

APR - MAY 2019



DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWS

Hand-delivered to **3000** households and businesses bi-monthly

Monday, April 8, 2019

7:00 to 9:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING

CPMC Davies Campus,
New Location: Conference Center
(entrance through South Tower, turn right
and take elevators down to B floor, turn left
and Conf. Center will be through double
doors at first hallway to left.)

MEETING AGENDA -

- Meet your neighbors (7:00-7:30pm)
- The SF Department of the Environment will present on the city's Zero Waste program, discuss recent changes to the recycling program, and tell us how and why we should reduce our waste
- Assemblyman David Chiu will discuss his legislative agenda in Sacramento
- Captain Una Bailey of Park Station will speak about crime clearance trends

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday, April 13, 10 am - noon
Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day. Contact
Rose at rose@friendsofdubocepark.org or
415-255-8370.

Sunday, April 14, 9 - 10 am
Spring Egg Hunt in Duboce Park. Free.

Monday, May 6, 7 pm
DTNA Land Use Committee Meetings. Chase
Bank at Sanchez and Market Streets.

Saturday, May 11, 10 am - noon
Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day. Contact
Rose at rose@friendsofdubocepark.org or
415-255-8370.

Tuesday, May 14, 7-8 pm
Park Station Community Meeting at Park
Station Community Room., 1899 Waller Street,
415-242-3000.

Every Wednesday, 4-8 pm
Castro Farmers Market. Noe Street between
Market and Beaver Streets.

Process Moving Forward on Duboce Triangle Historic District



The Benedict-Gieling House on Beaver Street is one of many buildings in the neighborhood with historic character. One way to enshrine that character into law and protect it would be to add the neighborhood to the state's Registry of Historical Resources.

As detailed in our August/September 2018 newsletter, there is increasing interest in seeing the Duboce Triangle neighborhood added to the state Register of Historical Resources, with the intent of protecting the neighborhood's historic character for future generations to enjoy.

Long-time residents will recall that in 2013, the Duboce Park Landmark District was cre-

ated as San Francisco's newest local (Article 11) historic district after a long and complex process involving neighborhood meetings, surveys and outreach, and hearings before the Historic Preservation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors. That legislation recognized the three-block residential enclave immediately adjacent

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It's Spring in Duboce Triangle!



San Francisco District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Dear Duboce Triangle Neighbors,

It's Spring in Duboce Triangle! Here is a snapshot of what my office has been working on in the first few months of 2019.

Addressing Retail Vacancies
Losing longtime local businesses like Crepevine and Aardvark books, and having those and other storefronts remain vacant is a major issue facing the Duboce Triangle and Upper Market neighborhoods. Fewer neighborhood-serving businesses has meant less foot traffic in the area and an increase in the sort of negative behavior that an empty storefront can draw.

My office worked with the City's Budget and Legislative Analyst to produce a report that showed that between 2015 and 2017 vacancies increased from 8.5 to 12.9 percent, most of which were found on Market Street between Dolores Street and Castro Street. In the time since that data was collected the problem has worsened significantly. The report also suggests that among the reasons for Upper Market's vacancies are the more restrictive conditional use authorization requirements in effect there and not in other commercial corridors including nearby Valencia Street and Hayes Valley.

In Upper Market it took an average of 332 days from submission for an applicant to secure a Conditional Use authorization. When combined with other permitting requirements, the entire process can take years.

Based on consultation with DTNA and other neighborhood organizations, I have introduced an ordinance that will help restaurants, arts organizations and nonprofits fill our storefronts without requiring these time-consuming and expensive conditional use approvals. In a neighborhood struggling with vacancies, the City ought to be doing everything we can to attract businesses and help them to open as quickly as possible - not making it more difficult, time-intensive and expensive, and I'm hopeful that this legislation can accomplish that.

Convening a Crystal Methamphetamine Task Force
Meth addiction is increasing among the most vulnerable San Franciscans, especially those with underlying mental illnesses who are living on our streets. This crisis threatens the health and safety of users, as well as the well-being of our neighborhoods. To address this growing crisis, Mayor Breed and I have convened a Crystal Methamphetamine Task Force to identify strategies and solutions that will get vulnerable people the help they need. The task force will hold its first meeting in April, and will continue meeting throughout the summer.

Declaring a Climate Emergency
San Francisco, like the rest of California, is already suffering impacts of climate change in the form of droughts, air pollution, extreme heat, and lowland flooding. On our current path, projections show up to eight feet of sea level rise in the Bay over

the next 100 years, but even at three feet, we know the Ferry Building would be flooding twice daily and the Embarcadero, Mission Bay and Marina will all be at risk. Already we are planning to permanently close two lanes of the Great Highway in response to rising tides.

The time to act on Climate Change is now, and in February I introduced a resolution to declare a state of climate emergency. This resolution urges the San Francisco Department of the Environment, in collaboration with the Mayor's office and all other relevant City agencies, to develop and deliver a report within 100 days on the near-term steps our City must take in response to our climate emergency.

