

# CVIA NEWS

COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Volume XXV

SERVING ALL RESIDENTS OF THE GREATER HAIGHT ASHBURY

FALL 2012

## Tenth Annual Cole Valley Fair on Sunday, September 23

San Francisco's favorite family-oriented street fair, is returning for its tenth year. Cole Street, between Grattan and Carl, will be lined with peak-roofed tents featuring beautiful crafts, children's activities and mouth-watering foods on September 23 starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. From two different "stages" some of the city's most popular musicians will hold forth in 45 minute performances. Since this is an election year, political candidates will no doubt be working the crowd, pets will again be vying for "smartest," and neighbors will be rediscovering each other. Everyone comes out on Fair Day.

The big inflatable "jumpy house" always draws kids from 6 to 12, who line up over and over again for the privilege of falling every which way in a safe environment. As usual, it will be skillfully monitored by volunteers from the Haight Ashbury Community Nursery School. Twee Twee, the balloon artist is the hands-down favorite with the kindergarten set. One can find a circle of tykes sitting transfixed in their chairs long after the fair is technically over, waiting their turn to experience the creation of a balloon animal especially for them. Also popular with the little ones is Buki the face-painting clown. Midline, the studio/gym on Frederick, will be setting up a youth fitness

*Continued on page 2, column 1.*

## Eight Candidates Running for District Five Supervisor



**Christina Olague** was appointed District 5 supervisor by Mayor Ed Lee to replace Ross Mirkarimi, who had left to become SF Sheriff. This is her first campaign for elected office. She had served on the Planning Commission for seven years, including two

**John Rizzo** currently serves as a SF City College trustee. He is former chair of the Sierra Club's Bay Area chapter and for over ten years was a commissioner on the Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority. Professionally, John is a technology writer and

**London Breed** has been executive director of the African American Arts and Cultural Center for ten years. At age 37, she has served both on the Re-development Commission and Fire Commission. A graduate of the University of California Davis, with

**Julian Davis** is president of the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center and has worked with government, non-profit and legal sectors on community development, social justice and environmental causes. For six years he served on the

**Thea Selby** is president of the Lower Haight Merchant + Neighbor Association, a board member of the Harvey Milk Community Recreation Council, Vice President of the PTA for the Rosa Parks elementary school, and is a former advisory board member of

## New Eclectic Shop on Cole

Although there is an almost constant rotation of shops on Haight Street, those in Cole Valley seem to have staying power. But in that key location between Say Cheese and Doug's Suds, Oceans of Lotions



gave way to a similar store. Occasions (Gifts, Bath and Body), which hung on much longer than anyone thought it would. Now, two young women, Amanda Weld and Michelle Spear, have opened a shop in that space that defies descrip-

tion. Are they selling baby clothes? Well, yes, but also second hand curiosities, kitchen ware and even some real antiques. It's called Tantrum and you simply have to go in to see for yourself. We wish them success.

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**District 5 Candidates (continued from page****Olague:**

terms as president and three terms as vice-president. She began her professional life working for a number of stock brokerages in San Francisco's financial district. At night, she remained engaged in the local activist community, advocating for various issues, including LGBT issues and tenant rights. She became a community organizer at the Mission Anti-Displacement Coalition (MAC), where she fought for the rights of low-income tenants and immigrants.

**Rizzo:**

author. Since 1997, he has published a technology news and information website. He has also taught adult education and has written educational materials. His most recent book was published in 2009. John Rizzo has lived in San Francisco for 25 years with his wife in Cole Valley and has a child in the San Francisco public school system. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Rutgers University.

**Breed:**

a major in chemistry, she received a MA in Public Administration from USF. London is the designee for California Attorney General Kamala Harris to the San Francisco Democratic Central County Committee and is an elected member of the California State Democratic Central Committee where she served as the Legislative and Policy Issues Chair for the Women's Caucus. In 2008, London was elected as an Obama delegate to the Democratic National Convention and is a graduate of the Emerge Program, which trains Democratic women to run for office.

**Davis:**

board of the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation and is a former board member of the urban environmental organization San Francisco Tomorrow. He was appointed to the Market Octavia Citizens' Advisory Committee by the Board of Supervisors. He worked for former Assemblyman, now State Senator, Mark Leno, in his San Francisco district office. He is a graduate of Brown University and U.C. Hastings College of the Law (magna cum laude).

**Selby:**

Community Grows, a non-profit creating gardens in the Western Addition and bringing green jobs to Western Addition kids. Beyond her neighborhood, Thea chairs the city's Citizens General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee (CGOBOC), serves on the executive committee of the SF Transit Riders Union, and is active in the San Francisco Women's Political Committee. A graduate of UC Berkeley, Thea has an MBA from Oregon. With her longtime business partner, she owns and operates a digital content and marketing company in the heart of the city. Thea and her husband, Robert, are parents of two boys attending public schools.

**Other Candidates:**

Daniel Everett, Andrew "Ellard" Resignato and Hope Johnson.

**Cole Valley Fair, continued from page 1.**

event again. Their obstacle course gives kids a chance to challenge themselves in a safe environment. And the Circus Center will set up a family pyramid/clown nose photo booth.

