school's tentative new name - will be entirely Spanish immersion. "Parents are hoping that the Spanish immersion K through 8

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District 10 Supervisor Wades into New Job

By Bill Slatkin

Sponsoring legislation to stiffen rules on illegal dumping; learning what's being done about San Francisco's truancy problems; joining Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and other City officials for a widely-publicized event at Pier 70; and then climbing a dirt hill to cheer-on neighbors who are converting a weed patch into a public park. Malia Cohen is discovering the dimensions of her job as District 10's new supervisor. She's figuratively getting her feet wet, literally getting her heels in the mud, conducting the City's business and representing the residents of San Francisco's largest, most diversified district.

"This is still my dream job. It's very exciting," said Cohen, barely three months into her role. Her aides confirm that requests, assignments, and meeting notifications are stream-

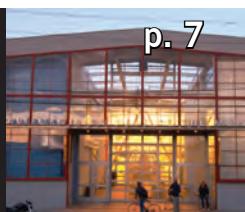
ing into Room 224, City Hall, at a steady pace. And that "everything" is the answer to the question: "what's most important?"

As vice chair of the Land Use and Economic Development Committee, Cohen is asked to consider exemptions to City building and use rules, and approve requests for small developments. Perhaps more interesting are projects with the County Sheriff's and San Francisco Police departments, part of Cohen's assignment as the Public Safety Committee's vice chair. "There's an effort to increase the [community's] awareness about truancy, about the connection between truancy and criminal behavior," said Cohen. She learned, during an event sponsored by the Truancy Assessment Resource Center (TARC), that people are encouraged to report - using the

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PUBLISHER'S VIEW

Southside

By Steven J. Moss

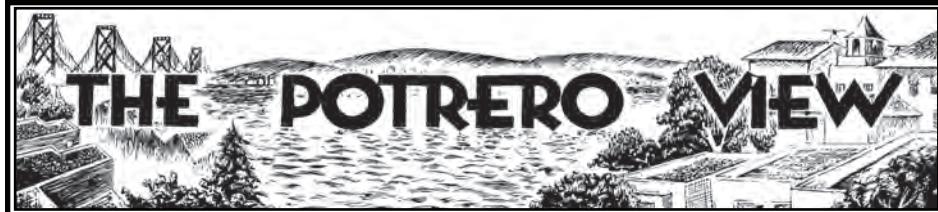
As I traveled from my Potrero Hill home to my Dogpatch office on a recent morning, I cruised through a rapidly changing neighborhood. Heavy-duty trucks lumbered down Illinois Street, a homeless man pushed a shopping cart overflowing with bulging trash bags; common sights for the past thirty years. But, near The Ramp, a twenty-something woman, attired in a Paul Frank robe and pink slippers, walked her small dog. A mom jogged by pushing a stroller. Towering over the scene, along the bay, a pair of unused and graffitied cranes balefully eyed an even larger, steadily-moving, crane across the street, being used to construct Potrero Launch, a 196-unit apartment building that will house the Potrero Kids at Daniel Webster preschool.

Just seven years ago, when I moved my office from Bayview to Dogpatch, this same area was dominated by dumped trash and RV encampments. It'd have been unimaginable to see a young woman casually walking her dog in jammies; kid sightings were rare. But like Potrero Hill – a

neighborhood that's almost completed its transformation from a community dominated by artists, craftspeople, and blue collar workers to one populated by upper middle class knowledge manipulators – Dogpatch is changing. So too, is Bayview-Hunters Point. A forty year Hill resident recently told me that he preferred the old neighborhood, even with its higher crime rates and decaying infrastructure. But a newer Dogpatch resident – who'd been in the neighborhood just twenty years – said that while he loved the old, he was looking forward to the new. Love it or not, the future is on its way.

The View, heading towards its 41st anniversary, needs to change too. The paper was launched by activist-artist-intellectuals, who had social revolution on their minds. It served a neighborhood that was like a village. Cut-off from the rest of the City by freeways, poor public transportation and a bad reputation, different demographic groups – African-Americans, Italians, and Eastern-Europeans –

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EDITOR and PUBLISHER: Steven J. Moss

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Lisa Tehrani

APRIL STAFF: Regina Anavy, Abby Bridge, Zenay Clemons, Bailey DeBruynkops, Carole-Anne Elliott, Rhea Estante, Debbie Findling, Lisa Gunther, Lori Higa, Yarborough Knott, Liska Koenig, Sasha Lekach, Catie Magee, Sara Moss, Emmanuel Schnetzler, Mauri Schwartz, Bill Slatkin, Nicole Spiridakis and Simon Stahl

Editorial and policy decisions are made by the staff. All staff positions are voluntary.

Published monthly. Address all correspondence to:

THE POTRERO VIEW, 2325 Third Street Suite 344, San Francisco, CA 94107
415.626.8723 • E-mail: editor@potreroview.net • advertising@potreroview.net (advertising)



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Starr King Open Space Call For Board Members

Starr King Open Space is seeking candidates for its board of directors. An election at the upcoming annual general meeting will be held in May. Potrero Hill and Dogpatch residents are encouraged to contact the board for more information.

Starr King Open Space is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose purpose is to maintain, manage and improve as open space a 3½-acre protected grassland on the southwest side of Potrero Hill. The board is responsible for all aspects of running the nonprofit, including land management, fundraising, advocacy, financial management, community outreach and strategic planning. More information: e-mail starrkingboard@gmail.com, call 415-633-6756; www.starrkingopenspace.org.

McKINLEY PARK BY SIMON STAHL

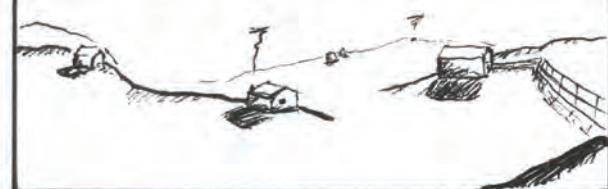
MCKINLEY PARK WAS ORIGINALLY PART OF THE LAND MEXICO GRANTED TO DON FRANCISCO DE HARO, SAN FRANCISCO'S FIRST MAYOR, AS A NEW PASTURE FOR HIS CATTLE IN 1835. THE AREA WAS BARREN AND CONSIDERED WORTHLESS THEN, WHEN HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF PRIME FARMLAND WERE BEING GRANTED AWAY FREELY. BUT THE LAND WAS IDEAL FOR PASTURING CATTLE, SINCE IT WAS NATURALLY ENCLOSED ON THREE SIDES BY WATER AND THE FOURTH BY A STONE WALL BUILT BY PRIESTS FROM THE MISSION. DE HARO GAVE THE LAND TO HIS OLDEST SONS, TWINS FRANCISCO AND RAMON.



DE HARO SOON GOT HIS LAND BACK, HOWEVER, WHEN FRANCISCO AND RAMON WERE MURDERED BY KIT CARSON UNDER COL. FREMONT'S ORDER DURING THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR. DE HARO DIED, PERHAPS FROM GRIEF, THREE YEARS LATER IN 1849. THE LAND WAS PASSED DOWN TO HIS SIX DAUGHTERS AND ONE SON, ALL MINORS AT THE TIME.



AFTER GOLD WAS DISCOVERED IN 1848, SETTLERS FLOODED IN. THE DE HARO HEIRS WERE FORCED TO SELL OFF THE LAND AS IT WAS BEING SOLD OUT FROM UNDER THEM. WHEN THE SUPREME COURT UPHELD THEIR RIGHT TO IT IN 1859, ONLY 50 SQUARE YARDS WERE LEFT OF THE LEAGUE-SQUARE GRANT. IN 1866, A SECOND RULING REVOKED WHAT WAS LEFT.



"POTRERO NUEVO" WAS STILL FAIRLY ISOLATED FROM SAN FRANCISCO BY MISSION BAY, WHICH MADE IT IDEAL FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. GUNPOWDER FACTORIES, IRONWORKS, SHIPBUILDING, AND ROPE MAKING BROUGHT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THE HILL. SOON A CLOSE WORKING-CLASS COMMUNITY HAD FORMED, DRAWN TOGETHER BY THEIR SEPARATION FROM THE REST OF SAN FRANCISCO.



"McKinley Park" is a work of historical fiction that explores the changing identity of our community over the past hundred and fifty years. The park reflects a microcosm of the neighborhood as a whole, a stage on which the aspirations and challenges of Hill residents past and present unfold. Stahl lives on Kansas Street.



SHORT CUTS



Big Wheel

Despite threats that neighborhood opposition would force the event to move to John McLaren Park, **Bring Your Own Big Wheel** will return to the City's curviest street – Kansas – on April 24. According to race organizer and Hill resident **Tom Price**, the positive vibes created by previous well-managed events created strong community support for a return engagement. Permits, insurance, and portable potties have been secured – at an all-in cost of roughly \$1,500 – for the 3 to 5 p.m. race. While donations from participants and onlookers are more than welcome, Price turned down money offers from the **Travel Channel**, which wanted to film the race, preferring to maintain the event's neighborly spirit. The first heat will be kids-only, led by Price's three year old daughter **Juniper**. If you want to participate, download and bring a liability-release form – a requirement reflecting the event's slow maturation, if a party involving costumed adults barreling down our crooked street astride tiny toy plastic bikes can be called mature – at www.bringyourownbigwheel.com.

Crime

Connecticut Yankee reports an influx of counterfeit bills, in this case

one dollar currency that has been bleached and copied to look like ten or twenty dollar bills. The Yankee can't afford much bilking; with a \$15,000 a month rental nut that fine establishment is having a tough time holding on...**McKenzie Warehouse** was broken into last month, by a burglar who appeared to be just browsing; nothing was actually taken...**Blockbuster's** Potrero Center outlet will close this month, marking the slow death of a technological era. It used to be that almost every neighborhood had its own video rental store. **Four Star Video**, down the block from **Goat Hill Pizza**, provided that service to Potrero Hill residents. There was something magical about sauntering through the aisles with your girlfriend, boyfriend, or spouse – and later, daughter or son – trying to figure out what to rent for the weekend, while bumping into neighbors. Though the library offers a somewhat similar experience, the hours aren't the same, the aisles are too clean, and it can't replicate the feel of a jam-packed store staffed by film-geek clerks. Another urban experience may soon be extinct...The bad mojo created when **Klein's Deli** departed its 20th and Connecticut street location appears to still be lingering. The new sandwich shop, to be opened by **Chat's Roasting Company** may be permanently stalled by

ongoing landlord disagreements.

Building

Variety may be the spice of life, but in Dogpatch it may only be a memory of bygone days. The long vacant and decrepit Variety Building, located at the corner of Tennessee and 22nd streets, is likely soon to be demolished, to make way for a three story, two-unit building with space for a ground floor restaurant. Dogpatch-based **Lundberg Design** proposes steel-colored siding with red accent walls, joining other buildings that pay homage to the area's previous industrial nature. **Dogpatch Neighborhood Association** (DNA) supports the design, despite negative feedback from some of its members. DNA's endorsement is contingent on the construction of a bulbout at the corner, as contained in the 22nd Street Master Plan... Another project is being proposed at 616 20th Street at Third: a 16-unit mixed use building, also with ground floor commercial space for a restaurant. That development includes parking, and will share a wall with the 196-unit Potrero Launch building under construction next door...The **San Francisco Board of Supervisors** approved \$70 million in tax increment bonds to fund roads, utilities, and other infrastructure improvements in

Mission Bay. The money will also finance construction of a 150-unit housing complex on Fourth Street, 15 percent of which will be dedicated to formerly homeless families. The board action was taken in advance of **Governor Jerry Brown's** efforts to turn-off the money spigot for redevelopment projects.

Dogpatch Goes South

By a unanimous vote, DNA approved a request to welcome residents living south of its 22nd Street southern boundary into the advocacy organization. Those living in the area are now eligible to become voting members of DNA, and the Dogpatch neighborhood will be redefined to include the area extending to Cesar Chavez between Third and Pennsylvania streets. The action taken at the March DNA meeting followed an appeal by community activist **Bruce Huie**, who owns and lives in a condominium loft at 23rd and Indiana streets. He emphasized the benefits of an enlarged Dogpatch, including a louder voice at City Hall and the synergy between the communities as they work to improve 22nd Street and develop Progress Park on Indiana between 24th and 25th streets. The decision doesn't affect the boundaries of the

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Routine PG&E Maintenance Prompts Local Anxiety After San Bruno Pipeline Explosion

By Regina Anavy

Heightened tensions caused by last year's pipeline explosion in San Bruno caused some 17th and Missouri street residents to question

taking up parking spaces. We come back in the morning, and they've moved our signs around."

PG&E spokesperson Katie Romans confirmed that the work was routine. "This is just part of annual



Photograph by Regina Anavy

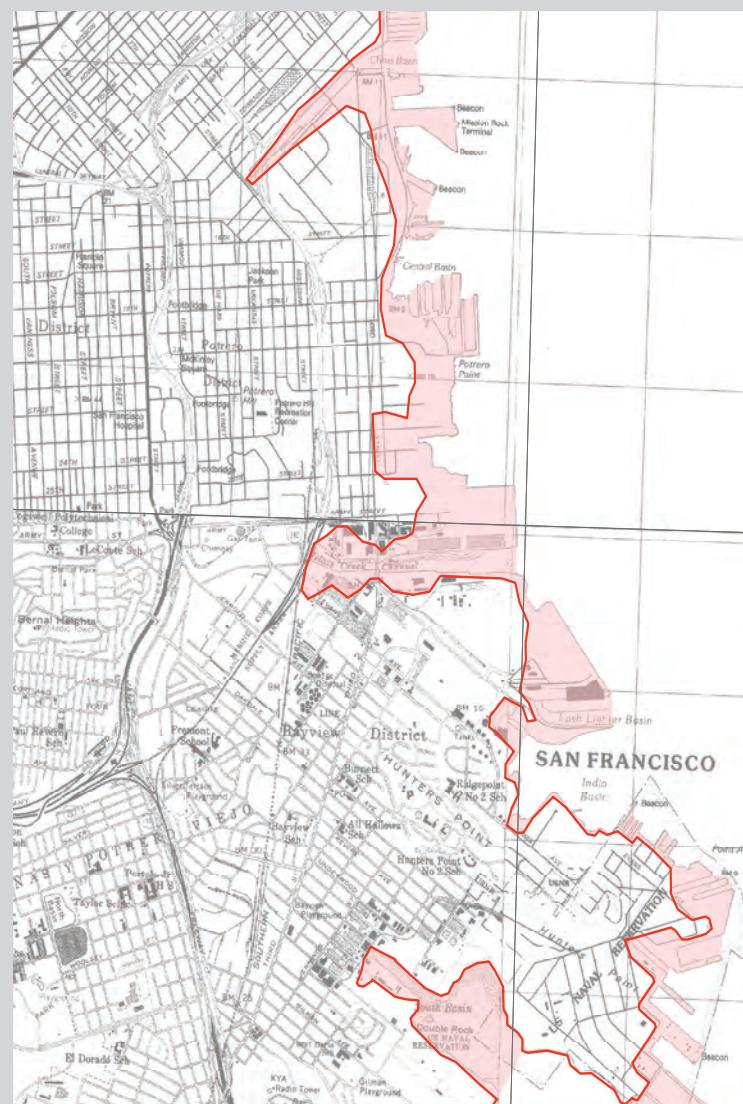
No parking signs were placed at 17th and Missouri streets during recent maintenance work by PG&E.

the appearance of a Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) work crew last month. However, according to a PG&E crewmember at the location, who requested anonymity, the work "... has nothing to do with San Bruno. We are doing routine maintenance. This is something we do every eight years. People are probably complaining because we're

maintenance. There is a regulator station underground at that location. If you think of natural gas pipelines like a highway, the transmission lines run at a higher pressure than the distribution lines that lead to homes. The regulator station steps down the pressure before the gas goes into the

see PG&E page 14

Southeast San Francisco's Tsunami Inundation Zone



Developed by the California Emergency Management Agency, this portion of the Tsunami Inundation Map was prepared to assist cities in identifying their tsunami hazard. To see the full map: http://www.conserv.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_hazards/Tsunami/Inundation_Maps/SanFrancisco/Pages/SanFrancisco.aspx

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– Janet J.



