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# THE POTRERO VIEW

SEPTEMBER 2017

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## Moshi Moshi Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

BY JACOB BOURNE

An anniversary celebration was held in July commemorating Moshi Moshi's 30 years of serving Japanese cuisine at 2092 Third Street. Phil Atkinson, front house manager, said that staff from the restaurant's prior decades traveled from throughout California to participate in the event. The evening was filled with stories shared by founder and owner, Mitsuru "Mits" Akashi, employees, patrons and friends.

"The vibe was so happy when you walked in," recalled Frank Gilson, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president. "Moshi Moshi is one of the happiest places in the world. It's a Dogpatch institution. The place was packed, and there were a lot of hugs and smiling. It was a great event."

Akashi, 83, started in the restaurant business in 1962 at Nikko Sukiyaki, on Pine and Van Ness. He volunteered his labors in exchange for bartending lessons. Soon, he quit his day job as a mechanical engineer, which he loathed, to pursue his new-found career. He eventually purchased Nikko Sukiyaki, but lost the lease on the space, subsequently discovering the Dogpatch location through word of mouth.

Akashi endured long days during Moshi Moshi's early years, as well as through several economic downturns, including the Great Recession. "We've



Mitsuru "Mits" Akashi (center) and friends.

PHOTO: Biana Elizabeth

been here for 30 years," said Akashi. "The area around Third Street was nothing at that time. I call Third Street the Industrial Riviera. It used to be blue collar and industrial. Now it's much fancier."

"The changes in the neighborhood have been good for business because it represents progress," he continued. "You don't want a city to become stale, and San Francisco was stale for a long time. Now it's becoming more of a first-class city. It was a first-class city for many years, as far as I'm concerned, but it was still lagging behind other cities. Now I call it 'San Hattan'. Some people don't like it, but I see it as a positive thing."

Akashi was born at Merced County Hospital to Japanese immigrants. He and his family were detained in an internment camp from the time he was seven until he turned eleven. His father protested the conditions, and was sent to a different camp by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, only to ultimately be deported to Japan with the rest of the family.

In the midst of attending school in Japan, Akashi was drafted by the U.S. military to serve in the Korean War at the age of 19, since he remained an American citizen. He served with the 82 Airborne Division at Fort Bragg

*MOSHI MOSHI continues on page 10*

## Fire Station 37, Ready to Respond

BY BRETT YATES

San Francisco Fire Department's Station 37 was built in 1914 at the corner of 22nd and Wisconsin streets, near the top of Potrero Hill. According to a local historian quoted in a 1996 *The Potrero View* article, the structure "went up without much fanfare," since, in the years following the 1906 earthquake, "a lot of building was being done." Today, the post is notable for its striking brickwork and the elaborate terra cotta that adorns its façade. When an addition was proposed in the 1990s the subject of greatest concern in a neighborhood meeting covered by the *View* was "the loss of certain artistic details," and a desire to keep the new, linked wing of the firehouse "as historically and architecturally compatible with the existing building as possible."

The construction proceeded. To make way for a workout facility, women's locker room, officers' quarters, and communications room featuring a new computerized dispatch system, the station's formerly detached kitchen and storage area located on the property's north end were replaced in 1996 by a plain, beige, three-story structure. Simultaneously, the historic building to which it connected was seismically retrofitted, a process that involved removing the decorative tiles surrounding the garage door to embed supports. The station's impressive entryway was subsequently reinstalled.

The interior largely remains that of a classic, slightly antique firehouse, with original 1914 floors, a sliding pole firefighters still use to descend from their third-floor dorm, and a red fire engine equipped with a 50-foot wooden

extension ladder and half-century-old, San Francisco-made brass fittings and valves that, according to Lieutenant Leo Tingin, look like "jewelry" when they're fully polished before the station's annual inspection. Tingin is in some ways a traditionalist, wearing a leather helmet that he calls his "best friend" – newer recruits rely on fiberglass – and pointing with pride to the handwritten daily logbooks that stretch back to the 1930s that line the facility's bookshelves.

Despite installation of a digital dispatch system, Station 37 still has the card catalog that worked in conjunction with an earlier method of emergency communication. In the old days, when a fire occurred a bell inside the station would alert firefighters by ringing a

*STATION 37 continues on page 10*

## De Haro Street Home Expansion Concerns Neighbors

BY JACOB BOURNE

Last year, Ronaldo Cianciarulo distributed letters informing his neighbors about plans to expand the rear of his 825 De Haro Street residence, and invited them to his home to discuss the potential project. Twentieth Street residents, Mary Maglio and Diana Bowen, met with Cianciarulo, and expressed their concerns that the scheme would significantly block several of his fellow Potrero Hillians' views. They also pointed out that some of the addresses of neighbors in the architectural drawings were incorrect, and that Maglio's residence was completely absent.

Cianciarulo assured Maglio and Bowen that a light and shadow study would be conducted to ensure that neighbors' views were protected, and that errors in the drawings would be corrected.

"I was born and raised in North Beach and lived in this house since 1955," said Maglio, who's 95. "We're trying to preserve our neighborhood, but some people are trying to build up all the small houses."

Maglio's backyard abuts the rear of 825 De Haro, and has fruit trees that could lose access to daylight if Cianciarulo's originally proposed additions are built. She's also worried that she'll lose her view of the sky from her bedroom windows. Bowen explained that other neighbors could be impacted in a similar fashion, but that Maglio's property faces the greatest threats under the original plans.

"The owner said that he would never take advantage of an old lady," recalled Bowen. "He apologized for the mistakes, and said that the plans would be updated, and that a light and shadow study would be done."

The original plans were issued in 2016 by Andy Rogers Architecture. Cianciarulo is now working with Síol Studios. The 2016 proposal identifies a rear two-story addition that could

*De HARO continues on page 10*

# SHORT CUTS

## Anchor's Away!

**Anchor Brewing**, which first launched 121 years ago, is being sold to Japan's **Sapporo Holdings Ltd.** **Anchor Distilling**, which produces spirits, such as Junipero Gin and Old Potrero whiskey, isn't part of the deal, and will become a separate company. Anchor representatives said its beer will continue to be brewed on Mariposa Street, and there'd be no changes to beer recipes. Anchor will also open a new public taproom on De Haro Street, across the street from the facility...After 20 years as an independent brewery, Dave McLean's **Magnolia** is being acquired by Colorado-based **New Belgium**, with a minority stake going to **Oud Beersel**, a Belgian lambic brewery. Meanwhile, 21st Amendment is selling a stake to Brooklyn Brewery. The market seems thirsty for craft beers...

## Money is Milk

Board of Education president **Shamann Walton** has raised \$30,210 towards his bid to succeed District 10 Supervisor **Malia Cohen**. Shamman collected contributions from Tipping Point Community founder and mayoral candidate **Daniel Lurie**, and Public Utilities Commission general manager **Harlan Kelly**, among others. Potrero Hill activist **Uzuri Pease-Greene** has formed a campaign committee, but so far has raised no funds. Bayview resident **Theo Ellington**, who works in communication for the **Golden State Warriors**, is considering entering the race...Mission Bay resident **Angeles Roy** hasn't yet secured

any donations to her campaign for a Community College Board seat.

## Hairball Untangled

District 9 Supervisor **Hillary Ronen** wants to underground a portion of the transportation knot known as the "hairball," where Highway 101, Interstate 280, Cesar Chavez Street, Potrero Avenue, and Bayshore Boulevard meet. "Elevated freeways are a design that's no longer chic," said **San Francisco Bicycle Coalition** spokesperson Chris Cassidy. Ronen also wants the City to open a Navigation Center nearby to cater to the homeless who tend to cluster under and around the overpasses. **County Transportation Authority** chief Tilly Chang is generally supportive of transforming the hairball, but noted that it'd likely take decades and billions of dollars.

## Zynga Airbnbs

**Zynga** is getting a roommate in its Eighth Street headquarters building. **Airbnb** has leased roughly 287,000 square feet in the facility's east tower for nine years. After paying \$228 million for its headquarters in 2016, Zynga put it up for sale last year, but didn't find buyers. Airbnb, located one block away on Brannan Street, has been hungry for space after revenue reportedly increased 80 percent last year and the company turned its first profit. Zynga has struggled since gamers shifted away from **Facebook** to mobile phones. The company reported \$209.2 million in revenue for the second quarter, and swung to a \$5.1 million profit after advising investors to expect a loss.

## PUBLISHER'S VIEW

# Fringe

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

In August my wife, Debbie, and I followed our daughter, Sara, to the Edinburgh Fringe, which by all accounts is the "world's largest arts festival." Sara was performing in *Alice and the Blackhole Blues*, a play concocted by her high school theater group, which, over the course of its opening night in San Francisco to its final show at the Fringe, evolved from being as compelling as waiting in line at the post office to something quite delightful. Of course, the transformation may have been helped along by the many tasty scotches I imbibed during its weeklong run in Scotland.

From a Burning Man perspective, the Fringe is only fringy in relationship to its dour setting. Edinburgh has the feel of a popup book designed as a

Hollywood set for *Harry Potter*, which, it turns out, was originally imagined there. Large, dark, stone buildings, grey pavers, with matching ever-cloudy skies and a looming castle that can be seen from everywhere creates an air of stubborn menace. The gloomy built environment is etched into the sour resting faces of the City's giant inhabitants – everywhere we went we encountered basketball player-tall Scots – which would require a new level of frowny-faced emoji to properly capture. Call it "sun-deprived-beat-by-the-British-miserable-faced emoji"

During non-Fringe months, I wouldn't be surprised if Edinburghers turned into stone themselves, reani-

*PUBLISHER'S VIEW continues on page 15*



## Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Regarding the August "Publisher's View," please look up the words epitaph and epithet before you attempt to use one or the other!

Mary Wasserman,  
Former English teacher, Missouri Street

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# Potrero Hill's Real Estate Market Remains Hot

BY SAM ARNESON

It'll come as no surprise to San Franciscans that Potrero Hill's real estate prices are as high as the community's legendary hills. According to Claudia Siegel, of Zephyr Real Estate, the cost of a single-family home starts at roughly \$1 million for a "fixer-upper," and can climb to \$4 million for a domicile with a view and amenities, such as wine cellars, hot tubs, and personal gyms.

The Hill's pricey real estate reflects the neighborhood's "specialness," according to Mary Lace, of Sotheby's, who has been engaged in the local property market for 36 years. Wendy Watkins, of Zephyr Real Estate, identified a number of appealing characteristics, including easy access to Dogpatch and the Mission, a plethora of eateries, beautiful weather, and a strong sense of community that can induce residents to stay for a lifetime.

Siegel emphasized that proximity to CalTrain, Muni, and Highways 101 and 280 is appealing to commuters.

*REAL ESTATE continues on page 16*

# Former Potrero Power Plant Site to Reemerge as Mixed-Use Development



Potrero Power Plant remediation work in progress.

PHOTO: Jacob Bourne

BY JACOB BOURNE

The Potrero Power Plant, located on the Central Waterfront, and its predecessors supplied San Francisco with electricity from 1890 until the facility's 2011 closure. Since then, the site has been unused, soaked with toxic chemicals from more than one hundred years of industrial activities. Associate Capital purchased the 21-acre property last fall from NRG Energy, and expects to submit a development application to the City this month.

Although Associate Energy owns the land, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is responsible for

its environmental remediation. To facilitate clean-up activities, Associate Capital removed three large above-ground tanks that, until 1999, had stored hundreds of thousands of gallons of petrochemicals.

