

CVIA NEWS

COLE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Volume XXVII

SERVING ALL RESIDENTS OF THE GREATER HAIGHT ASHBURY

SUMMER 2014

How to Marry a Millionaire

Who would have guessed that a recent study tracking the whereabouts of the city's single millionaires would show that the greater Haight Ashbury exceeds even Pacific Heights in number? In an article by Ellen Cushing in San Francisco Magazine (4-7-14)



First choice for the city's single millionaires is the Haight Ashbury.

the survey, made by the consulting firm WealthEngine, showed the Haight on the top of the list with 283 millionaires (226 men, 57 women) followed by the Castro with a total of 256 (177 men, 79 women) and, coming up third, Noe Valley with 228 (132 men, 96 women). The list goes down from there with Pacific Heights in fourth and Lake Merced at the bottom with a paltry two millionaires. Both men.

The numbers are based on census data, DMV records, real estate dealings, and various other sources. Cushing says, "Old centers of wealth (and centers of old wealth) like Russian Hill and the Marina appear to be waning in favor of the central city. Well-off unmarried men still outnumber well-off unmarried women. And if you're looking for a sugar mama or daddy, get thee to the Haight."

Bacon Bacon Reopens, Chastened But Resolute

I suppose it was called a "soft opening" when Bacon Bacon reopened its doors (205-A Frederick) a few days prior to its official opening of April 19. With windows still papered over and a chalk board outside reading "Come in for breakfast on us," it was an exceedingly friendly kind of opening. And much needed after the objections to the establishment of the prep kitchen for the popular Bacon Bacon food trucks, staples of the city's ubiquitous caravan circles that form every night in different neighborhoods.



Those opposing this enterprise uncovered the many city ordinances owner Jim Angeles had bypassed in establishing, not only his kitchen, but its walk-up business. Based primarily on the smell produced daily by rendering fat from many pounds of bacon, the objections have been addressed by the installation of a Molitron exhaust system that should guide cooking odor up and away from nearby



Owner Jim Angeles fulfilled all code requirements to reopen at last.

homes. Neighbors, who were lambasted nationally for objecting to what is arguably one of the world's most wonderful aromas, insist that the sheer quantity of burning fat changes that mouth-watering smell to something quite unpleasant. Neither were they fond of the Bacon Bacon trucks parked on Frederick Street as they were loaded with product. This has been addressed by Angelus renting space in SOMA to prepare much of his menu.

So, after many months of construction, approval of the needed city permits, and rapprochement with its neighbors, Bacon Bacon now sports a few small tables, full espresso bar, an assortment of baked goods, an expanded bacon menu and even a few more healthful choices such as granola and yogurt. (Awww, go ruin it for us.)

—Karen Crommie

INSIDE

Bay to Breakers 2014.....9	Motorists Backlash.....7
Board Minutes.....8	Neighborhood Concerts7
Booksmith Events6	New Stanyan Shop6
Building Boom7	Oak/Fell Update10
Cole Valley Fair4	Oversize Vehicle Ban4
Four-Twenty Deluge9	6 Parnassus Unchanged.....4
Guide to Haight Revised.....8	Pinball on Waller.....10
Hidden Steps5	Postscripts10
Lang House Sold.....7	Police Forum6
Library Open Every Day.....5	Sigg Honored5
Kezar Drive Potholes5	Tantrum Egg Hunt.....5
Kezar Triangle Completed3	Thanks to Supporters6
Magary Steps Down.....3	Warriors Change Site2

Farmers Market Returns

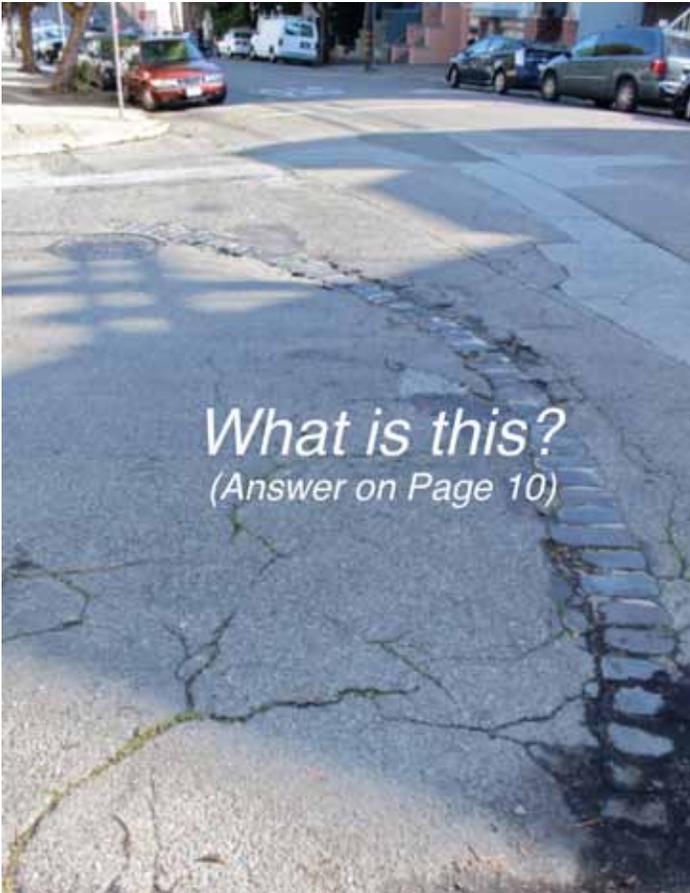
The Upper Haight Farmers Market has reopened for the growing season. Join your friends and neighbors every Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. for the best in locally-grown fruits and vegetables, farm-fresh eggs, bakery goods, a sprinkling of ethnic specialties and much



The Wednesday Market has become a meeting place for neighbors.

more as Waller Street is transformed into a small town marketplace. There's usually live music, too, to enliven the experience.

