



Man Creates Bloody Mess on Potrero Hill



Police and paramedics attend to the suspect, whose hands can be seen behind the light post. PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II

BY THOMAS HUNTER II

On Thursday, December 18, at around 2 p.m., a woman parked her sports utility vehicle on Connecticut Street, just south of 17th Street, to take laundry out of the trunk. Her baby daughter was in the back seat. According to her stepson, a man abruptly entered the driver's side of the SUV, smearing blood on a window in the process. The woman was able to scare the intruder off; she and her daughter were physically unharmed.

The man also penetrated a silver sedan

parked on Connecticut Street just north of 17th Street. Blood was spattered on the sedan door; the trunk was open with papers strewn over the back. On the ground nearby was a coat, broken pottery, and more blood. On the car's back seat there appeared to be a name and some words written in blood.

Four San Francisco Police Department squad cars along with a San Francisco Fire Department ambulance scrambled to the scene, watched by a small crowd of Potrero Hill residents and Connecticut Yankee patrons. Police officers apprehended the suspect, put him in handcuffs and sat

him on the curb. An SFFD medic evaluated his physical health. Witnesses from nearby businesses as well as the stepson of the SUV driver shared details with constabularies. The suspect was ultimately taken away in the back of a squad car.

The incident coincidentally unfolded while two SFFD fire engines were parked a block north, at the corner of Connecticut and 16th streets, where firefighters

were investigating a report of a fire on the fifth floor of the Potrero 1010 Apartments.



What appears to be bloody writing on the back seat of a sedan. PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II

Aerial ladders had extended to the complex's rooftop. [D]

Work to Begin on 22nd Street Staircase

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

Lanier Construction will begin building a long-planned-for 22nd Street staircase this month, replacing a steep dirt trail on a hillside between Missouri and Connecticut streets, north of Potrero Hill Recreation Center, with a set of steps.

The project, expected to take four months to complete, will extend from a mid-block retaining wall adjacent to a Potrero Annex residence on Connecticut Street and run parallel to Missouri Street. The area under construction has been enclosed by rented metal fencing. Impacted ground will be watered daily during the initial grading phase, to keep down dust, with notices posted on the fencing about the work underway.

Installation of the staircase is the result of years of planning, fundraising, and community engagement by Friends of Potrero Hill Recreation Center (FOPHRC). The project – including planning, blueprints, insurance,

and permit fees – is expected to cost roughly \$560,000, of which \$400,000 will be dedicated to construction. The University of California, San Francisco contributed \$500,000, with remaining funds donated by Dogpatch and Potrero Hill residents.

FOPHRC recently received an additional \$16,008.31 from Third Plateau, a San Francisco-based social impact and philanthropy entity, to help pay for landscaping and possible unexpected construction issues.

Last year, FOPHRC, along with other neighborhood park improvement groups, lost funds because of improprieties by its now-closed former fiscal sponsor, the San Francisco Parks Alliance. The Dogpatch and NW Potrero Hill Green Benefit District now serves as FOPHRC's fiscal sponsor.

"We feel blessed that donors stepped up to help all the groups recoup some of their losses," said Jennifer Serwer, FOPHRC president. [D]

Props 2C: "Your Imagination is What We Carry in Stock"

BY TAMALA MOTTA

Tony Rivera, owner and operator of Props 2C, has been in the custom art business, creating larger than life props for special events, for almost three decades.

"Your imagination is what we carry in stock", said Rivera. "We have some really cool interesting requests. The space shuttle was requested. A galaxy was also requested. This is something easy for me to do because I like optical illusion, I like 3D, I like hologram, augmented reality. These can happen. I can literally make my props move."

Props 2C, originally located South-of-Market, has been in Dogpatch for more than 18 years, initially on Tennessee Street, then landing on Marin Street between Illinois and Third. Walking into the company's warehouse is like stepping into a world of wonderment. Giant props depict all the elements needed to create Alice's wonderland or an underwater fantasy. There are large



Ganesha sitting atop the entrance to the Macy's in Union Square in 2007; the project was Rivera's first public job outside of raves and clubs. PHOTO: Props2C

singular pieces, such as a life-size extraterrestrial modeled after the movie *Alien*, a huge Joker head inspired by the film *Dark Knights*, a large figurine resembling the robotic doll Young-hee from the Netflix series *Squid Games*, and a giant black and white striped snakelike creature from the movie *Beetlejuice*.

Rivera likes to work with designers to create knockout effects at themed parties.

"The wow factor is just like an x mark," said Rivera. "Like you have five wow factors that you know is coming from us. So, one wow factor would be the entrance, and another wow factor would be the welcoming hallway to the guests, and then tables, and then the stage, and then the main room."

Other works by Rivera include a

several story high Ganesha which sat atop the entrance to Macy's; and a 3D floor imitating the moon's surface created in just two days for Samsung.

The process relies on extremely lightweight foam as the main medium, coated with materials such as polyurethane, enabling Rivera to create oversized modular pieces that're easily transportable. He works with architects to create permanent models using limestone on the foam's exterior for indoor and outdoor architecture and statues.

Rivera grew up in Mountain View, with parents who worked in the tech industry. He often attended parties that had magnificently creative themes, inspiring him

PUBLISHER'S VIEW

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

Politics

This year marks the American Revolution's 250th anniversary. As Ken Burn's twelve-hour *The American Revolution* documentary points out, while the rebellion was an act of national creation, it didn't unfold with one voice. Different factions maneuvered for primacy: loyalists to the British Empire; those who wanted to create a new representative government; advocates to end Black enslavement, and to empower women; capitalists hungrily eying "unclaimed" western lands; Native Tribes who wished that the whole colonial enterprise would pack up and return to England.

The words remembered by history reach for a higher sense of purpose: truths that are self-evident; the equality of men. But while the baby nation may have uttered a cry heard around the world, it was bruised by the grasps of multiple, mostly unrequited, hands. There were winners and losers.

Throughout its post-Revolution saga, American politics has periodically experienced extremely contentious times. Before now, the most recent one was fifty years ago, during the Vietnam War and

Watergate, events, and the responses to them, which tore at the nation's soul, or at least its cultural fabric. Like our painful present, politics became both verbally and physically combative, with confrontations between armed forces and civilians. People shook their heads sadly at rampant incivility, though then it was the old who thought the young rude; now it's largely the opposite.

This 250th anniversary year could be marked by smaller revolutions, with local, state and federal elections that have the potential to shift political directions. In San Francisco, District 10 will elect a new Supervisor for the first time in eight years. The 11th Congressional district, a seat held by Nancy Pelosi for 36 years, is open to a newcomer. Gavin Newsom, introduced to San Franciscans when he was appointed as supervisor 20 years ago, will be replaced as Governor.

Supervisors have limited power, and are often mostly atmospheric, cutting ribbons at new childcare centers and complaining to City Hall about the latest lack

PUBLISHER'S VIEW continues on page 10

Short Cuts

General Hospital Murder

On December 4, 2025, at approximately 3:04 p.m., **San Francisco Police Department** officers responded to Zuckerberg **San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center** regarding an assault. Officers were told that at about 1:39 p.m., an adult male stabbed **Alberto Rangel**, 51, a **University of California, San Francisco** social worker, multiple times and was being detained by the **San Francisco Sheriff's Department**. Rangel died from his wounds on December 6. Investigators arrested 34-year-old **Wilfredo Tortolero-Arriechi** of San Francisco, who was booked into San Francisco County Jail for murder. Tortolero-Arriechi allegedly made threats

on the day of the attack against a doctor at HIV clinic Ward 86. A sheriff's deputy was deployed to protect the physician. An eyewitness to the attack said that the deputy wasn't within eyeshot of Tortolero-Arriechi when he attacked Rangel in a hallway.