"The first milestone was the removal of massive tanks from the site," said P.J. Johnston, Associate Capital spokesperson. "They were out of commission for many years, and were painstakingly removed over the last couple months, allowing PG&E to study the ground under them."

PG&E has remediated three out of the site's seven contaminated areas. The investor-owned utility is in the early

stages of assessing what remediation will need to be conducted of the ground underneath where the tanks had stood. The San Francisco Bay Region Water Quality Control Board must approve any remediation plan before actual work begins.

"Remediation work in three of the four remaining areas is expected to be completed by 2020, leaving only the tank farm area, which remained inaccessible until this year," stated Andrea Menniti, media spokesperson, PG&E. "The work timeline for the tank farm area will be largely informed by the results of the upcoming investigation."

Associate Capital has initiated discussions with the San Francisco Planning Department about a mixed-use development, potentially totaling about three million square feet, that'll open up a stretch of the waterfront that's been closed to the public for more than a century. The project is among other Bayfront developments, such as Pier 70 and Mission Rock, that'll radically alter the Waterfront's characteristics.

Pier 70, which is similarly emerging as a mixed-use development by Forest City, borders the power plant lands to the north. Maryland Street, an arterial road that'll run from north to south through the Forest City development, will likely connect with

*POWER PLANT continues on page 14*

## The Leaves May be Falling but Home Prices on Potrero Hill Aren't!



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# Planning Commission Approves Carolina Street Project

BY JACOB BOURNE

At a discretionary review hearing held this past summer, the San Francisco Planning Commission approved renovation and expansion of a single-family residence, owned by Bill Canihan Jr., at 891 Carolina Street. The home, a two-story dwelling with a basement, will be comprehensively remodeled, with square footage added to the second-story, a ground floor addition and enlargement, facade modifications, and construction of a second dwelling unit on the property. The project will result in a two-unit residence totaling just under 4,000 square feet, reaching 34.6 feet in height over four levels. In addition to the height increase, the building's footprint will extend into the property's backyard.

Planning staff had received 11 letters supporting the project, 24 opposing it. A petition that garnered 52 signatures expressed opposition to the project's height, square footage, and expansive footprint, which will reduce green space in the rear yard.

Despite a general desire to see the residence improved and inhabited, neighbors believed that the recently approved plans called for an excessively large structure, and didn't conform to the Planning Department's *Residential Design Guidelines*. The discretionary review was requested by 19th Street resident, Robin Bishop, who lived at adjacent property 897 Carolina Street for five years before she and her mother, Kris Gardner, rented it.

"The proposed project at 891 Carolina Street is threatening to change the context by building an out of scope, four-story home — being described in the plans as a three-floor over basement — on a flat lot at the very top of the hill," Bishop said at the Planning Commission hearing. "The topography of this site is such that the scale and mass of this nearly 4,000 square foot house will be enormously larger than all the homes around it, and its magnitude will be felt by all."

Bishop and other neighbors who spoke at the hearing believe that the project will create a precedent, ushering in similar proposals that'll

erode the character of the neighborhood, which is currently dominated by smaller single-family homes with often lush backyards. Because 891 Carolina Street is on a hilltop, project opponents advocated for removal of the fourth level and reduction of the overall footprint. Although municipal code allows for buildings of up to 40 feet in height, neighbors think that the property's positioning will result in a structure that towers over surrounding buildings, out of context with the community's charm.

According to John Lum, project architect, opposition to the scheme was motivated by the loss of a neighbor's view.

"For the past seven years I've been trying to rebuild a family home for myself and future wife, my young daughter and my 81-year-old father who wants to live next door to the house he was born and raised in," said Canihan, Jr. "And I'd like to build a three-bedroom, modest family sized rental as additional housing for the City."

The Planning Commission approved the project on a five to one vote, with modifications that eliminated front and rear decks, both at the third-floor level. Public comment at the hearing included assertions that the *Residential Design Guidelines* aren't being applied consistently. The RDG, a Planning Department document published in 2003, states that, "Proposed projects must be responsive to the overall neighborhood context." Canihan submitted an expansion proposal in the early-2000s, which was rejected by the Planning Department in 2003, when it decided that a four-story residence at 891 Carolina Street would be an aberration from the surrounding neighborhood. Community members view the Planning Commission's latest decision as a change in how the RDG is interpreted.

Bishop viewed the Planning Commission's decision as a failure to listen to the details of the objections to the project. Although the approval included removal of two decks, their presence wasn't a concern that'd been raised by neighbors.

"My feeling is that they're afraid that the property owner won't build anything if this isn't approved, and it will stay decrepit and abandoned," offered Bishop. "That's not something we want either, but the project needs to comply. I'm disturbed by the Planning Commission's lack of attention to my questions. They didn't address the questions that I presented to them. It makes me feel brushed aside, like I don't have a voice."

According to Department of Building Inspection records, the project will cost \$560,000. Building permits

haven't been issued; an appeal period for the approval won't commence until that happens.

The more than one-hundred-year-old home has been a source of concern for many in the neighborhood due to its chronic dilapidated state, which reportedly involved rat infestations and visible garbage. According to Canihan, the problems were caused by former tenants who didn't perform agreed-upon maintenance in exchange for reduced rent. The occupants' mother began her tenancy in 1952. After she died about a decade ago, Canihan asked them to depart, but they remained ensconced. About six years ago they were evicted under the Ellis Act, given two years to move, and paid \$13,600 in relocation expenses. The property has been vacant for the past three years.

## Pier 70 Shipyard Primed for a New Tenant

BY REBEKAH MOAN

Pier 70's shipyard, which shutdown last spring after 150 years of continuous operation, could have a new tenant by the end of the year. "Port Commission selection, award, and lease approval could be complete as early as October 2017, subject to the completion of required due diligence on the property and detailed analysis of qualified responses," a Port spokesperson said.

Last winter, Puglia Engineering announced that it was ceasing its Pier 70 shipyard activities as a result of legal disputes with the prior operator and port tenant, BAE Systems San Francisco Ship Repair. According to Puglia, BAE didn't perform required maintenance and repair of the dry docks, causing significant infrastructure degradation, and withheld material information regarding the facility's condition. Although BAE disputed the claims, Puglia abandoned the shipyard at the end of May.

The Port of San Francisco, which owns the dry docks, reached its own settlement with BAE. The firm will pay the Port \$4,900,000 to cover upkeep and shipyard improvements that'll help make the facility more attractive to a replacement operator.

"While the legal dispute continues between the Port's former operators,

the Port appreciates BAE working diligently with the Port and City Attorney's office to reach this settlement, which will help recover operations at the shipyard quickly," said Elaine Forbes, Port of San Francisco executive director. "The Port is grateful for its dedicated labor and development partners that have helped ensure local jobs at the shipyard during this interim period of operations."

The Port is searching for a new tenant for a facility that includes 15 acres of land with numerous buildings, more than 17 acres of submerged property, and Port-owned equipment, such as cranes. Last month, the Port Commission approved a marketing effort to secure a new shipyard operator.

"The Port believes that there is a viable future for the shipyard, and it remains committed to continuing this important maritime activity and protecting local union jobs at San Francisco's shipyard," the Port said in a press release.

The Port reached an agreement with Orton Development, which is rehabilitating existing Pier 70 buildings, to hire former shipyard employees to perform custodial work on the yard to prepare it for a new tenant. The Port anticipates several entities will be interested in pursuing long-term shipyard tenancy.

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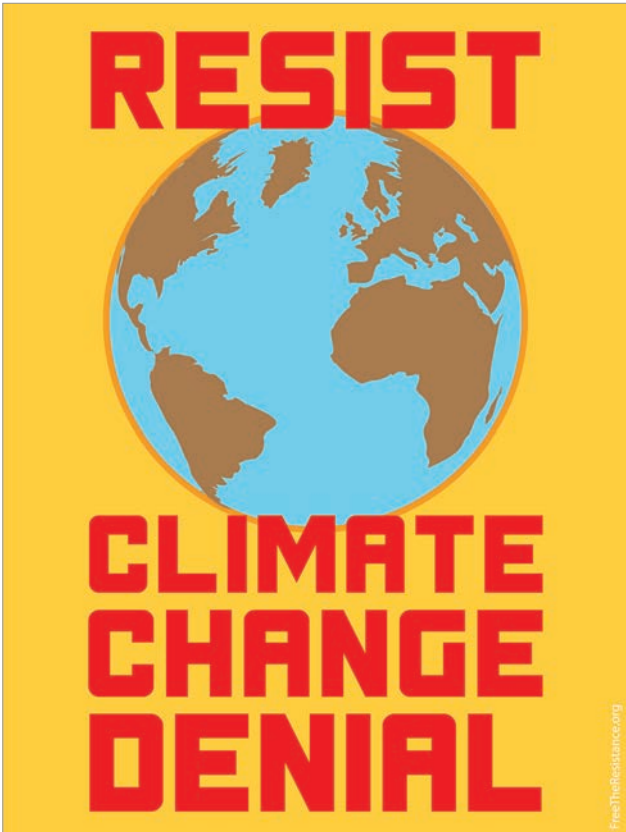
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# Pizza, Pancakes and Hot Chocolate Available on the Hill

BY SAM ARNESON

Every time my Dad took me to Potrero Hill – to develop *View* articles, or hangout with friends – he wanted coffee. The deal between us was that before he dropped me off we'd get the beverage together at a local cafe. I semi-willingly agreed, as I'm not a big fan of coffee, or coffee shops, but ended up loving these times with my dad.

One day we landed upon Farley's, the Hill's most popular cafe, according to patrons I spoke to there and Yelp's comments section. My Dad was eager

to try it. As we walked in, the pungent aroma of fresh coffee tickled my nose. White painted walls, artfully placed benches, paintings, and a newsrack created a casual, modern, and friendly air.

I stepped up to the cream-colored counter and ordering a hot cocoa with extra whipped cream. Dad requested an Americano with three shots of coffee and a peach scone. As we waited for our orders I noticed that no one was sitting alone. Every customer was with someone else, chatting, laughing, and enjoying food and beverages together.

My stomach grumbled with anticipation. As if on cue, my name was called out musically from the barista at the counter. As the hot liquid met my lips, I sighed in relief. It was the perfect temperature, and tasted creamy and dark, almost bitter with the raw essence of cacao beans. I subsequently had a bite of my dad's peach scone, which provided a splash of fruitiness. Although the hot chocolate was too strong for my taste, the pleasant atmosphere, delectable food, and nice people were an irresistible combination that counteracted any complaints I had.

After we'd spent most of the morning sipping our drinks, my Dad left, and my next step was to find lunch. To my relief, Goat Hill Pizza was right down the block. Painted with greens, reds, and grays, it was inviting and familiar, seemingly more 'human' than its West Portal location, though it's currently

being renovated. I walked in and was immediately greeted with warmth from the pizza oven and the hostess. She escorted me to my seat at a square table with a red-and-white checkered tablecloth, where a waitress was waiting to take my order. I ordered a slice of cheese pizza. In the blink of an eye, my waitress rushed from the kitchen with it in her hand. As she set it down on my table, it steamed and bubbled, splashing a touch of hot oil onto my hand. Once it'd cooled down, I took an enormous bite. It was absolutely superb. When the waitress asked if I was enjoying my meal all I could do was smile. The familiar atmosphere, the staff's friendliness, and the mouth-watering

food make Goat Hill Pizza a must-eat destination.