Thanks to the Haight Ashbury Improvement Association for sponsoring the market again this year. The market operates in all kinds of weather so you can count on its being there, at least until October 29. Bring a cart with wheels to carry home your purchases or park in the Kezar lot nearby.



Good News for Those Who Want to Protect Waterfront

The Golden State Warriors recently announced that they are abandoning their plans to build a massive arena, retail and luxury high rise condo and hotel tower on Pier 30-32 and Seawall Lot 330. The new arena will be built instead in Mission Bay on a 12 acre site at Third and 16th streets.

For those of you who attended CVIA's Summer Social last year and saw the presentation by former SF mayor, Art Agnos, you will not be surprised that he judges this "a spectacular victory for

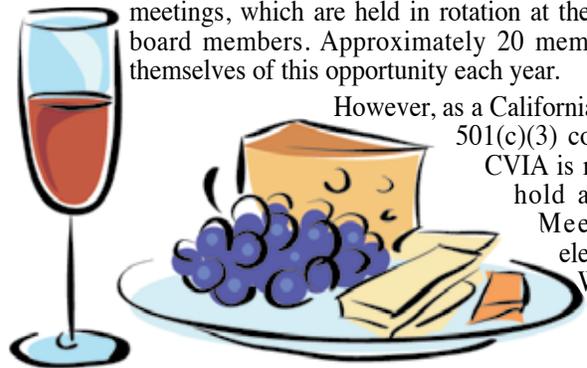


The Warriors saved face by blaming the Army Corps of Engineers' lengthy environmental review, but it was more likely the fear of losing at the ballot box (Prop B - Waterfront Height Limits) that motivated the team to find an alternative location for their arena.

the people of San Francisco. We protected our bay and waterfront while, at the same time, gained a basketball team for our city in the right location. This shows the value of community involvement and active participation in developing plans for the future of our waterfront and city."

Summer Social on August 23 at Kezar Bar & Restaurant

Years ago, CVIA used to hold monthly membership meetings. But unless there was raging controversy (Walgreens's on Parnasus was the last one), members stayed home on meeting nights. Eventually, only the board members attended and well, it's a big effort to build agendas, bring in speakers, set up refreshments and so, dispirited, we decided to stop the meetings. As an alternative, any member has a standing invitation to attend our monthly board meetings, which are held in rotation at the homes of board members. Approximately 20 members avail themselves of this opportunity each year.



However, as a California nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, CVIA is required to hold an Annual Meeting and elect officers. We have chosen to make this a party and charge a small fee (\$10 a head) to cover a portion of the food and drink. For the fourth year this will be held at the Kezar Bar and Restaurant (900 Cole St.). Owner Steve Schick is a gracious host and we appreciate his opening early for CVIA members one day a year.

Kezar Triangle Renovation Celebrates its Completion

To highlight the completion of the landscaping renovations of the Kezar Triangle (and usher in the Spring Equinox), Friends of Kezar Triangle hosted a community picnic on April 11. More than \$500,000 had been donated by the David and Carla Crane Foundation to the San Francisco Parks Alliance and Friends of Kezar Triangle. After opening remarks by Rec and Park general manager Phil Ginsburg, benefactor Carla Crane, and SF Parks Alliance CEO Matthew O’Grady, the crowd enjoyed circus skills workshops, live music, crafts, and creative nature activities. Perfect weather helped produce a large turnout. A truly heart-warming way to celebrate the opening of this newly transformed public space.

Kezar Triangle is a 2.8 acre multipurpose grass meadow located between Kezar Drive, Arguello Boulevard, and Lincoln Way



Carla Crane cuts the ribbon assisted by Rec and Park’s Phil Ginsburg and Park Alliance’s Matt O’Grady. Supervisor London Breed stands second from left.

in Golden Gate Park. With significant support from the David and Carla Crane Foundation, Kezar Triangle was revitalized to promote a holistic approach to a place that combines art, ecology and community engagement. Improvements include adding native plants to



An ugly duckling on the edge of Golden Gate Park has been reborn as a nurturing art space.

the landscape, upgrading the irrigation system, and installing new accessible pedestrian pathways. Landscape design was created through a community process led by Friends of Kezar Triangle with Miller Company Landscape Architects. In addition Friends of Kezar

Triangle are working with community members, San Francisco Rec and Park, and the San Francisco Arts Commission to install temporary nature-based art.

If you want to help us plan events and select new temporary art projects at the Kezar Triangle, please consider joining the Kezar Triangle Art Coalition. We welcome feedback and any suggestions of ways to improve the area as well as thoughts about what you love and enjoy already. Email: friendsofkezartriangle@gmail.com.

Richard Magary Steps Down From Buena Vista Leadership After 13 Years

The Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, representing 4,500 households around Buena Vista Park, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year with new leadership. Richard Magary, who served as chair of the organization’s steering committee, is “retiring” after 13 years of dedicated service. Also stepping down is Bob Incerti, who served ably as treasurer.

Magary has been instrumental not only in making certain that funding was available for key Buena Vista Park projects, but was also a savvy negotiator between city departments and neighborhood groups on important issues. The most recent one was the replacement of the recycling center near Kezar with a community garden.

David Burke, Suene Waldman (also a CVIA member), and Kristy Leffers are leading a transition team effort to guide an administrative reorganization and revitalized BVNA. We thank Richard for his years of service, his sense of fairness and sense of humor. As a long time member of CVIA, we hope he will stay close to our organization and its mission.

