



Eureka!

News for Eureka Valley, Upper Market, Castro, Duboce & Twin Peaks. Published by the **Eureka Valley Promotion Association**
Serving the neighborhood since 1881.

Volume 127, Issue 03 March-April 2008

www.EVPA.org

www.PinkTrianglePark.org

Castro Marquee Crunched Again

The newly restored CASTRO Theater marquee has been hit not once, but twice since the recent restoration to its classic 70's appearance as part of the filming of the movie MILK. One of the collisions broke some of the newly installed neon lighting tubes. The Castro Theater is designated San Francisco Landmark No. 100.



Part of the problem dates back to the 20's when Castro sidewalks were narrowed to widen the street without regrading the existing road surface. Hence the road crown at the edges of Castro Street is excessive, causing vehicles which travel close to the curb to lean excessively towards the sidewalks.

What should the EVPA do if anything to help prevent further collision with this historic resource? Possible permanent solutions include modifications such as bulb-outs or bollards. Any solution is sure to make somebody unhappy. Stay tuned to this issue.

Check out our all-new look at
www.EVPA.org

Tips to Prepare for a Disaster

by Joe Caruso

ARE YOU PREPARED?

- Make a Plan
- Build a Kit
- Get Involved

Here are some steps to Plan and prepare for any Disaster. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with information on how to prepare for a disaster. Now what should you do to prepare for a disaster?

San Francisco is exposed to a wide variety of hazards, both natural and man-made. Earthquakes, fires, severe storms, power outages, and acts of terrorism are just some of the potential emergencies we may encounter. Imagine that you have no electricity, no gas, no water and no telephone service. Imagine that all the businesses are closed and you are without any kind of emergency services. What will you do until help arrives?

First and foremost, it is important to understand that in a major disaster, it might be several days before vital services are restored.

That is why you must **Make a Plan, Build a Kit, and Get Involved**. As EVPA members, we are very good at making plans to help others, we are good at building coalitions to help better our city and the lives of people living in it, and we are great at getting involved. But what have you done for yourself lately? Are you Prepared?

Make a Plan.

Here is the priority: Safety, Water, Food, Heat and Sanitation.

Make a Plan for PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

No matter how well your community has planned their response to a disaster, in the event of a large-scale incident, first response resources may quickly become overwhelmed. To ensure the safety and well-being of you, your friends and your family, you should prepare now to take care of your own basic needs for at least

(Continued on page 5)

Citywide Halloween in 2008 **by District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty**

On February 12, the Board of Supervisors gave final approval to the creation of a Citywide Special Events coordinator.

Last year, I introduced legislation to create and staff an Office of Special Events to manage not only Halloween, but many other planned and unplanned large public events in the City. Working with stakeholders in this area, including event professionals like the organizers of Pride and the Castro Street Fair, we are developing a structure that will make this office a focal point for creating safe and fun major events.

There were signals that the Mayor wants a more comprehensive overhaul of the Entertainment and Film commissions, so I chose to create the staff position immediately because it is essential that we have someone on board to manage Halloween. However, we will not lose sight of the broader picture and may see the structural legislation later this year.

In addition, the Entertainment Commission is holding meetings with neighborhood groups both within and outside of the Castro. The Entertainment Commission, and its Chair Audrey Joseph, have already spoke before some Castro neighborhood groups and is making plans to meet with others, including EVPA.

One of the positive "side effects" of last year's effort in the Castro was that night-life districts in other parts of the city saw increased business. The Entertainment Commission is working with merchant groups in areas like Polk Street, SOMA and the Mission, among others, with the hope that other neighborhoods will hold their own events -- sort of a spin on 2007's "Home for Halloween". I am continually grateful for the bars and restaurants that closed last year, and strongly believe we can have a successful Halloween in the Castro in the context of a coordinated Citywide event.

A major San Francisco brand is interested in becoming the lead sponsor of a citywide Halloween. Audrey and I have met with their Marketing staff and we feel that the break last year demonstrates to potential sponsors that the City is serious about re-inventing this event in a way that is creative, fun, safe and manageable.

With a combination of grassroots outreach to different neighborhoods, and additional City staff to immediately begin making concrete plans for the necessary large civic event, I am committed to a successful and safe Halloween.

As you read this, I will be returning from a Sister-City visit to Sydney for their Gay Mardi Gras. In the past two months there was a spate of anti-gay acts of violence

which raised a discussion of re-routing the night-time Mardi Gras Parade away from the gay Oxford District. We're not alone in facing these challenges, but I believe we can set an example by working collaboratively towards a safe Halloween. We can be assured that people around the country and beyond will be watching.