More Psych Beds

San Francisco is doubling its locked psychiatric ward capacity for patients experiencing severe mental illness and addiction. The move is part of a host of expansions to **Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital's** mental health care facilities, located on Potrero Avenue,

SHORT CUTS continues on page 10



CURRENT
CONSTRUCTION

General Contractors
Quality Guaranteed



415.969.6915 | Info@CurrentCon.com | www.CurrentCon.com



CCA
EXTENSION

Register now for adult courses
in art and design.

Join our creative community!



California College
of the Arts

Youth Programs &
Continuing Education

SAVE YOUR VIEW

Democracy depends on a free press.

www.potreroview.net/product/subscribe

or complete the form below

YES! I love the *View* and would be delighted to support it by being a subscriber.

- ☐ \$68 Subscription
- ☐ \$132 Subscription-Benefactor
- ☐ Other contribution amount \$

Please send my one-year subscription to:

FULL NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

- ☐ Enclosed is my check. Please send, along with this form, to:
The Potrero View, 1459 18th St., #214, San Francisco, CA 94107
- ☐ I am sending my payment via PayPal to **office@potreroview.net**

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to:
SF Community Power, 296 Liberty Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

THE POTRERO VIEW

Serving Potrero Hill, Dogpatch, Mission Bay and SOMA • Since 1970

PUBLISHER Steven J. Moss

ACCOUNTING MANAGER Catie Magee

MARKETING MANAGER Richard Romero

PRODUCTION MANAGER Helena Chiu

THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS Finn Banbury, Thomas Hunter II, Steven J. Moss, Tamala Motta, Lucie Tran, Dena R. Verkuil, Howard Isaac Williams, Jessica Zimmer

Editorial and policy decisions are made by the staff. Published monthly.

Address all correspondence to: THE POTRERO VIEW, 1459 18th Street, Number 214, San Francisco, CA 94107 • 415.595.0120

E-mail: editor@potreroview.net • production@potreroview.net (for advertising)

THE VIEW IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED NEWSPRINT WITH SOY-BASED INK.

Copyright 2026 by The Potrero View. All rights reserved. Any reproduction without written permission from the publishers is prohibited.



Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Thank you for “Critics Unhappy with Short Term Rentals at Project Artaud,” in the March 2025 *View*. Unfortunately, the article had several significant omissions.

As a nonprofit, Project Artaud “members” aren’t supposed to profit from the building. This is stipulated in lease agreements and the original founding documents from 1971.

Project Artaud’s former Board of Directors president and his partner have a commercial live/workspace on the first floor, and a residential live/workspace on the third floor. The former board president drafted a lease for the commercial space in 2011 which states that he’s both a Project Artaud “member and nonmember.” As a “nonmember” he’s able to earn income from the commercial space, often advertised on Airbnb at \$3,500 a month. The former board president has had more than 516 guests stay in his first floor Airbnb since 2013.

He was board president from 2019 to 2023. His partner was also on the board during that time. In 2021, he was president when his ten-year lease was up for renewal. There’s no accessible record of a discussion or vote about the renewal, which is now “automatically renewing”, according to Board Treasurer John Sullivan.

While on the Board, the former president persistently advocated for increasing executive board members’ honorarium. Payments to the four renumerated board members are now 50 percent higher than in 2019.

Many of my friends have had to leave San Francisco over the last 25 years. Until I moved into Artaud, I didn’t have long term housing security, lived in apartments with multiple roommates, and possible displacement was a low level, persistent stressor.

Project Artaud housing needs to be made available to the City’s active, creative, diverse, and/or younger populations. There must be a transparent and consistent process for membership. Right now, every wing of Project Artaud has their own, often secret, interview and selection process.

There’s been a longstanding commitment to racial and cultural homogeneity for prospective Project Artaud members. The comfort of current residents and the “familiarity” of potential applicants is often prioritized over accomplishment, or how potential members can contribute to the building’s community.

To have a living and/or workspace in Project Artaud is a privilege. The spaces shouldn’t be used for profit or personal gain. Landlords and/or homeowners who live here should pay more. Inactive artists shouldn’t be allowed to keep spaces empty for decades.

Mansur Nurullah
Project Artaud member

HANDY NUMBERS

District 10 Supervisor	415.554.7670
Shamann Walton	waltonstaff@sfgov.org
Recology	415.330.1300
San Francisco Animal Care and Control	415.554.6364
San Francisco Fire Department (non-emergency)	415.558.3200
San Francisco Police Department	671-2300; tip line, 415.822.8147
	SFPDBayviewStation@sfgov.org
SFHOT/Homeless Outreach Team	311 or 415.734.4233
State Senator Scott Wiener	415.557.1300

Take a PHOTO of this ad for a DISCOUNT



2344 3rd st.,
Dogpatch



GETTING INVOLVED



The Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association | potrerodogpatch.com

Wishing you all good health, happiness and prosperity in 2026. Our **next meeting** will be February 10, 9:45 to 11 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza.

Dogpatch Art & Business Association (DABA) | dabasf.org

DABA hosts regular events and meetings, providing valuable resources and strong neighborhood connections

Business owners, artists, art institutions, and community members are invited to get involved! Here are a few ideas:

Join DABA (dabasf.org) and become an annual supporting member

Join our leadership team to help drive impact in the community

Sign up for our newsletter to find out about member meetings, opportunities, and local news

Follow us on Instagram @destinationdogpatch to learn more about Dogpatch businesses, events, and activities

Explore Dogpatch through a curated wayfinding map of local businesses, available online at <https://linktr.ee/exploredogpatch>

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association (DNA) | dogpatchna.org

We nurture civic participation & community building while fostering the unique character of Dogpatch. Our meetings are open to all, but membership is the life-blood of the organization. You do not have to live within the Dogpatch boundaries to be a member or come to meetings, you just need to care about what happens in Dogpatch. **Monthly Meetings** are held the second Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. at The Dogpatch Hub.

Come to our **January 13th** monthly meeting where we’ll focus on public spaces in and around Dogpatch, including presentations from Jude Deckenbach, ED of Friends of Jackson Park; Donovan Lacy, ED of the Dogpatch and NW Potrero Green Benefit District; and others. And don’t forget about our **Community Meet ‘n Clean** on January 11th at Woods Yard Park from 12 to 1:30 p.m.

JOIN DNA TODAY!

Friends of Jackson Park (FoJP) | friendsofjacksonpark.org

Happy New Year from FoJP!

If one of your new year’s resolutions is to volunteer, meet new friends and get involved with your neighborhood, look no farther than joining Friends of Jackson Park.

Got big ideas? Love planning parties? Want to help bring the fun to life? Join our crew! Email us at info@friendsofjacksonpark.org — we’d love to have you.

Let’s build the park our neighborhood deserves.

Donate today at <https://www.friendsofjacksonpark.org/donate>

Green Benefit District | GreenBenefit.org

Happy New Year from the Dogpatch and NW Potrero Hill Green Benefit District! Start off your 2026 by getting involved with the GBD.

Our Monthly Board Meeting is on Wednesday, January 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Dogpatch Hub (1278 Minnesota St.), where we discuss all the great things we are doing in the neighborhood.