—Joan Downey

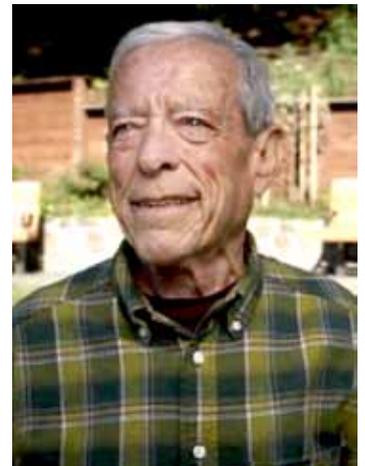


Photo: Russell Yip, SF Chronicle

Richard Magary has been a tireless force for smart solutions to our neighborhood’s problems.



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

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

Attention: Artists, Vendors, Musicians, Unique Car Owners

MIDLINE is pleased to announce that the Cole Valley Fair will be back again for its twelfth year on Sunday, September 28. The Fair continues to be a charming and well-attended event sponsored by local merchants and organizations with an outstanding record of community support. The fair features local art, jewelry, handmade crafts, great food, live music, a display of historical Cole Valley photographs, a full block of vintage automobiles owned by neigh-



The Cole Valley Fair is the most family friendly of any in the city. This year's event will be held on Sunday, September 28. Mark your calendar.

borhood residents, events for children including a jumpy house, obstacle course, and more!

If you are an artist with unique handcrafted work, we hope you'll apply for booth space. The deadline is July 1, 2014. Priority will be given to Cole Valley residents, returning vendors, and promising new applicants. (Imported merchandise will not be considered). We will be accepting some applicants before the deadline date. We're also seeking musicians from all genres and styles for one-hour performance slots. The Cole Valley Fair is a small and intimate street fair where the right sound will attract a lot of attention. And, yes, Cars on Cole will be back again this year. We look for interesting neighborhood vehicles—whatever that may mean. It need not be a “show queen” or vintage or rare. The range of vehicles in past years has been from a gaggle of Citroen 2CVs; British, German, French, Japanese, and Italian sports and touring cars; heavy 30s–60s American Iron; Model A to modern hot rods, bicycles to motorcycles.

Application forms for vendors, musicians and cars are available on MIDLINE's website www.midlinestudio.com/colevalleyfair.html

Oversize Vehicle Parking Restrictions on Panhandle

On March 4, the Municipal Transit Agency's Board of Directors approved oversize vehicle parking restrictions in the Panhandle, something Haight residents have been asking for. Supported by Supervisor London Breed, the pilot program will prevent vehicles more than 22 feet long and 7 feet tall from parking on city streets in about 40 areas between midnight and 6 a.m. It will free up neighborhood parking spaces and improve visibility and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, kids, dogs and everyone else who frequents the Panhandle park. It will also discourage vehicle dwellers who have frequently chosen spots along Fell and Oak for homesteading.

Ready or not, the Haight Street Fair is coming on Sunday, June 8

Neighbors Prevail: Route of 6 Parnassus Will Remain

The city's Municipal Transit Agency has evidently had second thoughts about changing the route of the 6 Parnassus. They had planned to eliminate the trip east on Frederick and to have the bus continue north on Cole Street, turning right at Haight. The policy reversal was welcomed by all Cole Valley members living along the Frederick Street leg as they would have had to walk to Haight Street to catch the bus. And worse, hike back up the hill to get home.

During the agency's Transit Effectiveness Program, it was found that not many people boarded the bus along Frederick Street and, well, Muni wants its busses to be full, even if the riders don't. This was a win for the neighborhood and one of the few times Muni responded to the pleading of riders. Thanks to the advocacy of Supervisor London Breed, spurred by neighbors like Christin



Plans to eliminate the route's Frederick Street dog-leg were scuttled.

Evans, Bill Haskell, Eileen Lemus, Ted Loewenberg, Calvin Welsh and many more, the route was saved.

However, it wasn't all roses. The bus frequency (called “headway” in transit circles) will be reduced. As Muni put it:

“The service change proposals of the Transit Effectiveness Project, an ongoing project to make Muni more reliable for its customers, were reviewed by the SFMTA Policy and Governance Committee (PAG) on Friday, March 21. Based on their input, staff is recommending the following proposal modifications outlined below.

*The 6 Parnassus will maintain its current alignment through Ashbury Heights to UCSF and Golden Gate Heights but **reduce the frequency** of the line to better match customer demand west of Masonic Avenue. Service will be further increased on the 71L Haight/Noriega Limited.*

—Joan Downey

Fei Tian Academy to Replace Boys and Girls Club

Teaching traditional Chinese Arts, the Fei Tian Academy is moving in to 1950 Page Street. The school was founded in 2010 by a group of Falun Gong practitioners, a spiritual discipline that has been famously persecuted by the Chinese government. A reception was held on April 24 with entertainment by the students.

Hooray for Tantrum's Second Annual Easter Celebration!

For many children in Cole Valley, Easter Sunday began with a cookie party at TANTRUM [the eclectic children's shop at 858 Cole].



From there, they hopped and skipped along the streets with an Easter Bunny-led parade ending up in the Richard Gamble Memorial Park for an Egg Hunt. The kids particularly sought the illusive golden eggs hidden throughout the park. A bunny ear craft station and photos with the Easter Bunny were part of the fun. Once bunny ears were in place, all the eggs were discovered, and the Easter Bunny was ready for a nap, they headed back to TANTRUM

for popcorn, a screening

of classic Easter movies and time to enjoy the treasures from the day.

Big thanks to Lison and Robert of Vierra and Friends for providing the cookies and milk and to Roger at Reverie Cafe for the coffee. Thanks, also, to the Park Station Police Department and SFMTA for helping to keep the park safe and clean for our special day. It couldn't have been a bigger success. We take pride in our community and the awesomeness that is Cole Valley. It was such fun to share the magic of the Easter Bunny with all of our friends and neighbors. We are already looking forward to next year!

