

The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

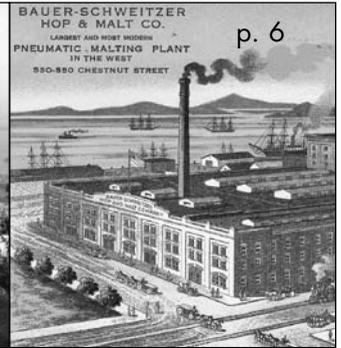


WASHINGTON SQUARE OUTSIDE THE BOX

page 25-27

Issue 190

Spring 2010



THE SEMAPHORE # 190 Spring 2010

FEATURES

A Malt House With a View	6	The Rise and Fall of Proposition K	22
Dorothy Danielson Passes	7	Five THD Ex-Presidents Support 555 Washington	23
Columbus Ave.: A Great Urban Diagonal Axis	12	Students Contribute to Wash. Square Planning	25
Nick and Nora Visit the Neighborhood	14	Watering Washington Square	26
NB Citizen: Donald Yazzie	15	Corruption by Comic Books Leads Local to Fame.	28
RESTAURANT REVIEW: Don Pisto's	18	Flash Art!: Here and Gone	38
Plan Proposed for Joe Dimaggio Playground	20		

COLUMNS

The President's Corner	3
Waterfront Committee Report	5
From the Desk of Supervisor Chiu	8
Parks, Trees, & Birds Committee Report	9
The Alfa Nose	16
Planning and Zoning Committee Report	19
Parking & Traffic Committee Report	30
Art & Culture Committee Report	34

THD BUSINESS

Board Motions	37
Board of Directors	39
THD Committees	39
Membership Info	back cover
Cover:	Washington Square, photo by Howard Wong

SEMAPHORE STAFF:

EDITOR: Art Peterson, 101A Telegraph Hill, 956-7817, apeterson@nwp.org
 Ad SALES: Nate Baca, nate_baca@hotmail.com
 BUSINESS MANAGER: Gail Switzer, 341 Filbert, 788-8667, gail_switzer@yahoo.com
 TYPESETTING/DESIGN: Chris Carlsson, Cloverleaf Productions, 608-9035 cc@chrisarlsson.com

The Semaphore is a publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers for its members. Articles, except for the summary of Board of Directors' Motions, do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association or its officers, but are the opinions of the writers of the individual signed articles. The Association can take no responsibility for their content. This membership publication is not to be reprinted or disseminated without permission in writing.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

by Vedica Puri

We've got something a lot more compelling coming your way than the 2010 US Government Census. It's the 2010 THD Survey. THD's Community Relations Committee, with the help of the 2009-10 board, has developed a survey covering local topics. It will be mailed to a random sampling of our membership. There was no issue too controversial or mundane to be excluded. Your feedback will be valuable and anonymous. If you get the survey, it is critical that you take the time to provide us with your responses and mail them back in the pre-stamped envelope that will be provided. Results will be aggregated (i.e., 85% of respondents "strongly agreed" with "a,b,c") and shared with the membership.

We on the board take what we do—as one

of the most venerable neighborhood organizations in the city—seriously. To stay relevant and current, we need to know what you take seriously.



A Look Back at the 2009-2010 Year

Here are the highlights of THD's accomplishments over the past year:

- THD salons made a roaring come back, thanks to the Art & Culture Committee.
- The effort to strip neighborhoods of their right to discretionary review (the right to have a project reviewed even if it technically appeared to comply with the code) before the Planning Commission

continued on page 4

Freebairn-Smith & Crane
Planning, Urban Design, Architecture

Rod Freebairn-Smith
Janet Crane
(415) 398 4094

Sean O'Donnell
Handyman

**"Anything can be fixed
except a fallen soufflé."**

307-1205

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

was defeated, thanks to the Planning & Zoning Committee.

- * *The Semaphore* continues to be heralded as one of the best neighborhood publications, thanks to Editor Art Peterson and the tireless efforts of Kathleen Cannon.



P.O. Box 330168
SF CA 94133-0168

hackett.philip@gmail.com

* In recognition that we want to be more in touch with our members, we created a special committee, the Community Relations committee that developed the survey described above.

* Much time and energy is being spent creating a plan for

continued from page 3

the Northeast Waterfront on and around the Embarcadero before developments are approved willy nilly, thanks to the Waterfront committee.

- * The 39 bus route up to Coit Tower was preserved and made more viable, thanks to the Parking & Traffic committee's diligent outreach work with MUNI and the neighborhood.
- * The Aquarium at Pier 39, the Wax Museum at Fisherman's Wharf, Boudin's, Don Pisto's in North Beach and New Sun Hong Kong hosted our social events, thanks to the Social Committee.
- * With funding from the Northeast Conservancy, a rare Coast Live Oak tree was saved and much other needed tree pruning took place, thanks to the Parks, Trees & Birds Committee.

We continue to run on all cylinders with your support and look forward to an equally active important year ahead.



VICOLETTO

ITALIAN RESTAURANT

550 Green St., San Francisco
415.433.5800

CAFFE CAPRICCIO

2200 MASON STREET . . . SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133

william stout architectural books

*Appropriate: The Houses
of Joseph Esherick
by Marc Treib*
now available!

804 montgomery street
san francisco ca 94133
415 391 6757
www.stoutbooks.com
M-F - 10-6:30, Sat - 10-5:30

architecture • art • urban planning
graphic design • landscape • furniture
interior design • industrial design

MACCHIARINI
CREATIVE DESIGN &
ART+METALWORKS GALLERY
creative metals
jewelry - sculpture

DANIEL MACCHIARINI

1544 Grant Ave 415.982.2229
North Beach Toll-free
S.F. CA 94133 877.982.2229
www.macreatedesign.com

WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REPORT

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NORTHEAST EMBARCADERO STUDY



By Andy Katz, Co-chair
THD Waterfront Committee

In February of 2009, Supervisor David Chiu urged the Port of San Francisco to engage the Planning Department to lead a planning analysis to develop appropriate uses for the Port's surface parking lots north of Market Street, known as the seawall lots.

A series of 6 workshops has been held to solicit community input and, supposedly based on the input gathered from these meetings, guidelines were presented at a February 24, 2010 community meeting. The Planning Department set a date of March 24, 2010 to receive comments from the public on this document.

The THD Waterfront Committee has had serious concerns about the Planning Department's Fundamental Design Principles & Preliminary Recommendations and has submitted extensive comments detailing these concerns.

THD had hoped that the Northeast Embarcadero study would be based on 'best practices' standards, such as those used in the Upper Market Study. Demographic, housing and economic analysis of the subject area is necessary to provide authenticity to neighborhood residents, but this analysis has not been performed.

There has been little mention of the volume of historic resources in the Northeast Embarcadero study area. All but two of the seawall lots are located in the Northeast Waterfront Historic District. All but one of the seawall lots faces the Port of San Francisco's Embarcadero National Register Historic District. Within close proximity are the Telegraph Hill Historic District and the Jackson Square Historic District. Without considering these historic

resources, how can this study realistically fulfill its stated vision to create a "sense of place"?

THD, other community groups and many neighborhood residents have also made clear their desires that open space be given high priority in the study recommendations. THD stated that the west side of the Embarcadero should contain as many well designed public spaces as possible and serious consideration should be given to locating these open spaces on seawall lots where pedestrian views and connections to the historic buildings can be enhanced rather than walling off these views with new buildings.

The bottom line is that the development priorities of Planning and the Port are different than the interests and needs of the affected neighborhoods. Their design recommendations make it clear that the underlying intent is to increase height limits where ever possible. The proposed development at 8 Washington (Seawall Lot 351) appears as a foregone conclusion and specific height recommendations are proposed only for the parcels that make up this project site.

Sadly, the Northeast Embarcadero Study Design Recommendations & Urban Design Guidelines in their present form do not accurately reflect the desires and aspirations of the neighborhoods in our end of town, instead, are being imposed on these local communities.

Pier 27 Cruise Terminal Design Process

In November of 2009, the Port of San Francisco hired KMD Architects and Pfau Long Architecture to develop the conceptual and schematic designs and

continued on page 6

A MALT HOUSE WITH A VIEW

by Dick Boyd

If you're in the market for new digs in the neighborhood you might want to check out this property listing at 550 Mason: "3BR/@BA, view of the Bay, 2 car-parking, Hrdws floors, granite counters and more."

What you'll be buying is a condo (asking price \$1,325,000) in a building that's been around in one form or another since the 1860s. During those early years, several small malting factories and brewers plied their trade on the premises. At the time, nearly all San Franciscans in the beer business were Germans. There were small breweries in neighborhoods all over the city where clusters of Germans happened to reside.

Then in 1878, another German, John C. Bauer, took over the entire premises and the building became the Bauer & Schweitzer Malt House. John remained at the helm of the business until 1906 when his son George W. Bauer took over the firm.

George had had quite a career in his own right before taking up malting. Born in 1874, he graduated from UC Berkeley in 1897 and within six years he was a Captain in the Naval Militia in full charge of California's naval forces. At that time and prior to

1918, states were in control of naval units stationed in their harbors. As Captain of the Naval Militia, George had the authority to call up Naval Reserves for emergencies. This is precisely what he did in 1906, calling up 800 sailors for duty in San Francisco where they patrolled the waterfront at the time of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. While running the Bauer & Schweitzer, George also maintained his naval affiliation and was promoted to the rank of Admiral in 1938.

When George took over operations in 1906 the timing was not particularly good. The old building was nearly destroyed in the April, 1906 catastrophe. As a result George built a new concrete and steel reinforced structure and installed state of the art French malting equipment. The rebuilding was completed in 1908 with Bauer & Schweitzer as the sole tenant.

George lived the life of a prominent San Franciscan, belonging to numerous clubs: among them the Olympic Club, the Commonwealth Club and the Press Club. Somewhat mysteriously, however, he died by his own hand at the age of 74 while residing at the Fairmont Hotel. Money apparently

continued on page 11

WATERFRONT COMMITTEE

continued from page 5

other alterations to Pier 27 necessary to transform it into San Francisco's primary cruise ship terminal. The initial proposal for the Pier 27 site, including the cruise ship terminal, open space network and possible restaurant and retail uses, was scheduled to be presented to the Port Commission on April 13. It will also be presented to the NE Waterfront Advisory Group on June 2, 2010. The goal is to complete the project in 2014.

Andy Katz will represent THD on the Pier 27 Cruise Terminal Design Steering Committee. The

committee will meet beginning on May 6 to study, ask questions, and provide comments on the draft program document.

We encourage anyone who wants to join the Waterfront Committee to e-mail Andy Katz at waterfront@thd.org. The Waterfront Committee will continue to track the Embarcadero Study, the proposed development at 8 Washington, the Pier 27 cruise ship terminal proposal, the Piers 15-17 Exploratorium project and other Waterfront related projects.



DOROTHY DANIELSON PASSES

by Sue Cauthen

Dorothy Danielson, longtime neighborhood activist and distinguished professor of English, has died at the age of 91. Friends, colleagues and relatives packed the Maritime Museum Library at Fort Mason, March 20, for a celebration of her life and her influence on generations of students at San Francisco State University.

Ms. Danielson lived on Telegraph Hill for most of her adult years and interspersed her teaching career with advocacy for community issues. A loyal Telegraph Hill Dweller with what her friend Dennis Dibiase termed “a compassionate heart and a steel backbone,” she was an ardent supporter of preservation of the North Beach library and a committed foe of the Central Subway.