Four Developers Compete to Renovate Pier 70

By Lisa Gunther

For the last 150 years, Pier 70 has been utilized for ship building and repair, as well as an array of industrial services. The now mostly derelict waterfront site—which spans 25 acres—boasts the potential to accommodate upwards of three million square feet of commercial space, with 260,000 square feet of historic structures to be redeveloped or restored. The area's master plan promises that "Pier 70 will provide up to 20 acres of new waterfront open space and a major new segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail for both residents and visitors to enjoy." According to the plan, a redeveloped pier will create "as many as 8,000 new jobs and three million square feet of mixed-use development, while also preserving dozens of historic structures that help celebrate San Francisco's maritime past."

Last November, Salesforce bought 14 acres of land in Mission Bay. With the headquarters of the fast-growing Internet giant to be located just a stone's throw away, the construction of a revitalized Pier 70 became even more alluring to potential developers. The Port of San Francisco launched its effort to identify a developer for the pier last fall, calling for renovation proposals that would

provide for continued operation of the ship repair yard, establish a Pier 70 historic district, create a first class job center, integrate the pier into the eastern neighborhoods through new street networks, and result in a "carbon-neutral" development that minimized automobile use.

Last month, the Central Waterfront Advisory Group (CWAG), in coordination with the Potrero Boosters and Dogpatch neighborhood associations, held a meeting at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House to examine four development proposals. Representatives from Forest City Development of California, Mission Bay Development Group, San Francisco Waterfront Partners and TMG Partners took turns discussing why their company would be a good fit for this ambitious and historic project. CWAG – whose members consist of Toby Levine, Jennifer Clary, Susan Eslick, Paul Nixon, Glen Ramiskey, Jasper Rubin, Ralph Wilson, Howard Wong, Corinne Woods and Michael Buhler – will provide a recommendation to Port of San Francisco staff about the development proposals.

A common theme in each of the four groups' proposals was the importance of preserving the integrity of Pier 70's historic buildings, while creating a dynamic and inviting

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EOC from front page

(LIHEAP)'s \$5.1 billion budget in half. EOC relies on LIHEAP funds to help low-income households pay their Pacific Gas and Electric bills, providing assistance to roughly 10,000 San Francisco families annually. "If we get 56 percent less money we won't be able to serve the same volume of families. It would not be a great situation for families," said Yee.

In the state's 2011 to 2012 budget, Governor Jerry Brown proposes to increase the current 25 percent co-payment for EOC's child care services to 35 percent, and to cut child development funds – which help pay for child care facilities, literacy and education programs – by 15 percent. According to Yee, if state funding cuts are adopted, programming and service options for San Francisco's low-income children and families would be reduced. A proposed reduction to the state's reimbursement rates for child care and development – currently \$8,595 per year per child – makes little sense to Yee. "How does that work? It doesn't seem like that's really that doable," he said. "There would be fall-outs."

State budget proposals will be revised this month, based on updated revenue and expenditure estimates, with the budget expected to be finalized by the end of June. The federal budget is likely to be set by October. "In a couple of weeks from now [budget decisions] could be so different," Yee said about the constantly changing revisions and proposals to state and federal budgets. "We don't really know what's in the federal cuts package."

According to EOC's first vice president and finance committee chair LaMonte Bishop, the council is scheduling meetings with federal and City representatives to talk about budget issues, including Senator Dianne Feinstein's office. "We will have to go back and review our programs and plan accordingly," said Bishop.

"We're being conscious of what our reality might be."

First 5 San Francisco's – which collaborates with City agencies to support child care centers for children less than five years old – executive director Laurel Kloomok is guardedly optimistic about maintaining PHFRC's funding levels, at least through the next fiscal year. "We are working very hard not to cut the PHFRC funding for next year," Kloomok said. "We are holding it harmless from funding cuts for at least one more year." First 5 San Francisco receives \$9 million from the state each year, and funds programs that provide services to more than 8,000 children, including those at PHFRC.

EOC board president Reverend Arnold Townsend wants to address at least some of the impending shortfalls by raising funds from the private sector. "We need money and we don't need all our money to come from public sources," Townsend said. "We need to pursue outside funds so we can still maintain effective operations. The reality is, based on what [President Obama] said, there will be cuts, we just don't know how severe. When working with poor people, [government] has to understand they are going to have needs outside the scope of what your funds let you do," Townsend said. Despite the likelihood of reduced programming, Townsend would like to create programs for children over five years old, who are currently ineligible for most EOC child care services. "We are going to survive on some level," Townsend said.

Herbert Beasley, site supervisor at PHFRC's Oscaryne Williams Center, is confident the center's child care services can endure anything state, federal or local officials bring. "This program does not change. [Budget cuts] are not going to change the idea of how we work with people," Beasley said. "I'm going to continue, I'm going to keep on pushing to help children and parents."

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The Community Building Group met at the NABE on March 3rd to continue the progress made by the action teams in February. There was also an update on the master plan and committee members had an extended question and answer session with the Rebuild Potrero team. The action teams have consolidated into fewer groups with the Gardening and Environment action team and the former Potrero Garden Committee merging to create the Potrero Sustainable Living Group.



March also saw many improvements at the Family Resource Center garden including the construction of a 5th raised bed constructed by neighborhood volunteers, including several from the Terrace & Annex, and Rebuild Potrero staff. Many thanks to Recology, Nibbi Construction, and Beronio Lumber for donating time and materials. This additional super sized bed will allow for the planting of lots more collard greens which are a favorite among Terrace & Annex residents. Garden staff and volunteers also planted raspberry plants donated by Alemany Farm.

Emily Weinstein is working with BRIDGE Housing fundraising staff and the Potrero Sustainable Living Group to prepare an application for a Community Challenge Grant for the Texas Street garden. We also hope to secure funding from the Mirant settlement now under discussion with the City's Asthma and Power Plant Task Forces. These grants would allow construction to start this summer and will fund the expansion of the Potrero barrel garden program.

Master Plan Update: The Rebuild Potrero team is in the process of selecting an architect to test the master plan assumptions and develop a preliminary schematic design for the blocks bounded by Wisconsin and Connecticut, 25th and 26th Streets. Given the conceptual nature of the master plan, this exercise will ensure that the plan submitted to the Planning Department and actual development potential is aligned. It will also allow the community an opportunity to participate in the design of the blocks most likely to be developed as part of Phase 1. A group that will include two neighborhood residents, one from the Terrace & Annex and one from the neighborhood at large, will select the architect.

Reminder: Walking Club, every Monday
2 - 3 p.m., corner of 25th & Connecticut

For more information or to join an action team, call 415-806-1429 or email potrero@bridgehousing.com

Southside Caltrain Stations Face Possible Service Cuts

By Rhea Estante

Caltrain's Bayshore Station could be one of seven commuter rail stops closed this summer. Combined with a reduced train service schedule, commuters to and from San Francisco's southside neighborhoods may soon need to find alternative ways to get to where they want to go.

said Christine Dunn, Caltrain's public information officer. "No decisions have been made and we are still exploring the full range of service and funding options. Everything is on the table."

In addition to closing stations, Caltrain is considering reducing its number of operating trains from 86 weekday vehicles to 48, which would



Photograph by Chuck Fox

Caltrain's Bayshore station may be facing service cuts.

No final decisions have been made, but with upwards of a \$30 million deficit, Caltrain needs to increase revenues or reduce costs. Service cuts appear to be inevitable. A Caltrain survey conducted in February 2010 indicated that each weekday roughly 915 passengers board trains at the 22nd Street Station, and approximately 135 riders board at the Bayshore station.

"Caltrain is working very aggressively with local, regional, state and federal partners to find near-term and long-term solutions to its fiscal crisis. That includes exploring a wide range of alternatives in close collaboration with regional and local partners, with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and the Friends of Caltrain, and, most importantly, listening to the public,"

only run during peak commute hours, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Other cuts could include eliminating service south of the San Jose Diridon station and weekend service. Special train service for major events, such as sports games or marathons, could also be discontinued. The other stations being considered for closure are South San Francisco, San Bruno, Burlingame, Hayward Park, Belmont, San Antonio, Lawrence, Santa Clara and College Park.

"We are in the early stages of the process, but people are already very upset," said Dunn. "Four community meetings were held in February, and a public hearing was held on March 3, to discuss the proposed changes,

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MERGER from front page

will have no other strands, such as English-only classes. Buena Vista has been 26 years of entirely Spanish immersion/dual language; that's the concern about the sixth grade," said Alegre. "There will be 21 more student spots available to bilingual children. The cap for sixth grade is 66 students, and 45 are going to be fifth graders from Buena Vista who have applied. The superintendent has assured us the entire school will eventually be Spanish immersion. Horace Mann's grades seven and eight are currently general ed, but will be phased out into Spanish dual immersion."

Another concern for Buena Vista students and faculty is the combined school's leadership team. There's an open application process for principal and assistant principal, with the current jobholders at both schools invited to apply. The Transitional Leadership Team is being led by Horace Mann assistant principal Aramburo, and made up of community members and staff from both schools. The team will set the protocols for hiring decisions. "Parents have been anxious about who's going to be the principal. Unfortunately, we're going to have to go through a process, and the superintendent is letting us know he is not in any hurry," said Alegre.

Buena Vista has roughly twice as many students as Horace Mann. Presently, Metropolitan Arts and Technology High School shares Horace Mann's spacious facilities, but will move to the former Gloria R. Davis campus in Bayview starting in the fall. Buena Vista's campus will continue to house a pre-kindergarten program, hosting between 20 and 30 students, at least for a while. "I believe the building has been offered to the Bryant School Community, and they have

looked at it," said Aramburo.

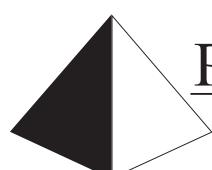
Buena Vista has experienced significant improvement in its standardized test scores over the past two years. While Horace Mann has shown some testing gains, it faces scrutiny as a perennially underperforming school, struggling to keep its state test scores at average levels. SFUSD received \$45 million from the state last year to help turn around poorly performing schools. Although the district hasn't provided a complete explanation for the merger, efforts to address ongoing budget deficits more than likely played a role in the decision.

Superintendent Garcia was sanguine about the merger. "Buena Vista has always wanted a K through 8, and Horace Mann was basically empty. It is a great opportunity to finally make Buena Vista's dream come true, they have wanted to do this for 20 years, the opportunity arose and we took advantage of it. The school will stay Horace Mann with a Buena Vista Program," he said.

Although a number of Buena Vista parents have expressed anxiety over the change, the school's Parent-Teacher Association president Cathy Manshel expressed optimism, "We are really excited for this move to Horace Mann as a Spanish immersion school in the Mission. We really want it to work out wonderfully and positively affect our students."

Alegre pointed to an aspect of what makes Buena Vista special, "It's important for people to realize that our school is 65 percent Latino, 15 percent white, 12 percent black, 60 percent English learners. People concerned with gentrification need to look at demographics of the school. We still have a lions-share of low socio-economic population here, but we have integrated backgrounds and promote sharing culture and diversity; depositing a beneficial and positive effect on school culture."

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California College of the Arts Pays \$8.4 Million for Old Bus Depot

By Rhea Estante

The best real estate investments are about location, location, location. A 2.5 acre plot of land near Showplace Square – which previously served as a Greyhound Lines maintenance yard – was recently purchased by the California College of the Arts (CCA). Construction on the lot is unlikely to start anytime soon; despite the \$8.4 million purchase price, CCA executives are proceeding carefully with development plans for the 102,000 square foot property, which is located near the Caltrain tracks, directly behind the school's 111 Eighth Street address.

"There are a number of ideas for temporary usages of the lot, but the development for long-term use is several years away," said CCA president Stephen Beal. "The school will embark on extensive research, planning, and community involvement. We are still in the early stages of creating a methodical process of gathering

stakeholder input from students, staff, alumni, and donors, as well as from the Bay Area arts and education community." The land purchase "... opens up a world of

founder and chief executive officer of the global design and architecture firm Gensler – will lead CCA's development efforts. San Francisco-based Gensler is the na-

CCA wants to offer more public programs, such as free or low cost exhibitions, lectures, and extension classes.

"We want our presence to offer a real benefit for the greater San Francisco community," said Chris Bliss, vice president for communications. "Deciding on the best use of the space is complicated. We really need to be careful about how sections of the land are allocated. Whatever the final plans are the school will need to undertake fundraising efforts to stay within our annual operations budget."

With 1,860 full-time students, CCA expects its enrollment to steadily rise. "Enrollments



The lot purchased by CCA; the school's main building is in the background.

Photograph by Jim Norrena

possibilities for us, and cements our presence in San Francisco," said CCA board chair F. Noel Perry.

In his formal announcement of the purchase, Beal thanked the college's board of trustees for providing the insight and generosity necessary for the acquisition. Trustee Art Gensler – who is the

tion's second largest architectural firm. Notable Gensler buildings include the flagship Toys "R" Us store in New York's Times Square, and the Los Angeles headquarters of talent management company Creative Artists Agency.