Amanda, Richard and Michelle
TANTRUM



Jake Sigg Honored

Rec and Park invited community members on April 17 to the official naming of the Jake Sigg Stewardship Center. The picturesque little stone building located on Stanyan (near Waller) was



As a tribute to an inspiring environmentalist and writer, the Park's volunteer center will bear Sigg's name.

formerly known as the Park Aid Station. It was renovated in 2011 and is current headquarters for the Natural Areas and Volunteer programs. During his career tending Golden Gate Park, Sigg supervised the team of gardeners at the Strybing Aboretum (renamed the SF Botanical Garden). Since retiring in 1998, he has created a second career, not only by exemplary volunteer and advocacy work, but by producing a compelling newsletter, Nature News, which has over 2,500 online subscribers. A mixture of science and art, it reflects the heart of a renaissance man who inspires everyone who knows him.

Also honored at the event were the many volunteers who generously contribute their time to the maintenance of Golden Gate Park through Rec and Park's Volunteer Services Division.

Library Now Open 7 Days

Effective May 10, San Francisco Public Library is adding a permanent, additional day of service at three branch libraries. Glen Park, and Park Branch Libraries will both be open on Sundays and Noe Valley will be open on Mondays, bringing three more San Francisco Public Libraries to seven days per week service.

The additional hours are the result of the extraordinary support of San Francisco voters, as well as a year-long assessment of public service hours, which included 11 public hearings, 2,400 patron intercepts, 1,000 online and staff surveys, and 300 non-user surveys.

"One of the goals of the new hours is to improve equity and consistency in library hours throughout the city," said City Librarian Luis Herrera.

CVIA on Hidden Garden Steps



The Hidden Garden project is a 148 step mosaic tile staircase, which is the extension of 16th Avenue between Kirkham and Lawton streets. Along with neighborhood organizations all over the city, CVIA made a contribution. As a result "CVIA" appears on the 41st step from the bottom, just above the big blue flower. See <http://hiddengarden-steps.org/> for more details.

Complaints About Kezar Drive

The Recreation and Park Department is planning a \$260,000 repair of the pedestrian tunnel beneath Kezar Drive. Known as the Alvard Bridge tunnel, it is the oldest reinforced concrete bridge in America. Any money put in improving that historic structure, an integral part of the troubled east entrance to Golden Gate Park, is well spent. But what made the news recently is the condition of Kezar Drive that runs over it.

Reporter Kurtis Alexander recently filed a story in the *SF Chronicle* containing quotes from irate motorists over the condition of the roadway. "The street has never been repaved, and it's full of potholes," said Wesley Dere, who has lived in the neighborhood for nearly 40 years, "My car has been knocked out of alignment twice. I've seen people get flat tires. And when it rains, it gets really bad."

Kezar Drive is the short span of 4-lane street that connects Fell and Oak streets along the Panhandle to Lincoln Way. There is evidence that it has been repaired in the past but this patching has not made the ride any smoother. Now, with the beautiful rehab of the Kezar Triangle by the Crane Trust, the stakes have been raised.

But, the refurbishment of the tunnel beneath has to come first. Alexander quotes Rec and Park spokesperson Connie Chan as saying, "We want to be able to lay a solid foundation before we repave the road."

Alexander added, "Once the tunnel is fixed, though, there's no money earmarked to repave Kezar Drive. The job would cost \$1.2 million, according to parks officials, an expense that is just one of many on the department's \$300 million backlog of projects."



Thank You For Your Support



It certainly isn't expected, but when a member sends in an extra contribution, we appreciate it greatly. Only nine Cole Valley merchants contributed to the daily cleaning of the Cole Street business district last year, which costs CVIA \$936 each month. We make up the deficit with member contributions, a sizeable discount from CleanScapes and proceeds from the Santa on Cole photo shoot. So we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their generosity during the period April 1, 2013 to April 1, 2014. Please notify us if your name has inadvertently been omitted.

Benefactors (\$250 - \$500): Brittny Botorff & Asim Bhansali, Tracy & Patrick Jennings, Jessica Justino & Bill Hancock, Loic Nicolas, Abby & David Rumsey

Donors (\$100 - \$249): Anonymous, Cecile & Jeff Bodington, Linda Coda & Robert Brigante, Karen & David Crommie, Lena Emmerly & Charles Canepa, Tresa & Jim Eyres, Virginia Joosen, Eileen Lemus, Janan New, Jane & Michael Miller, Thomas Ports & Catherine Covey, Deborah Robbins & Henry Navas, Rosemary Southwood

Contributors (\$50 - \$99): Joan Boyd, Dag & Todd Frederick, Douglas Hall, Marianne Hesse, John & Molly Hooper, Colleen Kavanagh, Randy & Rich Lavinghouse, Wallis & Michelle Lim, John R. Manning, Kendra & William Robbins, Elaine Robinson, Susan & Steven Rosen, Jan Platt & Jeff Ross, Ineke Ruhland & Bill O'Such, Michael Sullivan, Richard Taylor & Tracy Grubbs, Mary Ann Wolcott

Supporters (\$25 - \$49): Kathleen Bertram, Jeanne Blamey & Robert Fram, Megan & Bruce Bourne, Byron G. Bray, Jr., Sheila & P.J. Brooker, Margareta Ekblad & Vojtech Licko, Beverley Epstein, Mary Ann de Sousa, Joan Downey & Ilie Gaceu, Linda Erkelens & Ronald Dion, Carole Glosenger, Robin & Richard Hornung, Gerardo Joffe, Dennis Martino, Olympia & Douglas Montgomery, Barbara Mow, Robert Page, MeMe Riordan, Elsa Rosenberg & David Zuckerman, Deborah Van Atta