At Plow, I was immediately entranced by the brunch spot's modern yet backcountry appearance, which featured timber accents and aesthetically pleasing light fixtures. The moment I opened the soft wooden doors, the aroma of powdered sugar wafted into my nose. At that moment, I knew I was going to love the food, even before I tried the sumptuous pancakes I ordered moments later. Not only was my meal delicious, but the staff was courteous and kind to me from the moment I walked in to the second the doors shut behind me. Plow is the whole package; great staff, great food, and great photos. I'll certainly be dining at Plow and other Hill restaurants in the future.

*Sam Arneson is a junior at the Jewish Community High School of the Bay.*



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## Catholic Sisters Reflect on Work in 1980s Sanctuary Movement

BY JACOB BOURNE

Twentieth Street residents, Sister Kathleen Healy, 91, and Sister Lucia Lodolo, 78, who taught at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church starting in the mid-1960s, are spending their retirement years volunteering at Saints Anthony's Foundation Social Services Department. "Mostly smiling at people," said Healy.

Saint Teresa's school closed in 1974 due to low enrollment. In the early-1980s conflict erupted in the Central American countries of El Salvador and Guatemala. Military forces stripped away the rights of low-income people through violence, threats and intimidation. Many citizens of those countries fled to the United States and other nations seeking asylum. However, the political climate in the U.S. proved to

be a barrier to those looking for a safe harbor.

"Catholic Charities reached out to us and asked us to become involved with Sanctuary," Healy recalled. "We went to the countries in groups of 20, and would live there for a week or so at a time, and got involved with the lives of the people there. We discovered what terrible pain they were going through, because at the time Reagan wouldn't allow them to be given refugee status. We wanted to help these people."

Efforts spearheaded by Catholic Charities and St. Teresa's ignited a movement across San Francisco that brought members of different Christian denominations and Jewish congregations together to work towards aiding the Central Americans. Pre-Internet,

*SANCTUARY continues on page 15*



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Jon W. Smith at the same spot today.

PHOTO: Courtesy of Peter Linenthal

Emily M. Smith outside her Wisconsin Street apartment, 1955.  
PHOTO: Courtesy of Peter Linenthal

Jon W. Smith has most likely lived in the Potrero Annex-Terrace housing complex longer than anyone else. In 1952, he and his family landed at the Channel Projects, on Iowa Street near 25th, now a site under the Interstate-280 Freeway. He remembers a young boy there, O. J. Simpson, who wore braces to straighten the bow-legs rickets caused. In 1955, Smith's family moved to an apartment on Wisconsin Street, in Potrero Terrace, where he lives today. Mid-century last the Terrace's manicured hedgerows, gardens and trees seemed 'like a Shangri La' compared to industrial Iowa Street. When Potrero Annex was built, residents called them 'the new projects'. Smith's mother, Emily M. Smith, was an avid bingo player, 'her only vice', and helped distribute food boxes to seniors. Jon Smith picked up newspapers at Atchison's Pharmacy, on 20th Street, delivering them to the thirteen buildings of the Carolina Projects, now now home to San Francisco International High

School and The New School. He went to Starr King School at its first 25th and Utah streets location, and was one of the first students at Starr King's Carolina Street site. He wonders what happened to the monarch butterflies that lived on the Hill's fennel plants in those years. Smith joined the Army, traveling extensively in Europe. Denmark was his favorite city because of *The Little Mermaid*. He's been a postal worker, and today is council president of the Potrero Terrace Tenant's Association. Smith's entire Wisconsin Street block is scheduled for demolition and rebuilding; he takes a 'wait and see' attitude towards relocation of residents like himself during construction. Come hear Jon W. Smith talk about his 65 years in the neighborhood at this year's Potrero Hill History Night, Saturday, November 4.

- Peter Linenthal  
Potrero Hill Archives Project

## Missouri Street Resident Cares for Community Cats

BY BRETT YATES

When Maggie McCain, a University of California, San Francisco, operating room nurse, moved to Potrero Hill in 1993, she found a feral mother cat and four kittens living in the backyard of her Missouri Street home. Initially she wasn't sure what to do. Then she heard about the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), which recommended that she buy a Havahart trap and bait it with tuna to attract the mother, which could then be taken to the SPCA to be spayed.

Adult feral cats typically aren't suited for pet adoption, but their kittens, if they're young enough, can be socialized as housecats. According to McCain, the process happens "really slowly. You have them in a crate or a cage; you have to 'burrito' them, which means wrap them in a towel so they can't move, but they're hissy, and they'll try to bite."

McCain has more than "twenty years' worth" of scars on her cat-scratched forearms to show for her efforts. The socialization process involves "lots of sitting. You play with them, and with the feeding and the play, you start to imprint on them, and you see them gradually getting tame, and at that point, when they start to come up to you, it's like: okay, they're ready to go back to the shelter and go up for adoption."

It took McCain two years to catch the mother cat in her backyard. In the meantime, she had two more litters of kittens. A cat-loving neighbor on Connecticut Street lent McCain her partner's leather motorbike gloves for protection and taught her socialization techniques. McCain discovered she was able to "turn around" her backyard kittens "pretty easily." She even kept one for herself, which became her pet for 16 years.

The plight of the Missouri Street

cats alerted McCain to the broader issue of homeless cats in Potrero Hill. She took up trapping around the neighborhood. In 1996, she volunteered for the SPCA's Feral Fix program and joined a team of trappers dedicated to finding feral cats and bringing them to the SPCA, which spays and neuters them free of charge, in addition to providing vaccinations, microchips, and basic medical care before release. McCain recalled that, two decades ago, the Hill's south slope was overrun by feral cats. The area behind Potrero Annex Terrace, near the Recreation Center, was a favorite point of congregation. Over the course of one three-day weekend, 12 or 15 years ago, her SPCA team trapped between 60 and 80 cats. All of them were spayed.

While many of the Hill's homeless cats were truly feral, others had been abandoned by their owners. The latter could be re-homed. The feral ones, which couldn't be socialized, had to

be released to the neighborhood after capture and treatment, a more humane alternative to euthanasia. To care for these permanently free-roaming cats, McCain set up "colonies" on the Hill, distributing food and water daily and monitoring health problems.

In one case, skin cancer had engulfed the ears of a pure white cat. McCain brought her to a veterinarian, who snipped the tops of her ears off. The cat lived another five or six years after that. In more dire situations, she's had to bring sick cats to the SPCA for euthanasia.

Occasionally, McCain's feral cats have needed dental work, requiring treatment from a private veterinarian, for which she pays out of her own pocket, just as she does for the cat food and monthly Advantage flea treatments she gives the cats. Feral or not, the animals have become friends.

*CATS continues on page 18*

# Sanctioned Encampments a Success in Seattle



A "street" in Othello Village, one of Seattle's sanctioned encampments.

PHOTO: Chris Block



A raised garden bed maintained by an Othello Village resident.

PHOTO: Chris Block

BY CHRIS BLOCK AND STEVEN J. MOSS

Faced with a similar emergence of widespread homeless encampments as San Francisco, the City of Seattle responded, in part, by allowing – “sanctioning” – a number of camps, so long as they secured sponsorship from a nonprofit organization, were time limited, with community noticing and engagement requirements.

As previously reported by the *View*, Steve Walker, Seattle’s housing director, stated that sanctioned encampments “are a failure” and the municipality will be “expanding the program.” Walker clarified that the need to authorize these temporary communities – which typically incorporate the use of “tiny homes” – reflects a disappointing inability to provide sufficient stable housing, mental health and addiction services. In the face of that reality, Walker insisted that authorized encampments were a necessary part of the continuum of opportunities for Seattle’s homeless.

According to the City of Seattle’s website, “For some unsheltered people, there are significant barriers to transitioning to indoor shelter. Authorized encampments offer a safer alternative that can help stabilize the person before transitioning indoors.” Starting in 2015, Seattle opened three sanctioned encampments, each permitted for 12 months, with the potential to extend for another year. Since then three more have joined them.

City and County of San Francisco officials aren’t convinced that authorized encampments are an effective policy tool. “The City’s concern about sanctioned encampments is that the floor can become the ceiling, and that Navigation Centers provide a higher quality approach, particularly for very vulnerable clients,” said Sam Dodge, deputy director, San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing. “But, we are following models like Seattle’s closely, and are always open to new approaches.”

Earlier this summer, the *View*

visited five of the six City of Seattle-sanctioned communities. The groups typically consist of roughly 50 residents who moved from the streets to 250 square foot structures, usually with electricity but no plumbing. There’s also shared community space, bathrooms and kitchen facilities. Three had been operating for more than a year; two were recently sited. The encampments are secured within a perimeter fence, with closed but unlocked gates. They’re largely self-governed; residents have a shared responsibility for such activities as policing, keeping the community clean, and monitoring tenant behavior. Each has a council composed of camp residents, neighbors and local businesses.

Strangers are greeted almost immediately by a resident taking their shift on security. Even unexpected guests are offered a tour, which in every case revealed a well-maintained camp. The *View*’s observations were similar to those contained in a City of Seattle report that examined the initial

three communities, which found that the camps had successfully served people who had been living on the streets, often in hazardous conditions. The report noted that self-governance and case management had proved an effective combination, as measured by a number of factors: neighboring communities have responded positively, no significant increase in crime was prompted by the sites, and the self-managed governance structure offers residents a way to positively contribute to day-to-day operations and community engagement efforts. Further, 26 percent of residents ultimately found permanent homes; 13 percent went to transitional housing.

Problems do occur, residents are sometimes removed and police are occasionally called. But, most residents appear to benefit from the stable living situation. “Tent Cities are a place where you can have a shower and a place to keep your stuff,”

*SEATTLE continues on page 14*



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# What's Happening with Real Estate on Potrero Hill?



Low interest rates and powerful demand have continued to keep the Potrero Hill market strong. Many homes have attracted multiple offers after short periods on the market.

If you have been thinking of selling your home, now may be an excellent time to take advantage of strong demand from buyers.

## Sales Prices for All Potrero Hill Homes Sold in 2017\*

1745 20th St.....\$3,000,000	508 Connecticut St .....\$1,875,000	600 Pennsylvania Ave.....\$1,525,000
2024-2026 22nd St.....\$2,400,000	444 Kansas St .....\$1,900,000	579 Rhode Island St.....\$1,712,500
1925 23rd St.....\$1,450,000	763 Kansas St .....\$2,860,682	617 Rhode Island St.....\$1,959,999
420 Arkansas St .....\$1,725,000	1029 Kansas St .....\$1,450,000	830 Rhode Island St.....\$1,475,000
828 Arkansas St .....\$1,150,000	1325 Kansas St .....\$1,300,000	1185 Rhode Island St.....\$1,528,000
898 Carolina St.....\$1,999,725	249 Mississippi .....\$1,300,000	1 Southern Heights Ave ....\$2,080,000
1015 Carolina St.....\$2,150,000	649 Mississippi St.....\$1,375,000	862 Wisconsin St .....\$1,925,000
407 Connecticut St .....\$3,200,000	407 Missouri St .....\$2,580,000	

The average sales price for a home on Potrero Hill this year has been \$1,909,605. If you'd like a free report on the value of your home, call Tim Johnson at 415-710-9000.