Help make the Green Benefit District greener. Our next GBD volunteer event is at the Vermont Greenway & Eco-Patch on Saturday, January 17, at 10:00 am. Sign up for a GBD volunteer event at greenbenefit.org/volunteer or report an issue at greenbenefit.org/report-a-problem.

The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association | potreroboosters.org

The The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association informs, empowers and represents the residents of the Potrero District on issues impacting our community in order to develop and maintain complete, vibrant neighborhoods. Our monthly meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month in person at either the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House or the Dogpatch Hub, and we continue to offer a Zoom option for those who cannot attend in person. All community members are welcome!

Starr King Open Space | StarrKingOpenSpace.org

Join our **monthly volunteer days** on the second Saturday of the month. This month it is January 10th at 10 a.m. **Donate** to help keep Starr King Open Space open, accessible, and well-maintained for our neighborhood.

For a \$225 annual fee your organization can be listed in *Getting Involved*.
Contact production@potreroview.net

FICTION: Girth Worms

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

This is the second of a three-part series, the first of which appeared in the December issue (tinyurl.com/yscuv2d9).

Where I Got the Worms

I got the worms from my sister; the one with the baby-wet-her-pants doll. That is to say, she made getting the worms possible. My sister gave me enough frequent flyer miles to go just about anywhere in the world. I don't know why; it wasn't my birthday or anything. It was late one morning, and after my fourth or fifth call to her at work that day – I wanted to know where I could get some empty shoe boxes to store my bottle cap collection – she just gave the miles up.

I said, "Whaddayamean, you're giving me 180,000 miles? Why for?"

She sighed, like she had a headache, which she often complained about.

"I just thought it might be good for you to take a trip, Phil, that's all. You know, get out of town. It's not as if you have that much going here."

I could tell that any minute she was going to say something about all the money mom and dad had spent sending me to college, without me even getting a degree.

"Whaddayamean, not that much going? I *told* you, I'm trying to get my bottle cap collection sorted out so I can sell it on eBay – it's worth a mint, you know – and I'm working with my pal Fred on starting one of those 'write your name on a grain of rice' franchises. We're thinking, if it works for rice, why not green beans, or radishes..."

"You want to start 'a write your name on a green bean' franchise?" my sister asked, as if it was another one of my stupid ideas.

She never let me forget about the money she loaned me for my failed Jello-shot business, that had a free toy in every shot.

"Listen, I don't want to hear about your vegetable naming plans. I'm going to call the airline and transfer the miles to you. Figure out something to do with it, okay, Phil? And don't go selling the miles to someone, or giving them to Fred, or trading them for more bottle caps."

"Okay, okay, I'll take 'em. Thanks, Sis."

"You're welcome," she said, and hung up.

I thought, 'cool, free miles.' Maybe Fred and I could go to Reno together. But that was stupid; I lived in San Francisco, and we could take a bus to Reno. Then I thought about those miniature liquor bottles you get on long airplane trips, and how well they would go with my bottle cap collection. I called the airline and asked them to book me on the next available flight as far away as my sister's miles would take me.

The gal on the other side said, "Anywhere?" and I replied, "anywhere." She said "*anywhere?*" Long story short, I ended up flying to New Delhi, India.

This guy on the plane – he gave me his empty liquor bottles before switching to another seat – told me about this place where they throw corpses into the river a few hours' bus ride from Delhi. I've seen lots of road kill in my day, but never actual dead bodies, so I decided to go there. After a long, noisy, smelly and crowded ride in a poorly ventilated bus, I found the cheapest hotel available. I was assigned a room with bars on its window, a cement floor, and a hole in the ground that served as a toilet. Actually, it was kind of creepy, and I didn't get much sleep on account of all the snoring and hocking sounds in the rooms next door. Still, I only had a few hundred

GIRTH WORMS continues on page 10

Muttville Founder Sherri Franklin Retires

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

This month, Sherri Franklin, who founded Muttville in 2007, will mark her 70th birthday by retiring as Chief Executive Office of the nonprofit. Chief Operating Officer Laurie Routhier will become the new CEO.

"I've learned so much from starting and growing Muttville. Now I am mentoring other animal organizations on the ins and outs of running a successful organization, spreading the gospel and magic of Muttville everywhere!" said Franklin.

Muttville, located on Florida Street, has helped more than 13,500 dogs aged seven or older find homes. With its own veterinary clinic, the organization provides necessary medical care before a pet is adopted.


"It's been a wonderful thing, to see people share their compassion, kindness, time, and energy with older dogs," said Franklin.

During Franklin's tenure, Muttville greatly expanded its staff, budget – now more than \$8 million a year – donor and volunteer base and the number of dogs it accepts for placement.

According to Franklin, Routhier is the perfect person to become CEO, partly because of Routhier's 12 years of service as Muttville's COO.

"On top of that, I've known Laurie for 25 years. We served together for six years, from 1999 to 2006, on the Animal Control and Welfare Commission for the City. Laurie is highly motivated to make Muttville even bigger and better than it is now," said Franklin.

Routhier served on the Animal Control and Welfare Commission from 2002 to 2010. She worked at the San Francisco Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals from 1999 to 2014.

"I am very excited to become Muttville's new CEO. Going forward, we plan to save more dogs here in Muttville and (share) what works so more lives can be saved elsewhere. At the same time, we are going to expand our education and community programs because lasting change depends on engaged people," said Routhier. "When you tap into everything your community has to offer, you can accomplish so much." 

Miner's Lettuce



Miner's Lettuce. PHOTO: Pixabay

BY HOWARD ISAAC WILLIAMS

With winter's arrival, even in San Francisco's mildly cool weather many plants turn dormant or die. But some species survive and a few even begin life near the end of the year.

One such plant is miner's lettuce, which is found throughout the City, including in Potrero Hill's parks, vacant lots and back yards.

Miner's lettuce, *Claytonia perfoliate* – also known as winter purslane, spring beauty and Indian lettuce – is native to western North America, with a range that spans from southeast Alaska to Central America. The stems, flowers and leaves are edible. It got its name during the California Gold Rush when 49ers ate it during winter to ward off starvation. With its high amounts of Vitamin A, C, and iron, it helped them avoid scurvy and stay healthy.

Miner's lettuce is shade tolerant and grows well with other plants. It's an annual; each specimen lives only for one season. It grows from November to June, then leaves its seeds to lay dormant in the soil until late autumn. In some years a crop of miner's lettuce may survive throughout summer and fall into the next winter.

Miner's lettuce is distinguished by circle-shaped green leaves with tiny white flowers. The plant starts as a thin stem looking much like a blade of grass. It forms a leaf a few inches above ground that

grows to encircle the stem. The stem then rises above the circular leaf to produce a miniature white flower. Each plant grows about 12 to 30 stems with flowers. On rare occasions, instead of producing the flower a stem will grow another circular leaf a few inches above the lower one, then the flower rises above the upper leaf.

All the stems branch off from the root either at or just above ground level. The plant is delicate, yet even when its stems protrude above ground level, it maintains its balance and produces stems and flowers. The root is more wiry than woody and holds onto the soil in what might be called a life grip with the strength of a death grip. It can grow in such a tiny bit of soil that it's almost an air plant (epiphyte).

When a plant reaches about six months old, roughly 86 in miner's lettuce years, it starts to die. Its leaves fade and turn dead grass yellow. The leaves of a few specimens become purple. The little white flowers on some dying plants change to baby blue.