She rarely missed a meeting of THD’s Parking & Traffic Committee and spoke eloquently for retention of the 39 bus and keeping Mason Street open for transportation.

She was a charter member of the Coalition for a Better North Beach Library and Friends of the Appleton & Wolfard Libraries.

A seventh generation Californian with family ties to land grant acreage, the former Dorothy Connors graduated from UC Berkeley. She married her high school sweetheart, Bud Wileman, a Navy pilot who was killed in the battle of Guadalcanal just six months after their wedding. Undaunted, she completed officer training as a WAVE and served till the end of World War II.

Her trailblazing spirit led her to launch an

English as a Second Language (ESL) curriculum at San Francisco State University, where she trained scores of teachers over her 25-year tenure. She also taught at UC, City College and in the Philippines, where she worked for UCLA and later as a Fulbright scholar. A poet, writer and editor, she also authored several widely-read ESL textbooks.

The “second love of her life,” Larry Danielson, flew to the Philippines and persuaded her to marry him in 1961. They were a popular couple in North Beach cultural circles till his death in 1997.

After retirement, Ms. Danielson followed her lifelong love for books and libraries, volunteering at the Maritime Library and winning a commendation for 1000 hours of service. She represented North Beach on the Council of Neighborhood Libraries and was an ombudsperson at senior housing centers. She went to exercise class three times a week into her 80s and was studying Tagalog with her caretaker when she died.

Former students flocked to her memorial to praise her skill as a mentor and a teacher. “I would have had no career without her,” said Pat Porter. Others lauded Ms. Danielson’s energy, creativity, commitment and benevolence. “She was noted for her concise and forthright style: What’s your point, kiddo?” was a favorite query.

“She was the most wonderful teacher I ever had,” said City College professor Kathleen Wolf. “Dorothy Danielson lived and spoke for truth and justice,” said another friend. “Those who knew her were better than they were before.”



FROM THE DESK OF SUPERVISOR CHIU



by David Chiu

I hope everyone is enjoying the end of rainy days and the transition to spring time. Despite the temptations of our beautiful San Francisco weather, work at City Hall does not slow down. Below are some of the highlights from District 3 and our fair City:

Earthquake Safety

After the 1906 earthquake, in which a devastating fire was the cause of most of the loss of lives and property, San Francisco built one of the world's best networks of underground cisterns, reservoirs and tanks to fight major fires. 100+ years later, our system is crumbling, and we need to modernize it in preparation for a major fire or earthquake.

I recently led efforts to place on our June 2010 ballot a critical bond measure to ensure that our firefighters have a reliable emergency water system to fight major fires, and to repair seismically unsafe firehouses. The bond will also rebuild our city's emergency command center, which is housed in a seismically unsafe building that will likely fall down in a major earthquake. As we know from 1906 and 1989, and as the world has already learned in the first three months of 2010 with the experiences of Haiti, Chile, Taiwan, and Turkey, it is only a matter of time before the Big One will strike San Francisco, and we need to be prepared.

Garage Legislation

Last year, in response to a rash of Ellis Act evictions in the northeast part of District 3 in buildings whose owners concurrently developed garages, I introduced legislation to place limits on owners who wish to evict tenants in order to make space for a

garage. The legislation, which only applies to North Beach, Chinatown and Telegraph Hill, was based on the principle that we need to prioritize space for people over space for parking in some of the densest neighborhoods outside of Manhattan. My legislation also makes it easier to construct new housing without parking and thus follow our city's Transit First policy, as we have done in so many other neighborhoods throughout the City.

The legislation was supported by our Planning Commission by a 6-1 vote, and after five Land Use Committee hearings, it has been recommended unanimously by that Committee. After making amendments to the legislation to address concerns raised by property owners, I am hopeful that the Board will pass the legislation shortly.

Public Safety

A recent spate of violence in North Beach has demonstrated the long-standing imperative for our Entertainment Commission to act quickly to quell neighborhood violence. Last month, a man was killed on Columbus Avenue by a driver fleeing the police after a shooting. Two weeks prior, a shooting left one man dead outside of Club Suede, which had been the subject of numerous prior complaints unaddressed by the Commission. These incidents are absolutely unacceptable, and my office has been working with the Police Department and the Entertainment Commission to consider next steps to hopefully shut Suede down and address these public safety concerns.

Late last year, I passed legislation beefing up nightclub security requirements and requiring

continued on next page

the Entertainment Commission to report every three months on how it is addressing neighborhood complaints concerning late-night venues. The Entertainment Commission's first report is due shortly, and its executive director will present the report before the Public Safety Committee that I chair. At my request based on numerous constituent suggestions, the Entertainment Commission has finally begun to televise its proceedings, so there is greater public accountability and transparency. I am also looking into potential legislation to regulate party promoters, who conduct their business with no oversight and have no liability when violent incidents occur related to the parties they profit from.

Tour Buses

Constituents throughout District 3 have complained about the recent proliferation of tour buses in our neighborhoods, particularly in North Beach, Telegraph Hill, Russian Hill and Union Square. After several meetings with community stakeholders, we have focused our attention on the issues of parking, noise, and lack of regulation. I am working in concert with the MTA and the City Attorney's Office to craft solutions to address the complaints. Among other options, we are considering parking zones for tour buses, as well as regulating loudspeakers used on open-top tour buses, with encouragement of the use of headphones. We will keep you posted as this process moves forward. ✂

PARKS, TREES, & BIRDS REPORT

by Judy Irving

Our committee welcomes a new co-chair: Marilee Gaffney, a talented garden designer who lives on Telegraph Hill, and will take on the "parks and trees" part of the committee, and I'll stay on "for the birds." Marilee will also serve as THD's liaison to the Friends of Washington Square. She loves that park and visits it often with little Jato and Hoku, Jack Russell terriers.

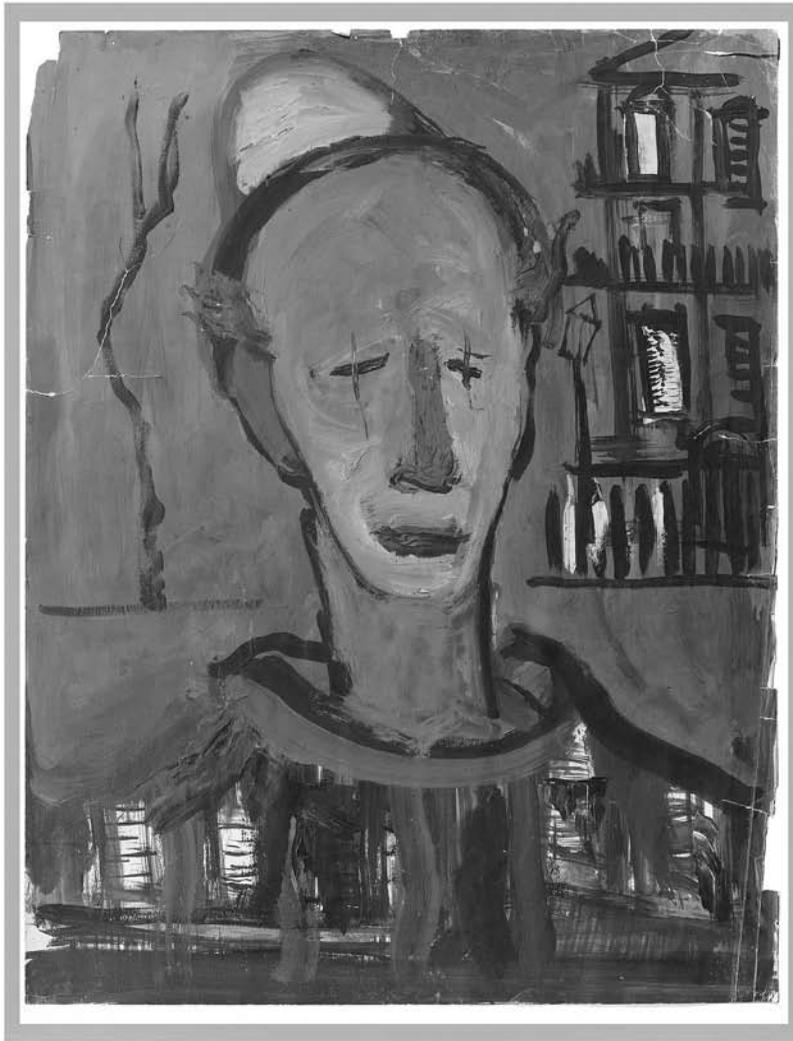
Jane Martin, Director of Plant*SF, will come to our neighborhood this spring or summer to introduce us to "permeable landscapes" in other parts of the city. Greenway gardens are planted where there once was concrete, so rainwater can again soak into the soil instead of running off into the streets and sewers. To see some lovely sidewalk garden photos as a sneak preview of Jane's presentation, go to www.plantsf.org. The date, time, and location of this THD member social event will be announced soon.



Certified arborist Ian Butler removed ivy from several poplars at the top of the 200 block of Greenwich on March 17th. This is the third large-scale pruning project sponsored by the Valetta Heslet Garden Fund of the Northeast San Francisco Conservancy, which reimburses THD for approved public garden projects in the block where Valetta lived. Ian Butler noted that the poplars are not doing well because they've been topped so often (by the former owners of Julius' Castle, to preserve the view from the parking area and restaurant). Perhaps residents on the upper block of Greenwich, above the Castle, may be motivated to take care of these trees in the future.

If you live anywhere near Coit Tower and would like to help keep Pioneer Park looking good, here's one way to do it: join an ad-hoc group who would lend an occasional hand to Milo Linaman—one of Rec/

continued on page 29



Focus Gallery

**framing, exhibiting, selling
art**

**New location in North Beach, 1534 Grant Ave
(between Union & Filbert)
John Perino 415-706-0898
focusgallery@earthlink.net, www.focusgallerysf.org**

A Malt House with a View *continued from page 6*

wasn't the problem. He left an estate which in today's dollars would be in advance of 7 million dollars.

After George's demise, Bauer & Schweitzer continued operation, supplying malt to Bay Area breweries, including Anchor Steam Beer, up until it ceased operations in 1981. At that point the building was designated a historic landmark by the city, an honor that discouraged many would-be developers who knew it limited their development options.

Except for occasional use as a motion picture sound stage (the TV series "Nash Bridges" made use of the facility), the building remained vacant.

But in 2001, Wharf Associates & Emerald Fund and the firm's architect Clay Fry came up with a plan to renovate a good part of the building while converting it to condominiums.

A long time local resident remembers that when the builders removed most of the silos during construction (the tops of two remaining silos can still be seen today from the east side of Francisco Street), they were so big they had to be cut in pieces.

These days, passersby of 530 Chestnut Street can view artist William Dupont's murals (circa 1930) in the lobby depicting the beer making process from the fields to the brewery. These murals were once located in the tasting room and are very reminiscent of murals located in Coit Tower and the Rincon Annex, echoing other depression era WPA Art Program works.

The rare postcard reproduced here reveals how freight cars came up Mason Street from Jefferson on a single-track spur. Mason between Bay and Francisco had a setback of about 200 feet (approximately the depth of the current Trader Joe's) so freight cars and engine could make the turn at Francisco. The freight cars were operated by the Belt Line, which had 70 miles of track including spurs to all the piers. It ran from Fort Mason to Islais Creek. Old timers will remember that the Embarcadero was a 4-lane street with four lanes of tracks running alongside until the emergence of the Embarcadero Freeway (1961 to 1989).



Bauer & Schweitzer prior to 1906, Courtesy of Glen Knox and John Freeman.