Off the Grid, The group that organizes the Thursday night food trucks on Waller Street, is arranging food vendors for this year. They promise us treats, both savory and sweet.

And yes, Cars on Cole will be back again this year. Vehicles in past years have ranged from a gaggle of Citroen 2CVs, British, German, French, Japanese and Italian Sports and Touring cars, heavy American Iron—Model A to modern Hot Rod.

*Historical Photos*

can be three-deep, as fascinated fairgoers get a new and old perspective on the neighborhood.

Chris Hock has rounded up a slate of musical groups promising to be the best we've had to date. Bitter Mystics — "smooth and sultry vocals backed by masterful acoustic rhythm and lead guitars, violin, energizing original songs described as boundary stretching Americana"; Blind Lemon Pledge — "With a helping of blues, a touch of soul and a taste of New Orleans swing, they play a unique blend of classic blues and crowd-pleasing originals."

*Pet Tricks*

The biggest crowd-pleaser of the fair is always "Pet Tricks," a fierce contest located at the Parnassus/Cole intersection at midday. Neighbors of all ages display the talents of their pets, mostly dogs, to a crowd of vocal partisans.

We value the participation of Grattan Elementary School parents and kids who always have a popular booth, as well as the Haight's favorite bookstore, Booksmith, whose staff always has interesting book-related activities.

This year's poster and T-shirt were created by CVIA board member Carole Glosenger. We've just seen the artwork and expect the product to fly off the shelves.

*Musical Groups*

There will be an especially interesting mix of vendors this year, including such oddities as insects framed in shadowboxes, decorative masks, handmade wooden pens and bowls, fairy tutus,

*Vintage Cars*

hula hoops, utilitarian pottery and kitchen utensils, clay jewelry for kids, utilitarian pottery, silk ascots, and art prints of food. About 60 percent of the artists are returning from last year and a quarter are talented Cole Valley residents, who, by the way, were given a special discount again this year. We're proud to say that, in their post-fair evaluations, the vendors have consistently given us high praise for a well-run fair. This is due mainly to our volunteers.

Please consider spending two hours of your time to help make this fair go smoothly again this year. Volunteer at [colevalleyfair@gmail.com](mailto:colevalleyfair@gmail.com).



## Victorian Alliance House Tour Features Panhandle Homes

A lovely cluster of Queen Anne homes will be showcased in the 40th home tour presented by The Victorian Alliance of San Francisco on Sunday, October 21st from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in celebration of the organization's 40th anniversary.

Noted Victorian builders of the picturesque style, including Cranston & Keenan, are represented in the North of the Panhandle (NoPA) neighborhood. Many of these homes feature curves, bays,



*North of Panhandle (NoPA) is a treasure trove of Victorian buildings.*

towers, balconies and whimsical ornamentation so beloved in the 1880-1890s.

The NoPA neighborhood was developed soon after the creation of nearby Golden Gate Park and its Panhandle Park. Tour homes lie within a relatively flat and compact area, well served by public transportation. Comfortable walking shoes and attire are recommended, and stair climbing should be anticipated in most residences.

Knowledgeable docents will provide historical background on each house's architect, contractor, craftsmen and the families who settled NoPA in the 19th Century. Complimentary light refreshments and a gift shop provide a welcome reward for tour goers.

All net proceeds benefit the Preservation Grant Fund of The Victorian Alliance, San Francisco's oldest all-volunteer, not-for-profit architectural preservation and education organization. General Public: \$30 purchased by October 15, 2012

Victorian Alliance members: \$25 purchased by October 15,

Order tickets online at <http://www.victorianalliance.org/house-tour/2012/>



**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.**

## Hamilton Methodist Church in New Hands With New Mission

There was some neighborhood trepidation over the item in the last newsletter that the United Methodist Church's California-Nevada Conference had approved plans to convert its shuttered building on Waller Street to a youth camping facility.

For that reason, CVIA met on the premises with Kelly Newell, director of Young People's Ministries and Camping (YPMC) on July 23. Newell said that, at the time of the departure of the last congregation, the Conference had initially decided to sell the property but that she had asked for a year to do a feasibility study for converting the church and its adjacent buildings into a recreational, learning and lodging space. Young Methodist groups, who come to San Francisco to work on projects and attend conferences have no place to sleep. Newell saw this as an opportunity to address a longtime need. She presented her plans for refurbishment and was given the go-ahead



*Kelly Newell is the director of Young People's Ministries and Camping (United Methodist Church California-Nevada Conference.)*

by the Conference to begin repurposing the space. The church transferred the property title to YPMC, which also owns buildings in Aptos and Jackson. They then established a formal partnership with the existing Saturday food program and CarShare.

As for the church itself, a Julia Morgan design, Newell says it will not return to religious use. There are simply not enough Methodists in the Haight to support a church. The last congregation had to be brought in from South San Francisco and was predominantly Tongan. Unfortunately, there was gross misuse of the buildings and constant complaints about the 24-hour-a-day mourning rituals, lasting for weeks at a time. Newell thinks the sanctuary will now be used for meetings or performances.