Boosters (\$24 and below): Rob Bakewell, Judith Bishop, Tina & Oliver Brock, Chris Broderick, Gina Centoni, Ellen Curry, Robert Gordon & Bill Haskell, Minette Gutfreund, Janet & Mark Hall, Beth & Beau Harrington, Maryann Hrichak, David Keller, Sandra Norberg & Richard Drake, Sigrid Schafmann, Jack Vogensen & Ilya Kaltman, Suene & Eric Waldman

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)



May 13, June 10 and July 8
Mark Your Calendars

A CLEAN COLE STREET



"Our Neighborhood Heroes"

2014 Merchant Participants

Alpha Market Boulange de Cole

Cole Cleaners Cole Hardware

Crêpes on Cole MadKat

Tantrum

Meet Authors at Booksmith

On Tuesday May 13 at 7:30 p.m., Kathryn Ma will read from her book, "The Year She Left Us." A former recipient of the Iowa Short Fiction Prize, Ma's debut novel more than delivers on the promise of her earlier stories, and announces the emergence of an exciting new talent in contemporary fiction.



Kathryn Ma

"The Year She Left Us" introduces the Kongs, four unforgettable women in a Chinese-American family whose multi-generational saga is as emotionally raw as it is expertly crafted. Back in San Francisco after a visit to her "home" orphanage in China ended traumatically, Ariadne Bettina Yun-li Rose Kong, an eighteen-year-old adoptee known as Ari, is spiraling out of control, bent on sacrificing her future to go digging into the mysteries of her elusive past.

On Monday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m., Alysia Abbot will read from her new book, "Fairyland." After her father died of AIDS in 1992, she returned home from the hospice to the apartment they shared in San Francisco. She dug his journals out of dusty boxes. Her father, Steve Abbott—poet, cartoonist, editor—had kept these journals from 1971, when he was in graduate school, until 1991, when his illness made writing and reading nearly impossible. Drawing on her father's writings and her own memories, Alysia tells the story of their life together in her vibrant and poignant memoir.



Alysia Abbot

New Shop on Stanyan

There's a vintage clothing and antiques shop coming to Cole Valley called Past Perfect. In spite of having a large space (over 7,000 sq. ft) on Lombard in the Marina, they are expanding to 854 Stanyan, former site of a tanning salon and most recently, a cardio fitness studio.

405 Shrader Winds Down Season of Neighborhood Concerts

There are only five events remaining in the current season of keyboard concerts at 405 Shrader (corner of Oak). They begin at 7:00 p.m. and last about 50 minutes in length with a hosted aperitif following.

Friday, May 9, 7 PM. Pianist Ian Scarf with the Trinity Alps Chamber Players perform works for violin, clarinet and piano.

Friday, May 16, pianist Allegra Chapman, cellist Laura Gaynon, and flutist Elizabeth Talbert come together as Phonochrome to perform George Crumb's Voice of the Whale.



405 Shrader accommodates an audience of 40 music lovers.

Friday, May 23, harpsichordist Katherine Heater with viola da gamba player Amy Brodo perform music from the French and German Baroques.

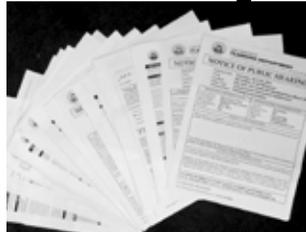
Friday, May 30, pianist Hillary Nordwell and violinist Monika Gruber perform sonatas by Schumann and Richard Strauss.

Friday, June 6, pianist Ellen Milenski performs the Beethoven Op. 111 and three Bach Preludes and Fugues.

If you wish to attend a concert, an RSVP is absolutely necessary (space is quite limited). Reservations can be made only by email to 405Shrader@gmail.com and must be confirmed. There is no formal charge to attend however a hat is passed for the artists, a minimum \$10 per person contribution is suggested.

If you are not already on the mailing list (email only) please write 405Shrader@gmail.com to add your name. Note that concerts begin on time and that there is no late seating.

Cole Valley Building Boom



fact, that a new file folder was created to hold them.

Yes, the money is flowing into Fat City again. CVIA regularly receives notices of building permits pulled by neighbors for everything from replacing decks to adding additional floors. During the last three months these notices have been a daily event. So many, in

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.

Cole Valley's Historic "Lange House" Changes Hands

Having been listed for \$3.4 million, the sale of the nearly 3,000 square foot "Lange House" at the corner of Carl and Stanyan, which was designed by August Nordin and built for family of dairy farm-



ers whose cows once roamed around Haight-Ashbury, has closed escrow with a reported contract price of \$3,150,000, including the adjoining undeveloped lot fronting Stanyan Street. (Thanks to Socketsite.com)

Car Owners Fight Back

After the Masonic Avenue Plan was approved, eliminating 167 parking spaces and two lanes, there were a lot of car-owners fed up with so much transportation money going to things like bike lanes, bulb-outs, transit-only lanes, variable parking meter rates, higher



It's signature-gathering time for a ballot measure claiming basic rights for motorists.

parking charges and the just revoked, meters operating on Sundays. A group including the Republican Party has begun collecting signatures for a November ballot initiative, originally referred to as the Motorists Bill of Rights, but now formally called Restoring Transportation Balance in San Francisco. The initiative says, "We realize that motorists contribute a disproportionate share of the funding to the SFMTA while receiving next to nothing in return."

Some of the things they demand are: Banning new parking meters or variable meter pricing in neighborhoods unless a majority of residents sign a petition in support; a five-year freeze on fees for parking meters, garages and residential parking permits, and afterward limiting increases to inflation adjustments; earmarking a portion of new parking revenues, fees charged to motorists and bond money for construction and operation of neighborhood parking garages; enforcing traffic laws equally for everyone using San Francisco's streets and sidewalks; requiring motorists to be appointed to the Municipal Transportation Agency's board of directors, and create a Motorists' Citizens Advisory Committee.

The proponents need to gather 9,702 signatures by July 7 to qualify their measure for the ballot.

