

# CVIA NEWS

COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Volume XXVI

SERVING ALL RESIDENTS OF THE GREATER HAIGHT ASHBURY

SPRING 2013

## HANC Recycling Center Gone

It happened in fits and starts. The deputy sheriff chained the gate on January 4. Police cars were strategically parked around the entrance. There were demonstrators with signs. A few days later, candle vigils. Then a rally on the steps of city Hall; a plea with accusations of broken promises and the laughable accusation of “no public process” before the Board of Supes during the public



Photo: Susan Strolis

Rec & Park is preparing the site for a long-planned community garden.

comment period. But, after years of threats, Rec and Park, under the leadership of General Manager Phil Ginsburg, finally removed the operation from the park and bulldozers leveled what was left of the Recycling Center and the unpermitted garden plots hurriedly constructed as a public relations ploy to ward off the inevitable. What could have been a graceful relocation from its plot on the edge of Golden Gate Park to an industrial site, ended up as uninspiring as watching a dog refusing to give up a bone.

Since then, there have been more demonstrations on the steps of City Hall and a January 15 march down Haight Street by people who truly believe the public parkland belonged to HANC and that the city stole it from them.

Twenty years ago, Calvin Welch, the putative leader of HANC, was operating several nonprofits out of 409 Clayton (“409 House”), in addition to the Recycling Center and was joined at the hip to the Haight Ashbury Free Clinics. Together they presented a formidable power base in the Haight.

How times have changed. The Free Clinics were cobbled by embezzlement and relocated under new leadership South of Market. The 409 House, which was owned by a real estate consortium which included Dr. David Smith, was sold, renovated and returned to housing stock. And now, the Recycling Center, the cash cow of HANC, is closed—to be transformed into a community garden—this one open to everyone.

Call it gentrification or regeneration, the greater Haight Ashbury neighborhood has become more moderate. Residents are speaking up for their civil rights to clean, safe streets and

*Continued on page 2, column 2.*

## UCSF Expands its Footprint

Backing away from promises made to the Inner Sunset neighborhood and a stipulation of their own master plan, the University of California San Francisco will demolish a building on the south side of Parnassus near 5th Avenue (735 Parnassus) in the next two months in order to create an approximately five-times larger footprint that includes a lot just off the corner on 5th Avenue.

At a community workshop for Long Term Development on January 28, UCSF revealed a far-reaching plan. The new structure will wrap around the existing corner building and will expand east on the site increasing the Parnassus frontage by over four times. The intent is to build 30-40 units of residential student/staff housing with parking. No plans or design have been shown yet.

How are they doing it? The Regents long ago decreed by fiat that residential housing is exempt from the 3,550,000 square foot space limitation promised in 1976. While the structures keep getting bigger, open space shrinks. Even with this mathematical “slight of hand”—not counting student housing as part of that agreement—expect the campus square footage to rise 8.2% in the near term. ☞

## Padrecito Opens Any Day Now

Cole Valley is getting awfully thirsty for those world-class Margaritas we’ve been hearing about for the last year. Padrecito (the final name) is due to open on Carl and Cole (former Eos spot at 901 Cole) any day now. We could see that Nate Valentine and his co-owners



Cole Valley’s new cantina will replace Eos.

had their crews going at full steam and that he had hoped to open before Christmas, but everyone knows how that goes. Uppercasing.com reports that the restaurant will be managed by Jordan

Dunn, who has worked for both the Topsy Pig and Mamacita (both restaurants owned by Valentine and company). Padrecito sent the following tweet out on January 30: “The end of one journey (construction) and the beginning of another (getting team ready & opening) is close to beginning. We can’t wait.” Neither can we.

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Old UC Hall will not be demolished as earlier planned because of expense. The current proposal is that its three upper floors will be converted to housing (without parking) with two (lower) floors remaining office, possibly to be converted to housing later. Millberry Union Towers (500 Parnassus) will be converted from office use back to residential housing. Langley-Porter (LLPI) located on the south side of Parnassus (first lot west of Medical Center Way) would be demolished and replaced by the future Moffitt Hospital, with the current Moffitt Hospital eventually converted to office/research.

Design sketches of possible changes for a safer traffic and pedestrian flow on Parnassus were presented—most resulting in the narrowing of the traffic corridor. Some parking spaces would be removed, sidewalk “bulb-outs” installed to narrow the distance for pedestrians crossing the traffic and crosswalks widened 200-300 percent. All the sketches showed UCSF shuttle stops at curbside—with some members asking for an off-street terminal to get those loading off of Parnassus seeming to fall on deaf ears.

None of the designs showed a pedestrian flyway/walkway arching over Parnassus, which some members of the UCSF Citizens Advisory Group are advocating. Neither were there design plans for the fire trucks, often at the hospital, which might create gridlock in the newly narrowed corridor. Nor was a solution offered to the problem of chronic double parking at the ACC clinic on the north side.

The Long Term Development plan is being presented as a work-in-progress with more “community workshops” to come. But after apparently making the unilateral decision to dramatically expand its footprint with only minor “future demolitions” as offset, one can easily get the feeling that these workshops are little more than perfunctory, with the overage in the space ceiling increasing for the foreseeable future (by their own numbers).

—Charles Canepa

## Fire Strikes “Four Seasons”

It’s hard to overemphasize the threat fire presents to our neighborhood. The old buildings, both residential and commercial, are destroyed by fire with alarming frequency. The latest, certainly not the worst, occurred a few weeks ago, on January 28. The blaze scorched the front of 1327 and 1333 Waller—two of the four often-



Part of an architectural landmark, two Victorians on Waller were damaged.

photographed Victorians known as The Four Seasons because of their exterior carved wood embellishments. This time the cause wasn’t a portable heater, faulty wiring, an overloaded fireplace, or paint removal by blowtorch but rather a homeowner’s automobile (BMW-X3) that broke into flames while sitting in the driveway. A fluke to be sure, but one that has forced the residents to seek other housing until the reparations are made.