Another local resident born and raised on Francisco Street remembers that when the malt plant was still operating the smell was overwhelming. "But you got used to it," he said. Residents also remember that the only real noise was the loading of the freight cars and that was usually over by 5PM when the freight cars were supposed to be off Francisco Street. Occasionally the cars were left over-night causing dark and unsafe conditions after public housing was put in place during WWII.

Now the malt plant is gone, and the public housing has become the more agreeable North Beach Place. But as your real estate agent will be happy to point out, the "view of the bay" remains. ✦

Semaphore writer Dick Boyd is the author of *Broadway North Beach—The Gold Years*

COLUMBUS AVENUE: A GREAT URBAN DIAGONAL AXIS

Story and Photos By Howard Wong, AIA

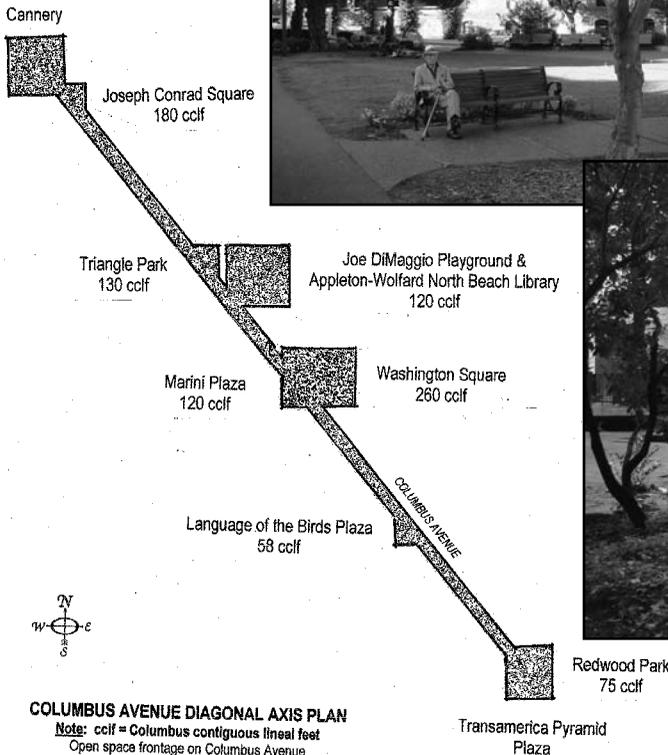
The great urban diagonal axis, Columbus Avenue, links the Financial District to Fisherman's Wharf and is accentuated by a sequence of open spaces that open to public vistas: at Redwood Park, Transamerica Pyramid Plaza, Language of the Birds Plaza, Washington Square Park, Marini Plaza, Triangle Park and Joseph Conrad Square.

This sequence of urban nodes is a big part of what makes our neighborhood beautiful. Often taken for granted, these

open spaces that abut the diagonal boulevard that is Columbus provide contiguous open areas which explode to simultaneous views of historical sites—where one can feel so much of the city.

Worth preserving for future generations, Washington Square was once slated for an underground garage, a name change and cluttered landscaping, but was protected by neighborhood activists and land-marking. Joseph Conrad Square was once a rubble-filled lot. The Language of the Birds Plaza was a traffic lane. Triangle Park was a parking lot, saved from building construction for

continued on next page



Joseph Conrad Square on Columbus (above), and Redwood Park (below).



Triangle Park, a major Columbus Avenue node.

strategic open space, preserving public vistas to Telegraph Hill, Coit Tower, SS Peter & Paul Church, Transamerica Pyramid, cable cars, bay and hills.

Remaining vigilant, our strand of open space jewels must be preserved—forever illuminating North Beach’s character, scale and uniqueness. ✦

Clarification

In the Winter 2010 issue of the *Semaphore* the sponsor of the Halloween event “Trunk or Treat” at the Joe DiMaggio Playground was incorrectly identified as the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Association. The event was, in fact, organized by the Friends of Joe DiMaggio Playground.

David Smolen, who helped organize THD’s participation in the festivities, had this clarifying statement: “October’s Trunk or Treat on Halloween 2009 in Joe DiMaggio Playground was a great success. Congratulations to the Friends of Joe DiMaggio Playground for bringing the community together for a safe and enjoyable Halloween celebration in our neighborhood. Despite differing views between the groups on the specific design of the park and library, THD was pleased to decorate a car for the event and to find common ground with the Friends of Joe DiMaggio Playground for the benefit of neighborhood children and families.”

NICK AND NORA VISIT THE NEIGHBORHOOD

by Catherine Accardi

For just about as long as filmmakers have been cranking out movies they have had their sights on Telegraph Hill and North Beach as locations to add a dose of magic to their work. Many locals are aware that Bogart and Bacall holed up in the Malloch Apartments at Montgomery and Filbert in *Dark Passage* (1947), and some may even know that Coit Tower served as a stand-in for Rita Hayworth's palatial digs in *Pal Joey* (1957).

But it will come as news to many that William Powell and Myrna Loy, in their roles as Nick and Nora Charles, were in the neighborhood for the filming of *After the Thin Man* (1936). When the script for "After the Thin Man" was completed, director W.S. Van Dyke took the cast to San Francisco for location shooting.

Although a neat synopsis of the film can be found at the Internet Movie Database, here's a tidbit: "Two years after *The Thin Man*, Nick and Nora Charles (William Powell and Myrna Loy) have moved to San Francisco, their beloved pooch Asta in tow. The high-living Nick and Nora stumble into a murder at a San Francisco racetrack and are quickly led into an investigation of various gambling rackets in this fast paced and very witty fourth installment of the famous "Thin Man" series."

In this photo the couple reflects on the mag-



The marvelous photograph above is among the over 180 vintage images that will appear in the book, *Images of America—San Francisco's North Beach and Telegraph Hill*, by Catherine Accardi. The book is to be released in early 2011.

THE IMAGE WAS OBTAINED, BY THE AUTHOR, FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

nificent view before them, gazing over San Francisco from Pioneer Park. The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge is visible in the background through misty bay fog.

The base of Coit Tower is portrayed as Nick and Nora Charles' home and Pioneer Park as their garden area.

Sounds like a great idea. I'm moving in. ❖



JUDY IRVING
1736 STOCKTON STREET, SUITE 2
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133
(415) 362-2420
FAX (415) 362-2421
FILMS@PELICANMEDIA.ORG
WWW.PELICANMEDIA.ORG



Joan E. Glick
ACSM, ACE, NASM
Certified Personal Trainer
& Fitness Coach

2054 Powell Street
San Francisco, CA 94133
415.860.1496

info@fitfortheages.com
fitfortheages.com

NORTH BEACH CITIZENS PROFILE

DONALD YAZZIE

By Brady McCartney

Born and raised in the Bay Area, Donald Claw Yazzie, a full-blooded Navajo, was homeless for the better part of 30 years. He had worked as a silk screener and as a body and fender repairman, but could not earn enough to pay for his living expenses. He was interested in pursuing higher paying jobs, but, as a high school dropout, his employment options were limited. As a result, he became homeless and quickly developed alcohol and drug habits that made it difficult to maintain employment.

After 28 years of homelessness and a couple of years living in North Beach, Mr. Yazzie walked into North Beach Citizens (NBC). Remembering why he visited NBC for the first time, he said, "I got tired of waking up sick in the morning, stealing, and panhandling." Typically, men and women who have been homeless as long as Mr. Yazzie are considered impossible to house because of the time, effort, resources, patience, and creativity required to house them. Consequently, they tend to die on the streets. However, after discussing his circumstances in detail, we at North Beach Citizens were convinced that we could navigate around his obstacles to obtaining housing.

NBC tackled Mr. Yazzie's lack of income. We scheduled an intake appointment at General Assistance and shepherded him through the process of applying for the County Adult Assistance Program (CAAP), which provided him with income for his living expenses. He showed up on time for every appointment. We made sure he was fed, showered, alert, and sober. In August, he was accepted into the CAAP program and has remained enrolled.



Donald Yazzie.

At the same time, NBC helped Mr. Yazzie apply for subsidized housing. We obtained all the required identification—sent away for his birth certificate, took him to the DMV to request a California I.D., and escorted him to Social Security to order his Social Security card. When he was contacted about housing, we filled out the required paperwork with him, prepped him for his appointments, advocated for him during his appointments, and made the necessary follow-up phone calls with the housing representatives. We also set up Mr. Yazzie with a money manager so that when he moved into housing his rent would be paid each month and on time.

Throughout the process, Mr. Yazzie was in and out of the hospital. As a homeless man, he had trouble managing his diabetes and hypertension. We addressed these issues by providing him with refrigerator space to store his insulin, by reminding him to take his insulin, and by making sure he made it to Chinatown Public Health Center when necessary.

On December 1, 2009, Mr. Yazzie signed his first lease. We had pinpointed his barriers to housing, completed stacks of paperwork, accompanied him to scores of appointments, and moved him into his first home in 31 years. North Beach Citizens was by no means the first homeless organization he had encountered, but we are the organization that secured permanent supportive housing for him.

When asked what NBC means to him, Mr. Yazzie replied, "NBC means family to me, people who care about me, people trying to help me out to get my life together. I love you guys."



THE ALFA NOSE



By Kathleen Cannon

Spider Veloce '77 celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Alfa Romeo, and buzzes "The Hill," finds THD functions, much action at Worm's Gallery, parties, and tidbits.

Very Lively Worms Free the Artist Inside

Bravo THD's Art & Culture Committee for displaying the artwork of THD locals, both artists and not official artists. Live Worms Gallery walls sang out with local expression at the February 26th event, as THDers displayed and told the story behind their objects d'art.

According to Chair Julie Jaycox, "All the picture stories were good. Candace Loheed's chair painting is one of many, painted after 9/11 to memorialize the deceased. Howie Whitehouse brought an oil painting of a nude and worked on it part of the evening, Danny Macchiarini's sculpture was made in Hunter's Point with kids who had lost family members to violence. The kids melted down, pounded and dismantled confiscated guns donated by the SFPD. Danny cried while he talked about the kids working through emotional stuff as they created it. Two people from out of town brought art to hang. Susan Weisberg created a self portrait of miniature books made from the books she had worked on as a book editor."

Emma Macchiarini's painting of the woman with lobster hands sold after the show came down on Saturday evening. The act of creativity – whether it is Michelangelo or the next door neighbor — is special. This much-needed event at Worms Gallery is long overdue. Also, when travelling further down Grant Avenue, visit the new site of Focus Gallery (run by gifted photographer John Perino) next to Macchiarini's. Another Live Worms perhaps?

Yick Wo Auction Rocks

March 11 heralded the 5th anniversary of the

acclaimed Yick Wo Auction at Live Worms ...where artwork (both adult and child), dining and bar certificates, unique experiences, lessons and objects are auctioned to fund enrichment programs at Yick Wo. 275 items were auctioned. Per organizer Kim Hirschfeld, Yick Wo made \$30,000 on their art auction at Live Worms, with the art displayed for a month in advance at Cafe Sapore. New items included 1 year of ice cream cakes at Ben & Jerry's, and demonstration classes at Tante Marie. Kim thanked THD members for donating artwork, and, THD for advertising the event. "THD has talked about an art auction, but I'm not sure an instant show would work," Julie Jaycox noted.