Allocating ERAF Funds
Last November, we learned that San Francisco was to unexpect-

edly receive funding from the state's Education Revenue Augmentation Fund. With so many worthy priorities that need support, an important, impassioned debate ensued about how to allocate the \$185 million that was made available. I heard from many constituents, including advocates for increased homeless services, and parents and educators asking for funding for teacher salaries. I was able to work with my colleagues to craft a compromise solution, which included significant funding for affordable housing and homeless services and a commitment to assist the school district in raising educator salaries.

As always, if you have a question or concern, don't hesitate to reach out to my office, at mandelman-staff@sfgov.org.

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Happy Spring!



Kimyn Braithwaite
DTNA President

Happy Spring! I hope that the longer days with more sunshine that Spring brings has brought inspiration to you all. I know that I am inspired by the exciting things that are happening in the neighborhood.

I feel especially inspired by the great general meeting we had in February (see page 5 for an article that further explains the focus and speakers at the meeting). It was fantastic to see so many people attend the meeting, whose focus on street activity in the neighborhood probably inspires frustration more than anything else. But the heartfelt and thoughtful questions asked by the attendees reminded me of why I love living here, amongst people who are compassionate and kind. It was one of the best general meetings that I have been a part of and I am really glad that I put it together and attended it with many of our neighbors and fellow community members/activists.

I was inspired to make street activity the focus of the February meeting because of the monthly meetings that Supervisor Mandelman has been hosting since taking office. In a previous President's Message, I had written about how these task force meetings (that's my affectionate term for them) have been populated by representatives from every City department that deals directly with the homeless or related street behavior. While the issue feels rather acute in our neighborhood, there are positive things happening throughout the City and I regularly leave the meetings feeling inspired that the people working for our City government are truly working hard to get people off the streets.

Another interaction that inspired me was meeting the Mayor in January. Her office had contacted DTNA, inviting us to a meeting in order to discuss the issues affecting our neighborhood. Of course, our main talking points were the street activity, retail vacancies, and the way that these two problems enable each other. During the conversation, we learned that the Mayor lives very close to the Triangle and regularly shops and works out in our neighborhood. Knowing this gave me a comforting feeling that she actually knows the issues that we are suffering from rather than paying lip service.

These experiences with both the Mayor and Supervisor Mandelman have maintained a sense of hope in me that our elected officials are working hard to combat the issues

that plague the City and our neighborhood daily. And that keeps me inspired and motivated to continue working with them on behalf of DTNA and its residents.

There are other things going on in the Triangle that are very exciting and inspiring (are you sensing a theme yet?) I mentioned before that we will be working with CPMC Davies campus and Friends of the Urban Forest to plant trees along the West side of Noe Street. The planting will take place on Saturday April 13 from 9 am to noon, with lunch served afterward. Meet at Noe and 14th. That should be tremendous fun and a great way to beautify the neighborhood while also working alongside your neighbors. We are still looking for volunteers.

By the time this newsletter reaches your door, our neighborhood will have seen at least one new business

open its doors with a few others not far behind. This is in addition to the few that have recently opened. I swung by the new Castro Animal Hospital on Church Street and spoke with owner and veterinarian Dr. Sarah Inman. She mentioned that she's been treating many animals from the neighborhood. It is great that as a neighborhood we are continuing to support our local businesses. Our collective support for neighborhood businesses inspires me to continue to work with landlords, City agencies, and elected officials to bring desired businesses to the neighborhood.

I hope that you all feel inspired too. Whether it be because of the longer days or the prosperous aspect of the Year of the Pig or any number of things, I hope that inspiration strikes you. And if it does, please come share it with us at either our Land Use meetings or general meetings.

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SFPD Still Struggling with Statistics, Transparency

Since 2014, when the Duboce Triangle neighborhood was stunned by two homicides that remain unsolved to this day, DTNA has been working to learn when and how and to what degree homicides, assaults, and other crimes are solved (or in police parlance, “cleared”).

In general, it has been difficult for DTNA to get information from the SFPD. Unlike many cities around the country, San Francisco does not publish homicide or assault clearance statistics on a regular basis. In 2016, with dogged persistence and the help of then Supervisor Scott Wiener’s office, DTNA was able to complete a Request for Information that resulted in the release of a ten-year history of clearance statistics, from 2006-2015. Unfortunately, the data showed that while crime (homicides and assaults, the two crimes for which we asked for statistics) had trended down over that period, the clearance rate had remained basically flat. So, fewer crimes, same percentage getting solved does not suggest effective policing.

Since the 2016 request, SFPD has been reluctant to release more stats. Despite the strong efforts of both supervisors who succeeded Wiener, DTNA was not able to get the statistics updated for 2016 and 2017 until just this February. As DTNA detailed in an article in the December 2018 DTNA News, DTNA finally were able to garner the stats by working with another organization, Stop Crime SF. Stop Crime SF was originally focused on the low clearance rate for car break-ins (fewer than 2% of all car break-ins in the City result in an arrest), but has since expanded their area of concern to holding the police department, and the justice system more generally, accountable. They have instituted a Court Watch program,

where volunteers attend the trials and sentencing hearings of serial criminals, to be sure that the community’s desire for justice and accountability is not thwarted.