The land acquisition reflects changes CCA has been undergoing in response to student needs. CCA's Oakland campus holds first year classes for 21 different degree programs. Painting classes have shifted to San Francisco from Oakland, joining design and architecture. Changes in the surrounding Mission Bay and Potrero Hill neighborhood are also influencing CCA's development plans. As the area's population increases,

have increased by 75 percent since 1996, and this property allows CCA to truly dream big," said Perry. To stay competitive in the education market, the school wants to develop state-of-the-art facilities for programs like animation and interaction design. There's already internal competition between academic departments for the new space. "Students and staff who like urban settings and experiences gravitate to this location. Anticipated demand for programs growing in popularity such as architecture demands that we be strategic," explained Bliss. "The MBA in design also needs larger

see CCA page 10

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PUBLISHER'S from page 2

created tight-knit communities that shopped and played locally. *The View* did it's best to cover these communities, pioneering "hyper-local" media well before that phrase needed to be imagined.

We'll still cover neighborhood news. But with this issue we launch a new section, "Southside." Southside is an acknowledgement that, for better or worse, Dogpatch and Potrero Hill will steadily become more integrated with neighboring communities Bayview and South-of-Market. In some ways this shift is a return to the first half of the 20th century, when line workers traveled from Bayview to work at canning factories in Dogpatch, and meat cutters left their Potrero Hill cottages for work in Bayview's Butchertown. These links have yet to be fully re-realized. While cultural activities and restaurants have prompted increased mixing between SoMa and Potrero, there's modest traffic between SoMa, Potrero Hill

and Bayview. But that will change. Increasingly the different neighborhoods will be drawn to one another, to visit Heron's Head Park near Hunters Point, eat at Auntie April's Chicken n Waffles on Third Street, listen to music at Velma's Jazz Club in Bayview, or ultimately, work or play at a revitalized Hunters Point or Pier 70. And the *View* will be there too.

Potrero Hill has long cherished its exquisite isolation. It's bred a community of activists and friendly neighbors. But, like the sun, news from a bit farther away can help illuminate our beautiful, challenging, changing lives. Just like our community, Southside is an evolving experiment; we'll see where it goes. Let us know what you think about the paper. If you like what you see, please consider supporting us, by purchasing an advertisement, or a subscription, or just sending us a few spare bills. With your help, the *View* will expand its role as San Francisco's longest running neighborhood newspaper, and remain a vital part of the community for a long time to come.

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Rebuild Potrero Continues Community Conversations

By Liska Koenig

Last month Rebuild Potrero – the name given to efforts to redevelop the Potrero Annex-Terrace complexes – convened another in a series of community meetings that focus on bridging the gap between public housing residents and their neighbors. The gathering was marked by lively discussions about Rebuild's progress, and the exchange of information gathered by nine newly formed "action teams," which are tackling such issues as public safety, disaster preparedness, and sustainable living.

Following HOPE SF principles – which focus on creating economically integrated communities while ensuring that no public housing is lost as part of redevelopment efforts – the Annex-Terrace master plan aims to involve Potrero Hill residents throughout the rebuilding process. "I am hoping that we can try to meet each other as human beings, get to know each other and build trust," said Monisha Mustapha, who lives near Starr King Elementary School, and is involved in the community planning action team. "Together we can create a neighborhood where people feel really neighborly towards each other."

Mustapha and other community planning team members discussed the progress of the Rebuild Potrero Facebook page and the Unite Potrero website, whose goals are to attract public attention to the project. "The Unite Potrero website is for all of us, and I'd like to invite everybody to contribute," said action team member and Hill resident Rosanna Francescato.

Under current plans, Annex-Terrace would be replaced by town homes, stacked flats and mid-rises, with a few seven-story high-rise buildings located below the Potrero Hill Recreation Center. The plan includes 91 apartments for seniors, aged 62 and over. The final scope and design of the 1,400 to 1,700 new homes to be built on the Hill's southern slope hasn't been decided yet.

To maintain Potrero Hill's ex-

isting mixed-used feel, meeting participants expressed a desire to populate the proposed 30,000 square feet of retail space with small stores, comparable to the 18th and 20th street commercial corridors. Due to zoning issues – as well as space constraints – no major grocery store chain has agreed to open in the new development yet. Charmaine Curtis, a consultant to BRIDGE Building Corporation, the nonprofit developing the site, suggested that a smaller retail chain or a food cooperative could be a viable option.

The proposed parking ratio of a half to one per unit caused concern among many of the meeting attendees. According to Curtis, transportation could pose the biggest challenge to redevelopment efforts. "It's everything: traffic, the reconfigured streets, public transportation and the anticipated demand in parking," she said.

The gathering was part of BRIDGE's ongoing effort to encourage local residents to support the project. "Residents and community leaders have a vested interest in the new neighborhood. We need to identify issues, solve issues and work on building the community to create the neighborhood how we envision it," said Emily Weinstein, BRIDGE's community facilitator.

BRIDGE has supported the creation of community gardens in Annex-Terrace. Eight households now have miniature garden plots in half wine barrels in front of their units. "I am not sure what I'm going to grow in mine, perhaps a small fruit tree or vegetables," said Uzuri Pease-Green – a junior community builder who is tasked with reaching out to Annex-Terrace residents – who is looking forward to digging in the soil of her barrel garden.

Work days at the Annex-Terrace community garden take place every second Monday of the month from 10 to 11:30 a.m.; residents can take home some of the results. "I always say you can't starve in this town," Pease-

see REBUILD page 21

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SHORT CUTS from page 3

Dogpatch Historic District.

Progress Park

Progress Park, located at Indiana and 23rd streets, continues to emerge from beneath decades of previous neglect. Park plans now include a secure off-leash dog area, featuring agility-challenging obstacles and a big dirt pile, with an entrance on Iowa Street near 25th. **The California Department of Transportation** will remove fence poles along Iowa, secure the off-leash dog area entrance with a sally door, and prepare a decomposed granite sidewalk adjacent to Indiana Street, with a matching pathway between Indiana and Iowa streets. In addition to the dog park, a flat 25 foot play area is planned for the park's northwest corner, underneath the 280-north on-ramp; and a border of rock boulders is planned between the parking lot to the north and the northern park edge. A bocce ball court may even be in the offing. The dog area is expected to open next month; outdoor movie nights might soon follow.

Stop

In response to a *View* Short Cut in last month's paper, Hill residents have renewed their request to the **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency** (SFMTA) to place a STOP sign at 19th and Mississippi streets. SFMTA had responded to the request, which is supported by at least 40 community members, by threatening to remove parking spaces at that corner, to increase visibility, with no additional signage. According to **John Anderson**, a 19th Street resident, the STOP sign is needed due to increasing numbers of drivers who accelerate through the intersection.

Millions

Not so long ago a family-sized house could be purchased on Potrero Hill for less than \$350,000. Not anymore. In February a five bedroom, three and a half bath house on Carolina Street hit the market, with an asking price of \$3.3 million. Move over, small businesspeople, craftspeople, and artists; financiers, **Zynga** and

Extra! Extra! (Don't) Read All About It



Photograph by Emmanuel Schnetzler

According to legend, upon reaching an elderly age, elephants instinctively migrate to an elephant graveyard, where they die alone, far from their herd. While there are no elephants in San Francisco, the City has created a newspaper box graveyard, where boxes seized by the Department of Public Works for being improperly maintained are stored, typically never to be released back to the streets. Last month a *View* box was rescued from this grisly graveyard, leaving behind the graffitied remains of its brethren.

Salesforce executives, and Mission Bay scientists are on their way...**San Francisco Community College** board trustee and Board of Supervisors District 10 candidate **Chris Jackson** has been named the new executive director of the Visitacion Valley Community Center. Jackson was selected out of a pool of more than 20 applicants.

Fit

On April 9, **I Luv My Body Fitness** is launching a fitness challenge gearing towards helping individuals get healthy and contribute to the **San Francisco Food Bank**. In exchange for a \$10 donation to the Food Bank, participants receive an eight-week exercise and nutrition program. At the end of the challenge three individuals will be awarded prizes, donated by **Sports Basement** and **Photography by Emily Payne**, among others. Last year the challenge raised \$750, and helped Potrero Hill residents lose more than 200 pounds in 10 weeks. This year's goal is to raise \$2,000. San Franciscans over the age of 18 are eligible for the challenge; more information can be found at www.SFYBBChallenge.com...**Kurty Photography**, located on Pennsylvania Avenue, was chosen

as this year's *The Knot Best of Weddings*' winner. *The Knot Best of Weddings 2011* provides a "by brides, for brides" guide to the top wedding professionals across the country. After 19 years in the Sunset District, studio owner **Kurty Wong** relocated his studio to Dogpatch a few years ago. "I love the roaring sound of the train station behind the studio, and the charming town feels of the neighborhood, as well as the coffee shop aroma from next door neighbor **Caffe La Stazione**," he said.

CCA from page 7

meeting spaces. Our theater is a lecture hall for 133 students, but administrators feel a larger auditorium would be ideal."

Although CCA would neither confirm nor deny the possibility, given the school's previous attempts to build student housing, it seems likely that it will propose that at least a part of the lot be dedicated to that purpose. Transportation planning will be crucial to the site's success. "Parking is in short supply and we want to encourage students to take public transit," said Bliss. "More and more people in the CCA community use bikes, and we can't seem to have enough racks."

Ongoing expansion of artist studios, restaurants, shops, housing and other small businesses in the surrounding communities means that CCA's expansion plans need to account for potential spillover impacts on the neighborhood. According to Bliss, CCA is investigating possible collaborations with the University of California, San Francisco, as well as nonprofits located in Potrero Hill.

The land purchase "...offers a tremendous benefit for Potrero Hill to create a beautiful space where none existed before. A few years ago there were just a lot of vacant lots here," said Bliss. "Revitalization is a great possibility for our neighbors, alumni, artists, and independent art galleries. A safer and more welcoming environment can only help everyone."

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American Gymnastics Club Opens New Bayshore Studio

By Lisa Gunther



Photograph by Lisa Tehran

American Gymnastics Club's new facility on Bayshore Boulevard.

At 390 Bayshore, the paint was still drying on the front of a remodeled warehouse. The words "American Gymnastics Club" were emblazoned in bold white letters against a blue background on the building's exterior, and a workman

was detailing the final touches with his brush.

The club's owner, Elizabeth Selig, brimmed with enthusiasm during a tour of the main floor and the upstairs area, which boasts a dance room and viewing area where

parents can sit and watch their kids. For Selig, the new studio is the culmination of a life-long dream, and more than a year's worth of hard work.

"I signed the lease in January, 2010," she said. "It took me till November of last year to get the permits. We started construction the day after, and that went really fast compared to the permitting process. I'm happy with how quickly it went, because we rebuilt everything. All these rooms are new."

The studio is beautiful, not merely because of its size and functionality—well-placed mats and equipment; a trampoline built into the ground for safety—but because of the design. The upper level is inviting, yet minimal. There are gorgeous windows facing the building's back and front. Skylights offer natural light well into the evening. "We haven't turned on the lights all day," Selig laughed. "I don't think we're going to have to use any lights until maybe six at night."

To maximize the building's energy efficiency, the lights are set to a dimmer switch, and are only activated at a certain level of darkness. No more light is used than needed. Everything is built to code. "If there's an earthquake, a fire, I am not worried, because it's so safe. When we dug our pits we found that we are on solid rock," Selig explained.

According to Selig, who started the American Gymnastics Club in 1981 on Judah Street, it was her Level 10 competing team that inspired her to open the new studio. "Our gym on Judah Street is small, and the team has won their state championships and regional championships for the last six years in a row. We go to other competitions out in Fairfield and Vacaville and Sacramento, and there are these 20,000 square foot facilities." Though their humble gym didn't stand in the way of success, Selig believes that moving to a larger studio will be beneficial for their practice. It will also help parents who struggle with driving to the Sunset district every day.

The club offers a mix of recreational and competitive instruction for all levels. Programs for very

young children run mostly in the mornings, with 45 minute classes set to a specific theme, whether that's dinosaurs, outer space, or "under the sea." "The teachers have to be really animated and playful. And we haven't set it up yet, but everything you see here, like those bars, and rings; we have miniature ones, so the little kids will feel like the big kids," said Selig.

Older kids and teens are encouraged to develop their strength and flexibility in the levels one through four gymnastics classes. The club follows USA Gymnastics guidelines, and monitors students to gauge their specific skill levels. Those who show the skills and desire to compete can enter levels four to six, and finally seven to 10. The higher level teams compete locally, as well as in state, regional and national competitions.

With a staff of 21, the student to instructor ratio is eight to one. Older students and parents are offered yoga and workout classes in the upstairs dance room. The club regularly hosts birthday parties, as well as a "Kids Night Out" on the last Saturday of every month from 6 to 9 p.m., where kids can play games, jump on the trampoline and meet new friends. Selig's goal is to promote well-rounded, happy students. While the company trains competitive teams, she understands the importance of accounting for all aspects of a student's life, such as school and friends.

Selig was born and raised in San Francisco, and is the fifth generation of her family to live in the City. When she was a young gymnast, she'd often have to drive out of San Francisco to practice. This was just one of the reasons she decided to open her own studio more than thirty years ago.

"Everyone always asks me why I opened a gym," Selig mused. "And well, I was a gymnast. I was also a dancer, and diver. But gymnastics was always my passion....no matter how many hours I work, I never feel like I am working, because this has always been my hobby...I went with my passion, and I learned the rest of the business as I went along."

To find out more about the American Gymnastics Club and its new Bayshore location: www.americangymnasticsclub.com.

Maureen DeBoer Your Neighbor Bringing Good Neighbors to Potrero Hill



Photograph by Emily Payne

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Dogpatch Faces New Changes

By Nicole Spiridakis

Once a blue collar enclave, Dogpatch is being transformed by waves of growth sparked, in part, by Mission Bay development to the north, and an increasing affluent Potrero Hill to the east. Industrial businesses have steadily left the neighborhood, replaced by hundreds of live-work lofts, and a myriad of small businesses and cafes. The area is increasingly characterized by its mix of residential and commercial space; a building might house a restaurant on street level, with residential apartments above.

Dogpatch is roughly nine square blocks, bounded by Mariposa Street to the north, Tubbs Street on the south, Highway 280 to the west, and Illinois Street to the east. For many years the neighborhood was heavily industrial, home to shipyards, iron works, and tin can manufacturers. Some houses date back to 1860; the area was one of the only spots in the City to survive the 1906 earthquake and fires. The neighborhood is designated as a historic district, with many buildings protected from being demolished or dramatically altered.