## Recycling Center Gone (continued from page 1)

against the constant confrontation of public urination, open drug offers, clumps of sleeping bags on the sidewalks, and the pilfering of recyclables from our blue boxes—immediately redeemed for ready cash. When the Civil Sidewalks ordinance passed two years ago, HANC, who believed it infringed on personal rights, again received a blow to their predominance in the Haight. The closing of the Recycling Center was the final nail in the coffin. The end of an era? Not quite. Be certain that we residents are still proud of the neighborhood’s open mind, liberal politics, generosity and diversity, just as our merchants will continue to fan the profitable fires of the sixties. But no one can deny that there has been a realignment of priorities by residents of the Haight.

—Karen Crommie

## Neighbors Protest Influx of Transient Youth on Haight

At a packed house in Park Police Station’s community room, Captain Greg Corrales got an earful from disgruntled residents at his February community meeting. Most of the complaints centered on the increasingly hostile behavior of the transient vagabond youth and their dogs.

Park Branch head librarian Cathy Delneo said she has had to



Captain Corrales fields questions about the new wave of street kids.

call for police assistance six times in the past week. “Normally,” she said, “I call about six times a year.” She said her staff and patrons feel threatened by the campers who choose the library grounds to sleep and hang out.

Other residents expressed similar complaints with those using the sidewalks and doorways to spread their gear and lie down with their dogs.

Corrales countered with the argument that even though the station is understaffed he has two officers dedicated to patrolling Haight Street from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily and he has asked them to concentrate on one block a day to meet the merchants and residents and to handle their complaints. He has also assigned an officer to become a full time presence at Alford Lake (Stanyan at Waller) and has recently assigned an officer to confiscate shopping carts.

Corrales acknowledged that the conditions are far from ideal but pleaded for more time to make a difference. With one long-overdue Police Academy class just graduating, another in progress and one more to begin next month, he believes conditions *will* improve. “Check back next month,” he said. “I guarantee you will see a difference.”

The Park District Police community meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the community room at the station (1899 Waller).

—David Crommie

## Bike Thefts Still Rampant

The year's first meeting of the Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) Board was held on Thursday, January 17. Each organization in the Park Police District is invited to send a representative to this monthly meeting with Captain Corrales.

Our focus has been on working to control bike theft and reuniting victims with their bikes. It looks like this issue will move to encompass the entire city. The step that everyone should take right now is to record the serial number of their bicycles along with size, color and make. Take a photo of the bicycle and keep the data with the photo. This is vital in helping the police identify the bicycles that are recovered.

The stations are working on a system to post recovered bicycle information as soon as possible. Recovered bikes from our neighborhood are posted on [www.parkstation.org](http://www.parkstation.org). Click on "anti-bike theft."

S.F. SAFE has come up with way to equip each of the San Francisco Police cars with a defibrillator. To this end they have just launched a new campaign whereby citizens can adopt a squad car. Since the SFPD is often the first at the scene of a medical emergency, it is thought that lives could be saved by training officers in the use of defibrillators. For more information check out [sfsafe.org](http://sfsafe.org) and click on the police car icon. The defibrillators cost \$1,875 each. Donors can contribute a part of this cost and designate which station is to be the beneficiary.

—Lena Emmerly



## Thank You For Your Support



It certainly isn't expected, but when a member sends in an extra contribution, we appreciate it greatly. Only eight Cole Valley merchants contributed to the daily cleaning of the Cole Street business district last year, which costs CVIA \$900 each month. We make up the deficit with member contributions, a sizeable discount from CleanScapes and proceeds from Santa on Cole and the Cole Valley Fair. (This year we will not have any Fair proceeds to contribute.) So we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their generosity in 2012-13:

Jessica Justino & Bill Hancock, Les Silverman & Irv Govan, Rita & Richard Felciano, Abby & David Rumsey, Penny Duan & Steve Chaffin, Rosemary Southwood, Whitney & Mark Gilkey, Virginia Joosen, Randy & Rich Lavinghouse, Eileen Lemus, Britny Bottorff, Mark Brennan, Cecile & Jeff Boddington, Michael J. Sullivan, Lena Emmerly & Charles Canepa, Marianne Hesse, Karen & David Crommie, David Keller, Byron G. Bray, Jr., Gina Centoni, Juliet Pries, John Manning, Margareta Ekblad & Vojtech Licko, Virginia & Kenneth Brown, Tresa & Jim Eyres, Tom Nicoll, Cole Hardware, Billy & Kendra Robins, Timothy Dunn & Claudia Scharff, Janan New, Susan Hills, Kay Bertram, Jan Platt & Jeff Ross, Linda Coda & Robert Brigante, Gail Berman, Ellen Curry, John & Molly Hooper, Harold & Lyn Isbell, Robert G. Jones & John T. Smith, Dennis Martino, MeMe Riordan, Linda Smith, Richard Taylor & Nancy Grubbs, Tina & Oliver Brock, Chris Broderick, Marion Elliott, Nancy Hutt, Deborah Robbins & Henry Navas, Susan & Steven Rosen, Mary Ann Wolcott, Stuart Gasner & Kate Ditzler, Marion Elliott, Robert Bakewell, Tracy & Patrick Jennings, Jeanne Blamey & Robert Fram, Mark & Janet Hall, Gerardo Joffe, Elaine Robinson, Judith Bishop, Megan and Bruce Bourne, Bill O'Such & Ineke Ruhland, Sam Truslow, Deborah Van Atta, Maryann Hrichak, Barbara Mow, Monica and Jeremy Becker, Minette Gutfreund, Thomas Ports & Catherine Covey, Beth & Beau Harrington, Robert Page, Sigrid Schafmann, Haight Ashbury Nursery School, Beth & Rick Thurber, Joseph Padula.

## Bacon Not on Everyone's Menu

In an effort to gain a permit to serve food and prepare items for its food truck, Bacon Bacon held a neighborhood meeting on February 11 at its operating site at 205-A Frederick Street. When I arrived, I was surprised to see a group of people standing outside. I learned that the owner's lawyer was speaking with a neighbor's lawyer and we would be allowed inside shortly. Soon, approximately forty people crowded into the small space. The business owner, Jim Angelus, stated that he lives in the neighborhood and hopes to make the business work for both his customers and the neighbors who have issues with or were impacted by the business. Jeremy Paul, his permit consultant, was also present to answer questions.