In October of 2018, two DTNA Board members met in Supervisor Rafael Mandelman’s office with two Stop Crime SF Board Members, Joel Engardio and Nancy Tung (who is also a candidate for District Attorney). Following that meeting, Supervisor Mandelman scheduled a hearing to allow the supervisors to ask SFPD a few pointed questions under oath. In advance of the hearing, the SFPD provided updated statistics for assaults in the years 2013 through 2018, as well as car break-in statistics for those same years.

Unfortunately, the new statistics do not match the ones SFPD provided previously. In their latest report they said there were 7,326 assaults Citywide in 2013, whereas previously they said there were 10,481. Similar large discrepancies occur in the rest of the assault statistics, both at the station (Park District) and neighborhood (the Triangle) level. DTNA has asked for an explanation of the inconsistency, but as of this writing, one has not been forthcoming. In addition, the SFPD has still failed to provide the statistics in the one area (homicides) that originally got us interested.

One thing that has not changed between the two reports is that assaults remain unacceptably high. According to the figures SFPD gave us, there were 7,548 assaults Citywide in 2018, including 70 in the Triangle. The police chief and his district captains have recently

been standing up in front of City officials and local reporters who are apparently too busy to check the facts, in order to tout short-term decreases in crime. But according to their own statistics, looking at the long-term trends, crime is not going down.

Another thing that hasn’t changed is that SFPD is not

solving very many crimes. The assault clearance rate has remained fairly flat at around 36% for several years. And car break-ins, which are at an epidemic level in San Francisco (we have the worst rate in the country per capita) are never solved. For every level (citywide, in the Park District, and in the Triangle), the clearance rate actually got

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Table 1.

CITYWIDE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Aggravated Assault	2788	2702	2729	2653	2689	2521
Simple Assault	4538	4402	4707	5033	5348	5027
Assault Total	7326	7104	7436	7686	8037	7548
Cleared	3270	2777	2693	2891	2924	2755
Clearance Rate	45%	39%	36%	38%	36%	36%

Table 2.

PARK DISTRICT	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Aggravated Assault	105	105	101	82	100	84
Simple Assault	194	169	188	151	196	180
Assault Total	299	274	289	233	296	264
Cleared	148	114	89	92	126	105
Clearance Rate	49%	42%	31%	39%	43%	40%

Table 3.

DUBOCE TRIANGLE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Aggravated Assault	25	20	21	15	22	16
Simple Assault	47	36	57	38	53	54
Assault Total	72	56	78	53	75	70
Cleared	30	15	24	18	23	27
Clearance Rate	42%	27%	31%	34%	31%	39%

Table 4.

CITYWIDE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Theft from Vehicle Total	11,864	16,059	26,606	25,074	31,398	24,420
Cleared	535	493	609	545	617	472
Clearance Rate	5%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%

Table 5.

PARK DISTRICT	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Theft from Vehicle Total	777	1,141	1,781	1,702	1,700	1,219
Cleared	12	23	26	18	19	24
Clearance Rate	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%

Table 6.

DUBOCE TRIANGLE**	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Theft from Vehicle Total	12	18	28	40	73	128
Cleared	2	1	1	1	4	2
Clearance Rate	17%	6%	4%	3%	5%	2%

In response to DTNA’s request for information, the San Francisco Police Department prepared the six tables above.

Duboce Syringe Access Adds Low-Barrier Medical Care

At the February DTNA Public Meeting, Eileen Loughran, the San Francisco Syringe Access Program Manager from the San Francisco Department of Public Health, discussed the Duboce Syringe Access site behind Safeway, which for more than 20 years has been set up on the Duboce Avenue bikeway every Tuesday night from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Duboce is one of 13 Syringe Access sites, and the first outdoor site to offer Low-Barrier Medical Care.

The Duboce site sees from 10 to 40 people, averaging about 22, every week. Some come to exchange needles, others for snacks, and some for referrals for health and housing services, or for hygiene kits. Some of those who come to the Duboce site say would not go to the Tenderloin or the 6th Street Harm Reduction Center. Many of them are not homeless and have insurance, suggesting that they are likely our Triangle neighbors.

The Disposal staff has done a good job in convincing the drug-using community that disposal is their responsibility. One day in January 2019, a person brought in 7,000 syringes from a household of injection drug users. There has been a significant decline in HIV from injectable drugs since the inception of the Syringe Access Program, falling from 110 new cases in 2010 to 38 in 2016.

Starting on January 8 of this year, Low-Barrier Medical Care was added to the Duboce site without any uptick in the number of people being seen. The site is staffed by Dr. Debora Borne (who attended our February DTNA meeting), and/or a nurse, and by UCSF medical residents.