I want to thank Joe D'Alessandro, President of the SF Convention and Visitors Bureau (SFCVB) and a member of our community, City Treasurer Jose Cisneros, and more than thirty participants (including Heklina, Bevin Shamel of Gloss, Folsom Street Events, SF Pride and others for putting a club night, media events and Mardi Gras float to promote LGBT Australians to visit San Francisco.

P.S. I'd like to offer special thanks to my Legislative Aide, Rachele McManus who is moving to NYC this month to begin a prestigious program to become a science teacher. She has done a stupendous job working in the community. Nicolas King will join me later this month and certainly continue the close work with MUMC, EVPA and the neighborhood.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION TO ADDRESS EVPA ABOUT HALLOWEEN

Audrey Joseph, President of the San Francisco Entertainment Commission and Bob Davis, Executive Director of the San Francisco Entertainment Commission will address the EVPA on March 20th about Halloween in the Castro.

This year the Entertainment Commission will keep with the theme set last year "Home for Halloween" and is encouraging all neighborhood organizations to provide for their children, teens and young adults local events for Halloween 2008. In this manner we hope that our city youth will stay home for Halloween.

"The Entertainment Commission is not naïve and we know that there will be a trek to the Castro," says Audrey Joseph "so we will be addressing EVPA to give and get ideas for dealing with Halloween 2008. We are also working with neighboring cities to try and ensure that they also provide for their youth and keep them home for Halloween."

Joseph and Davis will be prepared to answer questions and field ideas from the community for a safe and successful event.

How to Deal with A Noisy Neighbor

by Alan-Beach Nelson

I highly doubt anyone moves to Eureka Valley to enjoy the absolute quietude one normally associates with suburbia. And, I certainly don't think for a moment anyone would live in the central business districts of the Castro and Upper Market without expecting a certain level of what we call "city noise."

From the early days of the late 1800s when Eureka Valley was predominantly Swedish and Irish, to the area's 1970s transformation into a gay "Mecca", the streets around Castro and Market have been full of life. In fact, I would bet that most, if not all, move to these central areas precisely for the vibrancy of the area with a multitude of bars, restaurants, cafes and businesses. I know that my husband, Daren and I did.

But, what does one do when the "City noises" we expect, maybe even enjoy, become consistent and persistent nuisances? First and foremost, it is important to know that **almost** every entertainment establishment has what are called Conditions of Use – exceptions being that some bars pre-date the conditional use authorization requirement and are non-conforming. Uniformly, one of them is that the establishment will not negatively impact the neighborhood, for example a condition imposed on a local bar clearly states: The bar owner shall implement other conditions and/or management practices, as determined by the Zoning Administrator, in consultation with the Police Department and other appropriate public agencies, to be necessary to insure that management and/or patrons of the establishments maintain quiet, safety, and cleanliness of the premises and the vicinity of the use.

Based on experience, I provide you with Alan Beach-Nelson's steps to deal with a noisy neighbor – specifically an entertainment venue:

1. Investigate the source. Unless it is absolutely, completely obvious, it is a good idea to do some investigating. You don't want to falsely accuse someone.
2. If you are awoken every Monday night at 1:30 a.m. – go out and see if you can ascertain the source. It is an inconvenience, but you want to be sure before you move on to step 2.
3. Contact the bar or restaurant. **Nicely**. They may not know that their patrons are disturbing the neighborhood. Talk to both the manager and the owner.
4. Contact your supervisor, currently Bevan Dufty, bevan.dufty@sfgov.org; also copy his staff, which you can find at <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/>. Advise

them of the issue and what steps you have taken to resolve it.

5. Contact Robert Davis, Executive Director of the Entertainment Commission (415) 554-7793 voice; bob.davis@sfgov.org. Again, advise of the issue and the steps taken thus far. Bob is terrific and very responsive, and will be in touch with the business owner, as well as investigating the nuisance.
6. Contact the Planning Department. They maintain the Planning Code, which regulates the 'location' and the 'use' of buildings and land adjacent to streets and sets forth standards for the development. Send an email to the General Information E-mail box at: http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning_index.asp, ask for a copy of the particular businesses' Conditions of Use.
7. Contact Planning Enforcement whose job it is to ensure that businesses are adhering to the planning code. We are in the Southwest Quadrant, staffed by Kate M. Conner, 415.575.6914, kate.conner@sfgov.org. She will open an investigation and notify the establishment that there has been a complaint. The owner can ask to see the complaint so always be sure to be factual, and try as best as you can to not "let emotion" get into it.