The large adjacent building has enough space to sleep 60 people, a stainless steel commercial kitchen and a large gymnasium with a mezzanine balcony. Plans include cleaning and painting the entire facility, a section at a time as funds are raised. As for the problem of noise, a great concern to immediate neighbors, Newell says that all of her facilities maintain "quiet hours" of 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. Nevertheless, the introduction of large numbers of teenagers, albeit well-behaved, to quiet Waller Street will have considerable impact and require close contact between the property manager and neighborhood. Of even greater concern is the fact that the space will be available for rent to outside groups of both youth and adults.

Because the Methodist headquarters are in Sacramento, management will be handled by Solstice Construction, the firm hired to carry out the refurbishment. Larry Sweeney is personally responsible right now and can be reached at (415) 225-5562. Eventually, Newell is hoping for a full-time, on-site manager.

— Karen Crommie

**VOLUNTEER TO WORK TWO HOURS AT THE FAIR ON SEPT. 23. [colevalleyfair@gmail.com](mailto:colevalleyfair@gmail.com)**



## Thank You For Your Support in 2011-12

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 this year, which costs us \$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. So we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their generosity:

Rita & Richard Felciano, Abby & David Rumsey, Les Silverman & Irv Govan, Britny Bottorff, Rosemary Southwood, Cecile & Jeff Boddington, Michael J. Sullivan, Ellena Ochoa & Ted Ridgeway, Lena Emmery & Charles Canepa, Jessica Justino & Bill Hancock, Virginia & David Keller, Byron G. Bray, Jr., Gina Centoni, Juliet Pries, John Manning, Margareta Ekblad & Vojtech Licko, The Ice Cream Bar, Virginia & Kenneth Brown, Virginia Joosen, 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 Ber- man, 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, Susan & Steven Rosen, Robert Bakewell, Tracy & Patrick Jennings, Karen & David Crommie, Jeanne Blamey & Robert Fram. Mark and Janet Hall, Gerardo Joffe, Elaine Robinson

### 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, typewritten, 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 Officers

President .....	Karen Crommie
Vice President .....	Marianne Hesse
Treasurer .....	Joan Downey
Recording Secretary .....	Amy Blakeley
Membership .....	Lena Emmery
Webmaster .....	Amy Blakeley

## Cole Fair Volunteers Needed!

Many people will be needed on September 23 to make the Cole Valley Fair a success. We especially need volunteers before the fair's opening at 10 a.m. to make sure the setup for the vendors goes smoothly. We attract high quality vendors partly because the Fair is



Lena Emmery assists exhibitors in lining up their vintage cars on Parnassus.

well organized—let's keep it that way.

The day starts at 6 a.m. when we work with the police and DPT to get cars towed (after trying to identify the owners), set up barricades, unlock the dumpsters and port-a-potties, post the Fair signs, and measure

and mark the one hundred vendor spaces. Hartmann Studios Rentals, who will provide canopies, tables, and chairs, needs guidance as to where to put everything.

At 7 a.m. the vendors start arriving. Volunteers at all four intersections will greet the vendors and direct them to their booth space. A monitor at the Grattan parking lot will direct traffic there and pack in as many cars as possible — making sure that everyone



The Fair's set-up begins at 6 a.m. on Cole and Parnassus.

has their booth location and cell phone number on the dashboard.

And we need to set up the CVIA and Fair booths; help mount the historical photos exhibit; and check that all the vendors arrived with the goods they promised.

The morning crew will be treated to coffee and pastries.

Throughout the day, we need volunteers to walk around the fair to check that everything is going smoothly; help move barricades for vehicles to get through in an emergency; call for the CleanScapes crew if there is a spill; arrange the tables and chairs—making sure that they are clean; and observe the booths: Are there any that stand out?

After 5 p.m. we need volunteers to help pack up T-shirts and count the number left, remove signs, remove the photo display, and return barricades to the location from which they were delivered.

If you can help any time during the day for a minimum two-hour stint, send an e-mail to [colevalleyfair@gmail.com](mailto:colevalleyfair@gmail.com) or call 317-2074. Each volunteer gets a 2012 Cole Valley Fair T-shirt or poster designed by Carole Glosenger.

—Joan Downey  
Cole Valley Fair Organizer



## Home for Developmentally Disabled Seniors Planned

Since its inception in 1904, the yellow brick building on the northwest corner of Masonic and Page has been a residential care facility in one form or another until its vacancy in 2007. Around that time, a developer of elder care, Age Song, hoped to use the space to provide residential care services for seniors that would include both independent and assisted living, as well as secure memory care. Despite receiving the necessary approval, they were unable to find adequate funding and the building remained in its vacant state until Mercy Housing and The Arc of San Francisco began collaborating in the hopes of creating an independent living environment for developmentally disabled adults.

On June 13th, 2012, Mercy Housing and The Arc of San Francisco held a meeting with neighbors at the Urban School to share their vision and to respond to neighbors' questions and concerns about the proposed development at 1500 Page Street.