The new services include offering Buprenorphine to start addiction treatment, dispensing Naloxone to be on hand to treat a narcotic overdose, Gabapentin or detox for alcoholism, test strips for Fentanyl, and simple local wound care. People are given a 7-day course of medication after which a physician must be seen for a refill. Some return to Duboce for the refill, but most go to a City Referral site where they get access without a long queue for a visit. There are no long-term treatment programs in the Upper Market neighborhoods.

Between January 8 and February 5 2019 (five Tuesdays), there were 36 Medical engagements; two people re-engaged to care;

twelve Buprenorphine starts, three restarts, one refill; 22 referrals to other services; and seven linkage/support to services. At least one person entered a Navigation Center and one person with HIV re-engaged with care.

The Duboce Syringe Access and Disposal staff and volunteers clean the area behind Safeway before they set up and again once they break down, removing any trash left by participants.

The San Francisco Aids Foundation Mobile and Disposal Services/Syringe Access Services routinely does rounds in our neighborhood on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Robert Hoffman, the Associate Director, also attended the DTNA meeting.

If you see any discarded syringes or needles, the SFAF Pick-Up Crew is available daily, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. by text at 415-810-1337 (send location and picture) and, if

you cannot send a text, by phone at 415-818-7769. They usually respond within one hour. They will text you back with a picture that the syringes have been cleaned up. The SFAF response is usually faster than 311. They only recover syringes/needles. If they see trash, etc. they report it to 311. Since concerns were brought up at our January DTNA meeting, SFAF Pick-Up Crew has added Belcher Street, and Duboce Avenue between Church Street and Belcher Street on Wednesday mornings, and the Noe-Beaver Mini-Garden to their rounds.

Dr. Loughran’s presentation at the January meeting is available on our website dtna.org

Among neighbors who attended, the consensus seemed to be that while we are sad that we have so many intravenous drug users in our community, we are happy that caring professionals are engaged in harm reduction. Thank you DPH.

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Historic District, continued

Continued from first page

to Duboce Park, bounded by Scott Street and Waller Street, and encompassing Carmelita Street, Pierce Street, and Potomac Street, as having an integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, materials, and workmanship that embody distinctive characteristics of Victorian and Edwardian architecture. After hearing from residents and neighbors of the district, DTNA supported this designation, as it added protections to neighborhood character while also providing flexibility and benefits to property owners. So far, this seems to have turned out to be the case.

During the creation of the Market & Octavia Area Plan more than a decade ago, the larger Duboce Triangle neighborhood was identified as a potential historic district. This newly-proposed Duboce Triangle Historic District would seek listing in the state Register of Historical Resources, a different process than the local process which the Duboce Park Landmark District went through. Identified properties in the larger Duboce Triangle Historic District would not be treated differently after creation of the district, and there would be no additional requirements for renovation of properties compared to today.

A recent application for historic designation of the beautiful Benedict-Gieling House on the North side of Beaver Street, between Noe Street and Castro Street, reminded neighbors of how many incredible resources currently exist in our neighborhood. That house, built around 1870 by a silver refiner named Jacob Benedict, is an Italianate villa that represented the aspirations of an upwardly mobile family at the height of the Comstock Lode Silver Boom. The Benedict property originally consisted of the main house, a carriage house, an outhouse, and several outbuildings. The buildings occupied less than fifty percent of the lot, leaving room for a lush Victorian garden containing a Canary Island palm, tree ferns, and a vast magnolia tree. The house eventually passed to the ownership of an English wool merchant, and then to Mary E. Fee, a female Irish-American entrepreneur who converted the property into a boarding house, reflecting the increasing urbanization of Duboce Triangle around the turn of the last century. Beginning in 1964, John and Imogene “Tex” Gieling carefully restored the deteriorated property. John, a photogrammeter, lived at 22 Beaver Street until his death in 1982. Imogene, a well-known artist who specializes in metal-working, still lives there. According to the San Francisco Planning Department, the Benedict-Gieling House is an exceedingly rare example of

a suburban Italianate villa. Its exterior, which features ornament on three elevations, was clearly designed to be seen “in the round.” This, combined with its park-like setting, recall a time when Duboce Triangle was a genteel estate exurb of San Francisco.

According to the same report, Duboce Triangle is a predominantly residential district of flats, small apartment buildings, and single-family dwellings developed between 1870 and the First World War. Originally an affluent exurb of semi-rural estates, Duboce Triangle evolved, after the 1906 Earthquake, into a dense working-class neighborhood with a large Scandinavian immigrant population. During the Depression, many of the remaining single-family properties were carved up into small apartments and boarding houses, with many of these new units filled by shipyard and defense industry workers during the Second World War. Duboce Triangle declined after the Second World War, and narrowly avoided being demolished along with the nearby Fillmore District in the 1960s. During the 1970s and 1980s, Duboce Triangle became popular with gay men interested in rehabilitating Victorians, and in recent decades, it has attracted young, affluent tech workers.

Clearly, our neighborhood has historic character, and one way to enshrine that character into law and protect it would be to add the neighborhood to the state’s Registry of Historical Resources.