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\*Sales information as of August 18, 2017

**MOSHI MOSHI from frontpage**

in North Carolina. It was a period of racial segregation under Jim Crow laws. Akashi was forced to sit in the back of the bus when traveling to the nearby City of Fayetteville on weekends. In town, public amenities, such as bathrooms and drinking fountains, were labeled “white” and “colored”. On one occasion, Akashi visited a movie theater but was unable to watch the show because a European-American attendant at the front entrance directed him to the “colored” entry at the rear, where he was referred back to the main entrance by an African-American.

Following military service Akashi made his home in San Francisco. He currently lives near Golden Gate Park. He recalled a life marked by persistent hard work to support his wife and grow his restaurant. He described his approach in his early years as different from other Japanese restaurateurs, who weren’t always welcoming to customers who were unfamiliar with eating sushi. Akashi is friendly to all patrons.

“The key is treating everyone equally; my whole philosophy is based on respecting everyone,” he said. “All ages and colors are welcome. Some places only want a certain kind of customer, but my philosophy has been essential to success.”

Akashi and his dedicated staff have had to overcome numerous challenges over the years. In the 1980s, high crime rates in Dogpatch prompted him to hire security guards to escort employees to

their vehicles after evening work hours. Business was disrupted by the 1989 earthquake, as well as construction of Muni’s Third Street T Line in the first decade of the 21st century.

Akashi was devastated in 2000 when his wife, Kazuko Akashi, died, followed by the loss of another family member a couple years later. He considered abandoning the business, but a close friend encouraged him to stay committed to his customers and staff. To help him through the difficulties she introduced him to a Japanese tea ceremony, *chanoyu*, which has a spiritual aspect derived from Zen Buddhism. Akashi attributes the practice to refocusing his energies on the restaurant and the close-knit community that’s defined it.

Akashi still spends long hours at Moshi Moshi, working closely with his managers to keep the menu relevant to changing times. He attributed the restaurant’s success to the support dedicated patrons and longtime staff have provided over the years.

“Business is very good, but it’s difficult to have a restaurant in San Francisco,” he explained. “Employees have a hard time finding a place to live, and there’s no parking for them. It’s a hard time, but it will get better, people just have to be patient.”

For now, Akashi plans to continue working indefinitely.

**De HARO from frontpage**

include a new kitchen, art studio, gym,

garage, and two new bedrooms, among other changes. The modifications would amount to an extra 3,166 square feet of habitable space.

After the initial application was submitted to the City, the San Francisco Planning Department sent comments back regarding massing and architectural detail. Robo Gerson, architect and partner at Siol Studios, is currently working on revising the plans based on the feedback.

“I spoke with a planner, who brought up concerns about the massing and asked that the size be reduced,” said Gerson. “A light and shadow study will be done. My job is to balance my client’s needs with what Planning Code allows and also make the neighbors happy. We don’t want to ruffle any feathers.”

Regarding the incorrect addresses on the previous drawings, Gerson believes that there was no intention to be deceitful, and that it was due to miscalculation or error. He anticipates resubmitting the drawings in coming weeks.

“The project was initially proposed to go into the rear yard, but zoning doesn’t allow it, so it has to be pulled back,” explained Cianciarulo. “The architect will do whatever Planning requires. I’ve lived in the area since the 1970s and plan to be here a long time. I’m a supporter of Potrero Hill and Jackson Park. I also own Potrero Flats that’s nearby the park,” he added.

Cianciarulo owns the adjacent property at 829 De Haro Street, as well as Mindful Investments, LP, a financial services business located at 827 De Haro Street. He claimed that the home improvement project will mostly impact the view from his other property. Cianciarulo previously led a historic renovation of the Baker and Hamilton Building, located at 601 Townsend Street, currently occupied by Adobe Systems.

According to a Planning Department representative, the project is going through an environmental and design review process. He said that it’ll likely be exempt from an environmental impact report because of its small scale. If Planning’s comments regarding architectural details and massing are addressed by Cianciarulo, surrounding neighbors will be notified and have an opportunity to request a Planning Commission hearing. Alternatively, if changes aren’t made to the plans, Cianciarulo can request such a hearing.

**STATION 37 from frontpage**

particular number of times; each ring sequence signified a digit within a larger number. Once the whole number was ascertained, firefighters pulled the corresponding card from their file, which would show the street corner where the fire was taking place. The cards also designated which post was responsible for responding first, second, and third at each location, information that applies even today. Tingin continues to find the cards handy. “I always reference these,” he said.

Station 37 is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. If the power goes out in the neighborhood a generator inside the building keeps the facility fully operational. Four

firefighters are on the premises during each shift, which starts at 8 a.m. and ends at 8 a.m. the next day. The 24-hour shifts are followed by 48-hour breaks; every third cycle the furlough is extended to 72 hours. Every firefighter has a bed of their own upstairs, but on each shift a rotating “watch-person” must spend the night in a downstairs office, within arm’s reach of the call system, on a Murphy bed with “one eye open.”

The City pays for the fire engine, firefighting equipment, medical and cleaning supplies. Food, coffee, cable television, and furnishings are financed through “house duties,” the self-generated monetary pool from which the firefighters draw for their collective purchases, such as new chairs for the kitchen table, as determined by a group vote. The watch-person is responsible for cooking two meals for the crew daily, typically selecting the dishes without much input from others.

On a Friday in late July the menu consisted of banh mi sandwiches – using leftover pork belly – for lunch; Peruvian chicken with ají sauce for dinner. According to Tingin, SFFD’s “eating habits” have evolved over the years. Lighter fare has replaced heaping plates of meat and potatoes; carb-conscious firefighters eat less pasta than they used to. “Guys would go back for thirds,” said firefighter Gillian Smith, “and now you hardly see anyone go back for seconds.”

When the Station 37 firefighters aren’t responding to a call they’re engaged in an almost constant process of self-reading. Each morning the outgoing crew exchanges information with the incoming team. The truck is inspected; gear is prepped. Daily in-house drills precede more complicated online training programs. Every Saturday, the firefighters check every fire hydrant on the Hill to make sure it’s operating properly. They also “do a lot of area orientation, just driving around to see what’s going on,” as Tingin put it. “We have a lot of construction projects right now. Usually, we’ll go in and talk to some of the contractors. We’ll try to schedule a visit with the site managers and get a walk-through for an orientation as to their sprinkler systems, their control panels. We want to get a good idea of the layouts of these buildings.” Nearly all of the new construction in the neighborhood is visible from Station 37’s roof, which has panoramic views.

“The Fire Department is utilized citywide to take care of some of the inspection stuff that the [San Francisco Department of Building Inspection] can’t do on a normal day-to-day basis,” Tingin explained. Firefighters check for cleared exits and working extinguishers. “We get to know what our buildings are. We can put notes in our dispatch: little things that we pick up on.”

Amidst all this preparation, Station 37 strives to remain a friendly, accessible, presence in the neighborhood, holding chili cookoffs with Potrero Annex-Terrace residents alongside the San Francisco Police Department, and inviting dogs to stop by for treats. They perform a yearly drill and assembly at Starr King Elementary School, im-

**STATION 37 continues on page 21**



**Potrero Dogpatch Merchant’s Association** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Website: [www.potrerdogpatch.com](http://www.potrerdogpatch.com). Call 415.341.8949. Next meeting: September 12th.

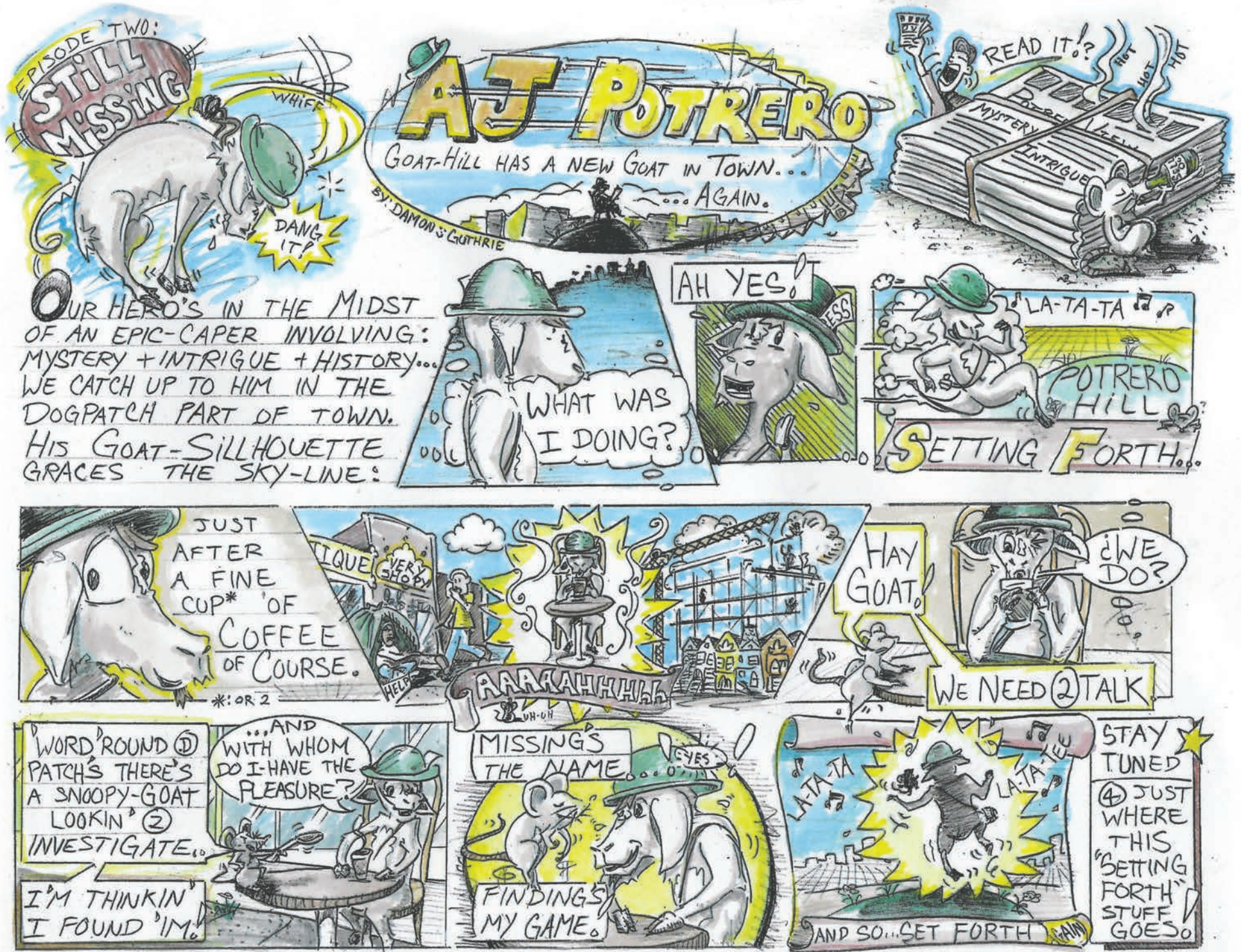
**Starr King Open Space** meets for monthly Stewardship Day the second Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Starr King Open Space, corner of Carolina St. and 23rd St. Come out and meet your neighbors, be a community steward, enjoy the natural grassland habitat, see spectacular views, and celebrate our beautiful neighborhood open space. Everyone is welcome. Find out more at [www.starrkingopenspace.org](http://www.starrkingopenspace.org) or [facebook.com/StarrKingOpenSpace](https://facebook.com/StarrKingOpenSpace).