Explorers and botanists have successfully transplanted miner's lettuce to Ohio, Georgia and other eastern states and overseas to Cuba, England and Australia, where the species can grow wild or cultivated. Unlike many other invasive species, miner's lettuce is rarely a pest and develops well with other plants just as it does in its native areas.

Reprinted from Cognition, 2021. 

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**We're feeling really good
about 2026! Come to the
shop and share your
resolutions...drink more
coffee perhaps?**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK: 7:00am - 6:00pm

**FARLEY'S
EST. 1989**

Creating a New ‘View’ for the Neighborhood

BY FINN BANBURY AND LUCIE TRAN

Recently, we noticed something we previously wouldn’t have paid attention to: a young woman standing near the 16th Street Boba Guys order counter quietly flipping through *The Potrero View*. Watching her read the paper on an ordinary afternoon made the work we did as California College of the Arts (CCA) students this last semester feel tangible. After extensive research, countless InDesign drafts, and many late nights, the issue we helped design appeared to have attracted a new reader to the *View*, which in turn connected them to the wider community.

Our redesign of *The Potrero View* was never about dramatic transformation but about building upon a strong foundation. The *View* has a long history, and as young students who have only lived in the neighborhood for three years, we felt unsure as to whether we could understand the paper’s essential meaning to its readers, let alone redesign it. We reviewed previous issues, online articles about the paper’s history, its website, and Instagram account, but didn’t really know where to begin our restyling.

Catie Magee, the *View*’s accounting manager, reframed the project for us. The *View* isn’t simply a publication. It strengthens connections within the neighborhood. Unlike the speculative publications we’d designed in previous classes, this work was *real*: the paper, its audience, and its community values. Then the publisher, Steven Moss, posed an unsettling but straightforward question: *What’s the point of having a print newspaper in this day and age?*

We began to reimagine *The Potrero View* not just as a newspaper, but as an entire ecosystem, with the potential for a more expansive digital presence, physical extensions, and moments of interaction beyond the page. One idea stood out: a neighborhood mascot that could carry the paper’s brand across platforms.

For the paper itself, we created bold, visually striking front pages, but none really *functioned* for a newspaper. We produced three possibilities and introduced “Po,” a *View* mascot that could extend the paper beyond the page. Moss’s response was clear; each direction altered the paper too radically. In trying to make it new, we risked losing what longtime readers relied on: clarity, familiarity, and trust. Po, however, was attractive because it contrasted with the paper’s seriousness while embracing the neighborhood’s quirkiness, locality, and warmth.

Our professor, Eric Heiman, encouraged us to look closely at what already existed: the masthead, sturdy typography anchoring each page, index bar that guides readers through the paper. Don’t

start from scratch. Surgically retool what’s already there. Focus on making *useful* changes, not just new ones.

We began with the masthead, cleaning up small details that connected the letterforms to reflect the *View*’s communal role. We collaborated with local illustrator, Chloe DeBruynkops, to redraw the image behind the typography, preserving its original character while updating its colors and forms to feel more current. We selected new typefaces to improve readability and a more expansive grid to increase design flexibility. We also introduced a “dingbat” font – created by local type designer Bob Aufuldish – to add personality and guide readers from page to page.

Then we had to apply this system to an actual issue. Content was constantly in flux: copy was edited, headlines changed, images arrived. We had to respond to every update while still refining the overall design system. But the issue quickly took shape; we sent the final files to the printer just before Thanksgiving.

On a Saturday afternoon, a week or so later, a friend sent us a photograph of a freshly printed December issue they picked up in the neighborhood. Seeing the paper out in the world, something to be held, read, and distributed in boxes and at stores... it felt like a release! The work had left our screens and entered the hands of the people for whom it was intended.

We used our remaining time to give our mascot, Po, a backstory, personality traits, and a consistent visual language that could respond to its different contexts. We prototyped a newspaper box designed to sit on the shelves at Farley’s Coffee, and designed Po stickers for anyone who picked up a copy of the *View*. (Coming soon!)

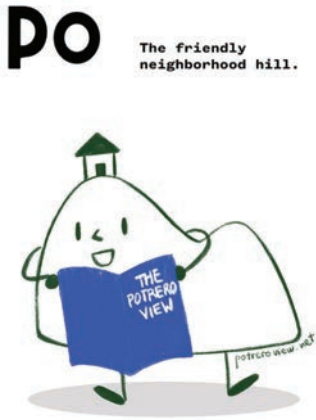
We began this project thinking we were redesigning a newspaper. What we found instead was a larger world beyond the printed page; characters, physical touchpoints, and small moments of interaction woven into the neighborhood. The December issue, Po the mascot, and the gestures that accompany them are not final statements, but opening notes. They set a tone, introduce possibilities, and invite continuation.

The *View* has always been shaped by the people who read it, write for it, and carry it through Potrero Hill. Our hope is that the work adds a few new lines to this ongoing composition of *The Potrero View*, one that will continue to unfold.

TBD is a CCA course that pairs undergraduate Communication Design students with local organizations to help with their*




CCA Students Lucie Tran (left) and Finn Banbury. PHOTO: Courtesy of CCA



The *View* mascot, “Po,” as imagined by CCA students Lucie Tran and Finn Banbury. IMAGES: Courtesy of CCA.

design needs. When *The Potrero View*’s editor-in-chief Steven Moss’s TBD* application came in, Professor Heiman was instantly intrigued. He’s always looking for

ways that TBD* can engage with its immediate neighborhood, and the chance to rethink a longtime local newspaper was too good an opportunity to pass up. 



ANOTHER GOOD ONE—DONE!

1206 UTAH STREET | POTRERO HILL
\$1,975,000 SOLD

FEATURES

- 4 UNITS - 4 PARKING
- SINGLE FAMILY HOME + LARGE GARDEN APARTMENT + GARAGE
- 2 ONE-BEDROOM APTS + LARGE GARAGE
- \$581 PRICE / SQ. FT.
- \$543,750 PRICE / UNIT

CALL FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY PROPERTY VALUATION

CONTACT

MATTHEW C. SHERIDAN | **MEGAN BUCKLEY**
415.727.1271 | DRE #01390209 | ANALYST



Prototype of a newspaper box designed to sit on the shelves of Farley's Coffee. PHOTO: Courtesy of CCA

The AI Revolution is

HERE

Changing how we

WORK

Changing how we

LIVE

How will you invest in it?

Join for a discussion on alternatives investing with **Lynly Packer**, Alternatives Client Advisor from J.P. Morgan's Asset Management division and **Adam Gould**, Owner and Advisor at Dogpatch Wealth.

5:30 PM on Thursday, February 5th
555 20th Street Suite 3 in the atrium of the historic Union Iron Works building.

We will take a 90-minute deep dive into alternative investments, smart portfolio diversification, and how Dogpatch clients are accessing a diversified pool of AI enabled technology start ups.

Scan the QR code to register, capacity is limited.