They hope, with ongoing funding from HUD and help with the capital costs from the Mayor's Office of Housing, to begin construction in the winter of 2014. They estimate that it would take about a year to complete. The architect for the project, Paulett Taggart told neighbors that all renovations, with the exception of a new entry gate



*Built in 1904 as the Scobie Memorial Sanitarium, 1500 Page Street has been empty for five years.*

with a canopy on Masonic Street and a secondary stair tower, which would be set back fifteen feet from Page Street, would be internal. Unlike Age Song's plans to add a fourth story, Mercy Housing and The Arc plans to work within the existing structure. Neighbors were also told that two parking spaces would be returned to the neighborhood. For neighbors who were concerned that the property might become condos, it was explained that, once HUD funds rental units, they must remain affordable for forty years. The stair tower, which is needed for safety, will necessitate a conditional use permit. They will also need approval for going from a board and care facility to independent living.

Mercy Housing and The Arc plan to create fifteen housing units, consisting of twelve studios and four one-bedroom apartments. There will also be a manager's apartment on the premises as well as public spaces and services.

This will be permanent independent living and the housing will be limited to developmentally disabled adults already living within the city and county of San Francisco. There will be staff members on hand to assist the residents as they go to jobs, school or volunteer work.

—Marianne Hesse

## Proposed New Restroom in Buena Vista Park

At a meeting of Haight residents held in late June, a controversial proposal to open a restroom in Buena Vista Park was debated. The recommended location is just below the Children's Playground near Buena Vista West at Waller Street, at sidewalk level, next to the existing paved path leading from the street to the playground. This location is cost-effective and would best serve the Children's Playground, the just-renovated Off-leash Dog Play Area, and other high-activity areas of the Park. It also is the most visible from the street to all passersby, including police patrol vehicles.

The design would be a "traditional" rectangular building with stucco walls, red tile roof, with separate men's and women's facilities containing "industrial strength" fixtures. All surfaces, both



*The proposed site is on Buena Vista West, close to areas of high use.*

inside and out, would have an anti-graffiti coating. Entries would have lockable gates that allow users to see inside before entering. Interior and downward-facing perimeter lights would be on timers and also have motion sensors to activate them when lights are off. There would be natural ventilation through non-accessible portals near the roof with standard maintenance twice each day.

S.F. Recreation and Parks Department requires 75 percent neighborhood support. Otherwise, the Buena Vista Park restroom will not be built and funds diverted to another city park, as required by the 2008 Parks Bond funding. Support at this point is near the required threshold, judging from those attending either or both Community Meetings (May 1 and June 26) or submitting email comments and voicemails to Rec and Park.

The slide presentation made at the June 26 meeting is posted at [www.sfrecpark.org/restroomProject.aspx](http://www.sfrecpark.org/restroomProject.aspx) (click on "Individual Projects and Meeting Materials" and then to "Buena Vista Park"). You also can see the May 1 meeting presentation and a summary of audience comments at that website.

A recommendation based on neighborhood feedback has been tallied and we await a recommendation to Rec and Park's senior management and the governing Rec and Park Commission. Rec and Park's project manager can be reached at [Mary.Hobson@SFGov.org](mailto:Mary.Hobson@SFGov.org).

—Richard Magary

[BVNA@ix.netcom.com](mailto:BVNA@ix.netcom.com)

[www.BVNASF.com](http://www.BVNASF.com)

**VOLUNTEER TO WORK TWO HOURS AT THE  
FAIR ON SEPT. 23. [colevallyfair@gmail.com](mailto:colevallyfair@gmail.com)**

## Street Closure on Fair Day

*Cole closed between Carl & Grattan*

*Parnassus closed between Belvedere & Shrader*

Four blocks will be closed to cars on Sunday, September 23, for the 10th Annual Cole Valley Fair. If you live in this area, you will not be able to park and access will be limited from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you need to use a car parked in a garage or an off-street parking area, you'll want to move it to an area outside of the closed blocks before the closure.

Grattan School has graciously donated its parking lot, which will be open the night before the fair and on the day of the fair, for your convenience.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause you and we will offer affected residents a discount on the fair T-shirts and posters. Contact us at [colevalleyfair@gmail.com](mailto:colevalleyfair@gmail.com) or 317-2074 with your questions or concerns. Thank you for your support.

## Circus Training for All Ages Flourishes in Cole Valley

"How come I've never heard of you?" is the most frequent response when I hand someone my card. Founded in 1984 and residing in the old Poly High west gymnasium on Frederick Street since 1992, Circus Center grew from a humble beginning as the training arm of the Pickle Family Circus into a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to inspire passion for the circus arts through training, performance, and community outreach. Legendary artists and instructors Joe Diefenbacher (Europe), Elena Panova (Russia), and Master Lu Yi (China) direct clowning, aerial arts, and acrobatics, respectively.



*Circus Center student practices on the ropes.*

Circus Center trains artists who go on to perform with Cirque Du Soleil and compete in major international festivals, like Board member Sam Payne and his wife Sandra Feusi, but you don't have to be an expert to benefit from circus training. Balance, alignment, flexibility, strength, and artistic expression are all important in everyday life. With over 80 classes per week and an all-you-can-eat training program of more than 25 classes focused on beginners, everybody can have fun while getting fit.