"I think the most important thing to remember about Dogpatch and Mission Bay is that Dogpatch is an authentic neighborhood, with a colorful history and amazing architecture with appropriate height, scale and massing," said Susan Eslick, Dogpatch Neighborhood Association (DNA) vice president. DNA works with other community groups and City agencies – including the San Francisco Planning Department, the Port, and the Department of Parking and Transportation – to address issues affecting the community. Hot topics include historic preservation, public safety, and acquisition and improvement of open space.

"I think people in Dogpatch understand that we were once a place no one had ever heard of and now

we seem to be a hip and happening place," said Eslick, a designer who works out of her Dogpatch home. "I'm very excited that we are getting interesting, creative and exciting businesses moving into Dogpatch, and people throughout San Francisco know where we are and what we have to offer."

New businesses arriving in the neighborhood – as well as the popular Pennsylvania Street CalTrain station – have created traffic congestion. Residents point to 22nd Street between Third and Tennessee as being a particular magnet for double-parking and increased traffic. A few years ago, DNA successfully petitioned for residential permit parking, which Eslick said has helped calm parking problems.

The American Industrial Center, which occupies two blocks of Third Street, formerly housed the American Can Company, the largest manufacturer of tin cans in the United States. It's now filled with 280 small and midsize businesses, including chocolate factories and advertising agencies. Rickshaw Bags on 22nd Street, which opened roughly three years ago, manufactures and sells messenger bags. And local chocolatiere Michael Recchuiti is poised to open a cafe in the former Piccino Cafe space at 22nd and Minnesota streets, once Piccino's moves around the corner to a larger space.

The Martin Building Company of San Francisco has recently restored two mid-block brick buildings on Third Street that were originally built in the 1920s. The Dogpatch Cafe on 20th and Thirds streets has taken over the space formerly occupied by the Sundance Cafe, expanding the coffee house to include an art space. Pier 70, on the eastern waterfront, identified as a future National Historic District, is in the beginning stages of a major overhaul and preservation effort (see article on

page 5 in this issue).

Other changes may include construction of a three-unit building – two residential units and a ground floor restaurant – on the Variety store lot located on the corner of 22nd and Tennessee streets. San Francisco architectural firm Lundberg Design has proposed a three 'bay' orientation, with the center "bay" of the building housing the restaurant kitchen, bathrooms and kitchens for the units, and a basement for storage. "My hope is that it will show how to do a good modern building in Dogpatch; one that works within the historic fabric," wrote designer T. Olle Lundberg in his proposal.

Another upcoming project is the redevelopment of the iconic World War II era Bluepeter Building, at 555 Illinois Street. The Bluepeter Building is slated to be renovated in 2014, when the parks in the area also are expected to be completed. Friends of Bluepeter, a neighborhood group, is spearheading the reuse effort, with plans for street level space for two or

three restaurants, a public restroom, and indoor/outdoor seating, with the second level to include exposed timber, offices, and a room for community gatherings.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS FROM SOMA TO BAYVIEW

New Effort Launched to Revive Bayview Parks

By Sasha Lekach

A group of women from Bayview-Hunters Point have teamed up to start an advocacy group focusing on improving parks located in the City's southside. Parks 94124, which was launched just two months ago, has already sponsored two community park clean-up efforts, including at Gilman Park, removing trash, scrubbing play structures and gardening.

Geoffrea Morris, who ran for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 10 seat last fall, serves as Parks 94124's executive director. Morris' campaign focused on expanding access to park and recreational resources in Bayview-Hunters Point. Following her loss at the polls – she finished ninth, in a field of 21 candidates – Morris joined with other Bayview-Hunters Point natives Maya Rogers, Chablis Scott, and Lena Miller to create Parks 94124, with a goal of providing stewardship to every park in the community. "I was raised here, these parks are near and dear to my heart," Morris said.

Previous attempts have been made to revive southside parks. But Morris believes Parks 94124 offers something different and more sustainable. "The way this group was

formed was from the inside. We are from here, we live here, we were raised here," Morris explained. "We are not outsiders looking in." Hunters Point Family – a non-profit organization dedicated to youth development – serves as the group's fiscal agent. Morris hopes to achieve independent 501(c)(3) non-profit status in

the near future. "We are saying we need our parks to be restored. We are shining a beacon of light onto this community," Morris said. "We are showing the community it's as easy as grabbing a shovel."

Parks 94124 held a community kick-off at the Joseph Lee Recreation Center on Mendell Street at the end of February. While local youth enjoyed cotton candy and open gym space, Parks 94124 displayed photographs of the 11 parks the group has taken under its wings, and solicited volunteers for future projects. "Once



Photograph by Thomas Kennedy

Quesada Gardens at Third and Quesada streets is just one of several green spaces in Bayview.

people are involved they become advocates for themselves. You see self-improvement," said Parks 94124 co-founder Maya Rogers, who previously worked with Bayview Hunters Point Adult Day Health Center.

Bayview native and parent Vanessa Banks sees Parks 94124 as a way to provide more open space opportunities for children growing up in oft-neglected Bayview. "Let's do something," Banks said, at the February gathering. "These kids need

see PARKS page 2

Soul by the Bay: Melanie Fiona Performs South-of-Market

By Simon Stahl

Melanie Fiona played to a packed house at 1015 Folsom last month. With an electric stage presence and an emotional vocal performance, the R&B / Soul singer seemed like the all grown-up love child of Janis Joplin and Beyoncé; her sound both vintage and cutting-edge. Her hit singles ranged from Calypso-influenced "Ay Yo" to the rock "Bang Bang," which she began at Folsom with a nod to Nancy Sinatra's song of the same name. The crowd sang along with the single "It Kills Me," which topped Billboard's R&B/Hip Hop Songs chart for nine weeks, and earned Fiona a Grammy nomination for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance.

Fiona also performed songs from her album in progress, *The MF Life*, which will feature John Legend and Cee Lo Green. The work explores "the ups and downs, the craziness, the rollercoaster ride of the whole experience." An example of *The MF Life: The Rain Outside*: "I left my shoes at the hotel so here I am in my rain boots. Hope you don't mind if I stomp around a little harder cause I'm not in my six inch stilettos!" The album's style, which she called "stadium soul," was inspired by touring with Alicia Keys and experiencing the energy of huge

crowds, "feeling the rafters shake and trying to get all that on wax." Songs performed from the album included "Rock, Paper, Scissors," and the soulful ballad "Gone and Never Coming Back," which was inspired by her grandfather's loss of his wife after 60



Photograph by Simon Stahl

Melanie Fiona at 1015 Folsom.

years of marriage. The mostly female audience roared with pleasure in response to such lines as, "if your man sounds like a broken record, change the record."

While Fiona clearly connected with the women in the crowd, male audience members seemed less enthused. After the reggae-style "Somebody Come Get Me Before I Kill this Man," one man told his date, "You cheered a little loud on that song..." A more enthusiastic fan shouted, "I got that album, baby!" about *The MF Life*, to which Fiona responded, "that album is not out yet, my friend! But I appreciate your boldness."

In an earlier interview with the *View*, Fiona explained how she was drawn to music from birth. Her father played guitar in a band, and would accompany her when she sang. "There was always music on, whenever my mom was cooking or cleaning or anything, the house was full of music." In school she branched out and tried other activities, "but it always came back to music. It just felt natural." Success came naturally; her debut album *The Bridge* has sold nearly half a million copies since 2009.

Fiona is on the road this month with BET's Music Matters tour, co-headlining with Marsha Ambrosius. She's eager to perform in the tour's more intimate venues, which allow her to connect with her audience. Fiona's soulful stadium-sized performance last month South-of-Market did just that.

Bayview Clinic Helps Troubled Youth

By Carole-Anne Elliott

As a gay black male, 19-year-old Joshua Jetton sometimes encounters threatening situations. Brittany, 16, attends school far from her Hunters Point home, where she was "hanging out with the wrong crowd." And 17-year-old Fred, also from Hunters Point, was, on a recent Wednesday, nervous about walking home. Each of these teens was drawn to the 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic in Bayview in search of a respite from a sometimes harsh city. "Nowadays some people get picked on by who they are or where they're from," said Jetton, who travels to 3rd Street from the Western Addition. "When I'm in here I'm safe."

Since 2005, 3rd Street has welcomed youth who mostly live in Bayview-Hunters Point, a neighborhood with some of the City's highest violent crime rates, and where African-American adolescents are seven times more likely than their white counterparts to become infected with chlamydia or gonorrhea. According to the San Francisco Department of Public Health, Bayview-Hunters Point adolescents are currently the center of one of the City's two chlamydia epidemics, the other hitting men who have sex with men in the Castro. 3rd Street offers 12 to 24 year-olds medical and counseling services, as well as the chance to participate in a variety of groups and activities. "Whatever someone comes in for, we want to support them in being healthy," said Sharon Papo, 3rd Street's executive director. "There's just so much stuff going on in the world and there's so much stress, and we love being a positive place in the community where people can come in and be supported."

3rd Street's waiting room gets right to the point. A basket of condoms sits in a bookshelf alongside "Tips for Teens: The Truth About..." pamphlets on cocaine, methamphetamine and alcohol. Fliers on birth control, saying "no" to smoking and "20 Ways to Respond to Sexual Pressure" fill a rack above. Symptoms of sexually-transmitted diseases – blisters, warts, itching, burning – are posted on the wall.

Many of the youth come to the clinic to get a sports physical, but "most teens come in for sexual health," Papo said, "a very big need in the community." 3rd Street offers HIV testing and counseling, emergency contraception, pelvic exams

see CLINIC page 2

PARKS from front page

our help. Some kids here don't know about community." San Francisco Recreation and Parks sponsored a booth at the event, where volunteer coordinator Marianne Kjobmand helped Parks 94124 snag volunteers and share information about City programming and park services. "I think [Parks 94124] is a great idea," Kjobmand said. "It will help to bring in people for all [Recreation and Parks] classes. It's a great opportunity to get the community involved."

Later, at a sit-down presentation, the four founders shared their goals for the organization and individual park projects. We often say we can't do it alone," said Recreation and Park director Phil Ginsburg, who attended the gathering. "We need the community to help us out." District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, a Bayview native, expressed enthusiasm for the revived energy Parks 94124 would bring to the neighborhood. Working with the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, two University of California, Berkeley landscape architecture interns, Jesse Jones and Deedee Min, are helping to draft revitalized park plans.

Parks 94124 held its first community park clean-up at Hilltop Park on Whitney Young Circle at Hudson Avenue. The event attracted more than 20 volunteers, including skateboarders from the San Francisco Skateboarding Association, who came to clean and scrub the skate bowl at the park. "There's a resurgence of Bayview residents becoming engaged and taking ownership," said Lena Miller, who is working with Parks 94124 through Hunters Point Family.

Park clean-ups will be held on April 9 at Bayview Park, and April 16 at Youngblood Coleman. To volunteer or learn more about Parks 94124: 573.7854.

CLINIC from front page

and pap smears for women, and testing for general health complaints, among other services. All are free and confidential. "We want to take down barriers for people getting services," Papo said, which means a teen can tell her parents she's coming to the clinic to participate in an art project, and get a pregnancy test while she's there.

As the only multi-service youth center in the area, 3rd Street refers teens to its therapist if a medical issue, such as recurring headaches, turns out to be related to some kind of trauma. In a small satellite office in the yard alongside 3rd Street's main building, Aliya Sheriff treats kids who are dealing with abusive relationships, substance abuse or what she calls "complex trauma:" the loss of multiple people in their lives, or a loss plus domestic violence or other abuse. "For some of them it's all of it; for some of them it's pieces," Sheriff said. "These really are youth who are survivors of some pretty horrible stuff."

The effects of trauma often show up in school, where teens may be unable to pay attention in class, or miss courses. "It's too difficult to concentrate on learning when you're triggered by flashbacks," Sheriff said. "It makes it really difficult for you to regulate your emotions." Sheriff relies on multiple approaches to treat youth, and includes family members when possible, though never in cases where a patient might be harmed. She educates both the youth and his or her family about the impact of trauma, and helps family members understand the youth's behavior. And Sheriff helps teens "reauthor" their story. "Often the stories of our lives are half-truths," she said. We typically only hear and understand the negative aspects of trauma – the horrific things that happened, the negative impacts. "What is often left



Photograph courtesy of 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic

Third Street Youth Center Youth Action Board: Fred, Tati, Michelle, Ashlee, Mariah, Jimmica and Brittany (left to right).

out is the story of survival, and that we have done things to cope," said Sheriff.

A vital third arm of 3rd Street is its youth center – the largest room in the building, which previously served as a liquor store – with community announcements and a job board at its entrance, and a bright, colorful mural depicting city kids and "rebuilding the community, peace by peace" on the wall. Yoga is offered, as well as some kind of healthy activity every day after school. It's where Brittany learned to make tacos, and where Jetton, Fred and any number of their peers come to use the computers or hang-out with friends. "If you're having a rough day or a bad day you can just come here and relax and collect your mind," Fred said. He, Brittany and Jetton have also been part of 3rd Street's Outreach

Squad, a trained group of youth who distribute condoms on the street and visit Bayview's YMCA and other organizations to educate young people about sexual health and 3rd Street's offerings. Brittany and Jamiya, 17, are also part of 3rd Street's Youth Action Board, which helps plan the nonprofit's programs, including the Youth Health Summit, to be held on April 9 at Marshall High School.

By the end of the year the nonprofit will move to a new home at 5600 Third Street, where an extra 1,000 square feet will allow for program expansion and the ability to increase 3rd Street's client base from 1,500 to 2,000 young people annually. The kids are looking forward to it. "People need to be coming here," Jamiya said. "If you're coming here you're probably not doing something you shouldn't be doing."



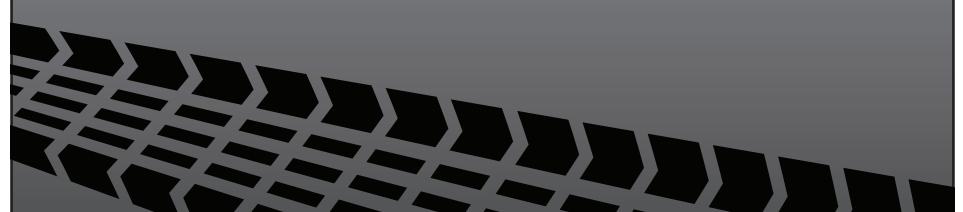
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COHEN from front page of View

police's non-emergency line, 553-0123 – if a youngster who ought to be in the classroom is hanging out on the street. "They pick the person up and take him or her to TARC. And from there the kid is assigned to a counselor to work with, both the youngster and the parents are given a caseworker. The idea is to work together and find out why the student is truant and what needs to be done to change that."