A Class Act Lunch

Dick Boyd gave himself a present for his 80th birthday on March 3rd—a sit-down luncheon at Caesar's for fifty of his old friends. Dick greeted everyone at the door, with Orchid corsages for the ladies. At the banquet table amid seven courses, Dick 'roasted' his guests—explaining why each person fit into his rich tapestry of life, was important to him, and important in general. Guests rose to the occasion, sharing funny anecdotes. Attendees included his beautiful daughter Maliah who flew in from Hawaii, Joan Spelman (Dick's significant other), Gino Del Prete, Ward Dunham, David and Lynn Wright of Café Divine, Margo St. James, gold medalists from Dick's coaching days, and the surviving cast of characters from *Golden Age of Broadway*. It was a special day for Dick, which Dick chose to make very special for everyone.

Democratic Luminaries Speak Locally

At Tel Hi Center on March 4th, Paul Kohler, whose leadership skills are a blessing for Telegraph

continued on next page

Hill, chaired his final meeting as President of District 3 Democratic Club, turning over the gavel to newly elect President Emily Salgado. The event was attended by state Senators Leland Yee and Mark Leno, Supervisor David Chiu, former Supervisor Aaron Peskin (now Chairman of the S.F. Demo Party), and other political 'drop ins.'

This historic group has drawn political talent to the neighborhood throughout the years. Consequently, D3DC meetings are known within the Democratic Party statewide as important events at which to speak, and, District 3 is recognized as an important district in which to be heard.

David Chiu brought the group up to date on City news, and, impending SF budget cuts. (Did you know Mayor Newsom "fired Stephanie Coyote over a SF Film Commission controversy?" That freed a few dollars.). The discussion focus was propositions, some of which have deep ramifications (as well as deep pockets, compliments of taxpayers). Republican



Dick Boyd addresses celebrants at his 80th birthday bash.

PHOTO BY KATHLEEN CANNON

speakers rebutted. Regardless of one's political affiliation, D3DC meetings are information rich.

Adventures Alfa Romeo Centenario

Spider's marque, Alfa Romeo, is celebrating 100 years. True to the Italian ancestry of the Neighborhood, at one time scores of Alfa Romeos dotted the streets. On a rainy Tuesday night in late January, a group of Alfa owners made a 2+ hour historical tour of North Beach, climbing up to the Poets Gallery in City Lights, taking in Tosca and Vesuvio, The Saloon and Live Worms, getting hooked into The Condor.. The sultry weather was wonderful. The group dined on authentic southern Italian cuisine at the U.S. Restaurant, and quaffed Jamison at the historic bar at O'Reilly's. Thus, The Neighborhood is introduced to new generations of Alfisti.

Where have All the Poets Gone?

Jerry of Beat Museum said they still meet at Café Greco and "upstairs at Tony Sera's." But the colorful Café Prague (old site of the poetry readings and throwing of wine glasses) and adjacent buildings on Pacific are for sale, per Christopher Cara. Christopher also said to check out Urban Hardwoods, a new shop on Pacific which "saves trees, turns them into furniture."

The Beat Museum is offering an exciting "1960's Counterculture in America" series of guest speakers, beginning in July. Jerry pointed out that Broadway (between Columbus and Kearney) will see the filming of a TV pilot, "True Blue," in April. Cops on Broadway? Sounds familiar.

Actor Matt Dillon visited Gino & Carlo last week, per Frank Rossi, Sr. Frank Sr. also overheard a long-married couple at the bar, "If I didn't have any money, would you still love me? Yes. But I would miss you." Nothing is forever. Savor Spring.



NEW STREET FOOD EATERY HAS FINGER ON THE PULSE OF THE ECONOMY



By Carol Peterson

DON PISTO'S, 510 Union St., San Francisco 94133

415.395.0939 ★ ★ ★ ½

After spending many years in and out of Baja California, Pete Mrabe knew what he particularly liked about the food he enjoyed on the streets of Baja. It was fresh and made with simple ingredients. Pete, who had worked in the restaurant business for a number of years and had always had plans to open his own place, now knew what he wanted to do: Bring the street food of Mexico to North Beach. His primary thought was to have a takeout place, a sort of fast food takeout location, but when he found the empty El Ragon space on Union Street he reconsidered. The rustic brick interior, welcoming bar, and open kitchen provided the perfect mix for the restaurant Pete calls Don Pisto's.

Soon after the restaurant opened, I stopped in to take a look at the menu and was rather surprised by the relatively few items offered. There are only five groupings to choose from: Tacos, Tortas, Ceviche, Pisto's (specialties of the house) and Sides—only 16 food choices in all at about \$8 to \$11 per item. There are also 9 beers, 7 wines, Sangria, and non-alcoholic drinks, all quite reasonably priced. I realized that Pete had a brilliant idea here. The short menu keeps the inventory down and the food fresh. Pete told me, "I wanted to duplicate the street food that I loved in Baja. The vendors buy only the simple ingredients they will use for that day; when they are gone, they close shop and go home. This is the formula I am using in the restaurant." At Don Pisto's, Pete is the chef and when he opens in the evening, his 3 assistants put together the dishes that he has spent most

of the morning creating.

Like other conscientious local restaurant folk, Pete goes to high-end farms for his purchases. But what makes him different from an expensive steak house, for example, is that he buys the undesirable cuts of meat no one else wants, then cooks them for 3-4 hours, which renders them tender and tasty. And everything about Don Pisto's spells "fresh." The tortilla chips are made every twenty minutes and served with an addictive cilantro, green chili and garlic sauce. The guacamole is also made every twenty minutes to guarantee its freshness.

The second time I ate at Don Pisto's, the menu had changed almost completely. This time I fell in love with the astounding Carne Asada Taco, which is mesquite grilled steak, onions, cilantro and arbol salsa, which is tomatillo, smoked chili puree, garlic and salt. The Al Pastor Taco is also a winner. It's a grilled rib chop with charred pineapple. The pineapple gives this taco a unique flavor that just keeps coming. One other taco I tried was the Camarones. As a lover of shrimp, I found this combination of sautéed shrimp, garlic, red onion, and avocado salsa the perfect combination.

When I saw the Hamburguesa brought to table after table, I thought I should taste it. This popular dish is continually on the menu. It looks like a standard hamburger but the crumbled meat has been marinated in bacon and onions, and it's garnished with a spread of guacamole on the top. The bun--as would be expected at Don Pisto's--is fresh and hot. You will never again look at a hamburger in the same way after eating this delicious variation.

If you are a lover of Ceviche, you must try any

continued on page 24

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT

by Nancy Shanahan

Update on 555 Washington

At the joint hearing of the Planning Commission and Recreation & Parks Commission on March 18, 2010, after hours of spirited testimony, the Planning Commission certified the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and, together with the Recreation & Parks Commission, approved the new shadow that will fall on Sue Bierman (Ferry) Park and Maritime Plaza. The mayor's 4 appointees voted in favor and the Board of Supervisors' 3 appointees

voted in opposition.

Due to a failure to properly notice the project, the Planning Commission was unable to consider the actual project approvals, which include those to:

- Up-zone the height for the property from 200 feet to 400 feet,
- Amendments to the General Plan,
- Reduce their rear-yard requirements,
- Waive their wind impact requirements that do not allow wind currents to exceed a maximum of 11 miles per hour at the pedestrian level,

continued on page 22

—THD RESOLUTION— RE: 555 WASHINGTON

Whereas, THD has a well-established, 50+ year history of supporting development that is contextually appropriate, grounded in sound planning principles and respectful of the fabric and architecture of the northeast corner of San Francisco in and around Telegraph Hill;

Whereas, THD endorsed Proposition M in 1983 which adopted "priority policies" for the San Francisco Master Plan including the policy that "our parks and open space with their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development." Proposition M was passed by the voters of San Francisco and became a part of the Master Plan;

Whereas, THD endorsed Proposition K ("The Shadow Ban Ordinance") in 1984 to preserve sunlight on public parks and was listed as a supporter in the City's voter information pamphlet. Proposition K was passed by the voters of San Francisco and became a part of the San Francisco Planning Code;

Whereas, THD and its members assisted with drafting and adoption of the Downtown Plan in 1985. This plan includes sound planning principles such as requiring Downtown to taper down at its northern edge, which is zoned at 200 feet;

Whereas, the proposal at 555 Washington for a 38-story, 430 foot luxury condominium building would require (a) spot zoning to double the zoned height from 200 to 400 feet; (b) casting additional shadows on two public parks (Sue Bierman Park and Maritime Plaza Park) as well as Sydney Walton Square all in contradiction to Prop. K and (c) vacating/selling a city street to a private developer;

Whereas, the deal proposed by the developers to exceed the height limit and cast additional shadows in exchange for deeding the surface rights over the existing Redwood Park to the city (retaining all underground and air rights) is one-sided;

Therefore, be it resolved, that THD opposes the proposed development at 555 Washington because (1) it violates Propositions M and K and thereby the will of San Francisco voters; (2) ignores the existing height limit at the site by seeking to double it without any real benefit in return; (3) violates the General Plan and the Downtown Plan; (4) requires the City to vacate/sell a City street (Mark Twain Alley) despite General Plan objectives that discourage closing and selling off City streets; and (5) undermines the principles of thoughtful, professional planning the THD has supported since 1954.

PLAN PROPOSED FOR JOE DIMAGGIO PLAYGROUND

by Julie Christensen

The future of the Joe DiMaggio Playground remains uncertain until later this year when the Environmental Impact Report for the bigger master plan project—the library, Mason Street and the playground—will be reviewed for adoption. But, as the RecPark and Library Commissions have voted unanimously to support the proposed Master Plan pending approval of the EIR, RecPark has proceeded with drawings that indicate what the park might look like if the EIR is approved and the master plan is implemented.

The Recreation & Park Department has been collecting neighborhood feedback regarding the Joe DiMaggio Playground for over 10 years, stretching back to 1999, before the pool renovation, during consideration in 2003 of the library expansion needs, through master planning efforts that began in 2007. Over the expanse of that decade (with 1999's first graders now in high school) there has been remarkable consistency in requests and desires. The proposed master plan has incorporated some aspects of nearly all of the wish lists collected over the years.