J.P.Morgan
Asset Management



Dogpatch Wealth is a registered investment adviser with the State of California. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal. Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against loss. This material is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation or offer to buy or sell any securities. Dogpatch Wealth does not provide tax advice. Please consult a tax professional regarding your specific circumstances. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

COMPASS

Happy New Year, Potrero Hill

Potrero Hill Market Data from 1/1/2025 - 12/18/2025

AVERAGE 2025 SALES PRICE

SINGLE FAMILY	\$1,989,224
2-4 MULTI UNIT	\$1,696,125
CONDO*	\$1,223,996
TIC	\$1,210,714

*excluding Below Market Rate (BMR) units

41

TOTAL # OF
SINGLE FAMILY
HOMES SOLD

127

TOTAL
PROPERTIES
SOLD

14

MEDIAN DAYS
ON MARKET
FOR SINGLE
FAMILY HOMES

MOST EXPENSIVE
SINGLE FAMILY
SELLING PRICE


\$3.9M

MOST EXPENSIVE
CONDO SELLING
PRICE

\$3.425M

ASK US
ABOUT OUR
COMING SOON
PROPERTIES!

OUR 2025 POTRERO HILL TRANSACTION HIGHLIGHTS

see our social media for more sales  122westrealestate



\$2,130,000
Seller Rep



\$1,600,000
Seller+Buyer Rep
Off-market



\$2,870,000
Seller Rep



\$3,337,000
Seller Rep



\$2,300,000
Buyer Rep
Off-market



\$1,345,000
Seller Rep

CALL, TEXT, or E-MAIL US TODAY

for a free SELLER HOME VALUATION or BUYER CONSULTATION



No. 1 Agent in
Potrero Hill
since 2023

& TOP 2% IN SF

Scan the QR
code to learn
more.



Thinking of selling or buying
in 2026?

Text or e-mail Andres and say you want to
join our monthly Potrero Hill newsletter. Get
access to both Potrero and city-wide data,
inside scoops on open house activity, and our
coming soon properties.

Let us know you saw us in The Potrero View!

ANDRES
RESTREPO

(415) 684-6449
andres.restrepo@compass.com
DRE 02059106

122° WEST
real estate
COMPASS

ALL - YOU - CAN - EAT

Monday Night 5-9 @ Potrero Hill



Pizza & Salad \$19.75

Under 10 \$9.75 ★ Under 6 Free

Goat Hill Pizza

SOURDOUGH PIES
★ SINCE 1975 ★
SAN FRANCISCO
WEST PORTAL 415-242-4628
POTRERO HILL 415-641-1440



Community Calendar

Saturday 1/3

Art: Legion of Honor Free Day
Every Saturday, the Legion of Honor offers free admission to its permanent galleries to San Francisco Bay Area residents, featuring family artmaking, gallery guides, and tours with discussion and sketching. Advanced tickets required; capacity is limited. 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Free. Legion of Honor, 100 34th Avenue. For more information: bit.ly/3MFvUTH

Sunday 1/4

Meditation: The Buddhist Path
Discover Buddhist meditation as a tool for happiness, developing inner peace, love, and patience. First-timers receive two free passes for Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday classes, with simple guided meditations and practical teachings. Everyone welcome; suitable for beginners and advanced practitioners. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$12.16. Kadampa Meditation Center, 3324 17th Street. For more information: tinyurl.com/5bana2xz

Saturday 1/10

Horticulture: Grow Your Own Food
Learn how to take advantage of San Francisco's unique gardening climate to grow fruits and vegetables year-round. Instructor Carey Craddock is a garden coach, consultant, and horticultural enthusiast. She's been teaching at Garden for the Environment since 1998 and runs Carey Craddock Gardens, specializing in ecological

garden design and growing food. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$25 to \$63.99. Garden for the Environment, 1590 Seventh Avenue. For more information: tinyurl.com/35zbjyyb

Yoga: An Introduction to Yoga
Experienced instructors will guide students through basic poses, breathing techniques, and relaxation exercises. Discover yoga's physical and mental benefits in a friendly and welcoming environment. 2 to 3:30 p.m. \$12.51. Folk Mission (formerly Yoga Garden & Moxie), 3315 20th Street. For more information: tinyurl.com/77vk5xrv

Sunday 1/11

Bookbinding: Sewn Boards Binding
Discover the elegance and functionality of the sewn boards binding, a modern structure popular today with bookbinders. Participants will learn to sew text blocks onto integrated cover boards, creating a durable book that

CALENDAR continues on next page



Hiba Academy

Bay Area

Wellington College Education

旧金山湾区惠立学校

Now Enrolling PK3 through 1st Grade



Widen your child's world with an innovative English-Mandarin bilingual education

Scan to register



Discovery Walk Building Tours

January 9th, 12th, 16th, 23rd, 26th, 30th

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Open House

Saturday, January 10

10:00 AM - 11:30 PM

Rigorous Academics

Multicultural Experiences

Personal Well-being

415-930-0165

bayarea.hibaacademy.org

99 Rhode Island Street • San Francisco, CA 94103

CALENDAR from previous page

opens completely flat. No prerequisite. All tools and materials provided. Instructor Clair Emma Smith is an Oakland-based bookbinder specializing in repair.10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$180. San Francisco Center for the Book, 375 Rhode Island Street. For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/5xb7yummy>

Sunday 1/11

Education: Teachers’ Supplies Giveaway at SCRAP

Open to all Bay Area public school educators! Get \$25 worth of materials for free and shop for the many materials available at affordable prices. Bring identification or other proof of public-school affiliation. Free to attend. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; open-to-public from 3 to 6 p.m. Registration required. SCRAP, 2150 Newcomb Avenue. For more information: bit.ly/3L1XsSs

Comedy: A Magical Book Launch with Chris Duffy

Join magician Andrew Evans and comedian/author Chris Duffy for a night of magic, comedy, and celebration of Duffy’s new book *Humor Me: How Laughing More Can Make You Present, Creative, Connected, and Happy*. Tickets include a signed copy of the book. 4 to 6 p.m. \$55.20. All ages welcome. The Magic Patio, 3264 Mission Street. For more information: bit.ly/4aWoCEY

Wednesday 1/14

Food: The Mushroom Hunter’s Kitchen Author Event

Chad Hyatt is an expert forager and classically trained chef who has cooked in a variety of San Francisco Bay Area venues, putting on wild mushroom-themed dinners, teaching mushroom-related classes, and attending mushroom festivals. Hyatt will share best techniques for dozens of varieties and his favorite recipes. 6:30 p.m. Free to attend. Omnivore Books, 3885a Cesar Chavez Street. For more information: bit.ly/4pYoTvN

Sunday 1/18

Music: San Francisco Civic Symphony Free Concerts

In 1931, Mrs. Sigmund Stern created the San Francisco Civic Symphony, with the support of Dr. Josephine Randall, San Francisco Recreation

Department’s first director. The symphony is the West Coast’s oldest community orchestra. Since 2002, it’s been all-volunteer. The program will feature Tchaikovsky. 3 to 5 p.m. Herbst Theater, 401 Van Ness Avenue. For more information: bit.ly/48cVO81

Thursday 1/22

Politics: Is Social Media Threatening Democracy?