Not just for adults, kids ages five and up learn from our most experienced staff in a safe, non-competitive environment through year-round training and seasonal Day Camps. Next June, Circus Center will host the first ever youth circus festival to encourage and promote participation in the circus arts at all of the facilities in the Bay Area. We hope our youngest Cole Valley neighbors will take advantage of this opportunity and become active members of our community. [www.circuscenter.org](http://www.circuscenter.org)

—Ayla Agarwai

## After a Year, the Sit/Lie Ordinance is Only Semi-Effective.

The Chronicle recently featured a two-part story on the effectiveness of the law against sitting or lying on the city's sidewalks between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. There were pictures of the Haight's street people, above the fold, for two days running. Although the Civil Sidewalks (sit/lie) law passed by the voters in November of 2010 is in effect citywide, its initial boosters and calls for service come from here in the Haight.

The two lengthy articles, written by the Chronicle's Heather Knight and Kevin Fagan, were triggered by a report recently released by the SFPD giving stats on actual citations issued during the first year of enforcement. The findings? Not surprisingly, the vast majority of sit/lie citations were issued here in the Haight Ashbury by our Park Station officers—231 as opposed to the next highest of 48 in the Mission District. Of those, only 18 involved repeat offenders being arrested and booked into the county jail. The vast majority of these repeat offenders are the older chronic alcoholics, familiar to many of us.



*Photo: Brant Ward, The Chronicle / SF*

*Roland Dequina has received 25 citations since the program began last year*

A survey prepared by four City Hall interns ("Fellows") for the SFPD showed that more than half of 50 Haight Street business owners interviewed said they saw "no difference in the number of people" sprawled in front of their stores. (Note: the reason we see so many transients around the entrance to Golden Gate Park on Stanyan is that sit/lie doesn't apply in parks.)

SF Chief of Police George Gascón is quoted by Knight as saying that he will soon begin effecting a new protocol, singling out those with over 20 bench warrants for jail time until their court date, which would most likely be within two weeks at the Community Justice Center. In that special court, offenders are sentenced to community service or treatment programs in lieu of going to jail.

—Karen Crommie

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 Winter edition should be sent before November 1, 2012 to 628 Ashbury St., San Francisco, CA 94117 or [kcrommie@aol.com](mailto:kcrommie@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  
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## Cole Valley Antiques Under Fire

Cole Valley Antiques (90 Parnassus) is one of the little gems that makes our neighborhood the special place it is. Owned by Angela Pettitt-Taylor and Jerry Emerson, it is a repository of both commonplace and rare treasures from the past displayed in a charming way. The profits made from a neighborhood antiques shop are small. It's the love of old things and the spirit of the hunt for a diamond in the rough that motivates their owners to persist.

Recently, in its dogged attempt to increase the city's coffers, the authorities have been enforcing a ridged set of rules enacted to intervene in the fencing of stolen goods. It requires that owners of



City regs are too stringent for small second-hand shop owners.

all secondhand shops be fingerprinted, have mug shots and pay a licensing fee of as much as \$1,500 plus keep a daily transaction record and descriptions of people selling and purchasing at their store.

Pettitt-Taylor told the Examiner's Joshua Sabatini recently, "These are the types of fees that are going to put us under."

Supervisor Scott Wiener is trying to make changes so that, while the rules stay in place for pawn shops and junk dealers, they are made more reasonable for people like the owners of Cole Antiques. (Hours: Noon-6 p.m. Closed Monday.)

## Thank You to the Sponsors of the 2012 Cole Valley Fair

- |                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Wells Fargo</b>                | <b>CleanScapes</b>       |
| <b>Recology</b>                   | <b>Sunset Scavenger</b>  |
| <b>Circus Center</b>              | <b>Crepes on Cole</b>    |
| <b>Cole Hardware</b>              | <b>UCSF</b>              |
| <b>La Boulange de Cole</b>        |                          |
| <b>The Ice Cream Bar</b>          | <b>Craigconnects.org</b> |
| <b>Kezar Bar &amp; Restaurant</b> | <b>Art Cleaners</b>      |
| <b>Midline</b>                    | <b>Postal Chase</b>      |
| <b>Walgreen's</b>                 | <b>Tully's</b>           |
| <b>BurgerMeister</b>              | <b>Cole Cleaners</b>     |
| <b>Mane Attraction</b>            | <b>AcroSports</b>        |
| <b>Belvedere House</b>            | <b>Carl Hotel</b>        |
| <b>Egg &amp; Urban Mercantile</b> |                          |

## Private Money to Improve Kezar Triangle

Plans were recently revealed to transform the Kezar Triangle, that desolate patch of lawn stretching west from Kezar Stadium to 3rd Avenue. At a July 24 meeting at the County Fair Building, Brent Dennis, Golden Gate Park's assistant director of operations introduced Carla Crane, member of the Berkeley Art Museum's board of trustees, who spoke about her desire to use private funding to create something beautiful and lasting in a San Francisco Park.



The neglected field on the periphery of Golden Gate Park is mainly used by UCSF employees who leave their cars in the park.