**SOMA Rotary Club** meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at Mission Rock Resort, 817 Terry Francois Blvd. We meet at 6 p.m. for a mixer and 7 p.m. for a dinner meeting. We provide community service to the Mission Bay, Potrero, and Bayview communities. The focus is on providing services for the under-served of our community. The website is located at: [www.meetup.com/Mission-Bay-Rotary-Club](http://www.meetup.com/Mission-Bay-Rotary-Club). For more information contact Nine at: [n.ladow@comcast.net](mailto:n.ladow@comcast.net).

**Potrero Hill Garden Club** usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck in a local home or garden. We occasionally visit gardens such as Ruth Bancroft, Yerba Buena, Cornerstone, Filoli, and the rooftop garden at the Fairmont. We discuss gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill’s microclimates, and often have speakers on subjects such as drought, wind, shade, pests, and even flower arranging. For details, please contact us at [Gardener@PotreroHillGardenClub.org](mailto:Gardener@PotreroHillGardenClub.org).

**Dogpatch & Northwest Potrero Hill Green Benefit District** General Board Meeting September 20. Working together to green-up, clean-up and beautify public spaces in Dogpatch and NW Potrero Hill. Free. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tivoli Room @ UCSF, 654 Minnesota Street. <http://www.greenbenefit.org>

For a \$120 annual fee your organization can be listed in Getting Involved. Contact [advertising@potreroview.net](mailto:advertising@potreroview.net)



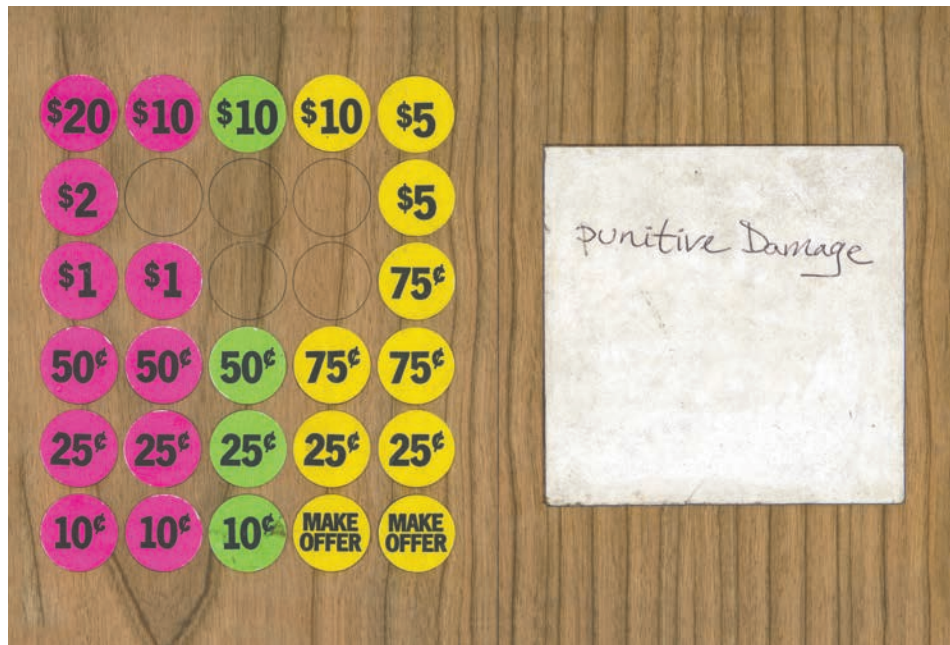
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# COMMUNITY | SEPTEMBER



"Punitive Damage" by Recology Artist in Residence, Curtis Reid Henderson. PHOTO: Courtesy of Recology

**9/1 through 9/29**  
**Family: New Parents Group**  
 Meet parents of up to one-year-olds, and learn about San Francisco's baby-friendly assets. Enjoy a monthly expert talk or guest speaker. Snacks provided. Free; suggested donation \$15. Every Friday, noon to 1 p.m. Recess, 470 Carolina Street. Please reserve your spot in advance: <http://bit.ly/2vXroUT>

**9/2, 9/9, 9/16**  
**Film: Free Mission Bay Movie Nights**  
 Come early to grab a spot on the AstroTurf, toss a few bean bags at the community cornhole, and purchase nourishment from popular food trucks. This event benefits the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Children's Hospital. Food trucks available at 5 p.m.; ticketholders can access the movie site at 6:15 p.m.; general admission, with or without tickets, at 6:30 p.m. Films begin after sundown, between 8 and 8:45 p.m. Spark Social, 601 Mission Bay Boulevard. For more information, and advance tickets: <http://bit.ly/2fVV54Y>

**9/5 through 9/26**  
**Dance: Lindy Hop Swing Dance Classes and Live Music Dance Party**  
 The Woodchopper's Ball is San Francisco's newest weekly swing dance event! Learn the Lindy Hop, the original swing dance craze from 1930's Harlem! Live music swing dance party, with a different band each Tuesday, 9 to 11:30 p.m., \$10, students free, all ages. Admission includes a basic lesson: beginning, 8 to 9 p.m., intermediate, 7 to 8 p.m. Taught by Lindy in the Park instructors, Hep Jen and Ken Watanabe. No partner or experience required. Full four-week class series: \$75/month; \$60

in advance, \$20/week drop-in. Verdi Club, 2424 Mariposa Street. Huge dance floor and full bar; 21+ only. For more information and to register: [www.woodchoppersball.com](http://www.woodchoppersball.com)

**7** **Music: Bum Wagler & The Tune Wranglers**  
 Live music by Bum Wagler & The Tune Wranglers, who play original tunes in the Honky Tonk country vein. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farleys, 1315 18th Street.

**9/7 through 9/29**  
**Art: Best of Bay Area Master of Fine Arts Programs**  
 SOMArts Cultural Center presents The Annual Murphy and Cadogan Contemporary Art Awards Exhibition, a focused look at the future of Bay Area visual arts. The exhibit showcases 18 promising visual artists working across disciplines, and identifies young artists from Bay Area Master of Fine Arts programs whose work intersects with emerging trends. Opening reception: Saturday, September 7, 6:30 to 9 p.m. SOMArts, 934 Brannan Street. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2vVvLjj> or 415.863.1414.

**9/7 through 10/14**  
**Art: Far Away Up Close**  
 Artist Jim Campbell experiments with digital representation as a metaphor for the transmutation of data into knowledge. Fifteen new works in this exhibition explore primitive neural and sensory processes for interpreting visual clues, like shape, movement, rhythm, and color. Campbell's choice of media is conceptually linked to his message; he uses technologies developed for information transfer and storage to explore human communication and memory. To be completed by the end of the year

and visible for decades to come, Campbell's artwork on the top nine stories of the exterior of the Salesforce Tower — the West Coast's tallest building — will alter the Bay Area's skyline. Unlike any permanent public artwork to date, Campbell's piece will change daily, as a reflection of the life of the City. Opening reception for *Far Away Up Close* will be at Hosfelt Gallery, 260 Utah Street, 4 p.m. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2vBKXn3>

**9/12, 9/19, 9/26**  
**Art: Tuesday Night Drawing Series**  
 Learn to sketch from instructor David Tenorio, with a live, clothed, model. Adults only. 6 to 8 p.m. \$25 to \$99. Arch, 10 Carolina Street. Class size is limited; details and sign-up: [dcenter.org/arch](http://dcenter.org/arch)

**13** **Music: Daniel Berkman**  
 Potrero Hill resident Daniel Berkman is a composer, multi-instrumentalist and innovator of the kora, a 21-stringed harp/lute from West Africa. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

**14** **Community: Esprit Park Renovation Community Meeting**  
 Esprit is Dogpatch's only San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department facility. A \$5 million contribution from UCSF will help pay for park renovations. Conceptual plans for the park's facelift will be presented, followed by a discussion of next steps and an opportunity for input into the design and project planning. 6 p.m. Abaca Clubhouse Room, 2660 Third Street.

**Art: Architecture Boxes**  
 Peruse architecture and design magazines to identify elements to collage into a striking pattern or image of your dream pavilion. We'll then use a photocopy and modge-podge technique to transfer the creations onto wooden keepsake boxes. Final embellishments can be made using a variety of add-on elements and wood-burning pens. All materials provided; feel free to customize with your own images. 21+ only. 7 to 9:30 p.m. \$15 non-members; \$8 members. Gallery access, workshop, supplies, wine, and snacks included. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. Space is limited. Please purchase tickets in advance: <http://bit.ly/2utVCSsc>. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2v5ljon>

**9/14 through 10/7**  
**Theater: A Tale of Autumn**  
 In his inaugural commission as Crowded Fire Theater's playwright-in-residence, Christopher Chen tackles the power structures inherent in large corporations. *A Tale of Autumn* is a psychological rise-to-power fable. Inspired by Shakespeare's *Richard III* and *Macbeth*, along with popular "quest-for-power" television shows *Game of Thrones* and *House of Cards*, this is Chen's world premiere with Crowded Fire. \$15 to \$35. Previews: pay what you can at the door; cash only. For more information and to purchase tickets: <http://bit.ly/2vFWntK>

**16** **Healthcare: Gynecologic Cancer Symposium**  
 The Fifth Annual Gynecologic Cancer Symposium, hosted by UCSF's Department of Gynecologic Oncology.

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Sep 23 La Mixta Criolla: Music of Puerto Rico  
*(Sponsored by Dogpatch Center for Arts & Culture)*

Sep 26 Clint Baker Hot Five: Traditional Jazz  
*(Sponsored by Noon All Day Cafe)*

Sep 30 Jose y sus Picantes: Salsa  
 \*\*

Oct 3 Sandor Moss: Cuban Salsa  
*(Sponsored by The Pearl)*

Oct 7 Le Jazz Hot ~ Gypsy Swing  
*(Sponsored by The Power Station)*

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More info at [dogpatchartsplaza.org/events](http://dogpatchartsplaza.org/events)

**BUILD:PUBLIC**

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. UCSF, Bakar Cancer Hospital, Oberndorf Auditorium, 1855 Fourth Street. To register: <http://bit.ly/2uMppFh>. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2vnSPGH>

**18 Food: Fermented Pickle Workshop**  
Learn to make fermented dill pickles with the UC Master Food Preservers. 7 to 8 p.m. \$20. Spark Social, 601 Mission Bay Boulevard. For more information and to sign-up: [dcenter.org/food](http://dcenter.org/food)

**20 Music: Soul Delights**  
Come for a lively performance. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

**9/20 - 9/24 Books: Friends of the San Francisco Library Book Sale**  
The Big Book Sale will feature more than 500,000 books, DVDs, compact discs, books on tape, vinyl, and other forms of media in 70 different categories, all for \$1 to \$3. Proceeds benefit the San Francisco Public Library's literacy programs for children, teenagers, and adults. Free and open to the public. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fort Mason Center, Festival Pavilion. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2cwHKeE>

**9/22 - 9/23 Art: Recology® San Francisco Artist in Residence Exhibitions**  
The Artist in Residence Program at Recology San Francisco will host an exhibition and reception for artists-in-residence, Cathy Lu, Erik Scollon, and San Francisco Art Institute student artist, Curtis Reid Henderson. The exhibit is the culmination of four months of work by the artists, who scavenged materials from the dump to make art and promote recycling and reuse. Friday, September 22, 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday September 23, 1 to 3 p.m. Additional viewing hours on Tuesday, September 26, 5 to 7 p.m., with a gallery walk-through with the artists at 6 p.m. Free. Art Studio, Environmental Learning Center 503 Tunnel Avenue and 401 Tunnel Avenue. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2v8WWpx>