Angelus explained that this was an informational meeting to be held with the neighbors prior to going before the Planning Commission in order to find out various neighbors' concerns. The room appeared to be filled mainly with satisfied customers of Bacon Bacon, who were eager to see that the restaurant stayed open. They spoke glowingly of the "added vibrancy to the neighborhood" and their appreciation, in light of recent burglaries in the neighborhood



*The standing-room-only crowd in the small annex of the Ashbury Market was mostly in favor of granting a permit for Bacon Bacon.*

of "more foot traffic than we had before." Another person stated that "this used to be a lively block, it is nice to see it come back again." When I asked what concerns had been raised by the neighbors, Angelus said that they centered around customers sitting on neighbors' property, pervasive bacon smell, increased litter, noise from customers, the Bacon Bacon food truck parked out front, cars double parked on the street making it difficult for other vehicles to get by, and barking dogs who were in front of the restaurant.

Angelus stated that they had 350 petition signatures, in addition to 1,000 online votes, in favor of Bacon Bacon remaining on the site. One man, who lived across the street said that there were days when the smell of bacon sat in the air for two to three hours at a time, forcing him to keep his windows closed. After the meeting, I learned that a couple living in the building above Bacon Bacon had continual problems with the employees playing loud music every morning at 7:30 a.m. They said that they would call daily to ask that the music be turned down, but they would encounter the same problem the next morning. Bacon Bacon is open seven days a week until 3 p.m. They open at 7:30 on weekdays, a bit later on weekends.

Angelus stated that Bacon Bacon had had some "growing pains" and some of the measures that he would take would be to have his staff police the area twice a day to address litter issues. He said that he would power wash the sidewalk every three to four weeks and would add an exhaust scrubber on the roof to help ameliorate the smell of bacon issue. ↪

Angelus said that the category of the space was being changed from a deli to a “limited restaurant” and needed a conditional use permit. He said that a neighbor requested a hearing at the Planning Commission with two concerns, the first being “process,” whether things were properly done regarding zoning etc. and the kind of impact Bacon Bacon would have on the neighborhood.

Since the definition of a “limited restaurant” creates certain limitations, such as a restricted amount of indoor seating, there was some talk of outdoor seating such as benches, although the request for outdoor seating would require a separate process. Angelus said that if that occurred, there would be no table service.

The Haight Ashbury Improvement Association (HAIA), our sister organization, is opposing the permit on the grounds that the construction was done without a permit, that there is loud noise when the grease is pumped out of storage, that when unpermitted construction has been done, it is considered “new construction” and would need, for example, an ADA bathroom, that the request



Planning Expediter Jeremy Paul (right w/pony-tail) answers a procedural question as Bacon Bacon owner Jim Angelus (left) looks on.

for a building permit is an attempt to legalize everything they’ve been doing.

Angelus can be reached at [baconbacon@sf.com](mailto:baconbacon@sf.com) and Jeremy Paul at [jeremy@quickdrawsf.com](mailto:jeremy@quickdrawsf.com).

—Marianne Hesse

## Save the Date:

Erica Kajdasz, the new organizer of the Cole Valley Fair, has announced this year’s date as September 29. She is representing the other owners of Midline (Studio) located at 515 Frederick who have graciously agreed to take up what CVIA has built over the years. Booth applications will be on line in the next few weeks.



# Grattan Keeps Improving

CVIA has traditionally awarded annual grants to the Grattan Elementary School with the proceeds from the Cole Street Fair. None was better spent than our contribution to the landscaping of the schoolyard. With a new section of tables and benches, a multi-



Dividing the play yard is only one of many landscaping upgrades.

tude of border plants, soft ground cover and new placement of the plant-filled steel troughs, the yard looks welcoming, poised for a multitude of activities.

The area once the children’s vegetable garden along the Shrader side of the building is now in the process of being transformed into a small-size replica of the California watershed. Already students are forming soil into mountains and valleys. The project will give children a hands-on experience of how we get our water supply.

Supporting the agenda of principal Matthew Reedy, the remarkable Grattan PTA is just ending a fund-raising campaign bringing in \$205,000 that will be used to support programs that benefit each



Soil in the Shrader Street plot is being formed into a model watershed, and every child. An impressive 69 percent of the Grattan community participated in the Annual Campaign.

—Karen Crommie

*Ed. Note: It’s never too late. If you were unable to contribute to the Annual Campaign by the January 31st deadline, Grattan will still gratefully accept all contributions. You can drop a check by the office (165 Grattan St.) or donate via PayPal. The estimated yearly PTA program expenses are \$275,000 (approximately \$700 per child). Every donation of any size makes a difference.*

## Always in Flux: Haight Street

There's another major turnover in the Haight restaurant scene beginning with popular bar manager Daniel Hyatt leaving Alembic (1725 Haight) after six years. Speaking of which, construction has begun on the demolition of the former Red Vic cinema into a retail market (small shops) and a major expansion of Alembic by some 1,800 feet including a 49 seat event space in the rear.

On the next street, the restaurant once called Zare, more recently Bia (1640 Haight) is being refurbished to become Sparrow Bar. Sad to see go was the venerable Kan Zaman (1793 Haight).



*The Haight Ashbury has come of age with its very first sex shop.*

The owners have packed up their hookahs and pillows after 20 years of serving Palestinian food. But they still have their popular noodle parlor across the street, Citrus Club. El Faro (1654 Haight, formally El Balazo) is applying for a beer and wine license. I think they'll get it, in spite of the zoning cap.



*After 20 years, Kan Zaman has closed.*

A big loss occurred when master pizza maker Giovanni Iaccarino was given the boot by Club Deluxe. Says food guru Maria Gagliardi@tablehopper, who has supplied many of the updates, "The entire foodscape of the 'hood' could change within a few months!"

Looking beyond food, the clothing store Ruby's (1431 Haight) has shut its doors and Genesis Imports (1573) is having their closing sale. Just opened is Behind Closed Doors, the Haight's first authentic sex shop. Yes, they offer sexy underwear and the usual toys and kinky stuff people pretend to have no interest in.