In order to make this a reality, we will need to complete the historic resource survey that was begun back in 2006. Part of the neighborhood has already been surveyed, but the remaining portions must be surveyed and the earlier portions updated to reflect changes since then. Although the original estimate for this work was over \$100,000, the original surveyor has agreed to complete the work for about \$30,000. DTNA has agreed to act as the 501(c)(3) recipient of donation funds for this work, and has made a request to the Supervisor’s office to provide a large chunk of the required funds. But our neighborhood will have to raise the remainder. Some current and former DTNA Board members have pledged substantial donations, so we just need a few more big gives (or lots of small ones) to get us over the hump. This is a critical process to protect our neighborhood, and we hope that neighbors like you will go to our website and donate generously toward this effort. Visit dtna.org/donate if you can help. Your donations are tax-deductible!

If you would like more information or to weigh in, come to our next Land Use Committee meeting on the first Monday from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Chase Bank at Sanchez Street and Market Street. All DTNA members are welcome. Upcoming issues of the Duboce Triangle News will feature a fascinating history of our neighborhood and more information on what is proposed.



Board Member Spotlight: Pat Tura - Treasurer



Pat Tura
DTNA Treasurer

I have lived in the Duboce Triangle neighborhood for ten years and I have been a resident of San Francisco for forty-three years. I migrated West from a small town in the East Bay where feeding rail riders, who came to our back door, was normal fare; no one was ever turned down. I moved to San Francisco to go to art school in North Beach and moved to Russian Hill after stints in Pacific Heights and the Upper Haight. For a while I shared a big photo studio with other art students on Grant Street and Bush Street, and North Beach and Chinatown were my neighborhoods day and night. After college, I moved South of Market to a loft above a sheet metal shop (which started up their machines at 7:00 am) on a small alley. Long before the condo craze, South of Market was filled with artist live-work spaces where an artist could af-

ford to live and practice her craft. An artist’s itinerant life brought me next to the Mission, then back to the Haight, back to North Beach, up to Corbett Heights, out to the beach for a brief couple of years, and then (finally, I think) to Duboce Triangle.

I was attracted to the neighborhood for the beautiful Victorian houses, large backyards, and small, quiet, tree-lined streets. I became involved with DTNA to see how I could participate in preserving and improving the fabric of the neighborhood. I first joined the Land Use Committee and learned about the City government’s process for all sorts of changes that impact our lives. I later became Vice President and then President, for a time I was the chair of the Land Use Committee, and I currently hold a position on the Board as Treasurer.

I have seen neighborhoods evolve across the City over the years I have lived here, and observed that some changes are more positive than others. Today our City is facing difficult challenges, so much so that the eyes of the rest of the country are trained on us to see how we navigate them. Conventions are being cancelled and relocated, hotels are experiencing a downturn in business, yet our City has a windfall of money from ever increasing property taxes and generous voter-approved initiatives,

which should allow us the funds to make a difference.

In my professional life as a product developer in the toy business, I have traveled the world overseeing development and production. On my trips I often saw the kind of poverty that I did not think was possible in our rich cosmopolitan City. But now the sights of homelessness, addiction and mental illness have come home to our own City, including our Triangle at the center of it. I see young people living on the street, desperate for their next fix. A family friend who is twenty-three years old told me San Francisco gives addicts just enough support to stay jobless, addicted and living on the streets with easy access to drugs. He was one of the lucky ones with family who got him into a sustainable treatment program and he now lives a productive life in New York. But it was a long hard road to recovery.

The windfall of \$415 million from our recently approved Proposition C will benefit underpaid teachers, allow for long overdue upgrades to public housing and for the acquisition of affordable housing sites. A significant amount will be allocated for homelessness and behavioral health. These programs will need sustainable funding in the years to come. The workaday San Francisco home and property-owners’ taxes go to fund the homeless, which we have been doing for years while the problem has festered. As neighborhood residents, we need to consistently ask each and every politician who represents us what they are doing to improve quality of life not only for the indigent and drug-addicted who surround us, but also for hard-working taxpayers who are trying to live a normal, quiet life and want to see everyone around them taken care of. It’s all of our responsibility, because we all live here.

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Anchor of Tyke-y Life in the Triangle Seeks Support

Folks living in Duboce Triangle have likely encountered the Friends of St. Francis (FoSF) preschool in one way or another. Originally opened on Belcher Street by St. Francis Lutheran Church in 1976, FoSF is a non-denominational community-based school that three generations of families in the neighborhood have sent their offspring to, while others have been charmed by encountering the delightful children on one of their walks around the neighborhood wearing matching neon t-shirts. The school is uniquely of and for the City's residents, bringing folks together within Duboce Triangle and beyond.

The families at FoSF come from a wide variety of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds – there are immigrant families; middle-class and low-income families, families with several different home languages; LGBTQ families of various stripes and configurations; and, thanks to its central location, families who hail from all over the City. The children benefit immensely from the learning that takes place in such a diverse environment, as they are taught at this tender age the value of understanding the complexity of others, and gain the skills

to make connections across differences. They are so lucky to be achieving that understanding so young, and they are building a foundation that will serve them throughout their lives.