Cohen chairs the Joint City and School District Select Committee, which is exploring ways to reinstitute summer school programs for the 2011-2012 school year, under a cooperative effort by the San Francisco Unified School District, the Department of Children, Youth and their Families, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department and the San Francisco Library.

In between legislative duties, Cohen spends time with constituents, including attending many of the community gatherings that occur throughout the district. About 200 people showed up to celebrate her election in mid-January, at the Bayview Opera House. A February event drew roughly as many people – including a number of children, perhaps drawn more by the presence of a mobile zoo than the new supervisor – to the Visitation Valley Community Center. "These events are meant to be fun. They're for young people as much as anyone."

More serious business is on the agenda when Cohen holds "office hours," which are scheduled once a month at different district locations. Her schedule was full in early March when she made herself available at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House,

hosting a series of brief meetings with people who'd reserved a slice of her time. "We talked about a quality of life issue," according to Russell Morine, a member of the Visitation Valley Community Center board, who told Cohen about concerns regarding commercial vehicles parking in residential areas. "There is no easy answer, but I wanted to make her aware that it's a problem in some neighborhoods."

The idea of launching a state-chartered elementary school for underperforming students was on the mind of Dr. Raymond Tompkins, a University of California, Berkeley professor of environmental chemistry, who developed an experimental program conducted at Daniel Webster Elementary School last summer for 45 students. "I wanted to tell the supervisor about this and see what advice she has about how to make it happen."

Tompkins told Cohen that the pilot effort "brought student scores up 20 points on state standardized tests. The point is teacher development and training. We selected five certificated teachers and they were taught how to teach the babies [kindergarten through third grade students]." He explained that the institution he envisioned would be conducted in environmentally sustainable, technology-enabled classrooms, corporate sponsorship and an ownership interest for the teachers. "I wanted the supervisor to know about this. She's interested in what we're doing. Maybe that will help."

Cohen said she valued the opportunity to find out what worries constituents and what they'd like to see happen. "It's important to start the conversation about issues of concern to people in the district."

FICTION

The Edge of Change

By Zenay Clemons

My name is Zenay A. Taylor. The school that I attend is Aptos Middle School. My life goal is to be a college graduate and to be a wife with three kids. Things I enjoy are dancing, cooking and playing. Things I hope for in the future are to be a professional dancer and to be a chef.

I don't really know about my dad. He was the worst dad most of the time. He never bought food for my sister and me after church. He didn't really care about my sister and me. Most of the time, all he cared about was Jordan.

One time, it was my sister Jordan's birthday. My dad said, "You better make her a card if you know what's good for you!"

Then he made a cake for her. For our birthdays, he made us nothing. I heard laughter and amusement, like a fun rollercoaster ride. I saw a really big chocolate cake that looked like it was imported from Candyland. I smelled gumbo and rice, which was really a delight. December is the best time to eat it. I licked my lips and tasted the chocolate cake and ice cream. Yummy!

My dad is built like an African man. He is tall and slender with curly wavy hair. He cuts it to eliminate the bad and start with something new. I resemble him a lot. His voice sounds like a record that is broken. It plays such meaningful songs, like the Temptations. He moves like an old professional dancer, but he has a sense of rhythm. He likes doing track. He wishes to be a professional athlete, but is running for something better. He is a tall muscular man who eats peach cobbler every day. He eats to grow into something better.



Photograph courtesy of Streetside Stories

Author Zenay Clemons

One thing that I remember about him is that he was agitating and irritating at a family member's funeral. I thought a father was supposed to be a man, not a boy! I thought a dad was supposed to love and care for his children, yet it seems like they're always caught in the world's common traps. I live with my mom, and I go to sleep thinking about where my dad is. Thinking about him brings sleepless nights. I wonder why Black men can't make a commitment to their children and mothers.

I sometimes wish that I could have grown up with a father figure in my life. I wonder about the role a father is supposed to play. Is it the dominant male? Who knows? The last time I saw my dad was at a funeral. I always used to daydream about what it would feel like to have a dad, but now I know that it would be unpleasant. Now I am a girl who doesn't like to see her dad a lot. It sometimes feels like my dad doesn't like his children.

I went to anger management to control the outbreaks of anger that he caused. To this day, I am a calmer person than I was four years ago. I sometimes wish that I could tell the tender lips of a Black man who is on the edge of change that I've finally found out that you can't hold grudges. You just can't trust that person anymore. Now you know the struggle of a young Black girl. I learned that life is too short to live in hatred, because in the blink of an eye it could all be gone.

Bayview-Hunters Point resident Zenay Clemons wrote this story in 2008, when she participated in a writing program at Aptos Teen Center. She currently serves as a youth advisory board member for Streetside Stories.

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AUDITS from page 8 of View



Photograph by Paul Liotsakis

A kill-o-watt meter records the energy consumption of a big screen television not plugged into a power cord; it was drawing 70 watts while "off."

portant information for safeguarding peoples' homes during a disaster, we also help residents in every corner of the City lead greener lives. We do so by disseminating information on non-toxic cleaning products; checking to see if their refrigerator temperature is at the optimum setting and if their toilet is leaking; making them aware of how and where to dispose of hazardous items, and to properly compost and recycle," said Liotsakis. Participants are provided with a variety of complimentary items to help measure energy and resource use, including refrigerator and hot water thermometers, power strips, and blue dye tablets to check for toilet leaks.

Participants also receive the Rumble Preparedness Map, which shows where they can access clean water, food and first aid if a disaster hits, and contains a contact card to record emergency phone numbers and a family meeting location should their home become uninhabitable. "This kind of information is so valuable to have, especially now," said Ingleside Terrace homeowner Irene

Creps. "It's an important reminder to have an emergency plan. I'm definitely going to install a carbon monoxide detector and put together an emergency kit."

At the end of the assessment the auditor reviews the items discussed with the resident, who is asked to sign a commitment checklist. Liotsakis stressed that "Everything in the entire audit process, from answering questions to signing a checklist, is entirely voluntary. There's no obligation. It's a great opportunity to find out about many free green services all in one sitting."

"The free green home assessment by SF Power is really wonderful," said San Francisco Village member Hedi Saraf. "I appreciated all the information about ways to save on my bills, make my home more energy-efficient and safer, and the rebates." Saraf hopes to take advantage of SFHIP's offerings to upgrade and insulate her home.

According to David Hamburger, chief executive officer of Building Efficiency, a certified SFHIP contractor, "A lot of apartment complexes want to show they are doing their part to go green and meet the City's goals for reducing energy use and improving energy efficiency. They're so excited about this program because it helps them stay committed...they see it as a really good resource."

Audit recipients aren't the only ones benefiting from the program. "I'm meeting some great people, who are very receptive and interested in being green, and am enjoying this work more and more each time I do an assessment," said Elsa Eder, an SF Power auditor, who is also a graduate of the Green Jobs Academy, TrainGreenSF and a certified energy efficiency consultant.

For more information about SFHIP, visit wwwsfenvironment.org/sfhip, call 355.3769, or email homeperformance@sfenvironment.org. To schedule an audit, contact SF Power: 626.8723.

CALTRAIN from page 6 of View

possible station closures, and a 25 cent fare increase." Despite the threatened service reductions, ridership has increased in the past few months, with the train system now providing service to an average of 37,000 weekday passengers.

The public comment period for the proposed changes closed last month. Comments can be made at Caltrain board meetings, which are held on the first Thursday of every month. Decisions about service cuts or fare increases may be made by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB), which owns and manages Caltrain, as early as its April 7 meeting. "Caltrain staff is now in the process of reviewing all the feedback from the public and developing possible service scenarios," said Dunn. "Public comments will be taken into consideration and staff expects to present a proposal to the board for consideration in April."

In the current fiscal year, Caltrain derives 47 percent of its operating budget from ticket sales; 35 percent of the budget is provided by three partner agencies: the City and County of San Francisco, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and San Mateo County Transit District. The partners' contribution for the upcoming fiscal year hasn't yet been determined, but San Mateo has already indicated that it would reduce its expenditures on the system, prompting the expected deficit.

"We anticipate that two other

transit authorities will follow San Mateo and reduce their fiscal support, and it's inaccurate to call them contributions" added Dunn. "We are cautiously optimistic that the partners will be able to find additional funds and that the service reductions will not have to be as drastic. Any reductions will definitely impact public transit riders whose main source of transportation is Caltrain. We are looking at a wide range of funding alternatives. The 48-train schedule, assuming a \$30 million projected deficit in Fiscal Year 2012, which begins on July 1, 2011, is the worst-case scenario. It is not a final proposal. Everything is on the table."

To find out the latest about Caltrain service changes: wwwcaltrain.com/about/news. For information on 2011 board meetings dates: wwwcaltrain.com/about.bod/Board_of_Directors_Calendar.html. Additional information about Caltrain's ongoing fiscal crisis can be found at: wwwcaltrain.com/about/fiscalcrisis.html.

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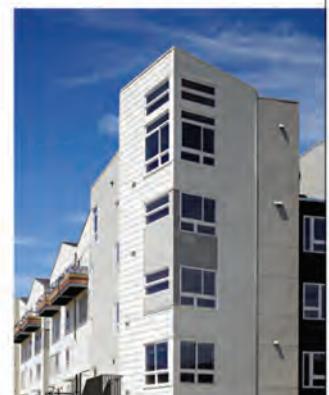
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PIER 70 from page 5

environment. Forest City Development stated that their main objective would be to improve Pier 70 through the implementation of "diverse and inspiring public amenities for the broader San Francisco community." Forest City vice president Alexa Arena and president Kevin Ratner stressed the importance of creating a first-class job center, and fusing creative architectural design with the needs of the growing work community. The developers envision a

included in the plan, in part as a way to engender a safe night-time environment. The team responded that while such amenities could be considered, night-life wasn't their primary objective.

San Francisco Waterfront Partners' described their objective as integrating Pier 70 with the eastern neighborhoods by creating open space, increasing public transportation, and fostering a creative environment. Waterfront Partners principal Alicia Esterkamp Albin stated that the company wanted to preserve "the grittiness of the wa-



Photograph by Lisa Tehrani

space that would attract start-up businesses, artists, health and fitness centers, and retail spaces. "We want to partner with local community leaders, and also bring a sort of spirit and culture to the place," Arena explained.

Mission Bay Development's presentation stressed the company's interest in "connections that result in a sense of invitation," and outlined a plan to integrate Pier 70 with the surrounding community via streets and networks of sidewalks, plazas and open spaces. Using Building Number 12 – a two-story square steel and wood building built in 1941 that was originally used for cutting and forming steel plates for ship hulls – as a focal destination point, Mission Bay Development would create ample office space as well as ground-level retail opportunities. San Francisco resident Susan Gibbs asked the Mission Bay Development team whether evening activities, such as theaters and restaurants, would be

terfront," and create flexible spaces that would be able to adapt over time as the community evolves.

TMG Partners' vision for the project included relying on multiple architects to support a mix of development and historic rehabilitation as a way to create a more "organic" looking space. Chief executive officer Michael Covarrubias stated that the company would also work to develop an inviting space for neighborhood businesses and prospective technology companies.

Although the Port Commission was originally set to consider the chosen developer last month, a final decision is now scheduled for mid-April. "This committee has been working on Pier 70 for 10 or 12 years," CWAG co-chair Toby Levine stated. "So we would be very happy to see a resolution and to see Pier 70 flourish according to the grand master plan that we have."

Find out more about Pier 70 at <http://pier70sf.org>.

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LIBRARY NEWS

By Abby Bridge, Potrero Branch Librarian

Library Adult Programs

SAN FRANCISCO RENT BOARD NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH. Learn about your rights and responsibilities as a tenant or landlord under San Francisco's Residential Rent Ordinance. Rent Board staff will provide an informational presentation on the Rent Ordinance and the Rent Board's services, followed by drop-in individual counseling. April 2, 1 to 3 p.m.

VANISHED WATERS. The history of Mission Bay is the story of the gradual filling-in of a vast tidal cove in San Francisco Bay. Covered with shallow waters of Mission Bay, edged with tidal salt-marshes and receiving fresh water from meandering Mission Creek, this broad, sunny expanse of real estate has attracted a wide variety of would-be settlers, imaginative speculators, and visionary planners over the last 130 years. The Mission Creek Conservancy will read from the second edition of *Vanished Waters: A History of San Francisco's Mission Bay*, and discuss the tangled history of Mission Bay's past. April 9, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Library Children's Programs

KOREAN STORYTIME. For families who are interested in learning Korean songs and reading Korean books. For ages birth to five years old. April 3, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.

BABY RHYME AND PLAY TIME. For infants up to eighteen months old and their caregivers. April 5, 12, 19 and 26, 1:15 to 1:45 p.m.

FAMILY STORYTIME, featuring stories, songs and rhymes. For children from birth to five years old and their caregivers. April 7, 14, 21 and 28. 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

FUN FLICKS: DIARY OF A SPIDER, VOYAGE TO THE BUNNY PLANET, WHY MOSQUITOS BUZZ IN PEOPLE'S EARS. Fun Flicks is offered every second Wednesday of the month and includes short films based on children's books and stories. Bring a snack! For children ages five and older. April 13, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

KNITTERS GONNA KNIT. Want to learn how to knit? Already an experienced knitter? Come and join us. Practice supplies will be provided. For ages nine and up. For more information, contact Dale: djenne@sfpl.org. April 28, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

BABY AND TOTS YOGA. Babies and toddlers will learn calming, strengthening yoga moves with yoga teacher, Rebecca Blake. April 30, 4 to 5 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, all Potrero Branch Library programs are held in the second floor meeting room.

Potrero Library Campaign

The Potrero Neighborhood Library Campaign Committee meets monthly to discuss fundraising strategies and progress. If you'd like to join the committee, contact Mary Abler at Friends of the Library: 626.7512, extension 107 or mary.abler@friendsssfpl.org.

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Storytime Draws Crowds to the Potrero Hill Library

By Liska Koenig

Every Thursday, at around 9:45 a.m., it gets busy in front of the Potrero Hill library on 20th and Connecticut streets. A group of young children, mothers and nannies gathers by the front door, talking, playing and waiting for the beginning of Family Storytime at the library.

Once the doors open, the crowd streams upstairs to the Potrero Meeting Room. The 20 chairs are quickly occupied; soon people are making themselves comfortable on the floor. It's a casual, low-key atmosphere: grownups chat and catch-up with each other, children throw-off their shoes and play with the toys and books laid-out on the brightly colored alphabet carpet.

Children's librarian Lia Hillman is popular with the crowd. She greets visitors warmly in English or Spanish, hands-out the day's program, and chats with caregivers and mothers. She loves how Family Storytime builds a warm community, and looks forward to it every week. "It comes right back to you. Sometimes I'm in the library and I feel little arms hugging my legs. That's one of my favorite parts about being a children's librarian," Hillman said.