—Karen Crommie

**If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email, please let us know at CVIASF@aol.com**

## New Owner for McDonald's

Neighborhood attendees at the February Police Community Meeting (not to be confused with the Advisory Committee, page 3) got a chance to query the new owner of the McDonald's restaurant on Haight and Stanyan. Introduced by Captain Greg Corrales (wearing a McDonald's baseball cap), C. C. Yin acknowledged the rather troubled past of the Haight location and pledged to immediately improve conditions for everyone.

The owner of 23 other McDonald's locations, Yin said his business philosophy is to work hard to meet the needs of sometimes disparate groups so that everyone feels good about using any of his restaurants. He cites the success he had at one of his first stores in



*C. C. Yin, the new owner of the Haight and Stanyan McDonald's plans to upgrade the store and eventually install a drive-in.*

a very tough neighborhood in East Oakland. "I experienced many shootings and even had difficulty finding security armed guards to work for me during those dangerous times," Yin said. "I tried to work with the local gangs and brought in employees of diverse races such as Hispanics and Chinese besides those in the Black community," he added.

C.C. then asked his wife, Regina, to quit her job and come help develop community programs in the neighborhood schools. They set up programs to guide youths away from gang activities and linked the residents around the McDonald's into a unified neighborhood safe enough for all to meet.

"Within 18 months we saw a turn-around and finally even started making a profit," he laughed in reminiscence of those difficult years.

Yin's first step at the Haight/Stanyan location was to hire a full time security guard—something Corrales has been trying to make happen since he took over Park Station last year. The prior owner said they could not afford it.

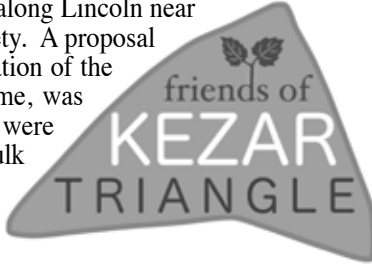
Yin responded with great enthusiasm when he was queried about participating in the monthly Alford Lake gardening work parties. He instructed his store supervisor, Margie DeGroot to meet with Susan Strolis (who leads the volunteer workers) as soon as possible.

Yin said he has plans to completely rebuild the store so that it is both more attractive and efficient. What does he want in return? Well, the chance to install a drive-through for one. And that's something the entire community, especially CVIA, opposed with great fervor in 1993. Good luck and welcome to the neighborhood Mr. Yin. You have your work cut out for you.

—David Crommie

# Kezar triangle Plans Progress

A second community meeting was held late last year in which philanthropist Carla Crane shared her inspiration for the project and Sam Bower related some of the context so far. Landscape architect Jeff Miller then walked everyone through the previous design proposals and the latest version that incorporates feedback from the previous meeting plus some new improvements. Much of the discussion afterward centered around the pathways and the possibility of adding a second crosswalk along Lincoln near the existing one for added safety. A proposal to stage the actual implementation of the landscaping in phases over time, was said to be unnecessary and we were encouraged to make the great bulk of improvements together, even if we had to close off the park to do it. The goal would be to get it all done soon, minimize disruption, heal the existing pathways and protect new plantings. Timing would also have to consider use of part of the field for discus and track events in the Spring.



Now we have to get down to the detail level of budgeting, the specifics of trail and entry area stabilization, irrigation, native planting palette and the integrated art components and pass those back and forth with Rec and Park and Jeff Miller. Once we have a clear sense of those details we will then have a third public meeting for public comments and review. After that it once again goes before Rec and Park as well as the Planning Commission.

If all goes well, it looks like we might be able to begin actual landscaping improvements this Spring. If we can get city support for the new safety pedestrian crosswalk on Lincoln Way that will also help with the flow of people on the North end of the Triangle.

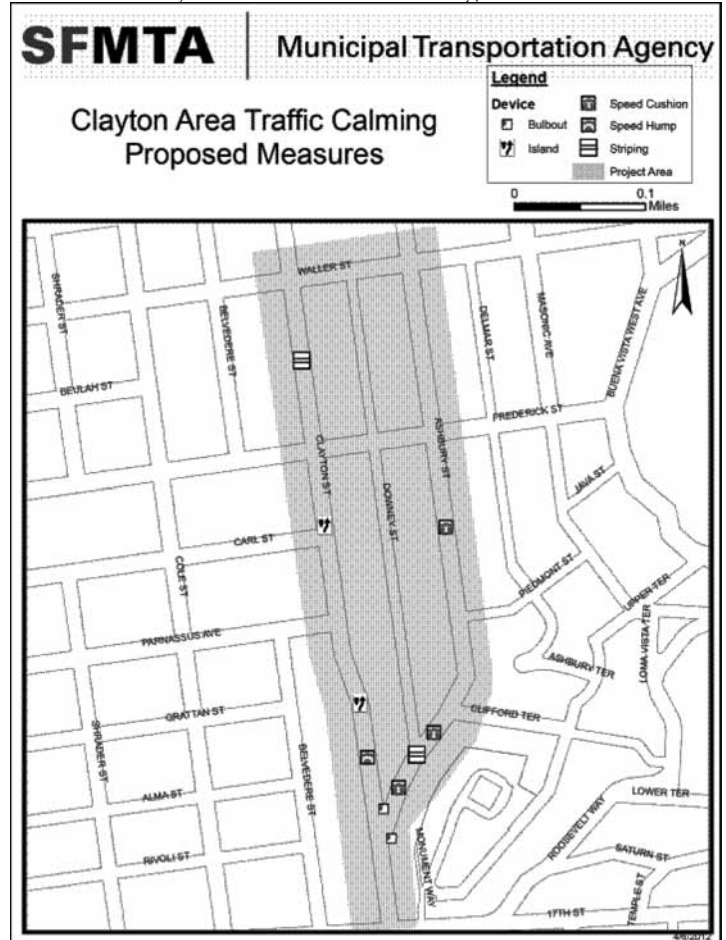
— Sam Bower

*Ed Note: Friends of Kezar triangle is a non-profit organization formed to re-imagine and revitalize the Kezar Triangle, a somewhat underutilized section of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Their goal is to promote a holistic approach to place that combines art, ecology and community engagement. Park improvements and art events emerge from this understanding. With the creative support of the Carla and David Crane Foundation and a growing coalition of neighbors, artists, and urban landscape specialists, the group has begun work with the SF Recreation and Parks Department and serves as a fiscally sponsored project of the San Francisco Parks Alliance.*

# Clayton Traffic Calming Project Gets Approval

Since June of 2011 the SF Municipal Transit Agency has been studying ways to make Cole Valley streets safer, both for pedestrians and vehicles. After considering stop sign patterns, speeds, collision history, visibility, driveway access and street grades, they have arrived at a series of common sense measures to fulfill the goal.