Sam Bower of Greenmuseum.org then spoke about the formation of Friends of Kezar Triangle and described the creative research and discussions that have so far led to the presentation that night. Landscape architect Jeff Miller reviewed the current park conditions and then presented two designs.

Among the ideas presented were: to increase planting on its perimeter; erecting temporary art; reduce car parking on Arguello, add benches or natural materials that could be utilized as such; and to explore other path configurations.

About 25 people turned out to actively participate in a discussion. The next step is to incorporate these thoughts and suggestions into a revised design or designs and have another meeting—hopefully by the end of August. Go to <http://Kezartriangle.org> to view historic aerial views of the area and to post ideas or reactions.

—Kyla Burson

Miller Company Landscape Architects

### Slate of CVIA Officers for 2012-13

Any member of the CVIA Board of Directors is eligible to run for office provided he/she has served one year on the board. Any CVIA member can join the board when a space is available, provided he/she has been a member for one year. Currently, one space is open.

President.....Karen Crommie  
 Vice-president .....Amy Blakeley  
 Treasurer .....Joan Downey  
 Recording Secretary .....Carole Glosenger

Note: Election will have taken place before publication at CVIA's Annual Meeting/Summer Social on August 18.

## 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 always very 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.

### June

Location: Home of Lena Emmery and Chuck Canepa – June 4, 2012

- 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, the Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Committee, and the Coalition for S.F. Neighborhoods. Welcomed guest presenter Bill Bainer
- Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,076.43 in savings, \$9,487.11 in checking, with \$3,319.62 in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$16,398.55 in the Cole Valley Fair fund.
- The May minutes were amended to include a motion not to post CVIA correspondence on the website.
- Waller Street Skateboard Park – Marianne Hesse advised that a sound study had been done. No one on the Board had heard of it or knew the results. Marianne to try to get more info. She also reported on an article about an increase in graffiti in the park.
- Summer Social: Kezar Bar and Restaurant agreed to date of August 18 and arrangements. Invitation will go out via postcards, email and Facebook.
- 266 Edgewood: The material presented as fact regarding the prospective demolition may not be completely accurate. There are other modern homes on the block, there are no permits out, and it appears to be a preemptive strike. CVIA Board decided to review the issue after permits have been requested.
- Street tree trimming: Regarding letters sent to Cole Valley owners offering free tree trimming by Michael Sullivan: 2 have said yes thus far. Discussed giving Sullivan an award for his generous volunteer work with neighborhood trees.

### Cole Valley Fair

- ISCOTT permit approved. Booths - 45 Entries, 21 pre-accepted. New owners of Cole Valley Fitness want a booth, and also may be interested in taking over fair next year. Food : After reviewing of pros and cons, Board unanimously approved using Off The Grid for the fair's food booths. Joan will handle contract. Poster/T-shirt original graphic designer will be paid \$200 and credit on artwork. T-shirt color decision made. Music: 70% slots filled, thanks to the work of Chris Hock. "Stages" will now each have a theme.
- Guest: Bill Bainer, developer for 42 years, wanted Board's feedback on his long-term plan to develop parking garages under the city's parks during periods of that park's rehabilitation. He is asking neighborhoods to support him and propose locations.
- Social media: CVIA webmaster Amy Blakeley is still working on putting PayPal on website. Will report at next meeting.
- New Business: Shannon Cooper Hock suggested a Clean Cole Fund-raiser: a neighborhood flea market where people wanting to sell things would pay a fee for a table. (Possibly at Grattan School?)
- Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

### July

Location: Home of Karen and David Crommie – July 9, 2012

The meeting started at 5:00 in order to jury the merchandise of the vendors who had submitted applications to the 2012 Cole Valley Fair. Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 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, the Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Committee, and the Coalition for S.F. Neighborhoods.
- Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,076.43 in savings, \$9,487.11 in checking, with \$3,319.62 in the Clean Cole Street fund and \$16,398.55 in the Cole Valley Fair fund. CVIA is still holding \$527.47 for the Inner Sunset Park Neighbors for whom they are fiscal sponsors.
- Nominations for officers were made: President: Karen Crommie, Vice-president: Amy Blakeley, Treasurer: Joan Downey, Recording Secretary: Carole Glosenger.
- Reviewed awards to be given at Summer Social August 18
- Social media: PayPal payment options for membership and donations to Clean Cole have been placed on the website.
- Cole Valley Retail: new store TANTRUM, vintage kids toys and house wares, etc., has opened (softly) in the old Occasions space. Cole Valley Fair:
- Additional Sponsors: Wells Fargo, Art Cleaners and BurgerMeister have added their names to those already sponsoring the Fair.
- Food: Off the Grid is to handle all food booths at the fair. There will be four booths with full meals and one treat/sweet booth. Each food vendor gets 2 booths for a total of 8 booth spaces.
- Music: All time slots are filled. 70% are returning musicians. Performance "Stages" to have different music styles, such as "Hardly, Hardly Strictly" for country/bluegrass and "Outside, Outside Lands" for indie rock and pop. Organizer Chris Hock is looking for hay bales for seating and possible sponsorship from Amoeba or other music store.