CVIA Board Minutes

The following is a summary of what took place at the CVIA board meetings the last two months. Those wishing to bring a neighborhood issue before the Board are welcome to do so. Meetings take place on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the home of a member. There is no meeting in December. Call 221-7379 to learn the location.

Every meeting begins with a reading of the minutes of the last meeting and reports from delegates to the Kezar Stadium Advisory Committee, SFMTA Citizens Advisory Council, the Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB), Graffiti Abatement Committee and the Coalition for S.F. Neighborhoods.

March

Location: Home of Lena Emmery and Chuck Canepa, March 3, 2014

■ Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,089.93 in savings, \$3,797.72 in checking for a total of \$15,887.65, out of which \$3,334.19 is being presently held in the Clean Cole Street fund.

■ Joan requested a letter re improvements to the two corners where the bulb-outs at the intersection of Cole and Carl and Cole and Stanyan. Greening and seating are suggested to make these sites not just big concrete slabs. Joan to draft.

■ From the C-PAB meeting, Lena Emmery reported that 500 bikes have been registered so far in SFPD's program initiated by Park Station. There is an upcoming bike safety event at Twitter on March 13. Cops are giving out cards to distracted pedestrians reminding them about the jeopardy of walking while texting.

■ Chuck Canepa reported on the response by UCSF to our letter objecting to the exclusion of student housing in their square footage ceiling (therefore increasing it) and our protest of UCSF's abandonment of the management plan for Sutro Forest. UCSF's letter was long but, unfortunately, can be summed up as "thank you for sharing."

■ David Crommie reported on the last workshop held at Urban High School by the Planning Department on the Public Realm Plan. Small groups gathered around maps of the designated area on Haight Street and gave input, much like the last workshop, but it was clear that the department's plans are firming up. Reps from MTA and DPW lead the groups along with members of the Planning Department staff.

■ Motion passed unanimously: to support the The Height Limit and Right to Vote Act (Prop B) on the June ballot.

■ Joan Downey presented the argument in favor of a citywide tax to pay for the maintenance of all street trees. After a protracted discussion, topic was continued.

■ Doug Hall made a presentation on the proposal for a "Welcome to Cole Valley" mural on the south wall of Doug's Suds on Cole and Carl. He identified the property owner as Howard R. Samuel. Showing us a prospectus from Precita Eyes, he estimated a mural would cost a minimum of \$5,000. Topic continued until Doug can contact Mr. Samuels and determine his interest.

Adjourned at 9:30

April

Location: Home of Joan Downey, April 7, 2014

■ Treasurer Joan Downey reported \$12,090.90 in savings, \$5,335.87 in checking for a total of \$17,426.77, out of which \$4,438.19 is being presently held in the Clean Cole Street fund. A gift card from Cole Hardware for \$39.00 was received, thanks to the members who donate their shoppers' discount to CVIA through their Community Partners Assistance Program.

She also reported on the disclosure by the Citizens' Advisory Council of the SF Municipal Transit Agency that the current rules governing on-street parking management, presented as "long standing SFMTA policy and practice," is, to the contrary, new policy that goes far beyond incremental or administrative changes and has never been agreed to by the public.

■ Agreed to co-host a debate between Supervisors Chiu and Campos tentatively scheduled for April 30 at Park Branch Library. Karen and Joan volunteered to help with the event.

■ Agreed to co-sponsor the clean-up morning at Buena Vista Park on April 26, encouraging participation of CVIA members living in proximity to the park.

■ Motion: To support Chris Bowman's proposed measure to insure the rights of the city's drivers. Voting at next meeting.

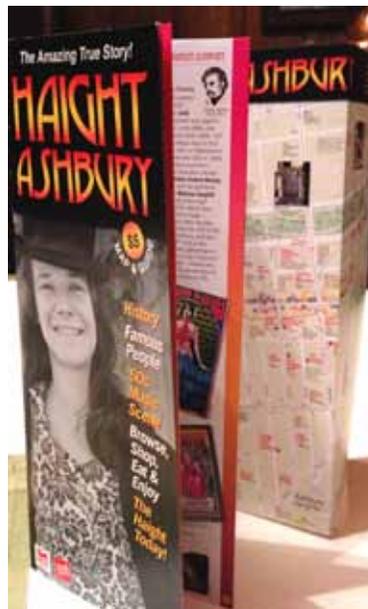
■ Discussed items for the D-5 meeting with Mayor Lee on the next city budget. Agreed to ask that a Park Ranger be assigned to the east end of Golden Gate Park and that a larger share of the General Fund be allotted to Rec and Park. President Carole Glosenger will attend the meeting. Joan will draft a follow-up letter.

Adjourned 9:00 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, Chris Hock.

Guide to Haight Updated

Gay and Jack Reineck, publishers of the Haight Ashbury Map & Guide wrote to tell us that the second edition has just been released. They have lowered the price to just five bucks and it is available at Booksmith and other Haight stores.



It's a great resource for visiting friends and even those of us who have lived here for many years. It tells the legendary story of the Haight from pre-1906 earthquake through the 1960s (sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll) up to the present. The 21 page Guide includes over 100 images, drawings, photographs and a detailed pull-out map that shows where the famous people lived as well as current information about where to shop, eat, and enjoy the Haight-Ashbury today.

You can also order it online at www.rufusguides.com.

CVIA Officers

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

Less Havoc From This Year's 4/20 Pot Celebration

Maybe it was because Easter fell on the same day and some of the usual participants were drawn elsewhere, but the annual 4/20 cannabis celebration had a lot less impact on the park and the neighborhood than last year. Probably more important was the city's multi-departmental approach to contain the crowds—spearheaded by District 5 Supervisor London Breed.