**23 Music: Dogpatch Arts Plaza Concert**  
Enjoy the new plaza with

music by La Mixta Criolla and an all-ages art activity. Free. Noon to 1 p.m. 901 19th Street. For more information: [dcenter.org/plaza](http://dcenter.org/plaza)

**23 Seniors: Reframing Aging: Confronting and Transforming Society's Current Images, Biases and Prejudices**  
Older Women's League San Francisco presents Reframing Aging: Confronting and Transforming Society's Current Images, Biases and Prejudices, a workshop by Diane Krantz, who's been fighting ageism and helping older adults thrive for the past 10+ years through her work as an independent consultant for social sector organizations committed to serving all populations, including older adults, and especially women. A trained facilitator, Krantz engages groups in lively discussions embracing the head and the heart. Learn more about society's, and your own, attitudes toward aging; create strategies to confront implicit and explicit personal and societal biases; tap into life experiences to grow in wisdom and continued fullness of life. This Library-sponsored program is wheelchair accessible. Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, Latino/Hispanic Room, Lower Level. For more information: 415.712.1695 [info@owlsf.org](mailto:info@owlsf.org)

**24 Festival: Folsom Street Fair**  
The 34th Annual Folsom Street Fair, an only-in-San Francisco original, covers more than 13 city blocks, filled with 400,000 people in their most outrageous leather, rubber, and fetish attire enjoying the world's largest leather fair. More than 200 exhibitor booths showcasing fetish gear and toys; live stage with top-name indie, electronic and alternative acts; dance areas spinning underground electronic dance music, public play stations, and an erotic artists' area with a sick and twisted performance stage. Free. Donate \$10 at the gates and get a sticker that entitles you to \$2 off each drink, all day. On Folsom Street, from Eighth to 13th streets. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2xh4E1t>

**28 Music: The Goat Hill Geezers**  
Covers of Beatles, Eagles, Everly Brothers, Simon & Garfunkel, Joni Mitchell, and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street.

**9/30 - 10/1 Festival: Autumn Moon Festival**  
The 27th Annual AT&T Autumn Moon Festival will open with a grand parade on Saturday at 11 a.m. on California and Grant streets led by civic officials, beauty queens, cultural performers, and lion dancers. Vendors will sell Asian arts and crafts, housewares, plants, and jewelry in booths covering several city blocks. The famous Dragon appears on Sunday at 5 p.m. as the event's grand finale. For detailed entertainment schedule and other information: <http://bit.ly/2wfuW7y>

**10/12 through 11/5 Theater: The Obligation**  
A Jewish-American comedian, an Auschwitz survivor, a half-Jewish German soldier, and an SS General explore the dark history of their/our world in the world theatrical premiere of *The Obligation*, a one-person show written by and starring Roger Grunwald, under the direction of Nancy Carlin. Through drama and humor, *The Obligation* explores little-known aspects of The Holocaust and the post-war survivor experience and asks: who decides what culture, race and ethnicity mean? What's identity? Why do we demonize "the other"? \$26 to \$51. Potrero Stage, 1695 18th Street. For more information and to purchase tickets online: <http://bit.ly/2v04UFG>

**10/14 Community: Dogpatch/Potrero Hill Street Tree Planting Saturday**  
The Green Benefit District partners with Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) to plant 160 new trees. FUF will handle permits and site preparation, and bring the trees at no cost to property owners. As a result of passage of Proposition E last year, the City maintains all street trees. To request a tree or learn how to opt out of planting in front of your building: [GreenBenefit.org](http://GreenBenefit.org).

**10/22 Health: Junior Diabetes Research Foundation San Francisco Walk**  
One of hundreds of Junior Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) walks across the country, the money raised will support JDRF, the leading global organization funding Type 1 diabetes research. Join a committed community that's passionate about doing whatever it takes to help JDRF turn "Type One into Type None." Length of walk is three miles. Check in: 9:30 a.m.; walk starts at 11 a.m. Great Meadow at Fort Mason, Bay and Laguna streets. For more information: <http://bit.ly/2vQrDmm> or contact Kevin O'Scanlon, [koscanlon@jdrf.org](mailto:koscanlon@jdrf.org) or 415.597.6311.

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★ **Best of Bernal**  
**WEDNESDAY, 9/27 7 pm**  
Barebottle Brewing Co  
1525 Cortland Ave










Architect Mason Kirby Inc

**POWER PLANT** from page 3

Associate Capital's property.

"Our whole goal is that ten years from now, when this is all built, that you won't be able to tell where Pier 70 begins and where this project ends," said Enrique Landa, principal, Associate Capital.

Associate Capital's project could add about 1,500 housing units, as well as space for retail, research and development, offices, and production, distribution and repair (PDR). Based on preliminary conceptual plans, recreational and open space will be an integral part of the scheme, including ground-level and rooftop areas, athletic fields, and access to the Bay Trail. The former power plant's iconic smokestack and adjoining structure will be retained and adapted into a waterfront hotel.

Associate Capital publicly presented its conceptual plans last summer, with a common response being "don't make it like Mission Bay." Community members emphasized the importance of transit connectivity, walkability and a mix of heights.

According to Landa, his company wants to develop a combination of uses that engender activity seven days a week, extending into the evenings. In addition to walkable streets, the developer has committed to ensuring transit connections from Bay Area Rapid Transit stations to the project. A full-size grocery store and centralized parking garage have been proposed.

"Dogpatch has a really gritty, funky sort of PDR use, along with residential and commercial," Landa commented. "We really want to put

in uses that don't necessarily fit in other parts of Dogpatch over here, to allow it to be one functioning, vibrant neighborhood."

Kristen Hall, an architect at Perkins + Will who is working on the design, said that key principles guiding the site's planning process include creating an active public waterfront, engendering a diversity of uses, celebrating the location's industrial history, and emphasizing walkability, bicycle access and transit. She highlighted the key role recreational and open space and financial feasibility will play in the project. Environmentally sustainable features and design elements that address sea level rise will be incorporated.

Landa said that his company takes sea level rise seriously, and is studying how much the site will need to be raised based on sea level rise predictions. He added that the location is higher than Pier 70, and, as a result, fewer mitigations to protect from elevating water levels may be needed than in other nearby projects.

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Showers at Othello Village.

PHOTO: Chris Block

**SEATTLE** from page 8

said Crystal, a resident and impromptu tour guide. She explained that these elements, along with access to a stable home, provide a foundation for people to secure employment, and, ultimately, a better life.

Last July, 334 individuals were living in Seattle's sanctioned encampments, including more than 25 children and a number of pets, at a cost of roughly \$20 per night. A San Francisco shelter costs about \$32 a night; Navigation Centers cost \$60 per night due largely to significant staffing levels.

Othello Village, located in South Seattle on land owned by the Low Income Housing Institute, will ultimately be developed as traditional affordable housing. Last summer, 49 adults were living at the sanctioned camp on the

property, including 16 women. Additionally, there were 14 children in 10 families, 6 couples and three pets. Matt, who was serving his eight hour a week security shift at the time of the View's visit, lived there with his seven-year-old child. He explained that after four or five months the required work and residents' generally positive attitude convinced neighbors that the encampment was non-threatening.

Another resident, Jaime, fresh from cleaning the camp's showers, offered a delicious snap pea that he'd grown in his raised bed garden. Jaime had previously lived in a studio, from which he was evicted when the owner sold the building. Current rents were beyond his reach, but his case manager had told him that a studio he can afford may be available soon.

**WENDY WATKINS AND WES FREAS**

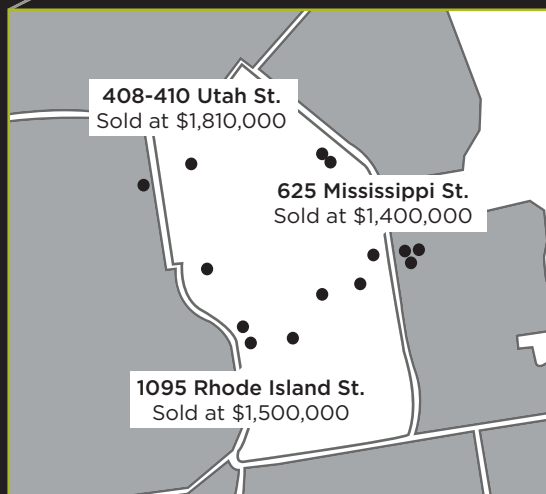
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Sidewalk astronomers, Mike Portuesi and Jim Mace, invited neighbors to the corner of 19th and Mississippi streets, where they offered advice, explanations and two telescopes during last month's solar eclipse.

PHOTO: View Staff Photographer

## PUBLISHER'S VIEW from page 2

mating to participate in the Christmas markets and New Year's festivities, only to harden once again until a few hours of sunshine unglues them in the spring.

The Fringe itself is a happy, triumphant, desperate, mishmash of comedy, music, theater, spoken word, street performances, food stalls that all sell the same lumpy mix of potatoes sprinkled with tasteless rubbery items, superlative beer and whiskey, tied together by a constant flow of postcard-sized flyers advertising the next show, often handed out by the stars themselves, who, if you let them – which I advise you don't – will perform their piece right there on the spot. Some three thousand performances, tucked away in re-purposed basements, classrooms, and, in one case, a veterinarian hospital, vie for the attention of a half-million visitors. A few sell out; others play to nobody; most are somewhere in between.

The fact that most shows last no more than an hour gives great comfort to performers and audience members alike, in a "that'll/this'll be over soon" way. There's something deeply satisfying and happily optimistic about knowing that within less than 60 minutes whatever's happening on stage will stop. Everyone involved can then step back out into the greyness and stumble their way to the next show, alcoholic beverage, or historic tour, a festive game of musical chairs in which there's always a seat for everyone.

The shows exhibit a cheerful

anxiety, silly tomfoolery, and unique and shared concerns from around the world. Two different Australian comedians complained, to lesser or greater laughs, about the challenges females face breaking into the funny-business. One theorized that comedy was based on word tricks, and that audiences don't appreciate being tricked by a woman. A South Korean troupe performed a martial arts-soaked dance piece that seemed closer to anomie than live action, whose central premise was that only true love – and an excellent karate flip – can conquer evil, something they may want to take on the road to their northern neighbor. A fantastic South African choir ended their standing-ovation performance with a sublime rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah." The children of Apartheid singing a song written by an American Jew grasping to be closer to God.

Debbie did her best to get into the Fringe spirit. She attended all nine performances of *Alice and the Blackhole Blues*, here and in Scotland. If any of the actors had been incapacitated – felled, perhaps, by a starchy blockage caused by one too many portions of street food – she could've stepped in, having learned their lines by sheer, exhausting, repetition. In fact, it would've been perfectly in keeping with the Fringe if she'd mounted her own production, playing all dozen or so of the parts, perhaps staged in the women's room of the Edinburgh airport.

She adopted a persona – *Wizard of Oz* munchkin, with a dash of mentally-challenged elderly pensioner

thrown in – when accepting flyers and congratulating performers. "Thank you very much," she croak-warbled, to a busker pitching one of the many shows lampooning our President. "I love Trump, he's the best comedian ever!" A Norwegian comic who she enthusiastically congratulated on his absurdist performance – "Awesome, just awesome!" she squeaked, like a balloon fast losing air – eyed her with amused confusion.