At Clayton and Carl and between Ashbury and Parnassus, the study recommends constructing pedestrian islands, either “mountable” or raised, which tend to slow turning traffic and narrow the



Shaded area indicates perimeter of Clayton Traffic Calming Plan.

roadway (allowing enough space for emergency vehicle access). These would begin by simply being painted on the roadway until their effectiveness could be measured.

Crosswalks would be painted with white stripes. These so-called “continental crosswalks” provide increased visibility for drivers and would be installed wherever other roadwork was being done. Singled out as a prime location was the intersection of Ashbury and Downey. More controversial is the SFMTA’s consideration of more sidewalk bulb-outs, not for bus boarding, as we’ve seen on Carl Street, but to shorten curb-to-curb distance, increase pedestrian visibility and tighten/slow turns. Bulb outs usually mean removing a few parking spaces.

Another part of the plan is installing “speed cushions” on Clayton, which can be constructed with small channels that slow down cars but not busses. Actual speed humps are anticipated on Ashbury between 17th Street and Waller where cars now tend to exceed the speed limit.

## POLICE COMMUNITY FORUM

Captain Greg Corrales holds community forums the second Tuesday of every month (except December) from 6 to 7:00 p.m. He gives briefings on upcoming permitted events, reviews neighborhood criminal activity, and addresses the safety concerns of residents. It’s a good way to stay in touch with what’s going on. The meetings are held at Park Station’s Community Room, (1899 Waller)



**March 12, April 9 and May 14**  
**Mark Your Calendars**

Painted parking and bike lanes, parallel to the curb, are called "edgelines" have a proven psychological effect of a narrowed roadway, slowing car speed, and provide a cushion for bicycles and vehicle loading. They have been already painted on 4th and 5th Avenue between Parnassus and Irving and are destined for Clayton between Frederick and Waller.

The webpage for the Clayton Area Traffic Calming Project has been updated. The webpage for the project can be found at <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/ocalm/Clayton.htm>. The Plan was approved at the SFMTA Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, December 4. The proposed traffic calming measures can be viewed and downloaded in the Final Report from the project webpage. The SFMTA will now seek funds to implement the recommended changes. Funding for Phase 1A of the project has already been secured and is scheduled for implementation in the next few months. You can find more details of the project phasing plan in the Final Report.

## If You Already Have Spring Fever . . . Grow Lemons

That's the idea behind Just One Tree (JOT), a program of the San Francisco-based nonprofit Urban Resource Systems. With a goal of fostering community resilience through fruit tree production, JOT is partnering with neighborhood associations, nonprofits and city agencies to achieve sustainability in lemon production.



*With adequate acid fertilizer, Meyer lemon trees grow well in San Francisco.*

Meyer lemons, especially in dwarf or semi-dwarf size, are an ideal crop to illustrate the possibility of greater fruit production in dense cities such as San Francisco. Citrus trees are evergreen, comprise a key ingredient in the diet of many cultures, and can produce up to 200 pounds of fruit per year. They can also be grown indoors in a sunny window, allowing everyone to participate in the sustainability effort for San Francisco.

JOT is presently gathering data on San Francisco's existing lemon trees. With a self-sufficiency need estimated at about 12,000 trees, establishing a baseline of the number and location of lemon trees is crucial for targeting specific neighborhoods to plant more trees and to assist those who want to share extra lemons. JOT relies on "Lemon Ambassadors" and neighborhood associations to catalog lemon trees in the JOT registry. This tool tracks the number and location of lemon trees in the city so that JOT can target specific neighborhoods for future tree planting efforts.

Please help JustOneTree by registering your lemon tree, planting a new tree, and encouraging neighbors and friends to be a part of the movement. Visit [www.justonetree.org](http://www.justonetree.org) for registration and more information. Contact: Isabel Wade, JOT (415) 601-6992



Would you like a copy of this newsletter sent to a neighbor? Send an email to [cviasf@aol.com](mailto:cviasf@aol.com) or Leave a message at 431-1414 with their name and address and consider it done.

## Peet's to Replace Tully's

Cole Valley coffee lovers rejoice. A Peet's is coming to the neighborhood replacing the now closed Tully's (formerly Spinelli's) at 919 Cole Street. Founded by Alfred H. Peet in a north Berkeley storefront at Walnut and Vine streets in 1966, Peet's went on to become a highly respected chain, serving strong coffee and first rate pastries. But local, it's not. Peet's Coffee & Tea Inc. recently merged with Jab Holding BV (John A. Benckiser), which also owns corporations in the international beauty market (Coty) as well as other coffee labels. Since JAB is a privately held company, Peet's will go off the Nasdaq. For you zoning mavens, yes, just like our beloved Boulange, Peet's will be a "formula retail business" owned by a multinational. Got a problem with that?

## Nice and Crisp

Sure, it's old news now, but the photo was too good not to reprint. The Bacon Bacon truck went up in flames the day before Thanksgiving. Owner Jim Angelus told Meesha Halm (Zagat food blogger) that he was just a few blocks away from his Cole Valley headquarters (205-A Frederick) when the engine caught on fire. Luckily no one was hurt but despite efforts by the SFFD to extinguish the flames, the truck was totaled. Fade forward two months:



insurance will replace the truck but Angelus has new worries fighting the Planning Department and Frederick Street neighbors to keep his prep kitchen legal. (See page 3)

## Call for News

We need news items, articles, letters, opinion pieces. Please tell us what you know about Cole Valley and the greater Haight Ashbury: handwritten, type-written, e-mailed or scrawled on a cocktail napkin. We want to hear from you! CVIA News: 628 Ashbury St. or [cviasf@aol.com](mailto:cviasf@aol.com)



## CVIA Board Minutes

The following is a summary of what took place at the CVIA board meetings the last two months. Those members wishing to bring an issue before the Board or attend a meeting are welcome to do so. Meetings occur the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the home of a member. Call 431-1414 to learn the location.

