BUSY BEGINNING FOR 2006!

Happy 2006 to all. The new year starts with many changes affecting our neighborhood. These will be discussed at our General Membership meeting on Thursday, January 19, held at the Community Meeting Room above Bank of America at 18th and Castro Streets, starting at 7:30PM.

At the request of District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty, representatives from the San Francisco Muni will outline plans to improve service on the Metro. This will entail suspension of underground service between the Embarcadero and Castro Street from 10PM to 6AM for one year. Several options to provide surface transportation during this period are being considered and Dufty wants the public to have an opportunity to comment on them.

EVPA Member Joe Caruso presents information about the Mayor’s Office of Emergency Preparedness, outlining what individuals should do as well as what they can expect from city, state, and federal agencies.

Representatives from Sunset Scavenger will discuss proposed rate increases for garbage collection services.

The date for reopening the remodeled Eureka Recreation Center and confirmation that the EVPA’s General Membership meetings will be held there beginning in February will be discussed.

A preliminary plan to replace the ARCO Service Station at Market and Castro Streets with 24 apartments, underground garages, and street level retailing is currently undergoing environmental review. Any new information will be discussed by Planning Committee Chair Mike Babbitt. We are also hoping for an update regarding the proposed demolition of a 100-year-old single-family residence and construction of 5 new condominiums at 4126 17th Street.

Gregg Lowery of Vintage Gardens Commemorated

On December 17th, several EVPA members headed north to Sebastopol to present Gregg Lowery of Vintage Gardens with a plaque symbolizing our appreciation of his generous gifts of roses to the Pink Triangle Park and Memorial at the intersection of Market, 17th, and Castro Streets.

A former Eureka Valley resident, Gregg began his professional gardening career by leasing a vacant lot and growing flowers to sell at San Francisco’s Flower Mart. As his business grew, Gregg and his partner Phillip moved to Sonoma County, which afforded them more room to meet growing demand.

If you want a special rose for your garden, Vintage Gardens sells thousands of varieties. Since 90% of their business is conducted via mail order, you don’t even need to drive to Sonoma. Check www.vintagegardens.com for information.

In 2006, Vintage Gardens will be moving from to Garden Valley Ranch on Pepper Road in Petaluma. In addition to Vintage Gardens’ spectacular rose collection, visitors will be able to tour Garden Valley Ranch’s famous gardens.

Gregg graciously accepted EVPA’s token of appreciation and generously invited all EVPA members to the annual open garden event at his private residence on Pleasant Hill Road in Sebastopol. This garden features the widest range of roses anywhere in the world, enabling visitors to view the entire history of the rose in one location. For details, check out Vintage Gardens’ Web site.

Perhaps we can organize an EVPA contingent to visit Gregg and Phillip’s one-of-a-kind garden this spring? Interested members should contact Jack Keating or

THANK YOU JIMMER CASSIO! Under Jimmer’s leadership, EVPA volunteers at the 2005 Castro Street Fair earned a record $2,332.04 for the organization!
Eureka Valley Promotion Association
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro Street
San Francisco

By: Frank Weiss, Secretary
Date: November 17, 2005
Start Time: 7:37PM
End Time: 8:40PM
Number in Attendance: 16
Number of Voting Members: 15

Motion #1:
Approval of October 2005 General Membership Meeting minutes. Moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Motion #2
Letter to BOS supporting the new legislation for reforming the TIC lottery. Moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Voting for 4Q 2005 Proclamations
Winner: Under One Roof

Voting for 2006 Officers and Board Members
Nominations are:
President: Frank Weiss
Treasurer: David Weiss
Secretary: Gustavo Serina
Board Members: Mike Babbitt, Joe Foster, Rick Galbreath

Instead of voting by ballot, the President called for a vote by acclamation and nominees were all elected.

The Pleasures and Rewards of Volunteering
By Diane Nutting

I first became interested in my neighborhood when I saw a neighbor of mine working very hard at removing a large tree stump out of an area that had been a 17th street eyesore for some years, and I asked him if he needed any help. From that day forward I saw the merits of people working together to make things happen in a neighborhood. Board member Joe Foster would see me pulling weeds and trying to make things a little better and he was the one who mentioned that I may want to become involved with a neighborhood group called EVPA so I joined and I have been a member for about 5 years or so.

Now that the Pink Triangle Park Memorial is very much on it's way thanks to the stewardship of Jack Keating and Justin del Versano, I have adopted the Harvey Milk Plaza area. I do my best to keep it clean and to care for the gardens.

I am semi-retired now and am able to enjoy my neighborhood even more. Walking is the best way to get to know an area. Because of my walks, I have discovered that I really like 18th Street. Here are some of my favorite places there.

I just love the new restaurant, Queen Malika on the 4400 block of 18th Steet. The owners' have named it after their daughter. They serve crepes, sandwiches, and coffee, both indoors and outdoors. Going there starts my day off with such a good feeling. The owners and staff want you to enjoy yourself and they make you feel welcome. I like it also because it is in the same block as the Artists Gallery and I love art and like to stop by and see their latest offerings. Nearby is Eureka Gallery, which sells antiques and is open Thursdays to Sundays, noon to six. Next door at 4450 18th Street is Off The Beading Path, a large space that turns beading into art. Manager and lead designer John Mendez is very well informed and happy to answer questions. I welcome him to the neighborhood.

Across from them is My Best Friend, a pet shop on the corner of Douglass Street that Shiloh my dog likes visiting. They have an incredible selection of items for pets and pet owners. One block up is Shiloh's great groomer Robert at Four Wet Feet. Heading back towards Castro Street along 18th Street, I also would like to welcome Tony of the T Shop, which has a fine selection of men's clothing. It's right next door to Enzi's the hair styling shop near Cala's Supermarket and Sumi's fine restaurant. I am very happy that these businesses are in my neighborhood.
Handy Resources for Home
Report Litter  28-CLEAN
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 Duf ty’s Office  554-6968
bevan.dufty@sfgov.org

2006 EVPA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS
President: Frank Weiss
Secretary: Gustavo Serina
Treasurer: David Weiss
At-Large Board Members: Mike Babbitt, Adam Hagen, Joe Foster, Rick Galbreath

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www.EVPA.org     www.PinkTrianglePark.org

General Membership Meeting Agenda Highlights
Thursday January 19, 2006 7:30pm
Castro Meeting Room
501 Castro (Above BofA)

AGENDA
1. Introduction
2. Approval of Nov. 2005 General Membership Minutes
3. Committee Reports
4. Muni Metro Presentation/Discussion
5. Emergency Preparedness Presentation
6. Sunset Scavenger Presentation
7. EVRC Update
8. ARCO Service Station/4126 Demolition Status
9. Adjournment

Join EVPA by Sending Us This Completed Membership Application

Name:_______________________________________________________________
   First                                                   Last
Name:_______________________________________________________________
   First                                                   Last
Organization: _________________________________________________________
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____________________________
____________________________________________________________________
I am interested in working on the following issues:
___ City Planning/Zoning ___ Transportation, Utilities & Neighborhood Commerce
___ Public Health/Safety ___ Education/Recreation ___ Membership & Promotion
___ Finance ___ Internal Affairs ___ Pink Triangle Park
___ Renewing membership. ___ New membership.
___ I wish to receive my copy of the Eureka! Via the internet rather than by US Mail

Annual Membership dues are $20 per calendar year for individuals, $30 for households and $40 for businesses or nonprofits in Castro, Upper Market, and Duboce Triangle (Eureka Valley). EVPA is a non-profit California corporation. Please return this form with your check payable to EVPA to:
EVPA, PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114-0137