At what we dubbed the "less than adequate café" – a type of restaurant we'd inevitably encountered in every country we've traveled to in the world: located adjacent to a small parking lot, serving mushy food piped in from a large vat bubbling deep underground – we compared notes on the "best of the best" and "worst of the worst," all of which were enjoyable to experience in different measure. Vying for most awful was a smug one-woman Scottish musical-monologue performed in a Berkeley Rep theater-like venue – audience members took their shoes off during the show – and a two-actor Australian theater piece about pirates marooned in the modern world. As they took their bows to tepid applause from a double-handful of audience members, the Australian actors' faces were even whiter than sun-starved Scots. They knew they'd bombed, but didn't understand exactly why – their down under mates thought they were hilarious! – a piece of humility that edged them out of first prize for worst of the worst by the self-satisfied soliloquist.

The best piece we saw was by

American Nilaja Sun, who created and performed a brilliant Anna Deavere Smith documentary theater-style multi-character play set in New York. By inhabiting a diverse set of characters – Puerto Ricans, a Holocaust survivor, an elderly Yemenite, an Iraqi War veteran – each with their own peculiarities, all deeply human, Sun summarized the Fringe in one 75-minute tornado of feelings and physicality.

At *Alice and the Blackhole Blues*, which tucked into historical sexism in science with gusto, the high schooler next to us, from Hawaii, gasped, laughed, and cheered through the final performance. That, too, was the essence of Fringe. People having a good, appreciative, time, expressing that energy back to those around them, especially the players. In today's world, full of dour worries and dark terrors, that's indeed fringy.

## SANCTUARY from page 6

news of the work spread by word of mouth, as did stories of the victims of violence, changing San Franciscans' attitudes towards refugees. During this time, Archbishop Oscar Romero of San Salvador, who had been voicing his opposition to the injustices inflicted upon the poor, was assassinated, along with four nuns.

Healy and Lodolo had heard countless other stories of murders and atrocities. They began pressuring

*SANCTUARY continues on page 16*

**REAL ESTATE from page 3**

The Hill is like “a village within the City,” she said, due to its small size and close-knit community, which makes it attractive to families.

A number of neighborhood real estate agents noted that ongoing growth, such as construction of the Golden State Warriors arena, as well as residential building at Pier 70, has prompted concerns among Hill residents that the communities’ peaceful aura is being disturbed. According to the agents, development is likely to increase demand in the area, putting continued upward pressure on housing costs, though the transition from suburban “village” to destination hotspot will take years, possibly decades.

*Sam Arneson is a junior at the Jewish Community High School of the Bay.*

**SANCTUARY from page 15**

former Mayors Dianne Feinstein and Art Agnos, as well as the Board of Supervisors, to pass a law to allow refugees to be granted asylum without being questioned by authorities about their immigration status. Reverend Peter Sammon, St. Teresa’s pastor at the time, was integral to organizing the faith-based coalition to push for an ordinance, which passed in 1989, declaring San Francisco a City of refuge.

A February 1995 *View* article stated, “St. Teresa’s Church reacted with anger to the government’s attack on the Central American sanctuary movement. The movement — 160 churches and religious groups across the U.S. — shelters political refugees from Central America who fear for their lives if forced to return to their native countries. The Reagan Administration in January 1985 arrested 16 sanctuary workers and 65 aliens across the country. St. Teresa’s spokespersons stressed that the church will continue to be committed to offering sanctuary.”

Sisters Healy and Lodolo along with Father Sammon, reportedly lobbied the San Francisco Police Department to stop unlawfully inquiring about residents’ immigration status after the ordinance passed.

The coalition invited refugees to tell their stories to small groups of people around the City, including parishioners at St. Teresa’s. A vote was held to designate the parish as a Sanctuary Church — meaning that police wouldn’t be provided any information pertaining to refugees — which passed by 88 percent. A minority of parishioners voted against the measure, fearing that the pastor would be targeted. Parish phones were believed to have been tapped by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Lodolo remembered that even parishioners who were against the Sanctuary Church

designation helped plan and attend a celebration held following the vote.

“We housed a mother with two children for six months in our convent,” said Lodolo. “Her husband had been dragged out of their home in El Salvador one night. The mother escaped with her children, and they were our first refugees. She and her husband both came from wealthy families and wanted to reach out and help the poor. That’s why he was kidnapped and killed.”

The Sisters believe the concept of sanctuary today differs from the 1980s and 1990s, in part because of unique social and political conditions. Healy doesn’t think that the sanctuary movement is as secretive as in the past, recalling last century marches where people obscured their faces with bandanas, while today some churches adorn their facades with blatant signage such as, “We Welcome Refugees.” St. Agnes Church in Haight Ashbury helps refugees secure safe living conditions and become legal residents. Recently, the Church held an informational session about refugee rights, expecting 30 attendees; roughly 300 people showed up.

Still, the Sisters are aware of immigrants living in San Francisco who are in constant fear of deportation. “If people are afraid to talk about getting deported, that’s not going to help,” Lodolo commented. “People are afraid

that they won’t see their children again. Today the issues for refugees seem broader to me. Some people don’t want Muslims in the country. If you look at the bloodshed from bombings in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, it’s brutal.”

The Sisters view their work within the Sanctuary movement as a blessing that allowed them to connect with the community and get a glimpse into the lives of people from many walks of life. They remember those prior decades as sad, difficult, times for those fleeing violence in Central America, many of whom had lost family members and were frightened for their own fates. “It was a chapter in my life that really meant a lot to me as I became educated about what was happening in El Salvador,” said Healy. “Both of us love the poor, and our community was formed on the basis of working with people who were put down. So, it was an opportunity to do that, and we met more loving people than we would have ever met anywhere.”

“I always say that I grew up here at Saint Teresa’s because I became very involved with people and their families; you see their hardships, all the anxieties and the hopes,” explained Lodolo. “Then, working with the refugees, their suffering was just unbelievable. So, it puts you in touch with people and their suffering, and you grow.”



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House being moved in at 19th & Vermont, 1949. Photo Courtesy of the Potrero Hill Archives Project

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# A Day in Dogpatch, Potrero Hill

## and ENVIRONS

BY BRETT YATES

**Parker Café**, at 1399 18th Street, opened only a couple months ago, but already feels like it was supposed to be in the community all along. Its unassumingly trendy, modestly upscale atmosphere matches that of neighboring eateries, with which it shares sufficient similarities to fit in, but not so many as to make itself redundant. It's bright and airy, like fellow brunch destination Plow, but serves French-inspired cuisine in place of Plow's San Francisco take on the classic American breakfast. Its Frenchness syncs up with Chez Maman on the opposite corner of Missouri Street, but the vibe is contemporary rather than traditional. While you may be more apt to end the night at Chez Maman, you're more likely to begin the day with a coffee or smoothie at Parker Cafe. Yet with a lunch and dinner menu of salads and open-faced sandwiches, plus a license to serve beer and wine, it's not so purely a coffeehouse as Farley's. I had the mushroom tartine, which was delicious but so garlicky that, when I walked home, my wife refused to talk to me even after I'd brushed my teeth.



Parker Cafe

from place to place to no apparent purpose, with a small army of workers and trucks swarmed around them. Someday, somehow, Steph Curry will be swishing three-pointers where this morass of raw materials now sits; so far, it's hard to imagine. The best view of the site is from the top floor of the Third Street parking garage that serves the Mission Bay campus of the University of California, San Francisco. The nine-story garage is used by UCSF employees, but is open to the public between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The structure's back side has a pedestrian entrance facing Gene Friend Way, which leads to a pair of elevators. The garage has security cameras, loitering probably isn't allowed, but I've ridden up to the top a few times just to get an overhead vantage point on the embryonic Chase Center. No one has appeared to mind my brief spectatorship. In fact, I've run into others doing the same thing. It's worth a brief, cautious, look if you're in the area. It's like a miniature, post-apocalyptic city down there.

For dinner, I visited **Alta MSP**, 1275 Minnesota Street, the restaurant that opened in May inside the Minnesota Street Project, a converted warehouse in Dogpatch that's become a contemporary art collective. Alta MSP is an offshoot of chef Daniel Patterson's successful California Cuisine operation on Market Street, Alta CA. The presence of a gourmet eatery within the Minnesota Street Project, an ambitious assemblage of respected San Francisco galleries in the Southside hinterlands, seeks to place it as an art institution on par with the City's major museums. It's disappointing that the restaurant isn't an original concept, but the Alta name links the Minnesota Street Project to the Downtown establishment from which its brave galleries departed as rents rose.



Alta MSP

Alta MSP serves lunch between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; dinner from 5 to 10 p.m. My wife had the stozzapreti, \$26; I ordered the squid ink porridge, \$28.

The fresh vegetarian pasta dish was surprisingly hearty. We both liked it better than the porridge, which had bright flavors, but lacked some of the creaminess I'd wanted. Hoping for an edgy take on shrimp and grits, I'd received a serving of rice drowned in a pool of black water, though to be fair, the plate was a lot more attractive and tastier than that description suggests.

Alta MSP is a no-tip restaurant – employees are paid a fair salary instead – which adds an element of curiosity. Service is warm and friendly, but has a slightly languid quality that I associate with European restaurants. My meal there owed more to my interest in the Minnesota Street Project itself than in the food. I was curious as to who was making the trek to 24th Street for dinner. Plenty were, in fact, and the restaurant – which feels intimate and, despite its location, not too coldly industrial in its interior – seems like a success.

Alta MSP has a dessert menu, but if you'd rather head somewhere else, the hottest new frozen novelty purveyor in Potrero Hill is **Milkbomb**, 1717 17th Street, which opened in June in the courtyard behind Philz Coffee near Jackson Playground, taking the place of an earlier ice cream parlor. Milkbomb serves normal ice cream in cones and cups, but its eponymous treat is a sliced doughnut sandwich, stuffed with ice cream and crunchy toppings, drizzled with syrup. First, you choose a doughnut, then an ice cream flavor – exotic options include Thai tea and Swiss orange chip – a topping, and a sauce.



Milk Bomb

Having never eaten an ice cream doughnut, I felt a little overwhelmed by the process, given that, at each step, there were so many choices; I later calculated that there were 5,880 possible combinations. I chose a glazed doughnut with blueberry ice cream, Fruity Pebbles, and strawberry syrup. I thought I'd be grossed out by the sweetness, but I wasn't. I wish Milkbomb – 1 to 8 p.m. on weekdays, 12:30 to 9 p.m. weekends – was open later. It'd be such a wonderfully bad decision to make after one too many drinks down the street at Thee Parkside, the Connecticut Yankee, or Bottom of the Hill.



Fiction Science Gallery

Through September 15, Dogpatch's **Fiction Science Gallery**, 2291 Third Street, is running an exhibition entitled *Robots!*, in which comic-inspired paintings and oddball sculptures employ a humorously carefree tone in an articulation of the growing human anxiety over our automated future. Fiction Science's two- and three-dimensional bots take their visual cues from Japanese animation, *Star Wars*, and the big, clunky, American-made appliances of the 1950s. They don't much resemble the sleek humanoids of *Ex Machina*. The exhibition – which shows blocky robots that play guitar, flip through newspapers, fall in love, gaze up at the stars, and nod off while reading novels – theorizes that machines, when they finally gain consciousness,

will be just like the people who made them: bumbling, clumsy, and confused, to such a degree that, with all our jobs gone, the constant need to reboot, reorient, and repair our robots will keep us as busy as we ever were.