FoSF's diversity is the direct result of the school's commitment to providing half of its child care to children from low-income families, ones that qualify for tuition support from the state. Of the 38 families now enrolled, fully 50% are paying no tuition, while the rest pay on a sliding scale based on income. There are very few pre-schools in San Francisco that follow this model, due to both administrative challenges and the financial opportunity cost. Because of the immense demand for high-quality early childhood education, the spots could easily be filled by families who could afford full tuition. The value of FoSF's model cannot be overstated. In a time of extreme wealth and income disparity, FoSF is a community preschool that bridges that gap.

Moreover, FoSF maintains this model of equity in access while simultaneously delivering the highest-quality care. The richness of the school's programs starts with the school's teachers. The teachers are incredibly talented and well-



The Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center on Belcher Street

qualified, with a deep knowledge of what it takes to foster a learning environment for young children. The teachers are also themselves part of the San Francisco community; many have attended San Francisco's local colleges and have children enrolled in city schools, and some have been teaching at the school for over ten years. These teachers face the same challenges that all San Francisco teachers face, yet they still go above and beyond, bringing in art and music programming, developing and expanding the beautiful garden and play space, and innovating new ways to engage the children and spark a love of learning. The FoSF staff devotion to their craft reflects their belief in the mission of the school and their love for the children in their care. It is crucial to acknowledge the leadership of FoSF Executive Director Sally Large, who has led the school for decades. Her stewardship has fostered and maintained the community focus of the school, persevering in its mission during a time when for some the value of "community" is has been forgotten or lost.

Every year the school hosts a fundraiser where local members of the community are honored for

their support and dedication to the school and to the educational community at large. One honoree this year is Board of Supervisors President Norman Yee, for his years-long dedication and steadfast advocacy for early childhood education. This year's fundraiser will be held on May 4th, 2019 at the Randall Museum, and all members of the neighborhood are invited to attend. The event not only provides attendees a fun night of dinner, dancing, music, fantastic live and silent auction items, and a view that can't be beat, but you will also be supporting a fantastic and diverse local neighborhood preschool.

If you would like to attend FoSF's fundraiser, donate auction items, or just donate, please visit www.fosfchildcare.org or call at 415-861-1818. All donations are both greatly appreciated and tax deductible. All donors will be featured in the event program and will also receive a thank-you receipt letter from the school. The hope is that neighbors feel compelled to support and invest in this school, not only because of what it means for the Duboce Triangle neighborhood, but because of what it fosters for our future.

Harvey Milk Plaza Plan Moves Forward

Guest column authored by Friends of Harvey Milk Plaza, a private group of merchants and residents

A great progress to report on the Harvey Milk Plaza project: In mid-December, the project received Phase I approval from the SF Arts Commission (SFAC) Civic Design Review Committee. After decades of discussion and attempts, Friends of Harvey Milk Plaza is now closer than ever before to seeing its vision of honoring Harvey Milk become real! This most recent effort, which began with two community visioning sessions in January 2017 and continued over the course of four community meetings in 2018, producing a schematic design that can now move forward through the approvals process and continued development.

Here are some features of the reimagined plaza:

- The stairs to the Muni Station will still be moved slightly west, increasing gathering space near the iconic intersection of Castro and Market. Overhead will be a sculptural element, the design of which will be determined by a team of artists and architects.
- The elevator being installed by SFMTA in the first phase of construction is to have four stops, instead of the three originally proposed by SFMTA. (More on this below.)
- The recessed landscape area near Collingwood Street will be raised to reduce problem behavior that exists there today. The five trees currently there will become a grove of 11 trees, which will symbolize the 11 months that Harvey served in public office.
- There will be public space near the middle of the site, allowing the plaza to become better integrated into the fabric of the Castro neighborhood through activation by community groups.
- Underground, commuters and visitors will be greeted by an art- and exhibit-filled "gateway" experience that will welcome all to the historic Castro neighborhood and inspire them with Harvey's enduring message of Hope.

Now, we need your help! The proposed fourth stop of the elevator at the Market Street bus stop will allow those with mobility issues to disembark from their bus and immediately board the elevator to the ticketing concourse level below. The SFMTA proposal only has three stops, at plaza, ticketing concourse, and platform levels, which means these people will have to disembark, then make their way to the street corner before doubling back one half-block to board the elevator near the middle of the plaza. We do not believe this is right for Castro Station. We support a vision for increased accessibility at the busy transit hub as shown in the design approved by the SFAC in December. If you agree, please contact your Supervisor to let them know

you want SFMTA to accept the recommendation for a four-stop elevator.

At the community meetings, participants expressed a strong desire that no part of the plaza named for Harvey Milk be inaccessible to anyone, as inclusivity remains a core tenet of Harvey's message. We support this vision because it's the right thing for the neighborhood, it's the right thing for Castro Station, and it's the right thing to honor Harvey Milk.

Please contact your Supervisor TODAY and let them know you agree: Rafael.Mandelman@sfgov.org or Vallie.Brown@sfgov.org.