Of course, a keep component in each of these steps is to allow a little time before embarking on the next step. I know personally how frustrating it can get, but try to give each person along the way a chance to rectify the situation before moving to the next step.

While no plan is perfect, taking each of these steps should yield results to ameliorate the nuisance. In fact, you may find that a situation that had been causing you aggravation has turned into a close partnership with an area business owner/manager. After all isn't that what a community and a neighborhood represents – people living together, at the very least in peaceful co-existence, and ideally in peaceful harmony, respect and partnership.

Check out our all-new look at
www.EVPA.org

The Café Expansion Plan Goes to the Planning Commission

As widely reported in the local press, the Café's request to build an expansion at the rear of the building will be heard at the Planning Commission on 20 March. As previously authorized by the membership in a 2007 membership meeting, the EVPA Planning Committee will voicing the concerns of the EVPA membership at the hearing.

The Café's proposal is to construct a three floor with mezzanine addition at the rear of the building on 17th street. Per the San Francisco Planning Code, four specific items require conditional use:

1. Develop small self service restaurant on the ground floor of the addition
2. Expand the preexisting non-conforming bar on the second floor
3. Develop a business service use space on the top floor of the addition
4. Expand nights of dancing and live entertainment (DJ's) to seven nights a week

The notice for the hearing is posted on the evpa.org website at <http://evpa.org/planning/notices/20070072c.pdf>.

As a neighbor, you may attend the San Francisco Planning Commission hearing on 20 March (same day as our membership meeting). See the commission agenda for the day at http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning_meeting.asp?id=15840.

Walgreens Expansion Update

The Walgreens Drug Store chain has applied to the San Francisco Planning Department to expand their 18th street operation into the adjacent former laundromat space at 4127 18th Street. The firm has done no known neighborhood outreach as of the date of this printing. We will start a discussion of this matter at the March membership meeting with a quick "straw poll" to measure the temperature of the members feelings on this proposal.



Upper Market Workshop Series and Design Plan Update

by Demian Quesnel

The DRAFT report written by the consulting firm MIG was received by the San Francisco Planning Department on March 5th. It is currently in review by the Planning Department staff. It is expected that the fourth and final workshop with the community will be held within a month. For a summary of the entire planning process, you can visit the Planning Department's website at <http://uppermarket.sfplanning.org/>.

San Francisco Muni Transfer Effectiveness Project (TEP)

Draft proposals to transform Muni are now available online at the SFTEP website at <http://www.sftepc.com>. The TEP process began in the spring of 2007. The TEP is an 18-month study that includes a number of steps to evaluate the current transit system. While the focus of the plan is on long-term improvements to the transit system, recommendations will also be made for short-term actions.

As part of the process, considerable outreach was conducted with neighborhood groups and with Muni riders. The TEP has collected extensive ridership and Muni effectiveness data which is available on the TEP website.

Proposed changes which effect Eureka Valley are fairly minimal. They include:

- Increased peak service on the Metro Lines
- 35 line would be modified to serve the grandview/hoffman loop
- 37 line would be extended to 16th street BART

These draft proposed changes can be viewed at: http://www.sftepc.com/files/Proposals_District_8.pdf.

**Pay your 2008
EVPA DUES ONLINE!**



Visit our "blooming" website at
www.EVPA.org/join

Prepare for a Disaster (Continued from page 1)

the first 72 hours following a major disaster.

Making a Plan for Personal Preparedness: **Training is key:**

Make sure that each person knows and practices ways of protecting her/himself from falling objects, smoke, fire, caustic fumes, etc.

Make sure that each person knows and practices how to shut off utilities.

Make sure that each person knows and practices evacuation procedures for leaving the home during an emergency.

Make sure that each person knows how to use a home fire extinguisher.

Build a Kit:

Basic Supplies: Determine what you absolutely need every day to live and plan how you will get what you need. Store 5 gallons of water, if you can. If you buy it at the store, what would you do if either the store wasn't open, if its shelves were empty, or if you couldn't get to the store?

Important: If you don't have a manual can opener, buy one.

Avoid foods that need a lot of water or more than a few minutes of cooking.

Food: You can eat canned tuna; eat canned vegetables as a salad, with salad dressing or vinegar and oil. Ham or chicken with a vegetable salad or mixed with mayonnaise packets.