How it Happened:

Alarmed by the mayhem on the streets of Cole Valley/Haight Ashbury in the aftermath of last year's April 20 marijuana free-for-all at Sharon Meadow, Captain Greg Corrales in February asked



Rec and Park bore the cost of the cleanup after the invasion of Sharon Meadow and Hippie Hill on Easter Sunday, April 20.

Chief Greg Suhr to supply him with backup to better deal with this year's event. Unimpressed, the Chief told him to "Do what you did last year." In other words, he did not feel there was anything the police could do about this unpermitted, supposedly "spontaneous" gathering.

Then Supervisor London Breed intervened. The result was a formal crowd mitigation plan involving the Police, Muni, Traffic Control and DPW. In an email sent to thousands of city officials and residents, she reminded them of last year's situation. "Traffic came to a standstill as cars swarmed the area. Garbage overflowed from curbside cans that proved unequal to the occasion. And on Sunday, 4/21, staff and volunteers with the Recreation and Parks Department had to laboriously collect over 10,000 pounds of litter left in the parks, not to mention the trash collected by the Department of Public Works from the upper Haight to Hayes Valley."

People typically straggle into the park all day and cause little problem until the magic time of 4:20 passes and most of the tokers leave the park en masse in a state of oblivion. Whereas large park events have organizers and permits, there is no one who can be held accountable for what happens on 4/20. (The one exception this year is the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, who obtained a permit to hold a separate celebration in Helman Hollow—formerly Speedway Meadow—commemorating their founding on Easter Sunday 1979.)

At the last meeting of Police Community Advisory Board, CVIA rep Lena Emmerly reported that at 15,000 attendees, this year's crowd was actually greater than last year. But there were fewer medical calls and fewer arrests for drunkenness. Final crime stats showed: Seven arrests for drug sales on the Saturday, four arrests for drug sales on Sunday and two loaded guns were seized. Captain Corrales

emphasized that no arrests were made in the park during the event, but rather, on Haight Street.

Still, the community response to the road closures was mixed. Anybody trying to navigate to and from the neighborhood ran into gridlock the entire day. Merchants on Haight Street were not notified of the closure of Haight Street which caused the obvious problems for deliveries. Better notification is promised for next year.

Background of the Event

Many believe that 4/20 (pronounced four-twenty) was an erstwhile tribute to the clock at Haight and Ashbury, left over from the long gone Holcombe Jewelers, that for many years has read 4:20. But Wikipedia tracks its origins to "A group of teenagers in San Rafael, California, calling themselves the Waldos [who] began using the term in connection with a plan to search for an abandoned cannabis crop that they had learned about in autumn 1971. Although their typical "hang-out spot was a wall outside the school," the Waldos designated the Louis Pasteur statue on the grounds of San Rafael High School as their meeting place, and 4:20 p.m. as their meeting time. High Times, particularly the editor Steven Hager, was responsible for bringing the Waldos story to a national audience. Hager called for 4:20 p.m. to be the socially accepted time of day to consume cannabis and attributed the early spread of the phrase to Grateful Dead followers, who were also linked to the city of San Rafael."

—Karen Crommie

New Producer for 2014 Bay to Breakers

CVIA, along with representatives from other neighborhoods located along the route of the annual Bay to Breakers foot race, met with new race sponsor Larry Khan of the Wasserman Media Group and Supervisor London Breed to discuss the well known challenges of having some 80,000 runners and spectators flood a neighborhood on a single May morning. "We want to restore the race to the world-class, family-friendly event it was in the nineties," said Khan and seemed to mean it.

Wasserman is a global sports, entertainment marketing and management company with expertise in media rights, corporate consulting, athlete management and partnerships. In contrast to their media focus, the race will not be part of a live broadcast this



year but, said Khan, "(Wasserman's) robust social media platform" will take care of on-the-spot coverage. (read: tweets and facebook posts).

The race will start at 8 a.m. instead of last year's 7 a.m. "Too hard

on families coming from out-of-town," said Khan. There will be the same amount of portable toilets but security personnel will be increased by 60 making a total of 300. They are also adding an additional checkpoint for alcohol. SFPD will be posted along the course, as usual.

Registration will be \$59 on race day, \$54 earlier. There are discounts for runners under 18 and those running in centipede groups. The best place for neighborhood spectators is along the Panhandle. Seeded runners should start passing around 7:25 a.m.

Pinball on Waller Street

If you take a few minutes to let your mind free associate on the words “silk screen,” it’s my bet that you will never reach “pinball machines.” But that’s exactly what has opened at 1767 Waller Street: a print shop behind a pinball arcade. With art-decked walls, it attracts the skateboard crowd and the terminally cool. It is also doing a very nice business in casual clothing. Customers post raves on Yelp! about



Whether high camp or kids stuff, pin ball machines are a big hit at Free Gold Watch

their quality T-shirt printing and willingness to take on small orders. A far cry from the Antiques in the Rough, the venerable and vast repository of attic treasures that gradually faded away as its owners aged and eventually died.

Free Gold Watch was in trouble with the city because it violated a police code prohibiting more than ten “mechanical amusement devices.” But District 5’s Supervisor London Breed, along with District 6 Supervisor Scott Weiner, spoke up in its defense and are working to repeal the law,

—Karen Crommie

Oak and Fell Street Update

Earlier this year, the SFMTA installed buffered bike lanes on Oak Street and Fell Street between Scott and Baker, including plastic “soft-hit” posts to add some physical separation from vehicle traf-



fic and deter motorists from encroaching on the bike lanes. These changes have drastically improved bicycling conditions on these busy thoroughfares, but further enhancements are still to come.

The SFMTA has announced that they have teamed up with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) so that the

corner bulbouts that are planned for this project can be expanded and landscaped. The SFMTA also plans to make additional crosswalk upgrades, bikeway paving improvements, and add more permanent features to separate the bikeway from traffic in areas where driveway and emergency vehicle access would not be inhibited.