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Local Dairy Debuts at the Castro Farmers Market

Goat milk and cheese have had a place in humans' diets since antiquity. The cheese is even mentioned in Homer's *The Iliad* as part of a special recovery drink, known as the Nestor's Cup: Start with a glass of wine; mix in some shredded goat cheese and barley; serve with onion, honey, and cakes of barley meal. Voila! Post-workout pick-me-up! Today, goat milk comprises 70% of global milk consumption and, luckily, there are plenty of other palatable uses for goat products. At Evergreen Acres Dairy in Tres Pinos, owners Michael and Jane Hulme use raw goat milk as the mainstay ingredient for an assortment of cheeses, kefir, cream, yogurt (or "goat-gurt"), custard, and cajeta, which is a style of dulce de leche using caramelized goat's milk. Good news for Castro and Duboce Triangle residents: Evergreen Acres will be joining the Castro Farmers' Market for the 2019 season, every Wednesday evening from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm, until November 20th, at the intersection of Noe Street and Market Street!

Sprawling across 36 acres of rolling hills, Evergreen Acres is home to a medley of goats, emus, pigs, rescued farm dogs, and ducks. It is the only farm in the country which holds a Grade A certification for raw goat milk, while also operating a breeding program for Guernsey goats. "Guernsey goats come from the British Channel islands," Michael explains, "and it's an endangered species." In the United States, there are only twelve family strains of Guernseys, making the Hulmes' breeding program especially important for conserving genetic diversity. Oh, and the milk isn't bad either, with 6% butterfat content which creates a rich, sweet, and creamy milk, without the 'goaty' aftertaste.

The recipe for success? The goats enjoy a diet of grass in the winter months and sprouted alfalfa in the

summer, which, the Hulmes explain, is higher in nutrient content than plain old grains. For libations, the goats sip on natural spring water from the Sierras. Michael and Jane keep the goats healthy with a simple paradigm: keep the herd small and allow them to roam the pastures. By keeping the herd to 200 goats or less, the Hulmes know each one of their goats and are able to keep a close eye on their wellbeing.

But for small dairy farms, it can be an arduous task to stay afloat and legitimate in the eyes of the law. Government regulations are often built around larger-scale farm models, making it hard for smaller producers to meet requirements. Michael and Jane have worked hard to change that, joining forces with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to create safety guidelines that are viable for small farms. For the Hulmes, the motivation is simple: small farms are the backbone of local economies. So, eaters, do your due diligence: sup-

port your local dairy, try your hand at the Nestor's Cup. Or just stick with the cajeta.

The Castro Farmers' Market is operated by the nonprofit, Pacific Coast Farmer's Market Association. For more about Evergreen Acres Dairy and the American dairy industry, check out PCFMA's blog: www.pcfma.org/blog

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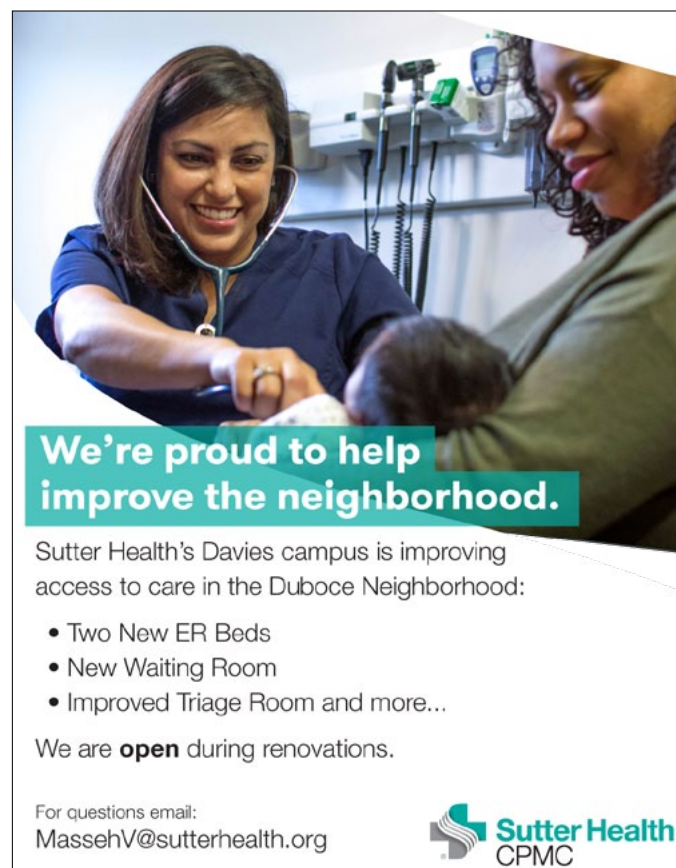
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Castro
FARMERS' MARKET
Wednesdays • 4PM - 8PM
MAR 13TH - NOV 20TH
NOE ST. & MARKET ST.