Water: Store 1 gallon of water per person for each day you are preparing for. You can buy collapsible water containers wherever camping supplies are sold. Another option is to wash out soda bottles and fill them with water. The water in these containers

should be replaced every six months.

If you store your own water, treat it by adding 4 drops of unscented chlorine bleach to each gallon of water. Don't use milk bottles.

Build Personal Go Bags:

Assembling emergency kits is one of the basic preparedness measures you should take. Go Bags are kits designed for the event of an evacuation. Be sure your bag is easy to carry (if you have to evacuate on foot) and that it has an I.D. tag. You should keep one at home, work and in your vehicle. They should include the following supplies:

- 3-Day supply of any prescription medications you take regularly.
- Personal hygiene supplies (including toilet paper).
- Whistle (to alert rescuers to your location).
- List of emergency point-of-contact phone numbers.
- Emergency lighting (flashlight and batteries or light sticks).
- Portable radio & batteries (or hand crank style)
- Change of clothing, sturdy shoes and a hat.
- If you are preparing go bags for children, include a favorite toy, cards or book and medical consent forms.

Get involved, know your community resources, and become one yourself.

You can also get information on how Pet Owners can help their pets during an emergency at www.72hours.org

You can find more information about tips for Building a Kit, Making a Plan, and Getting Involved by going to www.72hours.org.

Thank you to all EVPA members because without you so much great work would go undone. Be well.

Eureka Valley Earthquake Facts

Eureka Valley to San Andreas Fault = 6 miles

Eureka Valley to Hayward Fault = 13 miles

Eureka Valley to Loma Prieta = 59.5 miles (magnitude 7.1 on 17 October 1989)

Hayward Fault eruption frequency ~ every 140 +/- ~30 years

Last Hayward Fault eruption: October 22, 1868 magnitude 7.0

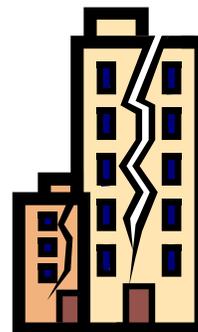
Next Hayward Fault Eruption: 2008 +/- ~30 years

Simple math-> Hayward fault will feel more than an order of magnitude stronger than Loma Prieta

Online earthquake resources:

- www.72hours.org
- USGS Earthquake Handbook "Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country -Your Handbook for the San Francisco Bay Region": <http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/2005/15/>
- San Francisco Department of Building Inspection: http://www.sfgov.org/site/dbi_page.asp?id=18648

ABAG Ground shaking maps: <http://www.abag.ca.gov/bayarea/eqmaps/>



Minutes for EVPA General Membership Meeting February 21, 2008

The president called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

After introductions, on motion and second, the minutes from the January 2008 meeting were approved.

After considerable review and discussion, on motion and second, the budget for 2008 was approved by the membership with the caveat that the Treasurer would reformat the numbers.

Dues rates were set the same as 2007: \$20 individual, \$30 household, \$40 business. Members were reminded that dues were payable by April 15th, but were asked to "hold off" until we were able to process payment of dues online.

Upon motion and second, the membership approved Frank Weiss as the head of the Internal Affairs Committee with the responsibility to take on the task of ensuring that proposed by-laws changes for 2008 were keeping within the intent of the mission of the EVPA and the California Corporations Code.

The board announced the meeting schedule for 2008, which will alternate monthly meetings between the General Membership and the board with the intention that more work will be accomplished at the committee level.

There was considerable discussion of how the EVPA "tag Line" ("A neighborhood organization since 1881") to better identify the EVPA with the neighborhood. It was agreed without motion that the discussion should continue.

The president then adjourned the meeting.



EVPA Dues for 2008

It's that time of year again! Dues and Taxes! EVPA memberships for all members who paid prior to 1 October 2007 will expire on April 15th. Please keep you membership current! You must be an EVPA member to vote in EVPA decisions and to participate in EVPA committees.

New for 2008-> you can pay your EVPA membership dues easily and securely online using your MasterCard, Visa, American Express or PayPal account. Just visit <http://evpa.org/join>.

Dues payments for 2008 are held at last years rates of:

- Individual: \$20
- Household: \$30
- Business: \$40

Online payment will appear as "PAYPAL *EVPA DUES" on your credit card statement. Yes, by paying online, we do pay .81¢ in fees, you save a \$.41 stamp and time. Most importantly you and the EVPA both get an immediate confirmation that you are a member. As an alternative, you can fill in the membership application on the back page of the Eureka!