As a result of these improvements on Oak and Fell, bicyclists report feeling safer and riding more often. Additionally, preliminary observations indicate a decrease in bicyclists riding on the sidewalk, an increase in traffic signal compliance by bicyclists, and a roughly 3-5 mile-per-hour reduction in vehicle speeds.

Answer to Quiz on Page 2

Location: Shrader and Frederick.

Answer: The cobblestone circle in the center of the intersection identifies an underground Fire Department water storage tank or cistern. There are 177 such cisterns around the city. In emergencies, the SFFD relies on these indicators to access water when hydrants are not working. The tanks hold from 75,000 to over 200,000 gallons of water and were constructed between 1909 and 1913 in response to the failure of the existing emergency water system during the 1906 earthquake.

Postscripts

The Sword and Rose has reopened at 85 Carl Street after the tragic death of the previous co-owner, Randy David Sapp in a Christmas house fire. It offers such essentials as incense, crystals, candles, tarot cards, and, well, you know the scene. It is a pleasure to visit, even if you don’t buy anything. It reminds you that the realm of the metaphysical lives on. Says, SF Weekly, “This teeny gem of a specialty shop is bound to appeal to all sorts, from run-of-the-mill Harry Potter fans to neo-pagans who spell “magic” with a K.

The folks at the fledgling website colevalleysf.com wrote: “There a great turnout and enthusiasm for our very first Cole Valley happy hour on April 8. Fifteen minutes before it kicked off, there was already a group of folks waiting outside hoping to snag a Ice Cream Bar gift card (they had to say the pass code “Sunset Tunnel” in order to redeem the freebie). Once the happy hour got rolling at Padrecito’s, there was a lot of neighborly love, margarita drinking and schmoozing. The only problem is that CVIA members didn’t know anything about it. Organizer Ellen Holderman is meeting with the board to make sure we’re included next time. They can be reached at www.colevalleysf.com.

Pieces by Violet is a prop rental business owned by long time residents of Cole Valley. They offer collectables you can rent to “bring a little extra soul and character to your event.” They offer vintage items from different decades, styles and places. “So whether you’re a bride or groom, event planner, stylist or simply someone wanting to throw an amazing party, we’d love to help make your ideas reality,” writes co-owner Kate. The collection is on line at www.piecesbyviolet.com. By the way, Violet is the name of Kate’s grandmother. They are on Stanyan Street, but, since the exact address isn’t anywhere on their website I have a feeling they want you to call first (595-0299) or use the “contact” option on the site.

—Karen Crommie

Letters

Dear CVIA:

I am writing to tell you about something my neighbor has been doing for years in Cole Valley. Every time it rains, James Judge dons his workout clothes and cleans out the street drains so Cole Valley doesn't flood. He does this by hand...by himself and when I asked him how many he does he said: about 17 or so. When I asked him why he does it, he said: the neighborhood needs it.

I think that is amazing and thought you might too.

Nancy Drubel

Dear CVIA:

Almost weekly I call the San Francisco Department of Public Works (DPW) to ask them to pick up large trash items that neighbors leave on the sidewalk - mattresses, shelf units, futons, rugs, etc. Have people no shame? Do people not know that their monthly trash bill includes free large item pick up, and all they need to do is call Sunset Scavenger to arrange a pick up? By not using the already paid-for Sunset Scavenger option, we are wasting tax dollars for something we have already paid for. Ugh! And lets be clear, this sad problem is not unique to Cole Valley.

It would be great if Cole Valley could be a city leader in clean streets/sidewalks, a show of self respect, and environmental stewardship. My thought, and it is VERY undeveloped at this time, is for CVIA to have a booth at their annual fair to promote proper use of trash bins, big item pick up services that we all get for free, etc. Maybe with a smile and some encouragement we could get people to fall in line and see how easy it is to do the right thing. Also, I see certain apartment buildings being particularly guilty. Maybe we could get their management/owners involved (I know, sometimes my optimism seems a little big, but better than the alternative) to encourage their tenants to behave properly. We could even do some sort of door-to-door promotion of the process in an area and then collect data to show that we have had an impact. With this in hand, we could lead the way for the entire city.

OK, this is huge, and I do not have the time to personally make it happen. But, I wanted to float the idea. Maybe some portion of this will resonate with your group. To me, the booth is a start along with a focused strategy to target the sites where we tend to see the junk on the sidewalk (I could easily give you three 'guilty sites' to get your list started). If CVIA could get some momentum, we could turn this into something that gets picked up by local press, which could give our lovely neighborhood a nicer shine, and a big pat on the back it deserves for good citizenship.

Andrew Leavitt

Help

- Emergency911**
- Disturbance553-0123**
- Blocked Driveways & Parking on Sidewalks ...553-1200**
- Abandoned Vehicles 781-5865**
- Health Department255-3610**
- Litter Patrol (sofas, mattresses, etc.).....311**
- Graffiti and Illegal Sign Removal311**
- NextBus311**
- Street Lighting.....554-0730**

Mayor Edwin M. Lee554-6141
 City Hall - Room 200
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
 S.F., CA 94102

Chief of Police Greg Suhr553-1551
 Hall of Justice - 850 Bryant St.
 S.F., CA 94103

District Attorney George Gascón553-1741
 Hall of Justice - 850 Bryant St.
 S.F., CA 94103

Captain Greg Corrales242-3000
 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. Katy Tang Katy.Tang@sfgov.org	554-7460	554-7432
5. London Breed London.Breed@sfgov.org	554-7630	554-7634
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

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 Fall edition should be sent before August 1, 2014 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.

EditorKaren Crommie
Production.....David Crommie
Editorial AssistanceJoan Downey

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

Contact your accountant regarding the tax law for charitable contributions.



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