### January

Location: Home of Carole Glosenger – January 7, 2013

■ Reviewed last meeting's resolutions, discussed current Cole Valley/Haight issues, and heard reports from committee heads and from delegates to the Kezar Stadium Advisory Committee, SFMTA Citizens Advisory Council, the Community Police Advisory Board, Graffiti Abatement Committee, and the Coalition for S.F. Neighborhoods. Welcomed guests Karen Pierce-Knowles (UCSF Public Relations)

■ Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,081.49 in savings, \$14,051.06 in checking for a total of \$26,123.55. This is allocated as follows: \$3,884.62 in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$20,057.79 in the Cole Valley Fair fund, \$2,190.14 in CVIA account.

■ Marianne Hesse reported on the first Urban Community Center (former Hamilton Church) large group conference as being well managed with attendees polite and singing not heard beyond the confines of the property.

■ Karen Crommie, delegate to CSFN reported on their all-out efforts to oppose Supervisor Weiner's proposed restriction on the time period in which neighbors can file for a Discretionary Review of an ongoing construction project. She also announced that CVIA will be co-hosting CSFN's February 19th meeting at Northern Station and will be providing refreshments. Board members were encouraged to attend.

■ Regarding an upcoming meeting between D-5 neighborhood organizations (D-5 Citizens Action Committee) and newly elected D-5 Supervisor London Breed: the Board agreed that three issues should be raised:

1) Situation on Haight Street and Alvard lake area regarding large congregations of young transients creating an threatening atmosphere, enforcement of sit lie violations: kids and their dogs lying around on the sidewalk etc.

2) Skate board park commotion – make it clear to the Supervisor that we do not want the skate board park permanently in the Waller/Stanyan hard-surface area because it interferes with other uses of the space: Farmer's Market, Food Trucks, bicycle instruction, police emergency egress, parking for Kezar Pavilion events, etc.

3) Additional lighting is badly needed in the Muni Park path from Cole to Clayton streets

■ Douglas Hall lead a discussion on the pending conditional use authority for the Bacon Bacon prep kitchen and retail store next to the Ashbury Market. Some Frederick Street neighbors are complaining that the store has attracted more street and pedestrian traffic and that the truck is parked on the street during loading and unloading times. They also report a continuous smell of frying bacon, people loudly talking into cell phones outside, etc. After long discussion of the history of that venue, the goals of owner Jim Angelus and the need for a viable business on that corner, the Board decided to remain neutral on the issue.

■ Karen Knowles-Pierce described the long-range development plans of UCSF and an upcoming community workshop at Millberry Union seeking feedback from community on campus shuttles, addition of student housing and mitigating Parnassus traffic congestion. She said that UCSF would not demolish the old UC Hall as

originally planned and move the Ophthalmology Clinic to Mission Bay but keep the Dental School on the property. (See the report by Chuck Canepa, CVIA's delegate to the UCSF Citizen Advisory Group, on page 1.)

■ Amy Blakeley and Shannon Cooper-Hock are making plans for a rummage sale, possibly at Grattan School, as a fund-raiser for the 7-day a week cleaning of Cole Street (Clean Cole Street Project). CVIA would sell spaces to neighbors who want to clean out their basements.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

### February

Location: Home of Marianne Hesse – February 4, 2013

■ Reviewed last meeting's resolutions, discussed current Cole Valley/Haight issues, and heard reports from committee heads and from delegates to the Kezar Stadium Advisory Committee, SFMTA Citizens Advisory Council, the Community Police Advisory Board, Graffiti Abatement Committee, and the Coalition for S.F. Neighborhoods. Welcomed guests Alexis Smith and Christin Evans.

■ Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,083.55 in savings, \$9,932.72 in checking for a total of 22,016.27 This is allocated as follows: \$3,876.28 in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$16,667.79 in the Cole Valley Fair fund, \$1,472.20 in CVIA account. It was decided that the Fair proceeds be transferred to the CVIA fund.

■ Lena Emmery, CVIA delegate to Park Station's Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) reported that bicycle theft is still high in our neighborhood while other crime is decreasing. A bike registration program is being initiated (see column on page 3). She also said that SFSafe has mounted a fund-raising campaign to equip each SF police car with a defibrillator. This was followed by a discussion of whether we should allocate money in our grant-giving cycle to this cause. Decision was to wait until we see how many Cole Valley merchants will contribute to the sidewalk cleaning this year. Captain Corrales announced four new police officers on Haight Street and seeks our help in getting more people to attend the monthly community forums held on the second Tuesday of each month.

■ Alexis Smith (SF Planning Department, long range policy planning) and Christin Evans (Haight Ashbury Merchants Association) spoke about the Haight Ashbury Public Realm project. A sum of \$50,000 is being secured to develop a plan for improving the public spaces in the neighborhood from Stanyan to Central and Oak to Frederick, including Cole Street, part way up the commercial area. The plan will recommend the extension of the earlier Fix Masonic project (already confirmed) up to Waller Street for maximum traffic flow and safety.

■ Marianne Hesse reported that Peet's Coffee & Tea has applied for a permit to occupy the space recently vacated by Tully's at 919 Cole. This news was met by enthusiasm and much relief.

■ Joan Downey announced that the date of this year's Cole Valley Fair would be September 29. Erica Kajdasz will be the new organizer for Midline (studio) on Frederick.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**CVIA Executive Board:** Amy Blakeley, Chuck Canepa, Shannon Cooper Hock, David Crommie, Karen Crommie, Joan Downey, Lena Emmery, Carole Glosenger, Douglas Hall, Marianne Hesse.