The biggest change in the proposed park is greenery: 20 to 30 new trees, scores of planting beds and a sloped, planted hillside at the park's west end. The other big change is the relocation of the children's play area away from its isolated corner and closer to RecPark supervision. The shifting of the tennis courts to a slightly naked area along Greenwich Street will open up the center of the park to allow a passage along a planted walkway lined with benches and game tables on one side and the new play area on the other. The clubhouse will be surrounded by patios with seating

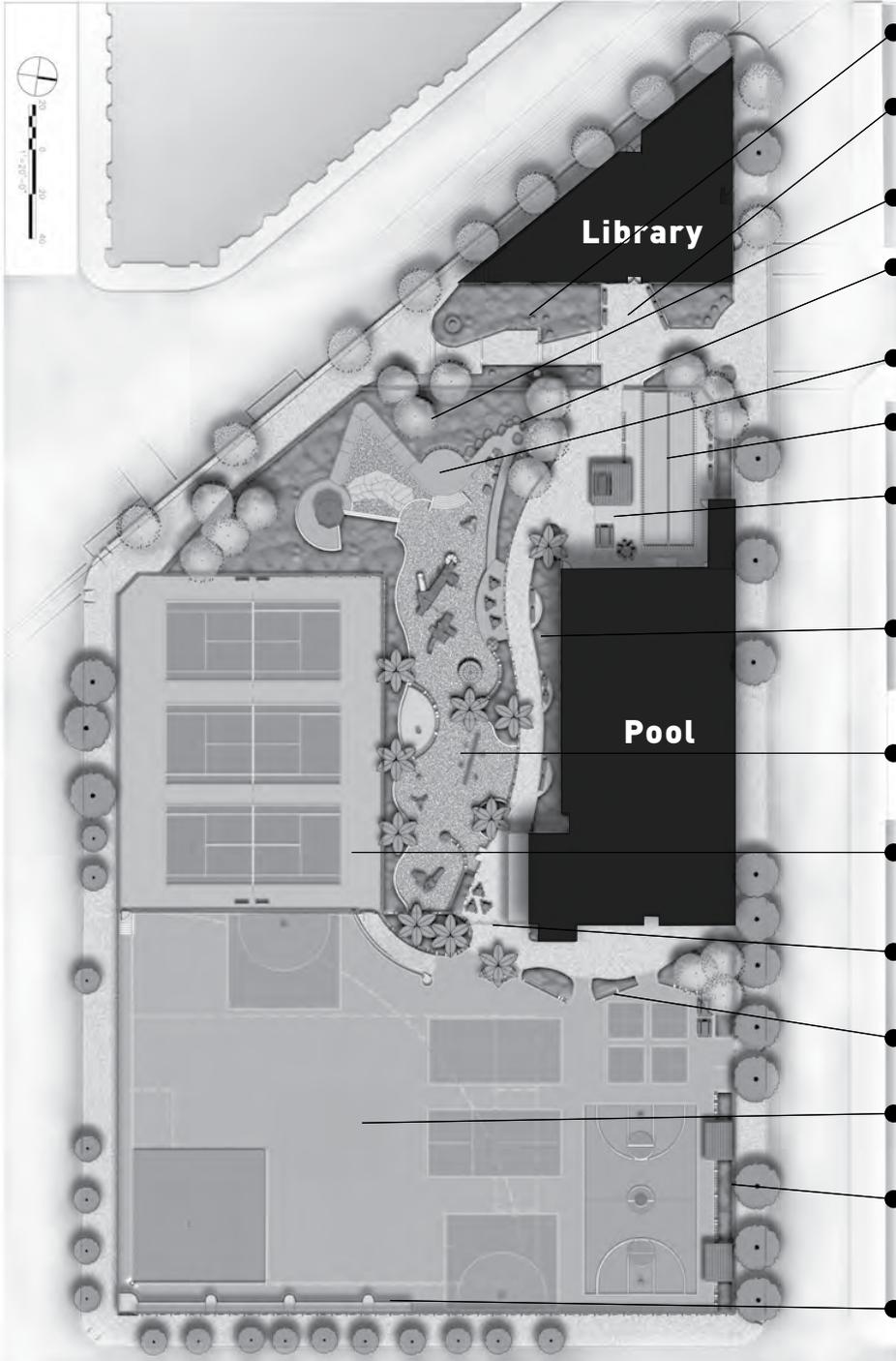
and bordered by planters. Gazebos and pergolas will be added throughout the park along with other planted areas. Mason Street becomes a garden walkway with spots for artwork and a small plaza lined with seating at the library's east entrance.

Development of the proposed plan has been supervised by neighbor and DPW landscape architect and THD member Lizzy Hirsch. Lizzy and her 2 children have been frequent users of the playground and Lizzy helped establish Friends of Joe DiMaggio Playground back in 1999 when parents united to make improvements to the children's play area. Lizzy was also a key contributor to the pool and clubhouse renovation and the improvements to the bocce courts. We have been lucky to have someone with such a history of connection and service to the playground helping to guide the City's efforts.

Implementation of the master plan depends largely on the fate of the existing library, as reclamation of the library's site for recreation use is the key to most of the proposed improvements. Based on neighborhood need and the merits of the project, RecPark recently selected the playground as one of only four in the City to be recommended for State grant funding in a cycle that will be awarded later this year. If the project is selected it could be built at a very low cost to the City, shortcutting years of fundraising.

If you have questions or comments about the plan, please direct them to Karen Mauney-Brodek of the Recreation & Park Department at karen.mauney-brodek@sfgov.org.





- Art Garden
- Library Entrance Plaza
- Planted Hillside
- 20-30 New Trees
- Deck Overlook
- Bocce Courts
- Picnic Area & Gazebo
- Planters, Benches & Game Tables
- Children's Play Area
- Raised Tennis Courts
- Patio with Seating
- Planters
- Improved Hardscape
- Planted seating with Pergolas
- New Entrance Ramp

THE RISE AND FALL OF PROPOSITION K – THE VOTER APPROVED PARK SHADOW BAN ORDINANCE GETS SHADOWED BY 555 WASHINGTON

by Aaron Peskin

In June 1984 the voters of San Francisco passed Proposition K with 61.2% of the vote banning new shadows on Recreation & Park Department facilities. The ballot question read: “Proposition K says the City Planning Commission may not approve any building project which causes significant shading of recreational areas like parks and playgrounds. Exceptions would include certain projects in progress, buildings less than 40 feet high, buildings constructed for recreational or park-related purposes, or buildings which only cause shade during the first hour after sunrise and/or the last hour before sunset.”

Proposition K was a long time in the making and had its roots in the downtown’s seminal planning document, the Urban Design Plan, adopted by the Planning Commission in 1972. Both the Urban Design Plan and Prop. K were part of a policy effort to establish appropriate scale and location for downtown high rise buildings. The Urban Design Plan established a policy that “buildings to the south, east

and west of parks and plazas should be limited in height or effectively oriented so as not to prevent the penetration of sunlight to such parks and plazas.” A dozen years later, 8 members of the Board of Supervisors put Proposition K before the voters.

After Proposition K’s passage, the Planning Department retained the Environmental Simulation Laboratory at UC Berkeley to model sun and light for downtown San Francisco. Working with the Planning and Recreation & Park Departments, a detailed set of criteria was developed establishing an “Absolute Cumulative Shadow Limit” for each park. Some parks (including Maritime Plaza, Justin Herman Plaza and the park now known as Sue Bierman Park) that were already heavily shaded were designated as “zero tolerance parks” that could not have any new shadow. Other parks (including Washington Square, Civic Center Plaza and Union Square) were allowed to have some additional future shadow.

Finally, in 1989, after three years of analysis by

continued on page 23

P & Z COMMITTEE

continued from page 19

- Raise the off-street residential parking limits applicable to the project by over 300 % of what is allowed,
- Reduce the loading space requirements to two off-street loading spaces where 3 loading spaces are required,
- Allow a further height exception to allow certain unoccupied portions of the building to reach up to 430 feet, 30 feet above the height limit (to 430 feet),
- Obtain a variance from the open space requirements for dwelling units to allow 3,400 square feet of common usable open space for dwellings where 9,408 square feet are required, and
- Get the City to approve selling off Mark Twain Alley, a city street.

The next step will be an appeal of the EIR to the Board of Supervisors, which can reverse the Planning Commission by a majority vote. We will keep our members informed, about the hearing of all hearings.

On page 19 is the THD’s Board of Directors Resolution opposing the 555 Washington St. Project. For more information go to THD’s website at www.thd.org/issuesandprojects/555washington.html.



FIVE THD EX-PRESIDENTS SUPPORT 555 WASHINGTON

The developer of 555 Washington sought out Jane Winslow, a former President of THD, to inquire among Telegraph Hill residents if there was support on the hill for their project. One result of Winslow's queries was this letter, signed by five former THD Presidents, and sent to planning commissioners in advance of the hearing on this issue.

As former presidents of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers, we are well aware that some development proposals are inappropriate. We

have been fierce defenders of our neighborhood when the occasion called for it, having opposed projects that threatened to damage the character of the neighborhood, blight the urban skyline, or destroy historic architecture. We also realize, however, that many proposals enhance our community by promoting positive economic development, creating housing and providing community benefits.

One such proposal is 555 Washington Street,

continued on page 24

Rise and Fall of Prop K *continued from page 22*

UC Berkeley, the Planning and Recreation & Park Commissions adopted rules in support of these criteria.

And for almost a quarter of a century those rules have been followed—until recently.

As a matter of fact, in 1992 the Recreation & Park Commission voted to reject a proposed high-rise development on the corner of Washington and Sansome Streets, the same site of today's proposed 555 Washington Street project. That project was less than 200 feet in height as compared to the 430-foot project proposed today and had much smaller shadow impacts on Prop. K parks. Recreation & Park staff wrote: "Because Maritime Plaza is in fact shaded for approximately 68% of the time, any new shadow would create an adverse impact, [and therefore] the adopted [shadow] guidelines should be upheld."

Fast forward to today, 18 years later on March 18, 2010, the Planning Commission and Recreation & Park Commission abandoned their adopted rules and in contravention of Proposition K voted to allow the new shadow that would be cast by the proposed 430-foot 555 Washington project. If the project is built, additional 2,822,000 square foot hours of shadow will be cast upon Maritime Plaza consigning it to shade

almost 70% of the time**. If the project is built, it will cast an additional 43,000 square foot hours of shadow on Sue Bierman (Ferry) Park. The project will cast additional shadow on Sydney Walton Park (which doesn't "count" because it's not owned by the Recreation & Park Department. The Recreation & Park Commission voted unanimously in favor of the new shadow. Then the Planning Commission voted by a slim 4-3 majority to approve the shadow with the mayor's appointees voting in favor and the Board of Supervisors appointees voting in opposition.

What has changed? The law is the same. The 1989 rules have not changed. Only the commissioners and the politicians who appoint them have changed. While it is unlikely that the Board of Supervisors will allow the 555 Washington project to go forward and even less likely that the Commissions' actions would survive a legal challenge, the undermining of Proposition K is a breach of faith with the voters that diminishes our public commons and calls for renewed voter action. ❖❖

** Editor's Note: The developer asserts that "according to the EIR for the Project, the new shadow would be less than 1% of the time (0.88), increasing the total shadow time to 69.28%."

Some THD Presidents Support 555 Washington *continued from page 23*

which appears to provide significant community benefits. These include the revitalization of the Transamerica Pyramid block and the resulting economic boost to nearby merchants, creation of sustainable housing near jobs and transportation, a 49% increase in Redwood Park and gifting it to SF as a new permanent public park to be maintained by the owners of the surrounding properties.

This residential proposal with its expanded public park open 7 days a week will be a welcome addition to the immediate neighborhood. Moreover, it is entirely in keeping with THD's long-standing position and the goals of the Downtown Plan that such construction be limited to the high-rise district south of Washington Street,

We understand that the project needs a height change and we support the change because we support increased jobs and housing on these core properties, and because we like the way 555 Washington fits in well within the downtown skyline. The new structure is less than half the height of the Transamerica Pyramid (and less than several other downtown buildings nearby) and avoids marring views from Telegraph Hill or of the Bay. In addition, the slender residential structure and increased open space adds light and air to the park and to new pedestrian amenities without

creating a wall of boxy buildings along Washington.

We have strongly supported preservation of San Francisco's historic treasures during our tenures as THD presidents. However, the city's independent EIR historic consultant has noted that the existing high-rise building retains little architectural value, and it has been classified as a Category V (unrated) building under the Planning Code's historic standards.

Given our understanding that there is support for this proposal from many surrounding neighbors and its many environmental, fiscal and economic benefits, we disagree with the current THD Board position, which we feel does not represent the view of most residents of Telegraph Hill and North Beach and North Beach businesses.

We were instrumental in negotiating the line at Washington Street beyond which tall buildings would not encroach upon Jackson Square and upon Southeastern Telegraph Hill. We believe this new building respects those agreements and is precisely the kind of proposal that the City should support.