The Castro Farmers' Market is back for the 2019 season! We've got all of the friendly, familiar farmers returning, like Fifth Crow Farm, Shelly's Farm, Pirate Creek Bees, AND a slew of exciting new faces: Coastside Farms and Specialties brings a smorgasbord of smoked salmon and spreads; Donna's Tamales serves up flavor-packed vegan tamales; and Evergreen Acres Dairy presents a medley of raw goat milk products and health drinks. Soothe your hump day blues with some farm fresh greens at the Castro Farmers' Market!

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We're proud to help improve the neighborhood.

Sutter Health's Davies campus is improving access to care in the Duboce Neighborhood:

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We are **open** during renovations.

For questions email: MassehV@sutterhealth.org

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See Something, Say Something!

You are rushing off to work or the gym and suddenly you see it: the disgusting mound of garbage; the overflowing City trash receptable; or food, waste and needles scattered on the sidewalk from an overnight encampment. Like many of us, you are disgusted, you hold your nose, and you step around it. But don't!

As more and more neighbors voice concerns about garbage, encampments and other public nuisances, the only way we make sure these do not become the "new norm" for our neighborhood, is if we all chip in and report these problems. Our City is remarkably responsive to the need to clean up these problems, but it takes all of us serving as the City's eyes and ears to let them know where these problems are.

You can do your part by using www.sf311.org on the web or the SF311 mobile application, available from the App Store or Google Play. This simple tool allows you to sign in or, if you prefer, to report anonymously, to report conditions that need

attention on our neighborhood's sidewalks and streets. The website will connect you to a whole host of City services, but some of the key things you can report are

- Street or sidewalk cleaning
- Graffiti
- Illegal Postings
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Overflowing sewers or water leaks

If you see a garbage or waste on the sidewalk, an overflowing sewer vent or other problem, it takes just a few moments to use the application to show the location on a map, post a picture of the problem and/or write a brief description of the problem, click "send" and allow the City to solve the problem.

The City responds to requests from the community, but if no one reports the problems in our neighborhood, they will focus on the problems that have been reported in other neighborhoods. You can also look up the reports on the application or website that have already been made and the status of the resolution.

SFPD Statistics, continued

Continued from page 4

worse between 2013 and 2018, with the 2018 clearance rate at 2%. In other words, 98% of the people who break into cars are never caught.

DTNA and Stop Crime SF want to have this sort of information posted yearly on the SFPD website, readily accessible on the website as "Crime Trends". It is impossible to hold our public servants accountable without reliable, publicly available information.

DTNA and Stop Crime SF will

continue to work together on other accountability issues, such as increasing the percentage of officers who live in San Francisco in order to increase understanding of the community, and reducing the round-robin reassignment of district station chiefs (which again reduces accountability). We would like your help too. If you are not already a member of both of these organizations, please join, and consider signing up for a Court Watch slot at the Stop Crime SF website: stopcrimesf.com.

Join in and stay tuned.

Recommendations:

- Be careful that you are reporting the location accurately; you can either enter an address or move to the location on the built-in map
- Upload a photo of the problem
- Do not make assumptions or use broad vague terms like "homeless". Instead describe the actual nuisance, like "needles on the sidewalk", "animal/human waste", "food and garbage on the sidewalk".

You can also do your part to make sure you are not part of the garbage problem:

- Take care in discarding your own garbage and reminding your household or tenants that household garbage belongs in residential bins and should never be placed in or around the City's sidewalk

trash receptables.

- Mattresses, furniture and other garbage should never be left by the curb without first arranging pick up by Recology www.recology.com/recology-san-francisco/bulky-item-collection (or the garbage company in your neighborhood).

Before many of our neighbors wake up, the Department of Public Works, the SFPD and others, are often already hard at work addressing reported problems on our streets and sidewalks. Do your part by Saying Something if you See Something by using the 311 application or web interface. And of course, call 911 right away for any true emergencies. And if you see them, consider thanking those tireless City workers who are working hard to keep our streets and sidewalks clean and safe.

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday
10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Appointments recommended

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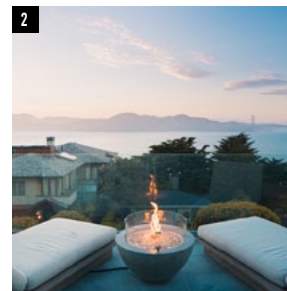
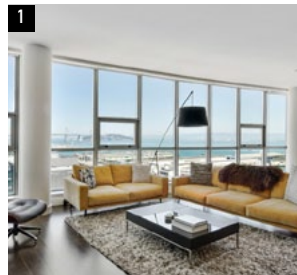
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- Encourage your neighbors to volunteer
- Supports the costs of your newsletter
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Join online using your credit/debit card! Visit

www.dtna.org/join.html and become a member today.

☒ **Yes! I want to join DTNA.**

☐ I want to get involved/volunteer, too!

Please contact me. I'm interested in:

- ☐ Land use/development ☐ Newsletter
☐ Transportation issues ☐ Social events
☐ Other _____

Mail to:

Treasurer

Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association
3673 16th St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

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