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The Booksmith presents

# LITERARY CLOWN FOOLERY

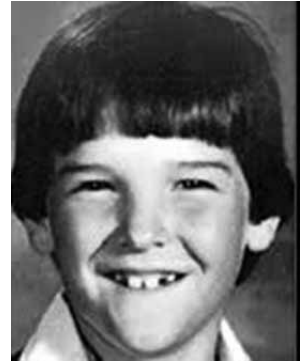
(booze, books and burlesque)

*A monthly, 90-minute, adult cabaret featuring live music, drinks, and a rotating cast of assorted local clowns, authors, and sundry hooligans who take on books, pop-culture, and San Francisco-related ephemera. Basically, we're hilarious, and you should come see us with all your friends. Local authors, live music and performances. Tristan and Polina are in charge.*

*\$10 - 2nd Fridays - 8 p.m.  
1644 Haight Street*

## Kevin Collins Case Reopened

Helicopters prowled the skies over the Haight on January 29 as SFPD officers, aided by a cadaver dog, dug up the backyard of a Masonic Avenue home (between Page and Oak) in search of the body of Kevin Collins, who had been kidnapped in that area 28 years ago. The dig was unproductive. New evidence that Daniel Therrien, under another name, had assaulted and kidnapped two boys in Canada, caused the case to be reopened and triggered the search for the body in the back yard of the house in which he was living. Chief Greg Suhr is asking for anyone who remembered a slight, redheaded man going by the name of Therrien, who had a large black dog and was living on the 1100 block of Masonic in 1984 to contact him. Although Therrien died in the Sunset district in 2008, police are eager to finally close the case after so many years.



*Collins was last seen waiting for the 43-Masonic bus just before 8 p.m. on Feb. 10, 1984.*

## Carl Street Completion

Work on the poles for the overhead lines remains unfinished on Carl street because the contractor is having an issue with their sub-contractor. They had to fire one and hire another one. Work is scheduled to be completed in March.

Temporary re-striping was put down after all the road work was completed in the neighborhood. The permanent striping is behind schedule because it was re-designed to improve the current



*What is this? And what is it used for?  
Answer on next page.*



*Photo: Joan Downey*

traffic movement. It is now underway. The Duboce section of the project has been completed with the addition of planters and street art chairs. CVIA will investigate getting streetscaping at the transit stops and replacement news racks.

—Joan Downey

## News From the Hill

Do you want to receive notices from UCSF regarding activities affecting the neighborhood? You can get on their mailing list by contacting Karen Knowles-Pearce, UCSF Community Relations Representative, at karen.knowles-pearce@ucsf.edu

**CVIANEWS** is published quarterly as a forum for residents of the greater Haight Ashbury neighborhood. The views expressed reflect those of the writers. Contributions for the Summer edition should be sent before May 1, 2013 to CVIASF@aol.com. We encourage submissions from anyone interested in our neighborhood. Send questions or comments to the above address or call 431-1414.

Editor .....Karen Crommie  
Production .....David Crommie  
Editorial Assistance .....Joan Downey

# Panhandle Facelift Nearly Done

Does it seem like a long wait since we submitted our proposal for the Community Opportunity Fund in 2010? The Panhandle capital improvement project is almost complete, according to city staff. Fences will be left in place for two months in order to help new grass get established. One issue that has complicated the completion of the project is a classic Panhandle problem that has



The Panhandle Stewards were awarded a grant to upgrade paths.

irked countless neighbors over the years: pathways lined with mud, puddles, and tire ruts. Fortunately, some additional work to improve the condition of the Ashbury path has been ordered and should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Back in 2010, I looked at the problems with our pathways by conducting initial and follow-up assessments of every cross-over path in the Panhandle. I found fewer ruts and puddles over a three-month time span between winter and spring. Because pathway conditions have seemed to improve, I haven't conducted another park wide assessment since then. We are making progress, and I credit our gardening staff for caring about and trying to find solu-



The Ashbury cross-over path from Fell to Oak is a work-in-progress.

tions, and our volunteers at community workdays who scoop mud and weeds from paths, and even Recology workers who now keep their trucks on Oak and Fell when fetching trash bins from the park. There are surely other helpful factors, too. We're seeing these

improvements despite frequently having heavy trucks in the park (e.g., targeted tree removals in 2012 and the installation of traffic control devices at Masonic).

At Ashbury, however, this problem has persisted. A year and a half ago, park staff devised a short-term fix for the north side by laying down a mosaic of chunks of concrete. And about a month ago, in keeping with the circulation design that was a component of the capital improvement project, the west side of the Ashbury pathway leading from Fell was widened. However, this winter the conditions on the Ashbury path leading south towards Oak St. worsened, with a combination of puddles, compacted soil, and even broken asphalt. That part of the pathway is not really car or truck-accessible due to the presence of light poles and utility boxes near the street, and that path has not been widened. The additional work to be done in the next few weeks should improve the conditions so that the outcome of our capital improvement project isn't compromised by problems in that area.

Update: The rain showers two weeks ago demonstrated that the drainage from the rain garden was too slow, and so planting of that area was postponed. The Rec and Park Department will figure out how to fix the problem, and planting will proceed after that. At the last community workday, the volunteers instead worked on a new planting around the gardener's shack and also on spreading soil and re-seeding the grass in the meadows near Lyon Street.

—Dale Danley.

## Saturday Volunteer Gardening in Our Neighborhood from 9 a.m. to Noon

**Alvord Lake Gardening Work Party** meets the last Saturday of every month at Stanyan & Waller. Contact Susan Strolis at 861-3195.

**The Buena Vista Park Volunteers** meet every first Saturday at the children's playground at Buena Vista West and Waller. Contact Richard Magary at BVNA@ix.netcom.com

**The Panhandle Stewards** meet on the second Saturday of every month near the restroom at Oak and Ashbury. Contact Dale Danley at dale987@gmail.com.

### Answer to Quiz on Page 9

**Location:** Stanyan Street at North edge of Fire Station.  
**Purpose:** Used by the Water Department to monitor water quality. These monitors are sited all around the City. Who knew?

### CVIA Officers

- President..... Karen Crommie
- Vice President ..... Shannon Cooper Hock
- Treasurer ..... Joan Downey
- Recording Secretary ..... Carole Glosenger
- Membership ..... Lena Emmery
- Community Relations ..... Amy Blakeley

## Cviasf@aol.com

Please contact us by email if you have an issue to raise, a newsletter article, address change, or an update to your membership information. Send us *your* email address if you want to be notified of upcoming meetings and events of importance to our neighborhood.

# Letters

Dear CVIA:

In response to the “Haight Ashbury Public Realm Plan,” a plan to “beautify” Haight Street by widening sidewalks, removing parking and adding flower baskets. Perhaps the plan does not go far enough?