Many Potrero Hill children look forward to their Thursday mornings at the library, and talk about it days in advance. Some of

Hillman's regulars even come back after they've moved away from the Hill. "Henry lives on Bernal now, but we like to come here just for Family Storytime," a nanny said to the librarian, as she bounced a baby on her knees.

Hillman invests considerable time preparing for every Thursday's event. She reads new picture stories purchased by the library, and frequently browses the collection for new material. Her young audience ranges from babies to five-year olds; she tries to find something fun, entertaining and educational for every age group. "It's really important to capture children with a good story," she said. Family Storytime helps kids develop early literary skills.

While Hillman introduces new books at every Family Storytime, the songs she sings are consistent. Hillman selects songs carefully for their simple rhythms, and makes sure to include Spanish material in her repertoire. "I love to perform for kids," the librarian said. "I'm a bit of a ham, but that inspires kids too." She believes her re-enactments are a fun way for children to learn, and movements to the songs eventually become part of the children's kinetic memory. With the help of gestures and finger puppets she encourages her audience to participate. "...and the doctor said: 'No more monkeys jumping on the bed,'" Hillman sang, as she takes

the last felt monkey off her hand. A group of girls and boys bounce up and down in front of her, singing along enthusiastically.

"I think Hudson's favorite part was the monkey song because of the finger puppets," said Corky Cutler about her grandson. They live in the neighborhood, but are shopping around at different libraries to see which Family Storytime will be the most fun for Hudson.

"Sarah likes the clapping best," said Anessa Schillig, a 20-year-old nanny from Germany. She and 19-month-old Sarah have been coming to the library since Sarah was born. Next to Schillig, a little girl with braided pigtails, dressed in pink with pink sunglasses in her hair, waves her teddy bear to the lyrics of the popular cuckoo clock song.

After half an hour Family Storytime ends with a cheerful farewell song in English and Spanish. Nobody seems in a hurry to leave; quite a few children go downstairs to pick out new reading material from the library's young readers' collection.

A complete list of library programs are listed in the Library News column on page 13.

PG&E from page 4

distribution line. PG&E conducts annual maintenance, which was supposed to take place in January. It is late this year. Also, we are doing the eight-year inspection at the same time, so this takes longer."

In February, Paul Clanon, California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) executive director, asked PG&E to reduce the operating pressure on some of the utility's natural gas pipelines to 20 percent below the maximum allowed. Federal law requires pipeline operators to establish a maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) for all pipeline segments. MAOP is set at a fraction of the pipe's calculated strength, or the minimum pressure at which a pipe begins to collapse. Regulator stations keep the pressure within the specified limits. However, in spite of routine inspections and maintenance, pressure can exceed these limits, because of equipment failure, liquid contamination or human error.

PG&E also faced a CPUC-imposed March deadline - which it missed, resulting in proposed \$3 million in fines - to undertake tests to demonstrate it has established safe pressure levels. Testing the pipes involves forcing water into them at high pressure, to detect defects. If pipe segments are found to be unsafe, PG&E is required to replace them, potentially passing the costs onto consumers. According to Romans, the testing typically doesn't have "...any impact on customer service, except for parking."



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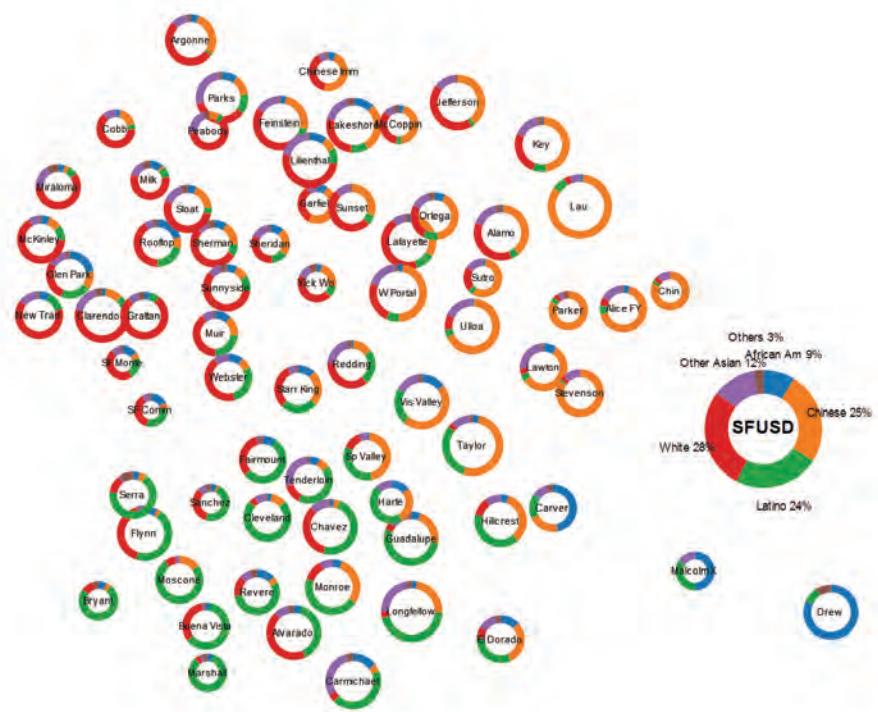


Melinda Lee
Potrero Hill Specialist
DRE# 01344377

415.338.0161
Melinda.Lee@CAmoves.com
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Public Elementary School Assignments by Ethnicity



Potrero Hill resident Wai Yip Tung's son enters Kindergarten next fall. To sort out the overwhelming amount of information about what schools to select as part of the assignment process, Tung made this map identifying the ethnic makeup of San Francisco's elementary schools. Tung was drawn to how Starr King Elementary School mimics the City's overall demographics- making it San Francisco's most diverse school.

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Hundreds of New AT&T High Speed Internet Boxes Proposed in S.F.

By Nicole Spiridakis

AT&T's plans to install hundreds of additional high-speed Internet utility boxes throughout San Francisco are being challenged by community groups, which are concerned about the cabinet's appearance, and their propensity to attract graffiti. In Potrero Hill, AT&T cabinets are centered around McKinley Square, with installations located on Mari-posa, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, and Kansas streets, among other places.

AT&T wants to install an additional cabinet within 300 feet of every existing box to enable higher speed Internet. These additional boxes would be installed on public easements – for example, the sidewalk – or private land, if there's available and approved space. AT&T places the cabinets at street level because, according to the company, if they're underground they become overheated. However, San Francisco Beautiful (SFB) – which advocates on behalf of policies that make the City a more livable, beautiful place – claims that technology exists to place the boxes underground. While undergrounding would be more expensive for AT&T, it would eliminate the cabinets from view and as targets for graffiti.

In January, San Francisco Beautiful members, along with Walk San Francisco – a pedestrian advocacy organization – met with AT&T representatives to discuss the potential siting of more than 700 additional boxes throughout the City, a move the groups vehemently oppose. San Francisco Beautiful is particularly concerned that the boxes will "impede pedestrian travel on public

streets, inconvenience property owners, be magnets for graffiti and create visual blight," according to its website.

According to Milo Hanke, a past president of San Francisco Beautiful, the organization is lobbying the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to consider alternatives to AT&T's proposed plans. "We're not saying utility boxes are ugly and we don't want them, but we want it to fit into the neighborhood," Hanke said. "[AT&T] wants to do it cheap and dirty, and as long as San Francisco officials and residents don't know better, they will be able to do that." San Francisco Beautiful is encouraging locals to demand better information from AT&T regarding the boxes, especially regarding aesthetics.

Last month Marc Blakeman, an AT&T vice president, wrote on the company blog, "...the SF Planning Department completed its review of our upgrade plans in the City. This is big because it means that we can begin to submit the necessary requests for permits to the Department of Public Works for their evaluation and processing." But, according to Hanke, "We're trying to turn back a blanket go-ahead, but not to stop them from putting the boxes in. Rather, we want to require a review of the alternate sources" that would be more aesthetically pleasing.

A power supply meter is integrated into the cabinet, which, according to AT&T, is approximately 48 inches high, 51.7 inches wide, and 26 inches deep. The boxes are mounted on concrete pads or poles.

Potrero Hill Day School

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An independent school located in San Francisco, Potrero Hill Day School embraces fearless learning both of one's self and of the world around us. The school is a two-year program built around a cohort of six to seven girls entering the 7th grade. Potrero Hill Day School focuses on empowering girls to engage in their learning process, to embrace it, and to develop the skills to reflect upon it as they are coming of age.

From math to music, sewing to science, food to fine arts, Potrero Hill Day School believes in the power of immersion to truly own these skills and knowledge. Working with a smaller class size allows us to address both concrete and abstract styles of learning while being able to offer deeper exploration of topics, a truly differentiated curriculum and provide one-on-one guidance allowing for a fuller synthesis of information and perspective. Where independent, creative learning is framed by traditional methodology and spontaneity is always on the horizon when a teachable moment presents itself.

Class held 8:30-3:30 September through June
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Tuition: \$9950

For information: PotreroHillDaySchool@gmail.com



Are You Ready to Sell Your Home?



This two-bedroom home on Missouri Street sold in January for \$1,050,000 before ever being marketed in the Multiple Listing Service.

There is strong demand for single family homes on Potrero Hill.

Since January 1, there have only been four single family homes listed for sale on Potrero Hill.* As we enter the traditional Spring market, there are many buyers seeking homes on the Hill. If you've been thinking about selling your home this could be an excellent time. Strong buyer demand and scarce inventory has led homes to sell quickly at excellent prices.

If you'd like a free report on the value of your home in today's market please call me at (415)710-9000.

In 2010 the average sales price for a home on Potrero Hill was \$995,016*.

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*Sales information as of March 18, 2011 from SFAR MLS.

Community CALENDAR

April 2011

April 2

Community: New Taste Marketplace

Benefitting Saint Gregory's Church and its food pantry, New Taste Marketplace brings unique and delicious street and artisan food to the Hill. 4 to 9 p.m. Free; donation requested. 500 De Haro Street. Information: www.saintgregorys.org.

Fundraiser: Japan Relief at Farley's

Believing that community starts locally, but should reach the global, Farley's staff will donate all of their tips to the American Red Cross to provide aid to those suffering the catastrophe in Japan. The staff's donation will be matched by Roger Hillyard, Farley's owner. 1315 18th Street.

April 3

Art: Local Kids' Art Reception

The second annual All Potrero Hill Kids Art Show will be on display at Farley's. See the creations of our local, young artists. 1 p.m. Free. 1315 18th Street.

April 10

Music: Neil Aaron

Neil Aaron performs original songs just for kids at Farley's. Aaron is a local singer songwriter with a new album, *Love is a Family*. His songs and performances are clever, original and fun for everyone. 3:30 p.m. Free. 1315 18th Street.

Community: Native Plant Garden Tour

Join in the Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society's seventh annual Native Plant Garden Tour. The free, self-paced tour provides a unique opportunity to see San Francisco specific and Bay Area native plants in gardens that range from highly designed and manicured to free-spirited and wild. The homeowners, designers and CNPS hosts will be on hand to explain how the gardens conserve water, provide vital habitat for wildlife and reinforce our local identity. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information: a map, descriptions and list of addresses can be found at www.sfnativegardentour.org.

April 13

Community: District 10 Town Hall Budget Meeting

Mayor Edwin Lee co-hosts a series of district-based Town Hall meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors – on April 13, Malia Cohen – to educate the public about the Mayor's budget priorities and to hear from San Franciscans about their concerns and ideas in the face of the City's projected \$380 million budget shortfall for fiscal Year 2011-12. 6 to 7:30 p.m. UCSF Mission Bay Campus - Genentech Hall Auditorium, 600 16th Street. Information: Megan Hamilton at

554-7670; megan.hamilton@sfgov.org.

April 17

Community: Starr King Open Space Spring Wildflower Walk

The wildflowers have returned to Starr King Open Space. With more than one hundred different kinds of plants and many varieties of flowers in bloom, this free event is a popular way for Potrero Hill residents of all ages to get into the spring spirit. Meet SKOS volunteer guides on Carolina Street at Coral Road, across from Starr King Elementary School. 11 a.m. Information: www.starrkingopenspace.org; starrking-board@gmail.com; 6336-SKO (756).

April 19

Community: Storytelling, Poetry, Song and Music

Jeff Byers will share his folktales, traditional and personal stories. Open mic to follow; share your story, poem, song or music. 7 p.m. Free. 1315 18th Street. Information: Susan Ford 407.4297; suford@earthlink.net.

April 19 through May 7

Theater: Cordelia

NoHspace's Theater of Yugen presents *Cordelia*, an innovative abstraction of Shakespeare's King Lear from the point of view of Lear's youngest daughter. Although the text for this adaptation is a collage of Shakespeare's language by experimental playwright Erik Ehn, the form in which Cordelia's story is told is that of a Japanese Noh play, specifically a "phantasmal Noh warrior play." In the play the audience experiences a visitation by a ghost who, after death, remains trapped in an indelible life memory. From this post-mortem vantage point, Cordelia relives her actions, and evaluates her choices from a strikingly original perspective. Special preview Tuesday, April 19, 7 p.m. \$10. Opening Night Gala, Saturday April 23rd, 8 p.m., \$25. Show runs Wednesday and Thursdays at 7 p.m.; Fridays and Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets \$10 to 25. NOHspace Theatre of Yugen, 2840 Mariposa Street. Information: www.theatreofyugen.org.

April 20

Community: GreetTrustSF-Central Waterfront Annual Meeting

GreenTrustSF-Central Waterfront's annual meeting features a review of the nonprofit's progress on 22nd Street sidewalk greening, and a discussion of upcoming grant applications, as well as future plans for new greening projects along the Central Waterfront. Food and drinks will be on hand. Come to the meeting, become a member, and consider volunteering to be on the board of directors. 7 to 8:30

p.m. 2298 Third Street, corner of 20th Street. Information: Stephen, 713.1501; www.gtsfcw.org.

April 22 through July 31

Theater: Vice Palace

Thrillpeddlers proudly presents *Vice Palace: The Last Cockettes Musical*, a revival of the 1972 musical extravaganza. Originally a vehicle for stars Divine and Mink Stole, the show features a reworked, full-length musical score by Cockettes' composer Scrumbly Koldwyn. 7 and 8 p.m. Tickets: \$30 to \$35. Hypnodrome Theatre, 575 10th Street. Information: <http://thrillpeddlers.com>.