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

## 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 will be held at Park Station's Community Room, (1899 Waller)



**September 11, October 9 and November 13**  
**Mark Your Calendars**



## Bike Rental as Social Agent

For years Rec and Park, spurred on by Cole Valley residents have tried to mitigate the unsavory goings on at that small area of the park — where Haight dead ends into Stanyan — called Alvord Lake. For years, it’s been a hangout for illegal campers and druggies. The prevailing wisdom is that more neighbors, children and tourists using the area would change the threatening vibe. Finally, there is a small attempt to do just that. Rec and Park’s property manager, Casandra Costello, has told us that they are permitting a small temporary (pop-up) bike rental concession run by ParkWide to be operated at the site on Saturdays and Sundays for an eight-week period which began in late July. Rec and Park has asked for our feedback during this trial period. Is it making a difference on the weekends? Please contact Cassandra at 831-2791.

## Another Reprieve for Recycling Center

After losing an appeal to their eviction from Golden Gate Park, it is clear that the owners of the Recycling Center, like a dog with a bone, will simply not let go. This time they’re appealing to the California State Supreme Court, which will, once again, postpone any action by the sheriff.

After undermining Rec and Park’s plan for a community garden at the site by setting up one themselves, and finding that didn’t help their case before the Court of Appeals, they are trying a new tack. They are now reborn as defender of all “Urban Agriculture in San Francisco.” You’d never know they’re operating a recycling operation and paying no rent to the city. The issue is neither recycling nor community gardens, it is authority over that acre of Park land. Much like the former concessionaires at the Stowe Lake boathouse, they believe the land belongs to them. Let’s give them full credit for chutzpa.

—Karen Crommie

## Zumba in Cole Valley

There’s an underground Zumba class going on in the basement of the Circus Center on 755 Frederick Street. Jessa Freeman is teaching Zumba Fitness, the Latin dance inspired cardio fitness class Monday and Friday nights at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday morning at 10 a.m. The class is an hour long and nothing is required except an awesome attitude, water bottle and shoes that don’t have too much traction. Through the month of August, Jessa’s offering an introductory package: buy 2 classes get 2 free (\$24 for 4 classes). Contact her at (415) 254-4787.

**A CLEAN  
COLE  
STREET**



**2012 Heroes**

Alpha Market	Bambino’s Ristorante
BurgerMeister	Cole Cleaners
Cole Hardware	Cole Valley Fitness
Crepes on Cole	Postal Chase

## Postscripts

Local kingmaker **Aaron Peskin**, chair of the SF Democratic Party, has endorsed community organizer **Julian Davis** in the race for District 5 Supervisor. This comes as a blow to other candidates vying for the title of “most progressive,” particularly incumbent **Christina Olague**, who has apparently fallen out of grace for voting in favor of a condo development at **8 Washington** (the Golden Gateway Swim and Tennis club) as well as raising nearly \$50,000 at a Chinatown campaign fund-raiser attended by the triumvirate of **Rose Pak**, **Willie Brown** and **Mayor Ed Lee**.

\* \* \*

Eleven months after it was gutted in a fire, **People’s Cafe** reopened for business on July 10. For months, no work was visible, finally



(presumably when the insurance was settled), scores of workers descended and completely refurbished the space at 1419 Haight St. The cafe, still under the same ownership, looks basically the same excepting that I’ve noticed they’ve added crepes to the menu.

\* \* \*

Who would have thought that under an Obama administration more illegals would be deported than ever before and that San Francisco’s



pot clubs would come under tighter restrictions? The DOJ closed the doors on what is reputed to be the most legit of the city’s medical cannabis clubs, the eight-year old **Vapor Room** at 607 Haight. Too close to Duboce playground, say the feds. Many are in mourning.

\* \* \*

To our disappointment, Superior Court Judge **Teri Jackson** rejected the challenge by **San Francisco Beautiful** to the city’s approval of

a plan by **AT&T** to install up to 726 U-verse large utility boxes in public rights of way. Jackson refused to order a reversal of the Board of Supervisors' approval of the project. CVIA strongly supported SFB's claim that it was the *cumulative* effect of so many refrigerator-sized white boxes placed on city sidewalks that violated the California Environmental Quality Act. But it's hard to fight AT&T.

\* \* \*

What's in a name? A posting on sfeater.com says that **Nate Valentine** and the gang from **Mamacita's** (Marina District), who are plan-



ning to open an upscale Mexican restaurant in the old Eos venue at 901 Cole, decided not to buck the owners of another restaurant that thought Valentine's proposed name of Papazote sounded a bit too much like their existing two eateries called Papatote. So Cole Valley's Mexican cantina will now be called **Bocazote**

\* \* \*

Tucked around the corner from the Whole Foods parking lot is a new café called **Flywheel Roastery** (672 Stanyan). It's a big, open



space like Four Barrel in the Mission. Good place to hold a meeting. Although owner **Aquiles Guerrero's** family owns Martha and Bros., and he worked there for many years, this is solely the business of him and his wife **Marissa**. Raised in Nicaragua on a coffee plantation it is Aquiles' dream to go back to his homeland to buy land himself and import his own beans. His coffee roaster arrived this week and he hopes to be roasting on the premises by the end of the month. Apart from espresso drinks Flywheel offers individual slow-drip coffee and a cutting edge "Kyoto System" machine for ice coffee. Their pastries come from various bakeries but they feature a house

made bread pudding. The patio in the back may be open by the time you read this. Open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