This year we will also be "rebuilding" our roster. After you join online, you will be take through a process opt in/out of possible print and online membership rosters. You will also have yet another opportunity to sign up for the Eureka email distribution.

EVPA Dates to Remember

March 10 - DTNA Meeting

March 13 - CAPA Meeting

March 20 - EVPA Membership meeting

April 10 - Property Taxes Due

April 10 - CAPA Meeting

April 15 - EVPA 2008 Membership Dues Due

April 16 - Deadline for May Eureka Submissions

April 17 - EVPA Board Meeting

For the updated Eureka Valley Calendar, visit <http://evpa.org/calendar>.

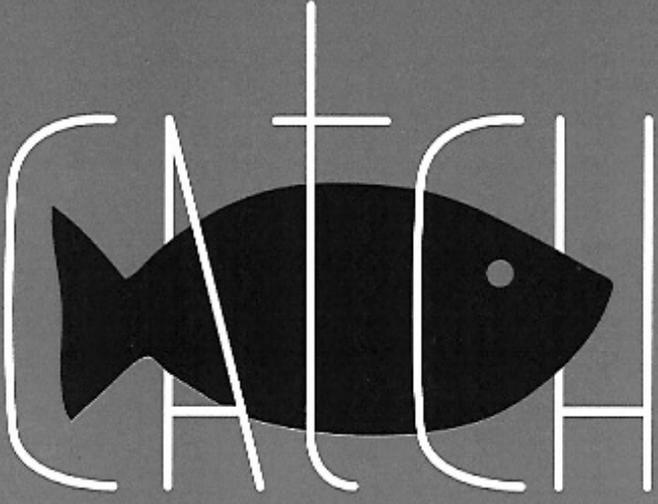
General Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 20, 2008 @ 7:30PM

Eureka Valley Recreation Center
100 Collingwood St.

Agenda is as follows:

1. Introductions
2. Reading and Approval of the Minutes
3. Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees
4. Reports of Special Committees
5. Business
 - The Entertainment Commission plans for Halloween '08
 - Earthquake Preparedness
 - Walgreens Expansion (action Item)
 - Bylaws Revision for 2008 (action item)
6. New Business
7. Adjournment



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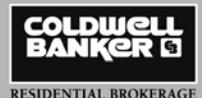
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Report Graffiti 241-WASH
Police Non-Emergency 553-0123
Police/Mission Station 558-5400
Help A Homeless Person 431-7400
(Mobile Assistance Patrol dispatched)
Street Cleaning 695-2017 or 695-2020
Abandoned Vehicles 553-9817
DTP Dispatch 553-1200
Street Signs Missing/Damaged 554-9780
Pot Hole Repair 695-2100
Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office 554-6968
bevan.dufty@sfgov.org
CBD Hotline 559-6968

Contact EVPA Board Members

If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please feel free to contact any of the following EVPA Board Members:

President: Steve Clark Hall
(415) 863-2593 steve.hall@evpa.org

Secretary: Scott Wiener
(415) 437-9414 scott.wiener@evpa.org

Treasurer: Joe Caruso
(415) 307-5050 joe.caruso@evpa.org

Board of Directors:

Frank Weiss - frank.weiss@evpa.org

David Weiss
(415) 652-4004 david.weiss@evpa.org

Demian Quesnel
(415) 861-5084 demian.quesnel@evpa.org

Alan Beach-Nelson
(415) 431-5152 alan.beach@evpa.org

Join EVPA by visiting www.EVPA.org/join (preferred) or by sending us this completed membership application

Name: _____

First

Last

Organization/Business: _____

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: San Francisco, CA Zip Code _____

Day Phone: (____) _____ Evening Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

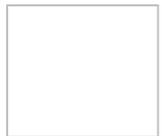
(EVPA does not share your contact information with other groups)

My concerns for the neighborhood include _____

Membership to the EVPA is open to all persons who live, work or own property within Eureka Valley, geographically defined as the Castro and Upper Market areas from Dolores to Twin peaks and from Duboce to 22nd Street. Dues are payable on an annual basis April 15 to April 15. Rates are \$20 for individuals, \$30 for households and \$40 for businesses. **Please make your check payable to EVPA and mail with this application to PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114.** The EVPA is a California non-profit public benefit corporation.

**EVPA P.O. Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
Address Service Requested**

www.EVPA.org www.PinkTrianglePark.org



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