April 23

Environment: Earth Day

Celebrate Earth Day at Civic Center with a multi-cultural music festival and sustainable living road show featuring international speakers on multiple stages and eco-zones offering prominent sustainability activists and workshop leaders,

nonprofit organizations, green businesses, indigenous community leaders, civic agencies and youth empowerment groups. A special kids' zone will include art projects, such as the Save Mother Earth mural, found object Life Tree, and Earth mandala. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free. Civic Center Plaza, Polk Street at Grove. Information: <http://www.earthdaysf.com>.

April 28

Community: Jason Benlevi Book Signing

Too Much Magic: Pulling The Plug on the Cult of Tech is the story of how venture capital, media moguls, and marketers use digital magic to distract us, invade our privacy, corrupt democracy, distort our human values, and sell us things we don't need. Jason Benlevi, a Silicon Valley marketing-communications guru and Potrero Hill resident, will sign copies of his recently published book. 7 p.m. Free. 1315 18th Street.

Eggstravagant April Events



April 22

Panoramic Sugar Egg Decoration at Autumn Express

Try your hand at creating spring scenes inside the shell of a sugar egg. Create an heirloom that will last for generations. Children seven to 11 years old are invited to participate with an adult. Tools and supplies provided. 5 to 6 p.m. \$15. Autumn Express, 2071 Mission Street. Information: www.autumnexpress.com.

April 23

Spring Egg Hunt

Come to the 11th Annual India Basin Neighborhood Association Spring Egg Hunt. Hundreds of eggs to find, with prizes. Hunt starts at 11 a.m. India Basin Shoreline Park, Hunters Point Boulevard between Evans and Innes streets.

Farley's Annual Easter Egg Decorating Contest Bring your decorated eggs by 10 p.m. Prizes and gifts for everyone. No rules or regulations; let your creativity run wild! 1315 18th Street.

Spring Eggstravaganza Egg hunts, carnival rides, bounce houses and arts and crafts make for an eggciting Easter event. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$5 admission; food for purchase. Sharon Meadow, JFK Drive at Kezar Drive. Information: www.sfrccpark.org.

April 24

JAMband Family Festival

Egg hunt, musical performance by family musician Charity Kahn, plus a yummy brunch at the Beach Chalet. Reservations recommended. 11 a.m. Free. 1000 Great Highway. Information: <http://www.jamjamjam.com/gigs.html>.

20th Annual Union Street Spring Celebration and Easter Parade

More than just a street fair, this event includes everything from self-propelled mini-floats to rollerblading cows, as well as a classic car show. Children's activities include bounce houses, kids' rides and games and a petting zoo. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free; food and rides for purchase. Union at Gough. Information: www.sreproductions.com/union_street_easter.html.

Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Easter Celebration Celebrate the tradition of spreading joy and raising heck with the Sisters. Children's Easter and Bonnet Contest. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. Dolores Park, 566 Dolores Street. Information: www.thesisters.org.

Terns Spring Eternal

By Yarborough Knott

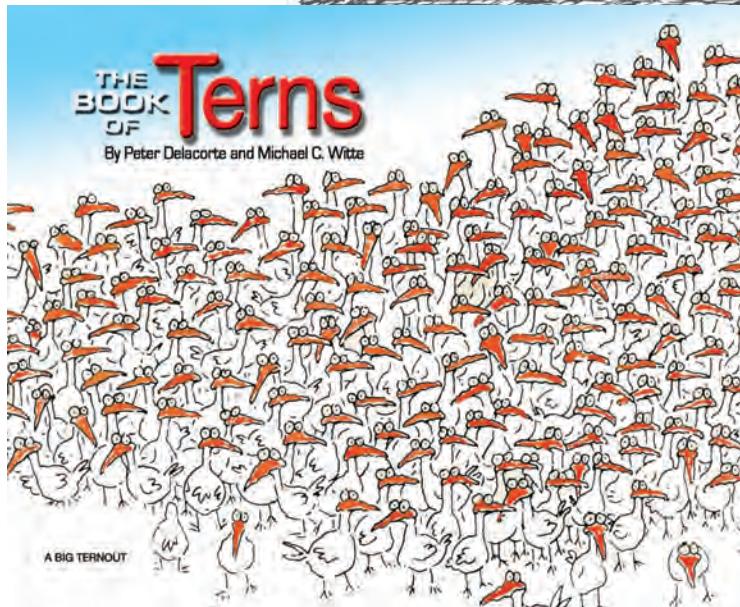
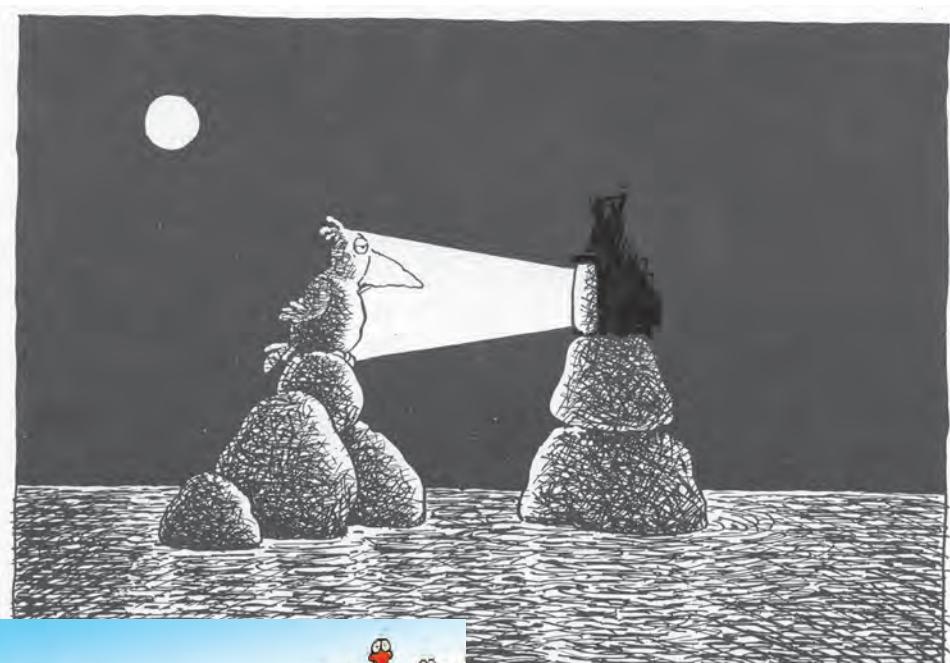
They're ba--a-a-ack. Remember *The Book of Terns*? Came out in 1978? Illustrations? Puns on "tern"? You don't? You were born in 1978? Sorry. This keeps happening to me. I'm always seeing people who look like the reincarnation of people I knew in 1978, which is weird, because some of those people are still alive. Oh. You don't believe in reincarnation? Then how do you explain the return of the Terns? Because they're ba-a-a-ack.

The book, conceived at a party forty years ago by longtime Hill dweller Peter Delacorte and his college buddy, artist Michael Witte, was a hit. Delacorte, the word guy, found every conceivable pun on the word "tern," plus a few less conceivable, two or three unforgivable, and one utterly inconceivable, because it refers to something that didn't exist in 1978. This proves that the current reissue contains new material. Witte, who went on to great success illustrating for *The New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, and other publications allegedly located in that quasi-mythical distant metropolis, did the drawings.

Did I mention that there's a new edition hot off the press? Pun lovers—where by "lover" I mean

anyone in whom the love object inspires groans of agony, shortness of breath, or excruciating abdominal spasms—who missed it the first time around, or misplaced their treasured copies, can once again leaf through the classic, which Delacorte and Witte have revived like a Phoenix from its ashes, a cryptobiotic tardigrade from suspended animation, a favorite old theory from revisionist oblivion, a fond memory from a disintegrating cerebral cortex, or Lazarus from—well, never mind that, I'm not sure he was really dead. In a new edition. With new puns. And all the now-classic material intact. But I already said that. Or something like it. I think. (Sorry. That's the sound of my cerebral cortex disintegrating.)

Witte, whose *New Yorker* drawings have a characteristically whimsical and sometimes fey line, displays unexpected stylistic virtuosity here. Clearly, something about the subject matter, er, turned him on. The terns appear as line drawings, half-tones, and simulated etchings. Some are dark



Top: *Nocturnal*, an illustration from the book *The Book of Terns*, Second Edition, copyright 2011 by Peter Delacorte and Michael C. Witte. Left: *A Big Ternout*, the cover illustration.

pens to them.

If you love puns, where by "love" I mean what I said earlier, then this book will be sure to turn your head, where by "head" I mean the organ that generates our internal monologue, not the fixture that flushes our externalities. It's most entertaining, and always will be, from here to eternity.

Happy page-terning

The Book of Terns, by Peter Delacorte and Michael Witte, Ternaround Press, 128 pages, \$14.95, is available at Christopher's Books.

KIDS ON THE BLOCK



Judah Zolot and Peter Litwin at Entertaining Spaces on Division Street for their first viewing of *Star Wars, Episode 4, A New Hope*.



Busy little Ella Randecker turns two on April 8. Ella keeps her parents, Christian and Jennifer, on their toes with all of her crazy antics. We love you very much, you stinker!



Sydney Isabella Gill is turning four on April 25th. She will be celebrating with friends and family on the Hill.

The View is delighted to publish local kids' birthdays, accomplishments, and milestones. Please email your image and/or caption to graphics@potreroview.net by the 18th of the prior month. High resolution photos, please!

Culinary Academy Students Work to Create Tastier World

By Rheba Estante

The California Culinary Academy (CCA) moved to 350 Rhode Island Street in 2008, and today hosts the student-run Technique Restaurant. The school was founded by Danielle Carlisle in 1977 as an independent culinary teaching institution. In 1999 it became part of the Chicago-based Career Education Corporation (CEC), a for-profit publicly listed education company. CCA is part of CEC's network of schools located in 17 American cities, including Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Boston. Under CEC, the Academy has become a Le Cordon Bleu school, teaching classic French foundational cooking techniques combined with modern innovations. The curriculum is based on the classes taught at the original Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, founded in 1895.

CCA's 100,000 square foot campus includes industry-current kitchens, lecture classrooms, a fully stocked hospitality-specific library, computer labs, and an array of student activities to enhance the learning experience. The school offers certificate and associate degree programs in Baking and Pastry or Culinary Arts. CCA is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges, and licensed by the State of California. Graduates also receive a Le Cordon Bleu diploma. Education is hands-on

in teaching kitchens, demonstrations, with classroom lectures.

"The student population of CCA is very diverse, which is reflective of the dynamic industry we are in," said Jeff Lichtman, CEC's vice president of brand marketing and strategy for career focused schools. "Students have varying backgrounds, from recent high school graduates, career changers, and just about everything in between. "One thing they all have in common is their passion for cooking and baking," added Peter Lee, CCA's president.

Tuition for certificate or associates degree ranges from \$22,000 to \$50,000 a year. Many CCA students rely on loans to finance their education, with the responsibility to start making payments within six months after they graduate. According to the U.S. Department of Education, in 2007 – the most recent data available – 54 individuals who attended CCA had defaulted on their loans – a 4.1 percent default rate – with 1,299 graduates currently making loan payments. Eighty-five percent of CCA students who graduated between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009 have found employment in their field or a related field, excluding alumni who are continuing their education, or who waived employment assistance due to death, disability, incarceration,

see CULINARY page 20

Get a Job

By Mauri Schwartz

The View asked Hill resident and career expert Mauri Schwartz, President / CEO of Career Insiders, www.CareerInsiders.com, to answer questions from job seekers. Submit your questions to editor@potreroview.net.



A first interview is like a first date. You're each determining if there's a personality – company – fit, if you have the desired traits – required skills – and if you want a second date: the next interview. Ultimately, the dates may lead to a long term relationship: a job. Remember that employers hire people (1) who they believe can do the job and (2) whom they like.

Q: I've always heard I should send a thank you letter after an interview, but what should I say? Is it better to send a hand written note or a formal letter?

A: I want to reinforce the advice to send a thank you letter: it's a must! Sending a thank you note shows thoughtfulness, respect, and courtesy. It helps the person remember you better.

You should send it as soon as possible after your interview and do so by email. Ask for business cards from every person who interviewed you to ensure that you have their full contact information. Sending an email is the fastest way to get your message to the intended recipients. If you interviewed with more than one person, write each a separate message. Don't send one message addressed to all.

By using the 4R format, you'll be able to show your appreciation for the opportunity to interview, indicate your enthusiasm, and reemphasize your qualifications.

Remember: Help the interviewer remember you.

"Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you today to discuss your marketing manager position. I enjoyed our conversation and feel that I'm a strong candidate for this role."

Reinforce: Review your assessment of the interview and re-state aspects of your skills, achievements and background which aroused positive interest.

"I was intrigued by the description of your challenges integrating social media into your overall marketing plan. As we discussed, this is an area in which I excel, as illustrated by my success in initiating this effort at my current company. Our 15 percent increase in sales last year is directly attributed to the new audience we've addressed."

Recoup: This is an opportunity to improve an answer to a question in the interview or to add something you forgot to say; to recoup your losses.

"While we didn't get a chance to discuss this, I wanted you to know that throughout my career I've been an early adopter of technology, consistently putting the latest innovations to use to solve business issues."

Remind: Gently remind the interviewer of a commitment s/he made to you.

"[hiring manager's name], I'm very interested in pursuing this role at [name of company], and look forward to hearing from you early next week regarding next steps."

Don't make the letter too long; no longer than a half page if typed into a Word document. Be sure that you've spelled the recipient's name correctly, and double check your grammar and overall spelling.

Additional Tip: Here are three of the most commonly misspelled words I've seen in resumes and letters that will not be caught by a spellchecker:

Lead: instead of 'led' when used for the past tense of the verb 'to lead.' 'Lead' is pronounced like 'led' only when one is referring to the heavy metal.

Manger: a common typo that should be 'manager' and the same goes for 'manage/mange.'

Public: Ok, you can get this one without an explanation.



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Daniel Webster Elementary School


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Louis Anthony Maggioncalda

1917 ~ 2011

Just weeks shy of his 94th birthday, Louis Maggioncalda died peacefully in his sleep on February 23rd. He was born on March 11, 1917 to Lorenzo and Anita Maggioncalda, who immigrated to San Francisco from Northern Italy in 1913. They had four children; Charles Maggioncalda, Louis, Flora Lorenzi, and Lena Traverso.

Louis had warm memories of his early life growing up on Potrero Hill, where he worked in his family's grocery store and played semi-pro baseball for several teams. His vivid, witty recollections, delivered with a twinkling eye, both entertained and provided a rich history of the city he so loved. He was working for Golden State Meat Company when, while making a delivery, he met the love of his life, "beautiful, brown eyed" Frances Anderson, who became his wife of 72 years.