Sincerely,

June Fraps, Rod Freebairn-Smith, Anne Halsted,
Jerry Petruzelli, Jane Winslow

Past Presidents of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers



Don Pisto's Restaurant *continued from page 18*

Pete has on the menu. The Ahi Tuna Con Mango is outstanding, with a crunchy tortilla supporting tender tuna slices with Serrano chilies, mango, red onion and lime juice.

You may have noted I have mentioned more than my usual number of food choices in this review. As *The Semaphore* has no budget to support food critics, I am on my own when the check comes. And the amazing thing about this new restaurant is that you can try many delicious dishes, a sangria or Mexican beer and have a very inexpensive dinner.

I have saved until last the first question most

every new arrival at Don Pisto's, including me, asks Pete, "Why don't you have a sign in front of your restaurant?" Answering, he laughed and said, "At first, I was just too busy to order one and then people kept telling me it is cool I don't have a sign. I've been thinking of a neon TACO sign in the window but haven't made up my mind." So the contest is on. When you go into Don Pisto's, weigh in on the sign controversy. But don't worry, sign or no sign, you won't be able to miss the restaurant. Just follow the alluring aromas wafting up and down Union Street.



STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO WASHINGTON SQUARE PLANNING

By Ken Maley, Chair, Tree Management Committee
Friends of Washington Square

Whether during a large wind storm, through disease, mortality or simple failure, Washington Square continues to lose trees or major portions of trees, as was the recent case with the collapse of a large branch of the London Plane near the Thai Chi exercise area, and the complete failure of the northern-most Italian Stone Pine along Stockton Street near Filbert.

A look back through the 200 plus year history of the Square will illustrate the evolution of its tree plantings: from the 1860's when there were no trees at all, to the eclectic collection of Stone Pines, Planes, Olives, Maten's and others we see today. Several types of these trees were planted in groups at the same time, which means they reach maturity—and mortality—at virtually the same time.

In fact, it was the loss of the Stone Pine, and resulting discussions about what to replace the downed Pine with, that brought to focus for Friends of Washington Square the need for a long range maintenance and reforestation plan for the park. The Recreation & Park Department (RPD) had no long-term tree design plan for the Square nor had the trees' condition been assessed for more than 25 years.

Friends decided to underwrite a professional tree assessment of the Square, hiring the noted firm HortScience to conduct the assessment, at a cost of \$4000, no small amount of the Friends' total funds. This assessment was then donated to the RPD, who adopted it as the official tree management plan for the Square, and an agreement was reached with the Department that no new trees would be planted in the Square until a long-term landscape plan was adopted.

Efforts by the Friends to date have not succeeded in finding funding for a comprehensive landscape design plan for the Square, despite applications to various foundations and individuals. In an effort to spark some interest in the need for such a plan, Friends' Tree Committee approached UC Davis Landscape Design professor Elizabeth Boults about the prospect of adopting Washington Square as a class project.

After a tour of the Square, Elizabeth readily agreed it would be a good exercise, assigning the project to her Winter class. The students toured the Square accompanied by Chronicle reporter John King, who wrote a front-page story about their challenge. Nearly 20 completed plans were presented for public viewing at Amante Lounge on February 11. Close to 50 people attended the presentation, listening attentively as the students described their ideas. Board of Supervisors' President David Chiu presented the students with Certificates of Appreciation and requested an opportunity to more closely examine the student plans.

The students were encouraged to 'think outside the box' and they certainly took this direction to heart, as the resulting design ideas demonstrated. While many of the students' proposed ideas were not feasible given financial and landmark restrictions, some of the more viable themes included replacing old asphalt with a porous pavement, water catchments to preserve rainwater, suggestions for new tree replacements including locations, and new signage encouraging visitors to obey the rules—such as no off-leash dogs. Samples of the student visions are available at friendsofwashingtonsquare.com or by email request to: mediacons@.aol.com.

Friends of Washington Square plans to offer

continued on next page

NEW THINKING ABOUT WATERING WASHINGTON SQUARE

One of the major issues facing Washington Square—and many of our city parks—is the need for water and the conservation of water. The square has an abundant natural water supply that runs through as run-off and drainage from Telegraph Hill and underground springs and streams, not to mention the amount of rain water the square receives during our rainy season.

Eric Shelton, the student who proposed this plan, addresses how water could be captured and re-used for the trees and plants during the dry season. Keep in mind the students were working under the presumption that anything could be done at the square and were encouraged to think ‘outside the box’ to help spur discussions about the future of the square.

—Ken Maley

Students Planning *continued from page 25*

a presentation of the student ideas to the RPD Commission in the near future and continues to pursue support for a long term landscape design and reforestation plan for the Square. Friends sincerely thanks the UC Davis class for their fresh ideas and professor Elizabeth Boults for her support.

Most of all, Friends hope that the students’ ideas will not be lost sight of, but will continue to spark new discussions about the urgent need for long range planning to preserve North Beach’s ‘living room’ for future generations—and all San Franciscans—to enjoy. ❖

PLANTS



LONDON PLANE TREE

Tolerates wide range of conditions, including air pollution. Plant in a location that will allow the plant ample room to spread.



CERCIS CANADENSIS 'ROYAL WHITE'

Height: 30 ft. to 30 ft.
Width: 30 ft. to 2.5 ft.
Low maintenance, spreading.



MUSKOGEE CRAPE MYRTLE

Height: 15 to 25 feet
Grows in part shade/part sun
Growth rate per year: 4-5 feet
Lavender flowers bloom for 120 days.
Drought tolerance: Good



JAPANESE MAPLE

Height: 15 to 25 feet
Spread: 15 to 25 feet
Tree grows in part shade/part sun
Drought tolerance: Moderate
Growth rate: Slow



FLOWERING PLUM

Height: 24 to 25 feet
Spread: 16 to 20 feet
Tree grows in full sun
Drought tolerance: Good
Growth rate: Slow



WHITE FORSYTHIA

Height: 3 to 5 feet
Tree grows in full sun and partial shade
Drought tolerance: Good



LAVENDER COTTON

Height: 1 to 2 feet
High drought tolerance, ornamental and the foliage can be dried and used to repel moths



CEANOTHUS

Height: 3 to 5 feet
Grows in full sun and partial shade. Prefers light
Drought tolerant

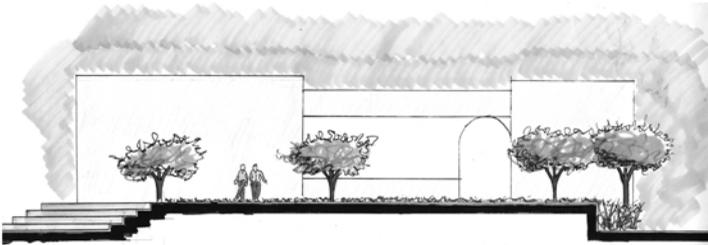
SECTIONS

SECTION A - A



SCALE - 1" = 10' - 0"

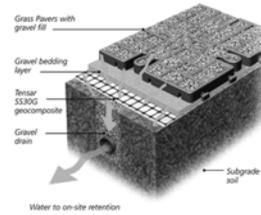
SECTION B - B



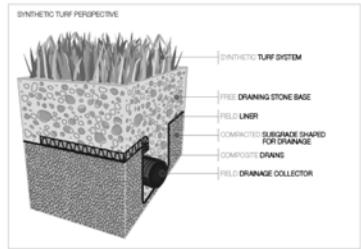
SCALE - 1" = 6' - 0"

DETAILS

POROUS PAVEMENT



POROUS TURF



PARK SIGN



CALCULATIONS

SIZE OF CISTERN

Dimensions = 10' Long 10' Wide 12' Deep
 Number of Gallons per cubic foot = 7.481
 Water Volume of Cistern
 $L \times W \times D \times (7.481) = 1,200(7.481)$
=8,977.2 gallons

TOTAL AMOUNT OF WATER SAVED ANNUALLY SYNTHETIC TURF

Estimated Total Square Footage of Synthetic Turf = 30,500
 San Francisco Annual Rainfall (2008) = 18.11
 Gallons for every inch per square foot = 0.6234
 Total Gallons Annually Saved
 $30,500 \times 18.11 \times .06234$
=344,338 gallons

TOTAL AMOUNT OF WATER SAVED ANNUALLY POROUS CEMENT

Estimated Total Square Footage of Porous Cement = 32,750
 San Francisco Annual Rainfall (2008) = 18.11
 Gallons for every inch per square foot = 0.6234
 Total Gallons Annually Saved
 $32,750 \times 18.11 \times .06234$
=369,740 gallons

CORRUPTION BY COMIC BOOKS LEADS LOCAL TO FAME

by Katie Hopkins

THD Member Mike Madrid has authored *The Supergirls: Fashion, Feminism, Fantasy, and the History of Comic Book Heroines*, a look at comic book superheroines from the late 1930's until today, commenting on their stories in ways that reflect the evolution of American women in the real world.

Mike has been collecting comic books since he was a child, giving special attention to female superheroes like Wonder Woman and Supergirl that he found more interesting than the men in comics.

Beyond the comics themselves, growing up, he read a lot of books on the history of comics. The majority of these books talked about the male heroes like Superman and Batman, but spent little or no time addressing the women. He always had the idea in the back of his head to perhaps someday write a history of female superheroes. But his background was in graphic design, not writing.

He dabbled with trying to write something when he was working full-time, but his job was quite demanding and involved a lot of travel. He found he wasn't able to write anything that he was happy with, so he shelved the idea for a while. After he left his job, he met Tod Davies, who had an online literary magazine, *exterminatingangel.com*. Madrid wrote a piece on Wonder Woman's checkered 60-year history that was quite

well received. Tod encouraged him to continue writing articles, with the idea of possibly publishing a collected book in the future.

It took a little over two years to complete *The Supergirls*. During the first year or so, he wrote occasional pieces on various subjects relating to comic history that ran on the Exterminating Angel website. Once he took a look at everything he had written, in order to assemble it into a book, it took another year of reworking and editing the material to produce a

cohesive final product. His initial thought was that this book would mainly be a history piece based on all of the knowledge he had amassed over a lifetime of reading comic books, but his editor liked the analysis that he brought to the subject and pushed him to focus more on these heroines in the context of American history and society.

The Supergirls looks at female superheroes from the late 1930's until today in great part to see how they reflect the evolution of American women in the real world. Why are male superheroes more famous than females? Why was Wonder Woman only allowed to serve as secretary to her fellow super-

heroes in the Justice Society? Why do the women in comics wear swimsuits and high heels and why are they judged more on their looks than their abilities? Why is the idea of a powerful woman so threatening in modern day America? And what did 60 years of



continued on page 29

Support Your Community, Support Tel-Hi!

A Taste of Tel-Hi

Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center (Tel-Hi) is having its annual charity dinner, *A Taste of Tel-Hi*, on May 15, 2010. Tel-Hi has served the community for over 120 years—providing needed services to over 600 people each day. Sponsorship opportunities at all levels are available for the dinner—contact Tim Daniels at 421-6443 x11 or tdaniels@tel-hi.org for information.

Mike Madrid *cont'd from page 28*

comic books teach kids about how men and women interact? These questions and more are answered in *The Supergirls*.

The Supergirls has been getting great reviews from publications like *Entertainment Weekly*. NPR picked it as one of their “5 Books to Share with a Friend” for 2009. Not bad for a first time author. But for Madrid, the most rewarding thing has been hearing from young women who have read and loved the book and who had never heard of most of these strong, powerful heroines. A lot of these characters, especially many of the forgotten heroines from the 1940’s, can still be inspiring to young women today. And Madrid says that if he can introduce these

characters to a new generation, then his work has paid off.