Reporters Sheera Frenkel, Jeff Horwitz, and Steven Lee Myers discuss political messaging and misinformation in the era of social media, and the government’s role in protecting free speech and regulating online forums. Sheera Frenkel covers cybersecurity from San Francisco for the *New York Times*. Jeff Horwitz is an investigative technology reporter for Reuters in San Francisco, and a former reporter for the *Wall Street Journal*, Associated Press, *American Banker*, *Legal Times*, *The San Bernardino Sun* and *The Washington City Paper*. Steven Lee Myers joined The New York Times in 1989 and has worked in New York, Washington, Moscow, Baghdad, Beijing and Seoul, including four stints as bureau chief. 6 p.m. \$7.18. Mechanic’s Institute, 57 Post Street. For more information: bit.ly/4s9mC2l

Sunday 1/25

Ceramics: Sunday Workshop

Redbrick Ceramic Studio presents hands-on clay workshops taught by artist members, with step-by-step instruction. Finished ceramic art can be picked up from RedBrick Studio four to five weeks after the workshop. 1 to 3 p.m. \$28.52. Redbrick Ceramic Studio, 2111 Mission Street, Third floor. For more information: bit.ly/3L88uWt

Monday 1/26

Sport: Bargain Bowling Club

Place your name on the waitlist to bowl upon arrival. Single bowlers can play up to three games. Couples, two games. Groups of three or more can play a single game (max one hour of bowling). Once finished get on the waitlist to bowl again, repeating this process until closing. In addition queue up and vote for favorite songs; limited menu available. 6 to 10 p.m. \$12. 21+ only. Mission Bowling Club, 3176 17th Street. For more information: bit.ly/3Y6nEhW

artist in San Francisco. He’d been creating stretch fabric designs and large props for raves and nightclubs, during a time when the club Ruby Sky was his playground. When his work was spotted by an event planner from Google he shifted to corporate events. His prop art was immediately in high demand.

He began working with other large tech companies, such as Netflix, Apple, Facebook, and Salesforce, as well as contributing to lavish events for non-corporate customers. He soon needed to find other artist-fabricators to keep up with the work.

Rivera has never advertised Props 2C and only recently invested in a social media presence. All of his are from word-of-mouth.

Rivera is exploring ways to make his creations accessible to a wider audience. He hopes to be able collaborate to install an interactive two-month-long magical dreamland park at Pier 80. [P](#)

PROPS2C from front page

to want to contribute to such imaginative gatherings.

“When I was young, I liked this whole feeling of, oh wow, we can bring Disneyland to anybody’s doorstep,” said Rivera. “Because Disneyland is an icon of eye candy, and eye candy is what we have in our inner body... When you see something unusual, yeah there’s an oooh ahhhh, wow! That’s a good feeling, that’s an energy, an emotion that art makes you feel.”

As a teenager Rivera attended raves in San Francisco. In the early-2000’s he lived in a 150 Folsom Street warehouse with individuals involved in the intersecting world of social media, tech, and art, including the people who developed the Dimension 7 production company, which created the How Weird Street Faire. Rivera recognized that he was in a unique place at a special time and wanted to find a way to stay in it.

Rivera struggled to make a living as an

Crosswords

BY DENA R. VERKUIL

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18						19				
20						21				22				
			23		24				25					
26	27	28			29						30	31	32	33
34				35					36		37			
38										39				
40											41			
				42	43	44	45	46	47					
48	49	50	51								52	53	54	55
56					57						58			
59				60					61		62			
63				64					65			66		
67				68					69			70		

© 2025

ACROSS

1. Lacking pizzazz
5. Top story
10. 2010 Apple debut
14. Wealthy, in Juárez
15. Gauhati or Boone, as SF Zoo, e.g.
16. Über
17. Telephone line?
20. Ailment whose name becomes an actress when its vowel is doubled
21. "Told ya!"
22. Fiona and Shrek
23. Like traffic on 101, at times
26. Kick starters?
29. Chinese zodiac animal of 2026
30. Lunar effect
34. Good news from an agent
36. "Let's not jump to conclusions!"
38. Work at Body Manipulations
39. New Giant, maybe
40. Catch some Z's
41. Removes from power
42. Huge storage unit
48. Someone who is onboarded but not for their skill set
56. Spooky-sounding lake
57. Stuff at the bottom of the barrel
58. Particularly particular
59. Noodle dish topped with crushed peanuts and lime at Saap Ver
61. "Haven't the foggiest"
63. Operate
64. Ctrl-___-Del
65. Like antiques
66. X, sometimes
67. A pop
68. Like a fox
69. Hypotheticals
70. Santa ___ winds

DOWN

1. Frat dudes
2. Dryer accumulation
3. Maker of Aspire laptops

4. Something a presidential candidate usually wins
5. Hand holder
6. X marks it
7. Unfortunate quality in a karaoke singer
8. Deeply felt
9. Just about every character on "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"
10. "This one's on me"
11. Bartlett or Bosc
12. Seat in Parliament?
13. Blonde-to-bronde jobs
18. Make a choice
19. Word with jam or roll
24. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's location
25. Letter opener?
26. Tantrums
27. Bibliographic abbr.
28. 90 degrees de norte
31. Works at Body Manipulations
32. "Quit stalling!"
33. Dolly and her fellow clones, e.g.
35. "Look alive!"
37. Like Bert, for much of "Mary Poppins"
43. The ultimate
44. Once-in-a-blue-moon occurrence
45. Serving at Standard Deviant
46. Rapper who forms one half of OutKast
47. What the snake in the ouroboros symbol is depicted as eating
48. Invigorate
49. Get the lead out?
50. Van Halen's contract once had one that specified no brown M&M's
51. Part of a tennis match
52. Goorin Bros. purchase
53. "The Gram"
54. Soup served at Taishoken
55. "My Brilliant Friend" novelist Ferrante
60. Owns
62. Podcast interruptions

Solution on page 10.

PUBLISHER’S VIEW from page 2

of attention to pressing neighborhood problems. Occasionally, though, they do more or at least preside over significant changes. Sophie Maxwell, who served as District 10 Supervisor from 2001 to 2011, was critical to shuttering the Hunters Point and Potrero Power plants, making way for The Power Station development and a revival of the Central Waterfront.

The issues confronting the next District 10 supervisor will likely include how to speed the pace of Potrero Annex-Terrace redevelopment, and stitch the new community into the rest of the neighborhood; how to continue to foster Central Waterfront development, and expansion of greenspace throughout District 10, including Jackson Park’s renovation; how to effectively reenergize Third Street in Bayview without repeating the same dead-end schemes; what to do about ever-rising income inequality and the high cost of living in San Francisco, which is fueled in part by artificial intelligence and health care, the very sectors that put a bounce in the City’s economic step; and how to support families as they struggle to feed, educate, and entertain their kids.

Pelosi’s ability to raise money for the Democratic Party, strategize through complex political challenges, and bring large chunks of federal funds to San Francisco is irreplaceable, at least in the short-term. Her successor needs to be able to project the City’s core values and priorities, while quickly making friends and alliances with colleagues. The success of our new representative will initially be largely dictated by what happens nationally. If the House remains in Republican Party hands, the 11th Congressional district, almost certain to be won by a Democrat, will have to fight from the back bench, best done by a clever parliamentarian and persistent rebel who knows how to find pathways through policy thickets. If things go the other way, we’ll need a quick-thinking, experienced relationship-building legislator with a moral and ethical compass to seize the moment to advance a San Francisco agenda.

Our next governor needs to be able to fight overgrown corporate interests – for-profit utilities, social media monopolies, avaricious health care companies – while stamping out wildfires, dealing with too much water or too little, managing AI’s worst aspects, and creating a place where families and young people can prosper. They also may be called upon to stand up to an increasingly tyrannical federal government. Which is to say, we need a superhero. Barring that, is Jerry Brown too old to run again? [D](#)

SHORT CUTS from page 2

courtesy of state funding. The hospital will repurpose the second floor of its Behavior Health Center to accommodate about 57 more locked subacute beds. Officials for years have lamented the serious shortage of these beds, which, according to the San Francisco Department of Public Health, has contributed to homelessness and repeat psychiatric crises...the mental health expansion comes at a time of intense questioning about General Hospital’s ability to keep patients and staff safe; see above.