\* \* \*

When **Craig Newmark**, Cole Valley's most accessible celebrity, was recently inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame, he commented to Wired magazine's Sara Mitroff, "It must have been a clerical error"



Photo: Stephanie Cacciolo/Unali Artists

(wired.com/business). Craig, who frequents **Reverie Café** and is known to regularly clear tables, is the founder of Craigslist.com. He stepped down from the CEO position in 2000 saying, with typical self-effacement, "People helped me understand that as a manager, I suck." Ever since then, Craig is content to handle customer feedback and develop philanthropic projects such as Craigconnects and the Craigslist Foundation, offering free and low cost events and online resources to promote community and affect change.

\* \* \*

**Buyers Best Friend (BBF) Wholesale Mercantile**, an online distributor of specialty foods, has recently opened a retail store at 1740



Haight Street. They feature imported chocolates, oils and vinegars along with home and kitchenware. But, mostly, they will introduce you to local artisans who are making hard-to-find luxury food items. How about Masala flavored popcorn, Agave Caramels, Bacon Hot Sauce, Lavender shortbread, ginger-curry mustard and truffle salt? Perfect hostess gifts for foodie friends. Well worth investigating.

—Karen Crommie

## CVIASF.ORG

Check out our nifty website created by CVIA member Mark Ballew and maintained by Amy Blakeley. It has everything: history of the organization, breaking neighborhood news and upcoming events.



# Sob, the Last Cole Valley Fair?

Will ten years put the cap on the Cole Valley Fair? Originated by Cole Valley merchants Lori Elder (The Shop, long closed) and Maryo Mogannam (Postal Chase) in 2002, the fair was called the Heart of Cole Festival. CVIA's Joan Downey took over its production in 2007 and the name change occurred by a unanimous vote of the CVIA board in 2008.

Never having organized an event of this kind, but a former project manager for Bank of America, Chevron and Apple, she quickly researched "best practices" and developed the fair into a



After five years, fair organizer Joan Downey is ready to pass the baton..

greatly anticipated annual occasion. Keeping fastidious records, scheduling permit dates months ahead of time, holding post-fair analyses of "lessons learned," she mastered the myriad problems and developed a select group of artists, food vendors and a loyal cadre of neighborhood volunteers and business supporters. Mail sent to her after the fair is typically: "Your professionalism is appreciated," "Grateful to you for furnishing volunteers to spell us vendors for bathroom breaks," "The most family-oriented fair in the Bay Area," "Appreciate the way you handle the vendor parking," "Your jury process eliminates the dreck found at most fairs," "The best-run fair in the city."

Now Joan has decided to move on, presumably to another challenge, and wants to pass the fair along to another person with a track record of organizing skill. Joan accepted only \$3,500 for her work so that CVIA could spend the fair profits on grants for Grattan School and CleanScape for the daily cleaning of Cole Street. We realize an outside person would demand more compensation, which might eliminate the community grants, but allow the fair to continue.

Joan says that it has been one of the richest experiences of her life. "I have met a host of talented craftspeople, entertainers and old car owners. I am still amazed when I see my telephone call list with names like "Twee Twee" and "Mystical Hayride." But best is the contact with all the generous Cole Valley merchants and neighbors. I never would have met so many had they not said 'Yes' to my appeal to lend a hand on Fair Day."

—Karen Crommie

# 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

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 San Francisco, CA 94102

Telephone: 554-5184 FAX: 554-5163

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3. David Chiu, Board President David.Chiu@sfgov.org	554-7450	554-7454
4. Carmen Chu Carmen.Chu@sfgov.org	554-7460	554-7432
5. <b>Christina Olague</b> Christina.Olague@sfgov.org	<b>554-7630</b>	<b>554-7634</b>
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10. Malia Cohen Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org	554-7670	554-7674
11. John Avalos John.Avalos@sfgov.org	554-6975	554-6979

**CVIA is on Facebook**  
 Go to [www.facebook.com/CVIASF](http://www.facebook.com/CVIASF)  
 and please "like" us ASAP

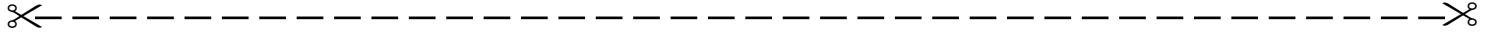


## BECOME A CVIA MEMBER

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 \_\_\_\_\_

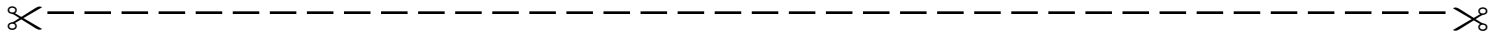
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Optional contribution to Cole sidewalk cleaning \$\_\_\_\_\_ Okay to acknowledge by name in 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**

**Don't miss the  
 Cole Valley Fair!**  
**September 23**  
**10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**