Mike Madrid is a San Francisco native, celebrating his 25th year living in North Beach. Mike left a long career in advertising to write *The Supergirls* and is now a freelance designer as well as a volunteer at the de Young Museum. *The Supergirls* is available at some comic book shops, and at most Bay Area independent bookstores like Books, Inc. and Book Passage at the Ferry Building. The de Young Museum bookstore has some signed copies. Of course, it’s always available on Amazon.com.

Mike is available for talks. He may be contacted at heaven4@pacbell.net



*continued from
page 9*

PARKS, TREES, & BIRDS REPORT

Park’s gardeners. She’s often up there alone, weeding, planting, irrigating, and hauling, and could use the help. Please send me your contact info and I will pass it on.

Finally, for the birds, I testified at and sent written comments to the Planning Commission opposing the development at 555 Washington. The wild parrots and other birds use that area frequently, enjoy

the clear airspace, need all the sun (not shadow) they can get in Ferry Park, and could well confuse a tall reflective glass “slinky” for sky. The EIR was certified over these and many other objections; but—squawk! squawk!—the battle’s not over yet.

You can email me at films@pelicanmedia.org



PARKING & TRAFFIC REPORT

by Gail Switzer

SaveMuni Summit

Several THD members were among the 125 people who attended a SaveMuni Summit on March 6. At the meeting, a lot of enthusiasm and creative ideas were generated for ways to improve MUNI and enable it to do more with less, as well as generate more revenue. Notes from the meeting are being compiled and will be put on the group's web site, savemuni.com.

Columbus Avenue Study

Renew SF and the County Transportation Authority (CTA) have completed their study on ways to improve Columbus Avenue. Rachel Hiatt from CTA attended a THD Board meeting to discuss the report generated by the study. Rachel clarified that the goal of expanding the sidewalks is to make more room for pedestrians, not for more restaurant tables.

The next steps

before the plan is adopted are to have more public discussions and some temporary trials of some of the proposals.

Tour Buses

P&T committee members have expressed concerns about the large tour buses driving through residential areas in North Beach. At its March meeting the THD Board passed the following motion on recommendation of the P&T committee: "THD Board recommends that tour buses in North Beach be limited to Columbus, Bay, Beach, Jefferson and the Embarcadero only."

The Entertainment Commission

Our committee has also been concerned about conduct at the entertainment clubs around North Beach, particularly some on Broadway and at Fisherman's Wharf where there have been problems with violence, including the use of guns. In



continued on next page

**JUST
INE**

Justine Kaltenbach
SMALL BUSINESS ADVISOR

&

BOOKKEEPING

Mobile (415) 608-8494
Voice (415) 781-6817
justinekaltenbach@yahoo.com

NORTH BEACH

PET SUPPLIES

- Premium Foods & Treats
- Supplements
- Grooming Supplies
- Cool Toys
- Collars/Harnesses/Leashes
- Gifts for Pets & their People

801 Greenwich Street, SF
(415) 885-0550
www.northbeachpetsupplies.com

Schein & Schein
Antique Maps, Prints & Books
Custom Framing

1435 Grant Avenue, San Francisco
415-399-8582
Wed. - Sat. 12pm-7pm, Sun. 12pm-5pm

Parking & Traffic

continued from page 30

some cases, murders have resulted. The current Entertainment Commission is responsible for promoting the clubs, issuing permits for the clubs, and enforcing the laws related to clubs. This presents a conflict for commissioners and we believe the same people should not be in these 3 roles. After discussion at the THD Board following a presentation by Kathleen Dooley, a member of the small business commission, the Board agreed to send a letter to Supervisor David Chiu advising him that THD favors splitting off the different roles of the commission.

The #39 Bus

The route of the #39 bus will change in late Spring. The Fisherman's Wharf stop will be in front of Pier 39 at the F trolley stop. We believe this will greatly increase ridership because the bus will be more visible and more convenient for tourists. THD members continue to work with other community groups to increase marketing for the #39. Increased ridership is the only protection from future cuts. There will be some cuts to service on the #39 as a result of MUNI's latest round of cuts. The #39 bus will start later in the day and end earlier. However, contrary to the MTA's initial proposal for cuts, two buses will be continued mid-day on Saturdays and Sundays to accommodate the new route. The best thing THD members can do to "save the #39 bus" is to RIDE THE BUS.

Restricted Parking at Coit Tower

SFMTA, again this year, plans to restrict parking at Coit Tower on weekends to residents with A stick-

If you're looking for something unique, you're sure to find it at THE CANNERY at Del Monte Square!

Once the world's largest fruit & vegetable cannery as Del Monte's Plant #1, THE CANNERY is a dramatic urban space modeled after old European piazzas showcasing unique shops, galleries, restaurants, bars and live entertainment.

Today it is home to unique shops and restaurants.

Every day and night, THE CANNERY is alive with festivities and activities for all ages.

2801 Leavenworth Street
at the foot of Columbus Avenue

THE CANNERY
AT DELMONTE SQUARE

WWW.THECANNERY.COM

ers. This restriction will be in effect from the first weekend in June to the last weekend in September. MTA plans to increase the signs and publicity for this over last year's, so people will be more aware of these restrictions.

The Central Subway

Opposition to the Central Subway continues to build. If you oppose it, write letters to your Federal legislators. Whether it can be stopped is not known but it looks more possible now than it has in the past.

Gail Switzer will chair one more meeting of the THD P&T meeting on April 10, and then will step down as Chair of the committee. The committee will become inactive if no one steps up to take her place. Anyone interested in doing so should contact THD President, Vedica Puri, at president@thd.org. ✦

DR. THOMAS L. VILAND, D.C.

Chiropractor

150 Lombard Street, Suite 2
San Francisco, CA 94111
Office (415) 421-1115
Fax (415) 421-1116

Jim Fisher

*Building neighborhoods one
family at a time!*

415.738.7072

www.JimFisherHomes.com



PARAGON
REAL ESTATE GROUP

ESPRESSO CAPPUCCINO VINO PANINI

CAFFÈ GRECO



423 Columbus Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94133

Hanna & Sandy Suleiman

415-397-6261

Rose

Pistola

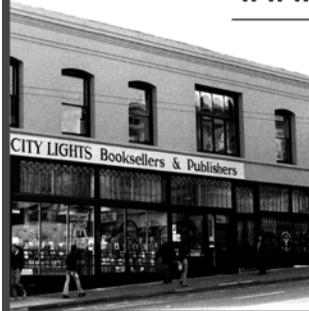
532 Columbus Avenue

415 399 0499

CITY LIGHTS 
BOOKSELLERS A LITERARY MEETING PLACE SINCE 1953
& PUBLISHERS OPEN DAILY 10am-midnight

261 COLUMBUS AVE SAN FRANCISCO CA 94133 • 415 362 8193

www.citylights.com



IN-DEPTH SELECTION
OF POETRY, FICTION,
TRANSLATIONS, POLITICS
& CULTURAL CURRENTS.
STAFF PICKS, RARE
BOOKS, PRINTS,
BROADSIDES, T-SHIRTS,
TOTE BAGS, GIFT
CERTIFICATES & MORE!



Washington Square Bar & Grill

1707 Powell Street
415-433-1188

B R E A K F A S T
L U N C H & D I N N E R



1600 STOCKTON STREET
ON WASHINGTON SQUARE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133
TEL 415.986.3414
FAX 415.986.4633

SHEILA TOBIN BLACK, Ph.D.
Clinical Psychologist, Lic. #PSY15926
Specializing in Adults with Heavy "Baggage"

*Adrift in rough waters?
When is the last time someone really "heard" you
when you said something?
Talk to me. I can help get your life on course.*

Email: sheila.black@comcast.net
Phone: 415-398-7090



HELP THE 'HOOD *Shop Locally*

ART & CULTURE REPORT

by Julie Jaycox

February's Flash Art Show had people asking for another before it was even finished! Live Worms Gallery was filled with people who created an instant art show enjoyed by a crowd of fascinated onlookers. The walls were filled with art and each participant discussed motivations for creating a particular piece and/or sharing it with the public, all while eating fudge from Z. Cioccolato and freshly made popcorn. Looks like this could become an annual event.

Art & Culture's May Salon will be a slide lecture



Gallery 28 1228 Grant Avenue 433.1228
www.gallery-28.com

about Frida Kahlo & Diego Rivera's visits to San Francisco and North Beach in the '30s. The presenter will be Alex Szerlip and guest speaker William Maynez from City College (where a Rivera mural is currently being restored). The event will be held on Wed., May 19th. Check THD's website closer to the date for pricing and other details. Please make reservations through art&culture@thd.org.



- An art auction fundraiser for Pazapa Center for Handicapped Children in Jacmel, Haiti, is scheduled for Nov. 7, 2010 at Braunstein-Quay Gallery. Artists who wish to contribute artwork to this effort should contact candaceloheed@comcast.net.
- Susan Weisberg presents "Form Does Not Differ from Emptiness," a show of paper constructions at the San Francisco Zen Center, 300 Page St., June 1 - 30. Reception the evening of June 4, 7-9pm.
- Gallery 28 Director Ethel Jimenez is hosting "Skate This Art" for the month of April, art created on skateboard decks. A percentage of all sales will benefit North Beach Citizens. The gallery's First Annual Competition winners exhibit is July 1-30, with reception July 7, 6-8pm. 1228 Grant Ave. ✦

sem.a.phore

DEFINITION: *To convey information using visual signals, such as flags, lights and mechanical arms.*

In the 19th century, Telegraph Hill was a lookout spot. A man stood at the top and watched for ships arriving through the Golden Gate. He used semaphore signals to spell out ships' names to the people below who were waiting for goods and mail. Neighbors who formed Telegraph Hill Dwellers in 1954 named their newsletter to salute this early use of the Hill.

**“Beach Blanket Babylon
is the most fun of any show,
anywhere in the universe!”**

– JOHN CLEESE



For tickets & show times 415.421.4222 (evenings 21+) beachblanketbabylon.com

BLUE SPARROW PILATES NORTH BEACH

1441 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94133
415.398.4425

info@bluesparrowpilates.com
www.bluesparrowpilates.com

Pilates, Yoga, & GYROTONIC®

Introductory Private Special
3 private sessions for \$165.00!
(Limit 1 per person)

Mention this Ad and receive a
free Pilates Mat class.
(Limit 1 per person)



NICOLA VITI
MANAGER

LEVI'S PLAZA 1265 BATTERY ST. SAN FRANCISCO CA 94111
415.986.0100 FAX 415.986.2210
WWW.ILFORNAIO.COM

Fog Hill Market

Hanna Chedyak

415-781-8817

1300 Kearny

San Francisco, CA 94133



RISTORANTE ITALIANO

659 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94133
Tel: 1 415.397.7355
Fax: 1 415.397.7357

www.piazzapellegrini.com

GREEN STREET MORTUARY

麗安殯儀館
FD-101

CA Insurance
Lic. #OB28431
FDR 2082

William K. Steiner
General Manager

史威林

649 Green Street
San Francisco, California

94133-3801
415.433.5692
Fax 415.433.2290

Z. Cioccolato



SAN FRANCISCO

Sotto Mare
OYSTERIA & SEAFOOD
RESTAURANT

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
FISH MARKET
IS NOW OPEN!