Mission Bay Dentistry

The University of California, San Francisco is investing \$767 million to develop a Mission Bay home for its dentistry school. The money will be used, in part, to buy two buildings at 409 and 499 Illinois Street from long-time landlord Alexandria Properties, with 470,000

square feet of space, plus a 600-space parking garage. For more than a decade, the school’s clinics, laboratories, and administrative offices leased 90 percent of 499 Illinois. UCSF had an option to purchase it, as well as neighboring 409, when it became vacant in 2024, which it exercised last month. The 409 Illinois Street facility that previously housed biopharmaceutical company FibroGen, genomics firm Illumina, and the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub will become the dentistry school’s new home along with dental clinics. It will get a “gut remodel,” with only minor work needed at the other building.

Anchor to Stay

A report in a niche beer publication that Anchor Steam plans to leave San Francisco is false, according to *The Standard*. Reopening plans for the facility, which closed in 2023, are apparently in the works, though there’s no confirmed schedule for starting production. Anchor Brewing, founded in 1896, has survived earthquakes, Prohibition, near-bankruptcy and the rise and fall of craft beer trends. Under Fritz Maytag, who owned the brewery from 1965 to 2010, it pioneered the modern craft beer movement. It was purchased in 2024 by Hamdi Ulukaya, who founded yogurt behemoth Chobani.

Caviar Patch

Dogpatch old-timers remember being grateful to have access to a decent burrito in the neighborhood. Now comes **Wolfsbane**, a three-month-old restaurant that offers a tasting menu for \$248 per person, \$390 including a wine pairing, with a 20 percent service charge automatically added. All-in a well-off foodie could pay more than \$1,000 to dine for two, excluding such up-sales as caviar. **Carrie Blease** operates Wolfsbane along with her husband, **Rupert**, and chef **Tommy Halvorson**, formerly of Serpentine, located at the same 2495 Third Street address until it closed early in the pandemic.

Neighborhood Test Kitchen

Last month the **Board of Supervisors Land Use and Transportation Committee** voted unanimously to support legislation by Supervisor Jackie Fielder to require a special permit for some kinds of “laboratory” uses in industrial areas of the Mission, Dogpatch and Potrero Hill. The law exempts companies engaged in traditional life science research and production but would affect artificial intelligence and other tech enterprises, including DoorDash, which wants to test delivery airborne drones in and around the 1960 Folsom Street warehouse it occupies. The legislation, which needs full board approval, comes a month after the Board of Appeals confirmed that current zoning allows DoorDash to test. The food delivery company’s plan to field drones could be delayed by 18 months if the legislation passes. Teamsters Local 665 is concerned that drones will ultimately replace well-paying union delivery jobs. The soft war between humans and robots continues...

Ribbon-Cutting Mayor

In Apple TV+’s *Slow Horses*, a fictional London Mayor, Zafar Jaffrey, played by Nick Mohammed, deploys a somewhat cringey campaign slogan “Londerful” to promote London. Our own Mayor, **Daniel Lurie**, played by himself, is far less cheesy but similarly relentlessly promotional of San Francisco, as exhibited by his daily schedule. On one mid-December day that included cutting a ribbon to open Falafel-land on Golden Gate Avenue; delivering

Classified

Freelance Writers Wanted

Modest pay, interesting assignments. Contact: editor@potreroview.net

Write Your Own Obituary

We’re all going to die; why leave the writing of your obit to someone else? Whether you believe the end is imminent or just something you contemplate idly whilst taking a shower, you can control your own destiny, or at least how it’s reported. Or, after examining your life story and finding it lacking, add to it! Up to six people in three two-hour sessions, \$150. Interested parties should contact editor@potreroview.net

“Remarks at Thrive City Menorah Lighting,” at least his second public menorah lighting remarks, in addition to whatever comments he makes to his children at home; and attending “San Francisco Interfaith Council’s Annual Homeless Persons’ Memorial.” If you haven’t yet bumped into Mayor Lurie at the launch of a store, spiritual, or business event, you will.

Sales Tax Holiday

In 2023, San Francisco authorized a generous tax break for companies that moved their offices Downtown, which has struggled with vacancies and diminished foot traffic since the pandemic.

Two years later, however, the City has nothing to show for its efforts. A recent **San Francisco Treasurer and Tax Collector’s Office** report found that no one has used the fiscal relief opportunity, which allows companies to reduce their business taxes by up to \$1 million for three years if they open new offices in or near Downtown. How about this idea instead: create a temporary “duty-free” zone Downtown, eliminating all sales taxes from purchases made within the most economically depressed blocks. In fact, why not do the same in other hard-pressed neighborhoods, such as the Tenderloin and Bayview. Sales-tax relief could help jumpstart the retail, restaurant and entertainment sectors. Since the tax is largely regressive, taking a bigger percentage of income from poor individuals than rich ones, temporarily eliminating it in communities suffering from high unemployment and low wages would help address worsening wealth inequality. The average per capita income in Bayview-Hunters Point hovers around the mid-\$40,000s; the average in Potrero is three times that much. [D](#)

GIRTH WORMS from page 4

bucks, so it had to do.

I got up before sunrise, anxious to see the bodies. Sure enough, little fires were burning alongside the river, and inside the fires were bundles wrapped in white cloth I hurried closer to get a better view, and saw skulls and rib cages poking out of the wood and flames. My mouth got watery, in that pre-vomiting way, but I couldn’t stop looking, like that time I ran over a stray kitten while I was parking my car, and it lay there, not moving, squished and dead.

I watched as two Indians put a bundle into a small canoe, paddled out to the middle of the river, and dumped it in. No priest, or speeches, or nothing. Stranger still, the body floated by a group of people who were in the water bathing themselves. The men were topless, while the women were fully clothed, but everybody was scrubbing away under their garments as if they were at home in the shower. Next to the bathers another group of women were slapping pieces of fabric against some

Seeking Tennis Partner

Sixty-something male intermediate tennis player looking for (semi) regular rally or game partner. Email editor@potreroview.net

Legal Notices

The View accepts legal notices. Please contact: production@potreroview.net; 415.643.9578.

Got something to sell? Have a service to provide? Each classified ad is \$25 for up to 200 characters. www.potreroiview.net/advertise

rocks that looked like tombstones. Maybe they were the clothes of the dead, being cleaned for their final trip to heaven.

I was taking it all in, still feeling squeamish, when this American guy walks up to me and asks where I was from. He tells me he’s been living in India for over a year, and invites me to take a walk with him. I had nothing better to do, and was ready to leave anyway, so I said ‘sure, why not.’

The guy was really skinny, like maybe he’d missed too many meals. I offered to buy him breakfast, which fortunately didn’t cost much. It took him a New York minute to wolf down the rice and yogurt dish he’d ordered. I had a hard time finishing my vegetable plate – the potatoes and carrots tasted like they were soaked in sea water, they were so salty – so he ate that too.

We ended up back at his place. It was pretty much the same as my hotel room, except he’d decorated his cell with colorful fabric, and there were stacks of books tilting all over. He asked me a lot of questions about where were the cheapest cities to live back in the states, but they had to have good libraries. I guess he wanted to go home, which I couldn’t blame him. I was very thirsty on account of the salty breakfast, and kept licking my lips, hoping he’d offer me something to drink, which he didn’t. After a while he asked me if I wanted to see something, and I said ‘sure.’