FicSci occupies an interconnected space adjacent to the Dogpatch Cafe that'd housed an art gallery. Late last year, however, the gallery was reconceptualized as Fiction Science, which bills itself as “an exhibition and convening space for the Digital Art, Fiction, Gaming, and Creative Code Communities.” The project seeks to make a home for the tech landscape's artistic side, where San Franciscans can use various media to interpret a future that's rapidly closing in on us and the geek-dominant culture that looks to come with it.

Lately, I've been transfixed by the **Chase Center** construction site on Third Street, between 16th and South streets. Neighborhood folks protested and petitioned against the project – larger organizations filed lawsuits – but now, for better or worse, it's happening. I've never lived so close to such an enormous urban undertaking, and plan to follow the building process pretty closely. Watching the massive structure slowly materialize may be interesting enough to offset the annoyance of the construction noise that daily permeates the nearby apartment into which I recently moved.



Chase Center

Presently, ten cranes tower over an 11-acre mud pit, moving metal columns

CATS from page 7

McCain has names for them all: Dalmatian, Poncho, Radish, Jean-Paul.

Over time, the homeless cat population on the Hill, and elsewhere in San Francisco, declined dramatically. McCain speculates that new construction has driven the Hill's cats away from some of the open spaces where they used to gather, but primarily credits the attrition to the trap-neuter-return program, which "has been a huge success. The SPCA doesn't have nearly as many kittens and cats brought in every year," McCain said. "And that's the whole purpose of it: no more homeless cats."

McCain continues to maintain two colonies on the Hill, with the help of a friendly Sierra Heights resident, but they receive fewer cats now than ever. McCain visits one of them four days a week, the other twice weekly. Her Missouri Street colony has two habitués that make daily appearances. However, the other, in Potrero Annex Terrace,

barely sees any activity these days. McCain still enjoys the daily chore.

"Actually, that's my nice time of the day," she said. "I love going up. I put their food down; I sit with them, wait until they've eaten, play with Dalmatian for a while, watch the building going on." She always serves the cat food in the morning, rather than in the evening, so as not to attract the skunks and racoons that roam the Hill at night.

Since retiring from nursing in 2008, McCain has volunteered four days a week at the SPCA. One of her duties is to care for cats suffering from ringworm, which can require three or four months of treatment. McCain and her ringworm team ensure that each of the cats gets visited daily. She also responds to calls to the SPCA for help from pet owners whose cats have given birth to litters too large for them to care for. McCain serves as a community liaison, persuading cat owners to allow the SPCA to fix their cats in exchange for assistance with the new kittens,

for which the SPCA will subsequently try to find homes. And McCain still fosters stray kittens, though she mostly gets them from San Francisco Animal Care and Control, rather than finding them herself. She then tries her best to arrange adoptions through friends or social media.

"I didn't start out saying, 'I'm going to do this.' It all sort of evolved," McCain remarked.

Although primarily a cat lover, and an owner of four, McCain also gives afternoon walks to two dogs owned by busy friends who live nearby. Like her work with the cats, this activity gives her cause to get out into the neighborhood and enjoy its sights and people, as she strolls past the now fully grown trees she planted years ago,

with Friends of the Urban Forest, on Missouri Street; up to the Recreation Center; and over to McKinley Square on Vermont Street before looping back.

British by birth, McCain moved to San Francisco from Portland, Oregon, a couple years after her American husband passed away. "I knew I could not live in the Avenues, in that fog. Growing up in England, I hate the cold, wind, fog, rain. That's one of the reasons I ended up in Potrero Hill," she said. "I do this walk probably every day, one way or another, around here, and I never get sick of it. Never. I love it. And now, walking the dogs and whatnot, I get to know people. For years, I'd just see them, but now they stop and chat. Nice people on the Hill."



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**STATION 37 from page 10**

pressing the importance of fire safety on the students and “getting them familiar with what we do.”

On average, Station 37 responds to three to six calls in a 24-hour period. When a request comes in the firefighters are expected to gather their equipment – about 100 pounds per person – and load the truck within one minute. The fire engine, built in 1999, holds 500 gallons of water and

weighs 34,000 pounds; however, it’s able to navigate the Hill’s steepest streets. It can be a delicate operation, but Station 37 is nevertheless supposed to arrive at the scene of any emergency in under 10 minutes.

About 70 percent of the calls received by the station, in Tingin’s estimation, are medical issues. The San Francisco Fire Department addresses “car accidents, gas leaks, water leaks, fire calls, medical calls, hazards, wires down in the street, gas leaking out of a

car, anything you can think of. We’re an all-risk agency,” he said. Station 37 covers Potrero Hill, Dogpatch, and Mission Bay alongside Station 29 – located at 299 Vermont Street – Station 9 – 2245 Jerrold Avenue – and Station 4, 449 Mission Rock Street. San Francisco has roughly one fire station per square mile. The Wisconsin Street firehouse is one of the smallest; larger ones may keep as many as 15 firefighters in the house at a time.

Recently, Station 37 located a woman giving birth in a tent beside Highway 101 and transported her to Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Carrying a gurney along dirt paths, the firefighters “had to walk quite a ways to get to that call,” said Tingin.

In 2015, the *View* reported on a series of fires that were cropping up from homeless encampments between San Bruno Avenue and 101, on a strip of land owned by the California Department of Transportation. Tingin said that these haven’t been a problem lately. Often, when calls come in about alleged fires within the camps on and around the Hill firefighters encounter only the smoke of a jerry-rigged barbecue at mealtime. In Tingin’s view, the sidewalk tents on 17th Street, near Vermont, pose a greater fire risk because of their proximity to parked cars. The

tents, he warned, tend to be extremely flammable, burning hot and fast. The last time he’d dealt with a tent fire it’d destroyed two adjacent cars by the time the response team arrived.

The largest fire Tingin recalled was a five-alarm blaze that consumed a building site on Fourth Street in Mission Bay in 2014, requiring upwards of 150 firefighters to contain, two of whom were injured in the effort. He described the scene as “an entire city block that was open construction, basically just a matchstick box of two-by-fours, wide open and burning freely.”

Tingin, who grew up in South San Francisco before moving to the City at age 15, joined SFFD in 1995 after a stint at UPS. He got the idea to take the entrance exam from his mother, a hand therapist who had treated Fire Department patients. “Honestly, it wasn’t even on my radar. Now, 22 years later, I’ve been doing this, and I teach academy classes, and I’m a lieutenant up here,” he said. “I love it. It’s a great job.”

He lives in Brisbane, a 12-minute commute from the Hill. A San Francisco residency requirement, still in effect when Tingin joined the Department, has since been waived. “We have people from all over now.”



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**OBITUARY****Marie Aliena Goldman**

March 29, 2011 - July 22, 2017

Marie Aliena Goldman passed away on July 22, 2017, unable to overcome the injuries she sustained in an accident in Sonoma, California. She was six years old.

Marie was a daughter, sister, granddaughter, caring friend, artist, lover of food, fashionista, generous soul, flamenco dancer, Italian speaker, engaged and enthusiastic student. While she tolerated princesses, Marie preferred cartwheels, dance parties, and tickle fights. She balanced compassion and sarcasm beautifully.

The daughter of the late William Sachs Goldman and Serra Falk Goldman, Marie loved living in San Francisco and exploring the world with her older brother, George. A San Francisco Giants fan, she attended her first game, Opening Day, at ten days old. Together, George and Marie conquered the hills of Potrero Hill, blew glass in Venice, explored the MOMA, and climbed a volcano in Nicaragua. Marie also loved a good protest, whether of her parents or for equality on the streets of her home city. She constantly pushed herself to learn or try something new. In so doing, she encouraged those around her to challenge themselves. She had the drive, infectious enthusiasm and ambition to change the world.

Having arrived before her due date, Marie joined her mother in the courtroom at two weeks old. She won her first case, but she dreamed of being an artist or doctor, or possibly both. Her passion for learning about and creating art filled her family's home. While she loved Keith Haring, she drew inspiration from Jackson Pollock for her own work. She thought that by being both an artist and a doctor she could make people think and save them, too.

In her room, she hung a poster that reads "Life is an Adventure," and it was for her. She was fearless. She confronted daily challenges in a way that far belied her age, leaving a lasting impression on her peers, and on the adults in her life. As her brother says, "She lived a wonderful life. Just too short."

Marie is survived by her mother, Serra Falk Goldman and her brother, George Richard Goldman. She is also survived by her grandmother, Susan Sachs Goldman, and nonni, Harry Wilson Falk III and Mary Serra Falk; many aunts and uncles and cousins. And she's survived by her fellow flamenco dancers, her soccer team, her beloved school community and her friends.

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The commission meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 5:15pm in room 416 of City Hall. Their standing issue-based committees meet regularly in the Youth Commission office, City Hall Room 345.

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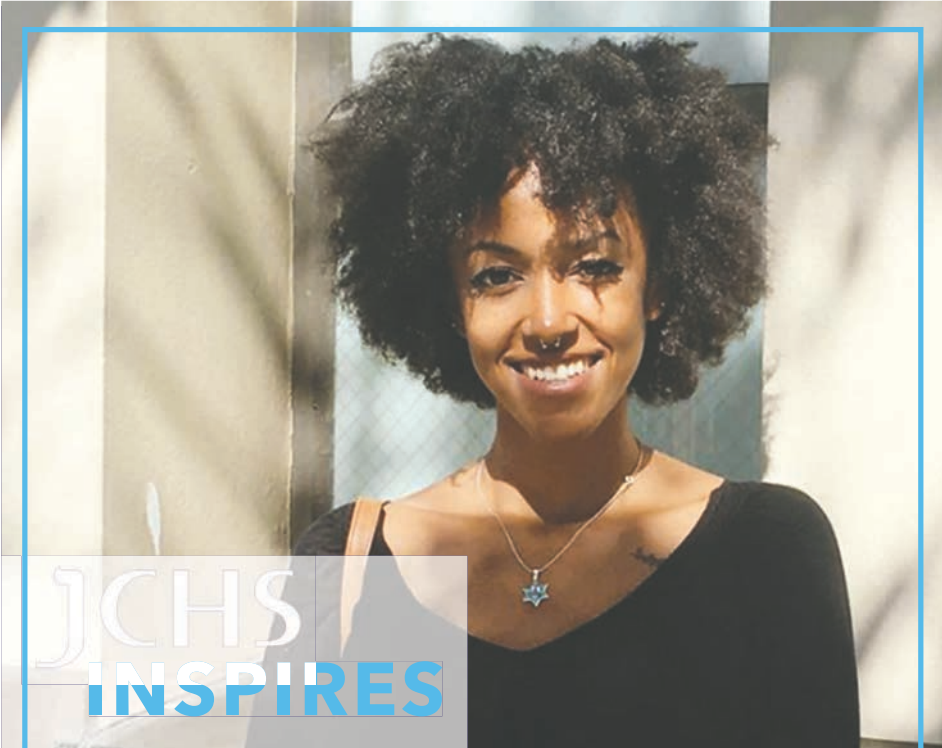
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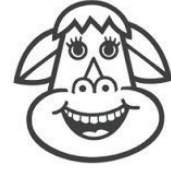
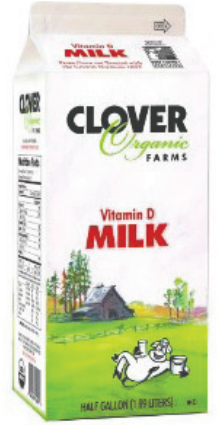
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