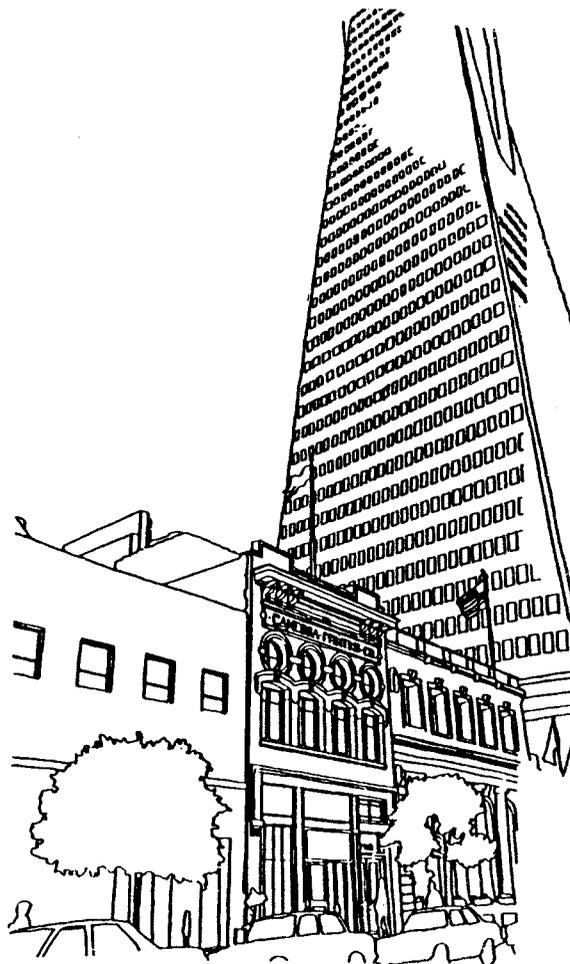
GIGI
OYSTERIA

552 GREEN ST. - SF • (415) 398-3181

Great Shopping, Dining & Services
There is No Other Place Like North Beach!



www.NorthBeachMerchants.com



ADVERTISEMENT

Breakfast
& Lunch
7:30 to 2:30 —
this is 7 days a
week.

PAT'S
CAFE

Dinner
Wed & Thurs, t
5:30-9 p.m.
Fri & Sat
5:30-10 p.m.

2330 Taylor Street
San Francisco, CA 94133
415-776-8735

*IT'S NOT JUST BREAKFAST & LUNCH ANYMORE —
NOW OPEN FOR DINNERS WEDNESDAY THRU SATURDAY!*

THD BOARD MOTIONS

FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2010

January 2010:

MOTION: To elect the following three individuals to serve on the 2010 Nominating Committee in the three positions that are selected by the THD Board of Directors: Al Fontes, Judy Irving, and Julie Jaycox. **The Motion passed.**

MOTION: For THD to hire Ian Butler to remove the English Ivy and trim the tall poplars directly below Julius' Castle at a cost of \$500. **The Motion passed.**

February, 2010:

MOTION: For THD to participate as a sponsor of the Save Muni Summit on March 3, 2010. **The Motion passed unanimously.**

MOTION: THD resolves that the City and County of San Francisco:

A) Preserve the Stow Lake Boathouse and its historic concessions using qualified preservationists and licensed professionals.

B) Immediately halt decisions(s) about the historic concessions, until the following inspections and written reports are made available to the public and are included with any RFP/RFQ.

1. An Environmental Impact Report.

2. A safety report to address the use of boat trailers on a busy and steep walkway that serves the elderly, disabled, children, and others.

3. A licensed termite inspection.

4. A lead paint analysis of the boathouse paint.

5. An inspection by a licensed structural engineer to address water seepage into the foundation of Stow Lake.

The Motion passed.



ATTENTION, THD MEMBERS

LET'S WORK TO KEEP OUR VOICE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD THRIVING

Here are our reasonable ad rates:

Business Card —	2X3: one issue \$45.00, one year \$155
Junior Ad —	3X3: one issue \$80.00, one year \$285
½ Page —	3.5X6: one issue, \$145, one year, \$525
Full Page —	7X6: one issue, \$265, one year, \$975

For more information or to place an ad, call or email

Art Peterson, Semaphore Editor, 956-7817/apeterson@nwp.org

FLASH ART!: HERE AND GONE

By Leo Madrid

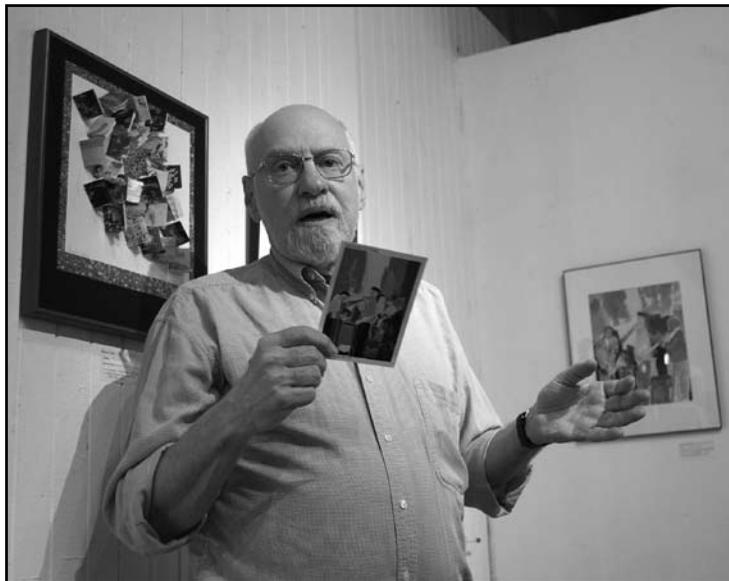
Spring sprang a bit early this year with a room full of North Beachers flashing each other, with art, that is. THD's spring Art Salon, produced by the Art & Culture Committee, was held at Live Worms Gallery in February with the theme of "Flash Art."

Led by Julie Jaycox, the committee broadcast a call to THD members, artists and collectors to bring a work of art with them to be included in the show. Should the escort of each art piece have desire, the opportunity was theirs to stand in front of the crowded gallery to present and discuss what the piece meant to them. New memories were created, and old ones regenerated, some of them with tears.

The day started with rain, creating doubts of whether anyone would venture out of their dwellings with precious items in tow. But as show time approached, the clouds disappeared and fears dis-

solved. The sun shined its face for an hour or so and brought on the crystal clear night and the fresh scent of recent rain. The smell of freshly cooked popcorn filled the air and wine or water filled the glasses as the Art & Culture Committee members found the best possible lighting and position as they hung each piece. Almost everyone followed the rules and refreshingly some did not, adding the unexpected flare of an artist painting live at the event.

As a result of the event The Hill Dweller roster grew with new members, many faces came together in the same room for the first time and others were reunited. Many residents and business owners made an appearance of community support. Aaron Peskin was there, as were the owners of Impala night club. Marsha Garland attended, bringing a work of art as well. Artist friends, Christian Michaels and John Lee, had heard about the show on Facebook and brought art with them from San Diego and Boise.



Tom Saunders explains his homage painting honoring the artist Nicolas de Staël. Saunders lived next door to de Staël's sister here in San Francisco for a time.

PHOTO : ANGELLAA MANGINELLI

In hindsight, the unexpected realization of what Flash Art represented turned out to be far more profound than anyone could have planned. The exhibit was in the truest traditions of the beats and surrealists, but now presented in a contemporary idiom. The surprise and spontaneity of this event cast within a carefully thought-out structure, allowed for a stream of consciousness-like self-curated exhibit which carried with it unexpected magical moments from the time the doors were opened until the last artwork was presented.

The requests are still coming in for another Flash Art show which is bound to be at least an annual event, but who knows: one could flash up at any time, and maybe even with an added twist!





TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Voice Mail/Hotline: 273-1004. Fax: 255-6499. Web Site: www.thd.org
P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco, CA 94133

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

President: Vedica Puri
Vice President: David Smolen
Recording Secretary: Mary Lipian
Corresponding Secretary: Katie Hopkins
Treasurer: Gail Switzer
Financial Secretary: Chris Stockton
Historian: Nancy Shanahan
Immediate Past President: Pat Lusse
Semaphore: Art Peterson

DIRECTORS

Nate Baca
Greg Chiampou
Al Fontes
Merle Goldstone
Judy Irving
Julie Jaycox
Andy Katz
Sarah Kliban

THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU

You can make a difference! Join one of THD's committees, meet and work with your fellow Hill Dwellers to improve life on the Hill.

STANDING COMMITTEES

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION. Gail and Paul Switzer. Promotes efforts to ease congestion, optimize white zones, upgrade public transportation. Works with Department of Parking and Traffic.

PLANNING AND ZONING. Nancy Shanahan, 986-7094, Mary Lipian, 391-5652. Monitors and reviews proposed development projects for consistency with applicable City ordinances. Works with Planning Department staff and represents THD before the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator and other regulating bodies to protect historic resources and maintain neighborhood character. Assists members to learn more about and participate in planning and zoning issues.

SEMAPHORE. Editor, Art Peterson 956-7817; artpeterson@nwp.org. The editor and staff produce a quarterly magazine for THD members.

PROGRAM. Arranges social events, including quarterly membership meetings and get-acquainted social functions.

BUDGET. Gail Switzer, gail_switzer@yahoo.com. As prescribed in Bylaws for Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP. Chris Stockton, membership@thd.org. As prescribed in Bylaws for Financial Secretary.

ARCHIVIST: Rozell Overmire, rozell@ureach.com

SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS

PARKS, TREES, AND BIRDS. Judy Irving, chair. Information and projects concerning local parks, green spaces and street trees.

THD WEB SITE. Webmaster, Al Fontes; webmaster@thd.org. Shared information about meetings, local concerns and events.

ART AND CULTURE. Julie Jaycox, chair. Organizes events and projects that celebrate the art and humanities of our neighborhood.

LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

COALITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS. Representative, Gerry Crowley, 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. City-wide organization interacts with other neighborhoods to discuss common problems.

NORTH BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION. Representative, Gerry Crowley, 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. Tel-Hi-sponsored group of residents, merchants and government agencies working together to address neighborhood issues.

N.E.R.T. Energizes members to take emergency disaster response training program sponsored by the City.

WEB SITE = www.thd.org

Whether you want to catch up on THD's Oral Histories, see what the THD is up to, or submit old photos of the Hill, www.thd.org is the place to go. Use the Web site to discover or email information about upcoming meetings in the neighborhood and at City agencies, and ideas and concerns you want the rest of us to know about between *Semaphores*.

TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS
P. O. Box 330159
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT No. 11882

TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Schedules of Committee Meetings

PLANNING & ZONING: Last Thursdays. Call for time and location. 986-7070, 563-3494, 391-5652.

Look to the THD website for information on THD events. **Log on to <http://www.thd.org>**

For a Voice in Your Neighborhood Join Telegraph Hill Dwellers.

THD Welcomes New Members Jan-Feb. 2010: Amy Loewen & Carlo Arreglo, James Baker, Alfonso Castro, Maureen Crowe, Gaurav Dudhoria, Madeline Eastman, Mague Calanche & Dennis Hearne, Martine Jardel, Ethel Jimenez, Leo Madrid, Del Monte-Barroca, Shardel Riley, Sarah & Michael Sonn, Jim Stark, Adeline McDonagh & Dan Sullivan, Paul Webber, Ray Terry & Jay Welsh; And, former members who have re-joined: Natasha & David Ansted, Anne Kaplan

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Sign Up or Sign a Friend Up as a member of Telegraph Hill Dwellers. Complete and mail to THD, PO Box 330159, SF, CA 94133

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

Individual \$30__ Household \$45__ Senior (age 65 and over) \$20__ Senior Household \$35__