While we are at it, maybe we should have yet another symposium on why we have young white homeless men with too much testosterone on Haight Street. Or maybe we can arrange more veterinarian mobiles to take a closer look at the pit bulls that these angry young men like to keep? Any discussion on “improving” Haight Street is not serious if the conversation does not start and end with the street punks that we must deal with on a daily basis. The proprietor of Pink Lily had the same street punk defecate in her doorway twice in one week — during business hours. Not sure if more parklets — which will take away much needed parking for this residential and commercial corridor — will remedy that problem.

Two weeks ago my wife took our son to the Koret Playground. After a stint in the office, I went to meet them. As we all are now sadly used to, I was approached by several young men offering me drugs. On the other side of the Alvord Tunnel, hundreds of children played soccer or made use of the playground and carousel, literally yards away from drug dealers and violent young men. As we walked our stroller back to Haight, our son had a “curse” put on him by the so-called keeper of the tunnel since we refused to pay his toll. Then we get to Haight Street. A young punk walking his Rottweiler or pit bull or whatever kind of dog it was, allowed his dog to defecate on the sidewalk right outside of Whole Foods. Since the 1700 block of Haight has been plagued in recent months by dog (bleep), I told the punk to pick it up or I’d call the cops. He told me what I could do with myself and proceeded to walk away. When I pressed the issue further, his friends threatened to kick my you know what.

But by all means, let us discuss making already wide sidewalks, even wider. That way tourists, both local and international, can more easily navigate around the poop and street punks that occupy our sidewalks.

Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs necessarily starts with the basics first, including safety needs: “protection from elements, security, order, law, limits, stability, etc.” These most basic of safety needs must be met before we move on toward “belongingness and love,” “self-esteem,” and finally: “self-actualization.”

It would appear however, some of us are ready to ignore safety and head straight to self-actualization filled with parklets and plants.

Not a good idea.

Mark Brennan

# Park Station Tip Line

Remember that if you have information regarding a crime that has occurred or any information that would assist in any investigation, you are encouraged to call the Tip Line and leave the information for officers. The reality is that people are sometimes very apprehensive to come forward and provide information. The Tip Line is a tool that you can use in order to help the police and your community. HELP US HELP YOU! If you would like to be contacted by an officer please leave your contact information. If you prefer to remain anonymous, just leave the information. The Tip Line number is 731-2865. As always, please remember that if you see any crime in progress, call 911.

# Help

- Emergency .....911
- Disturbance .....553-0123
- Blocked Driveways & Parking on Sidewalks ...553-1200
- Abandoned Vehicles .....781-5865
- Health Department .....255-3610
- Litter Patrol (sofas, mattresses, etc.).....311
- Graffiti and Illegal Sign Removal .....311
- NextBus .....311
- Street Lighting.....554-0730

**Mayor Edwin M. Lee** .....554-6141  
 City Hall - Room 200  
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
 S.F., CA 94102

**Chief of Police Greg Suhr** .....553-1551  
 Hall of Justice - 850 Bryant St.  
 S.F., CA 94103

**District Attorney George Gascón** .....553-1741  
 Hall of Justice - 850 Bryant St.  
 S.F., CA 94103

**Captain Greg Corrales** .....242-3000  
 Park District Police Station  
 1899 Waller St.  
 S.F., CA 94117  
 Greg.Corrales@sfgov.org

**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**  
 City Hall - Room 244  
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
 San Francisco, CA 94102

**Telephone: 554-5184 FAX: 554-5163**

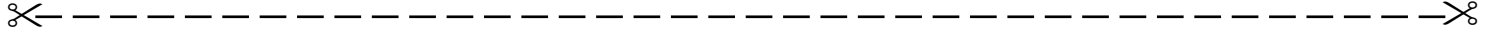
<i>District</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Fax</i>
1. Eric Mar Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org	554-7410	554-7415
2. Mark Farrell Mark.Farrell@sfgov.org	554-7752	554-7483
3. David Chiu, Board President David.Chiu@sfgov.org	554-7450	554-7454
4. Carmen Chu Carmen.Chu@sfgov.org	554-7460	554-7432
<b>5. London Breed</b> London.Breed@sfgov.org	<b>554-7630</b>	<b>554-7634</b>
6. Jane Kim Jane.kim@sfgov.org	554-7970	554-7974
7. Norman Yee Norman.Yee@sfgov.org	554-6516	554-6546
8. Scott Wiener Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org	554-6968	554-6909
9. David Campos David.Campos@sfgov.org	554-5144	554-6255
10. Malia Cohen Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org	554-7670	554-7674
11. John Avalos John.Avalos@sfgov.org	554-6975	554-6979

## BECOME A CVIA MEMBER

Membership in the Cole Valley Improvement Association is open to anyone interested in the greater Haight Ashbury. CVIA's mission is to promote a sense of responsibility and mutual respect throughout the district; preserve the character of its architecture; support the police in law enforcement efforts; encourage neighborhood-serving business; and be

constructively involved in San Francisco's governmental process. Annual dues are \$25.00. Membership provides contact with other responsible neighbors, a quarterly newsletter and participation in an active forum for effecting change. If you would like to become a member, please send in your dues with the form below.

Please clip and mail the coupon below to CVIA, P.O. Box 170611, San Francisco, CA 94117



**Yes! I'd like to become a CVIA member!**

Here's my check for \$25.00 made payable to: COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Renewal

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

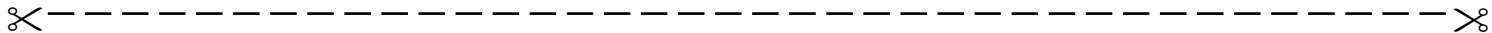
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

What I like about the neighborhood: \_\_\_\_\_

What I dislike about the neighborhood: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional contribution to Cole sidewalk cleaning \$\_\_\_\_\_ Do **not** acknowledge my contribution in the newsletter

*Dues paid to CVIA are not deductible as charitable contributions, however, amounts greater than the membership dues may be taken as a charitable deduction. Contact your accountant regarding the tax law.*



**Cole Valley Improvement Association**  
**P.O. Box 170611**  
**San Francisco, CA 94117**

**CVIA is on Facebook**  
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**and please "like" us ASAP**