A lifelong San Francisco Giants and 49ers fan, Louis had an ambitious, entrepreneurial spirit, believed in hard work, becoming a partner in Petrini Meats. He ran the Sunset Supermarket on Irving Street for 27 years until he retired to spend time between his City and country homes in Sonoma. While in the country, he and Fran grew grapes, bottled their own wine and continued their celebratory tradition of hosting numerous, large and joyful gatherings for family and friends that are remembered with smiles and delight.

Louis was a gregarious, welcoming man who loved his family beyond measure. He will be deeply missed by his wife, Frances; daughters, Donna McGuinn Newman of Marin, Diane Leach of Granite Bay, and Denise Maggioncalda of San Francisco; his four grandsons, James McGuinn of Sonoma, Michael Louis McGuinn of Santa Rosa, Louis Leach of San Mateo and Jason Leach of Brentwood; his great grandchildren, Keliann McGuinn, Michael McGuinn, Spencer McGuinn, Zachary Leach, Chelsey Horne and Mackensey Horne; his sons-in-law James Leach, Allan Newman, and granddaughters-in-law, Lesley Horne McGuinn and Lori Leach, as well as, many treasured nieces and nephews.

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CULINARY from page 19

active military duty, or non-immigrant status.

According to Lisa Wilson, CCA's director of career services, many of the school's graduates have found employment with local restaurants and bake shops, including 1300 on Fillmore, RN74, and Spork. Graduates also work for national companies, such as The Compass Group, Guckenheimer and Walt Disney World. A CCA alumni, 2007 graduate Sarah Henkin, is the market chef for The Center for Urban Education About Sustainable Agriculture. CCA alumni can access CEC's career services programs throughout their career. "We have a dedicated staff on campus, focused on establishing relationships in the community, guiding students and alumni through their search process and finding opportunities to connect employers with potential employees," said Wilson.

"CCA has more than 30 years of experience training culinary professionals, with a large alumni population in the area and throughout the country. The LCBNA [Le Cordon Bleu North America Schools Alumni Association] offers resource services

to its membership. This includes job search databases, social networking website, industry retail discounts and campus based career services assistance," explained Wilson. "The San Francisco chapter holds quarterly networking meetings, and participates in community charitable events as part of its social responsibility initiative. CCA welcomes our alumni to return to school and share their experience with our current students, and many alumni have done just that. Our graduates are also invited to return and audit courses at their alma mater."

In 2010, the school closed its former student-run restaurant, Careme 350, and replaced it with Technique. The restaurant charges \$10 for a three-course lunch, or \$15 for a five-course dinner. "We recently changed the menu under the direction of certified master chef and executive chef of Technique Restaurants, Edward G. Leonard," said Lichtman. "The three- and five-course pre-fixed menu at Technique is inspired by classic techniques and simple, yet elegant, presentation." Throughout 2010 the school hosted monthly lunches and dinners at Technique that featured a fixed price menu based on produce from a local farmer.

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REBUILD from page 9

Green said. "If you want vegetables or greens from the garden, you just go there on Mondays and Dave [Glober, interim garden manager] will clip things for you." She encouraged Hill residents to come by the garden,

located at 85 Turner Terrace Way behind the Family Resource Center.

The Rebuild Potrero community planning team meets bimonthly at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 5 at 6 p.m.

A Tribute to Sandy Archer



Photograph by Michael Nolan

Veteran San Francisco Mime Troupe actor, Joe Bellan, and Ron Davis, founder of the Troupe, and a long-time Potrero Hill resident, attended a memorial last month at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House for Sandra Lee Archer. Archer, who died last October, was a lead performer with the Mime Troupe in the 1960s; she quit the stage in 1970.

GETTING INVOLVED



Bayview Police Station Captain's Community Meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Bayview Police Station Community Room at 201 William Street. Enter through the Newhall Street door. Next meeting: April 5th, 6 p.m.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association usually meets the second Tuesday of each odd-numbered month. Next meeting: May 10, 7 to 9 p.m., 654 Minnesota Street @ 19th 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.

GreenTrustSF-Central Waterfront annual meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 20th, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 2298 Third Street, at 20th Street. Help create future greening projects throughout the Central Waterfront; come to the meeting, become a member and consider volunteering to be on the Board of Directors. The annual meeting will include a review of the GreenTrust's progress so on 22nd Street sidewalk greening and discuss upcoming grants in progress as well as future plans for new greening projects. GreenTrust will also host an Earth Day gardening/weeding/mulching morning at Warm Water Cove from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on April 23rd. Call Stephen at 713-1501 for more information, or visit <http://www.gtsfcw.org>.

McKinley Square Community Group 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. Next meeting: May 11, 2011, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Downtown High School, 693 Vermont Street. Board meetings open to the public. Visit www.mckinleysquare.com for more information.

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.potrero boosters.org or email president@potrero boosters.org. Next meeting: April 26th.

Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Visit www.potrero hill.biz or call 341.8949. Next meeting: April 12th, 10 a.m.

Potrero Hill Democratic Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information: 648.6740, www.PHDemClub.org. Next meeting: April 5th, 7 p.m.

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

Starr King Open Space The next Starr King Open Space Board of Directors Meeting is on April 7th, 6:30 p.m. in "Bungalow A" at Starr King Elementary School, 1215 Carolina Street (enter at the side yard gate at Coral Road between Carolina and Wisconsin). Board meetings are open to the public. While time will be set aside for public comment, the Board may reserve some agenda items for closed session discussion. The Starr King Open Space Volunteer Work Party is held on the 3rd Saturday of each month, excluding holidays. Next Volunteer Work Party: April 16th, 9 a.m. to noon. Meet on the Open Space along Carolina Street, across from Starr King Elementary School. For more information: www.starrkingopenspace.org; email the Board of Directors at starrkingboard@gmail.com; voice mail 415-6336-SKO (756).

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CRIME & SAFETY REPORT

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By Regina Anavy

Good Samaritan Foils Car Theft

On February 18 at 9:20 p.m., officers responded to the 600 block of Illinois regarding a suspicious vehicle. The caller reported that he saw two suspects looking into cars with flashlights, and then leaving the area in a vehicle being driven by a third suspect. The caller was able to provide an accurate description of the vehicle; the officers spotted it getting on the 280 freeway at the Mariposa on-ramp. They followed, and stopped the car in the area of



Photograph by Regina Anavy

Recycling theft continues to be an issue and is a hot topic on the Potrero Neighbors listserv.

Candlestick and Tunnel.

The three occupants were detained, and after running record checks, the officers determined that one of the subjects had an outstanding warrant for his arrest, and another was on probation, which allowed a search. Various items littered the car's interior compartment, including purses, a laptop, women's clothing, and an identification card. The officers also found flashlights, gloves, and various burglary tools.

The purses contained bits of broken glass, which pointed to a car burglary. The victim's ID card was from out of state, but there was also a planner with Club Cocomo on Indiana Street penciled in for that same night. Other police officers located the vehicle matching the ID card, which had broken windows, in the 700 block of Minnesota Street, and found the victim inside the Club. She confirmed that the car was hers, and gave them a list of missing items, which matched what had been found on the suspects. The victim identified all her property at Bayview Station, where all three suspects were booked.

Homicide on the Hill

On February 26, at around 7:40 p.m., a 26-year-old man was found shot to death in the driver's seat of a car on Dakota Street at 23rd Street. According to police spokesman Sargent. Mike Andraychak, the man appeared to be the "intended target." The incident occurred two hours after a shooting at 25th and Connecticut streets – in which a man in his 50s was shot but survived- but Andraychak said they were "probably unrelated." No arrests have been made in either shooting.

Flashy Burglar Draws Attention

On March 8 at 11 a.m., a resident of the 1300 block of Kansas Street saw a stranger leaving his neighbor's home with something concealed. The witness knew his neighbors were not home, and he was able to give the police a good description of the stranger, who was dressed in a bright purple shirt and a checkered hat. Bayview station officers spotted someone fitting this description walking near 26th and Vermont streets, eating an ice-cream cone. They stopped him, he dropped a package, and they took him into custody. The package was a black hoodie wrapped around a

child's violin, a laptop, a bag full of coins, and additional ice cream bars. The owner was located and returned home to find his door broken and his house ransacked.

According to Bayview Station Captain Greg Suhr, the suspect wasn't dressed in the usual all-back burglar outfit because he'd dressed up for an earlier court appearance. He'd been arraigned that same morning on a felony burglary charge and then was released pending a future court date.

Another Gun off the Street

On March 9, a police officer saw someone walking fast on Third Street near 22nd, clutching a backpack to his chest and periodically glancing behind him. The officer notified other officers, and they were able to catch the subject, who had dropped the backpack. The backpack contained a magazine for a firearm with live nine millimeter rounds, but no gun. The suspect had an additional 13 live nine mm bullets in a sock in his pants pocket. Additional officers responded, and an exhaustive search of the area turned up a firearm. The gun had

94107 Crime Statistics

February 16 through March 15

	Current	Previous	Change
Assault	11	15	-27%
Burglary	17	28	-39%
Fight - No Weapons	26	34	-24%
Gunshots	10	8	+25%
Robbery	1	0	+100%
Theft	5	6	-17%
Vandalism	36	39	-8%
Other	9	3	+200%

Source: www.spotcrime.com

been thrown into a very tight space between two buildings. San Francisco Fire Department personnel were called in to assist. The suspect admitted to possessing the gun; the fact that the serial numbers had been altered brought an additional charge. The firearm's history is being investigated.

Rape Suspect Scheduled for Preliminary Hearing

The case of Damir Shalako, age 25, is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on April 7, at 9 a.m., in De-

partment 20 of the Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street. Kin Tong is the assistant district attorney prosecuting the case. Shalako was charged with rape, burglary with the intent to commit rape and residential robbery on September 29, 2010. At a preliminary hearing, sometimes called a "probable cause" hearing, a judge decides whether the prosecution has enough evidence to justify a belief that a crime has occurred and that the defendant committed it. If so, the case either goes to trial or is settled.

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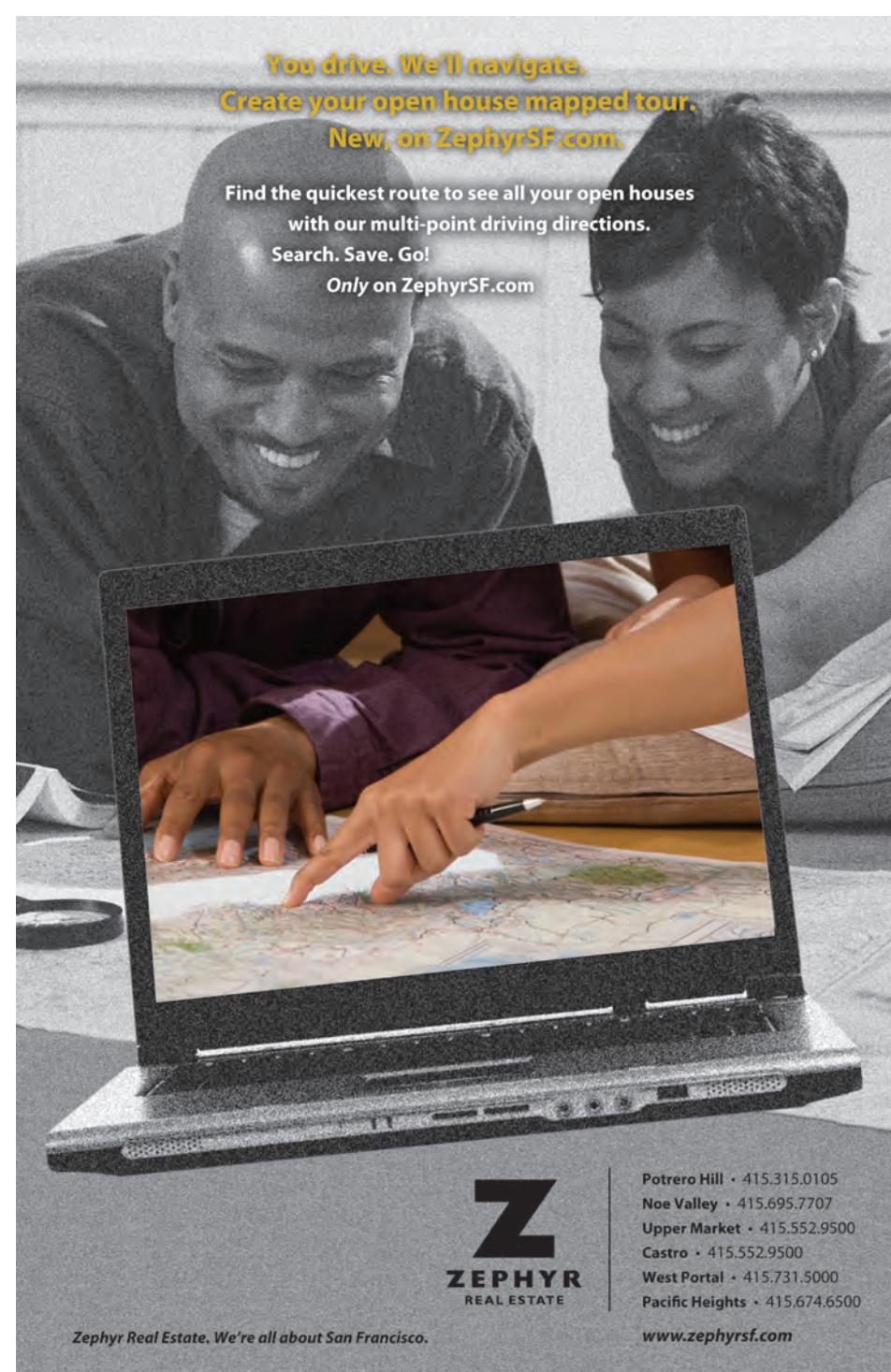
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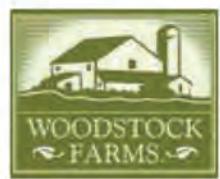
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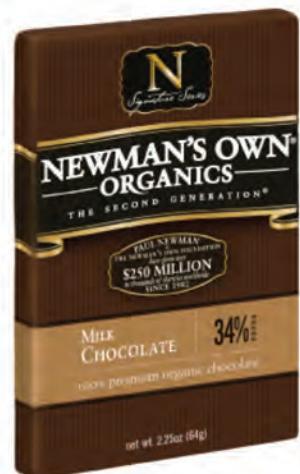
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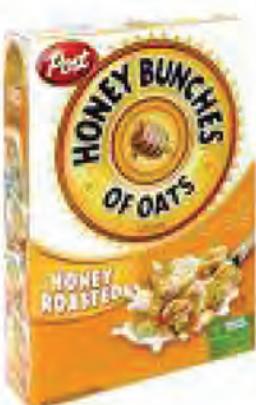
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