He pulled out a glass beaker, pointed at it, and said, “these are my pets.” I couldn’t see anything at first, but I leaned forward and peered inside and there were these little black wormy things. Truthfully, they grossed me out, but I was a guest in his house, and I knew how to behave.

“Uh, what are they?” I asked. “I call them girth worms.” He smiled at the beaker. “Uh, huh.” I said He kept smiling, his eyes fixed on the worms. I was starting to feel nervous, uncomfortable. “What do they eat?”

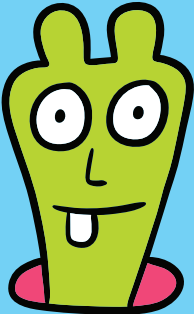
“Me,” he said, and made a sound like a squeak, except I guess it was a laugh. “Whaddaya mean, you?”

“Well,” he turned and stared at me as if he was seeing past my skin, into my organs and the bones around them, “these ones

GIRTH WORMS continues on next page



Potrero View Local Business Directory



Rickshaw Presents
Blockheads by Dave Warnke
10 Year Anniversary

YUMMY COFFEE

GRAB N' GO FRIDGE



piccino
CB
COFFEE BAR

845 22nd Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

LOVE



The City. Our City.
lovesf.com
Get your LOVESF merch at Rickshaw Bagworks

 RICKSHAW

Backpacks, Shoulder Bags
Fanny Packs, Tote Bags
Pen Cases, Pouches, Accessories

Store Hours: Mon-Sat, 11-5

904 22nd St.
rickshawbags.com
Sewing Strong in Dogpatch
Since 2007

GIRTH WORMS from previous page

I feed post-digested food. The others live with me.” He patted his stomach.

I know I should have been polite – his house and all – but I was getting that clammy feeling I get when I dissect my cat’s hair balls, or take too long cleaning out the dogs’ cages at the animal shelter where I sometimes work for movie money.

“Well,” I said, trying not to look at him, “I guess I gotta go.”

“Oh, so soon?” His face looked like Jello slowly sliding off a tilted plate, which made me feel bad. Then, much quicker, his Jello-face bounced back. “Would you like to take a few with you?”

“A few what?”

“You know, pets.” He held the beaker up and shook it at me.

“Uh, I don’t know. I already have a cat...” His face started to slide again. “But, what the hey, why not. Give me some of those bad boys.”

His eyes popped like the snap of an old-fashion flash bulb, and he started fishing in the beaker with his hands. “Great. I usually take them with water, but maybe you’d like some juice, or something else.”

It didn’t take me long to realize he wanted me to *eat* those things. I had to think fast. “Wait, wait, wait, can’t I have them ‘to go’?”

“To go? You want them to go? Sure. Alright. Let me get a container for you.” He rummaged around his books and came up with an old peanut can that had a plastic lid, tipping it over to toss out some metal pieces that rattled around in it. He slid some of the worms inside, and handed the cannister to me, smiling the whole while. I took the can with one hand, and slapped my thigh with the other.

“Okay, then, I guess I better be going. If you ever get out to San Francisco look me up.”

“I will. I will. And remember to feed them.” He nodded toward the peanut can.

“Cross my heart.” I crossed my heart, and got up.

“Uh, before you go, it’s my, um, practice to drink a toast in honor of my departing pets. Would that be alright?” He gave me a puppy dog look. I didn’t want to stay a minute longer, but I was thirsty.

I licked my lips. “Oh, alright.”

“Great!”

He went over to the corner of the

BAR

piccino

THE PERFECT PLACE TO START YOUR NIGHT, SPEND YOUR NIGHT, OR END YOUR NIGHT.

WWW.BARPICCINO.COM / @BARPICCINO



room, where there was small table with what looked like empty peanut butter, pickle, and mayonnaise jars on it. While he got the water together I looked around the room. It wasn’t *that* shabby. There was a rusted bottle cap lying next to my foot, so I bent down, picked it up, and thrust it into my pocket. I jerked my hand out of my jeans just as he turned around.

“Here we go.” He handed me a jar full of water. “Drink up.”

We stood looking at each other, neither of us drinking. I thought about the worms, and peered down into the glass.

The water looked clear.

“Uh, you didn’t put anything in here, did you?”

“Of course not,” he grinned. “Now drink up!”

I felt a cramp in my leg and shifted my weight.

“Uhm, the toast?”

“Oh, of course, the toast! To the girth worms, and their new master!”

We clinked glasses, and I drank.

To be continued next month.

SUPPORT YOUR VIEW

www.potreroview.net/product/donate-to-the-potrero-view or complete the form below

CHOOSE A SHIRT OR CAP

To celebrate our 55th anniversary, *The View* is gifting one limited-edition t-shirt or cap for donations of **\$60 or more** (while supplies last)!

55th ANNIVERSARY TEES

Unisex cotton t-shirts available in two designs printed in brown on natural tone fabric. Super comfy 100% preshrunk cotton jersey.

55th ANNIVERSARY CAPS

Mesh back truckers cap with an adjustable snapback closure available in two designs. Stone colored cap has brown imprint. One size fits all.



“Newsboy” Tee on Cream

“Activist” Tee on Cream



“Newsboy” Hat on Stone

“Activist” Hat on Stone

T-shirt and imported hat produced to exceed ISO 9001 and WRAP certified standards for ethical manufacturing. Designed, printed and finished in California by Eco Imprints.

YES! I would like to support the *View* with my contribution of: \$ _____

Choose your gift: ☐ Limited Edition T-shirt: ☐ Newsboy ☐ Activist
Circle size (unisex): M L XL

☐ Limited Edition Cap (one size): ☐ Newsboy ☐ Activist

Please send my gift to:

FULL NAME _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

☐ Enclosed is my check. ☐ I am sending my payment via Zelle to 415.595.0120

Please send, along with this form, to:
Potrero View, 1459 18th St., #214, S.F., CA 94107

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to: SF Community Power, 296 Liberty Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

ON SALE

...at The Good Life Grocery



Clover Organic Yogurt

5.3 oz -reg 1.59
on sale from 1/1-1/15

4/\$5



Clover Organic Kefir

32 oz -reg 6.29
on sale from 1/16-1/31

\$5.49



Tillamook Shredded Cheese

8 oz -reg 6.29

2/\$10



Olipop Prebiotic Soda

12 oz -reg 2.69

\$2.00



Cascadian Farm Organic Frozen Vegetables & Fruit

Buy One Get One Free



Thai Kitchen Coconut Milk

13.6 oz -reg 4.79

2/\$8



Evolution Organic Juices

15.2 oz -reg 6.29

2/\$8



Brown Cow Yogurt

5.3 oz -reg 1.89

4/\$5



Lundberg Farms Organic Rice Cakes

8.5 oz -reg 5.79

2/\$8



Almond Breeze Almond Milk

64 oz -reg 6.49

\$4.49



Wildwood Organic Tofu

14 oz -reg 4.79

2/\$6



Annie's Mac & Cheese

6 oz -reg 3.99

2/\$5



Near East Rice Pilaf & Couscous

5.7-10 oz -reg 3.79

2/\$5



Celestial Tea

20 ct -reg 5.99

2/\$5



Bob's Red Mill Organic Rolled Oats

32 oz -reg 8.29

\$4.99



Local Organic Mandarins

-reg 3.99/lb

\$2.99/lb



THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT THE GOOD LIFE





Open Every Day! 8 AM to 8 PM - 1524 Twentieth Street - Potrero Hill - San Francisco - 415-282-9204