Halloween Update – Part 2

A second community meeting was held by District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty on Thursday evening, August 31, at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center to discuss managing and controlling this year’s Halloween celebration in the Castro. At Dufty’s invitation, representatives of the Police, Fire, Sheriff, Public Works, and Parking and Traffic departments attended, along with members of the San Francisco Entertainment Commission. In addition to EVPA, represented by Gustavo Serina, members of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association, and the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association attended the meeting.

Dufty and other city officials made it clear that safety, traffic, vandalism, litter control and clean-up were paramount concerns and that steps were being taken to address each of them. The police emphasized that they will have far more officers present than in previous years, that their presence would be obvious very early in the evening, and that they would strictly enforce a zero tolerance policy for inappropriate behavior. Lawbreakers and troublemakers will be arrested early in the evening to set a tone and discourage others from behaving in a threatening manner. Members of the Alcoholic Beverage Commission will issue citations to vendors violating laws covering the sale of liquor. If necessary, they will work with the police to immediately shut down vendors who refuse to comply with appropriate regulations. Sheriff Department officers will drive police vehicles, allowing more uniformed cops to patrol the streets on foot. The San Francisco Special Police Patrol will provide additional uniformed resources. Fire Department equipment will be used to block key intersections.

Only one entertainment stage will be set up, at the intersection of 16th and Market Streets. Entertainment will end at 11 PM and Department of Public Works staff will

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immediately begin cleaning up the streets. The perimeter for the event, which was small last year, will be expanded, probably as far as Duboce Avenue. This will help mitigate the problems on side streets that previously occurred. The final boundaries will be announced at the next meeting, scheduled for late September.

The Department of Parking and Traffic is planning street closures and routing changes to discourage automobiles from entering the area and mitigating against the dangerous congestion that occurred the last several years along 15th Street, Duboce Avenue, and other streets. These plans will be discussed at the September meeting as well.

The Muni Station at Castro and Market will remain open, to make it easier for people to leave the neighborhood. Additional security will be provided for that station and the Church Street station. City officials are looking into fencing off the Arco Service Station at Market and Castro Streets, because it has been a place for gang members to congregate. Merchants, including bar owners, will be asked to close early on Halloween night. Residents are being asked not to have open door private parties in which strangers are allowed/encouraged to attend. These parties frequently result in problems for the hosts and put further strain on police resources. The police are looking into the feasibility of having a special hotline (not 911) for residents to use to report problems.

A new public relations/media campaign is being developed to communicate that this year’s Halloween will be a low key event, with no tolerance for violent, abusive, or drunken behavior. To the delight of virtually everyone at the meeting, Supervisor Dufty reiterated that this year’s plan is the first step of a multi-year strategy to make Halloween in the Castro a non-event that no longer attracts hundreds of thousands of people from outside the neighborhood.

### General Membership Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2006

1. Upon motion made and seconded, a motion was passed to write a letter to the Planning Department to exempt Eureka Valley from the proposed guidelines of the Market/Octavia Boulevard Plan until EVPA has had an opportunity to assess their impact and until the Castro/Upper Market Street charrette authorized by Supervisor Bevan Dufty is completed.

2. Upon motion made and seconded, a motion was passed authorizing EVPA Secretary Gustavo Serina to represent the organization at all meetings regarding planning for Halloween 2006 in the Castro.

3. Upon motion made and seconded, a motion was passed to write a letter requesting that Muni restart the sprinklers at Harvey Milk Plaza so that volunteer gardeners can resume working there.

### Upcoming EVPA Meetings

EVPA meetings are back in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center Auditorium, 100 Collingwood (behind Cala Foods). See you there!

**October 19, November 16, December 21**
District 8 Candidates to Speak September 21

Our regular meeting this month will be largely devoted to the District 8 Supervisor’s election. We have invited Alix Rosenthal and Bevan Dufty to come speak and answer questions. This is a great opportunity to meet and hear the candidates directly and to voice your concerns over public policy in our neighborhood and the City of San Francisco in general. As a bonus, the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association will also be attending. You will get a brief introduction from the DTNA President, Dennis Richards. The DTNA has been a strong voice with regard to the Market and Octavia Plan.

The Candidates Forum will be held in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center Auditorium, 150 Collingwood St. on Thursday, September 21. We will start at 7:30PM and end by 9PM. Hope to see you there. This will be a very informative meeting for all of us.

Message from Bevan Dufty

District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty is running for re-election this fall. In 2002, Dufty ran with the campaign motto “All About the Neighborhood” and he has based his re-election effort on his community achievements.

Among them, Dufty is particularly proud of his work in the Eureka Valley/Castro neighborhood:

- Creation of the Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District (CBD), which has brought regular crews to pick up litter, paint out graffiti, power wash sidewalks, and maintain trees.
- Replacement of clusters of ugly news racks with green pedestal racks this August and installation of new community bulletin boards in September.
- Replacement of aging news shacks with green JCDecaux newsstands.
- Landmarking community history with a photo tribute to Harvey Milk in Milk Plaza/Garden and the renaming of the block of 16th Street in front of the library after Jose Sarria, the first gay person to run for public office in 1961.

Dufty looks forward to further advancing a renaissance in Eureka Valley, with a major focus on shepherding the Castro Charette. With many parcels being considered for development, this community-based process will allow residents and merchants to weigh in on a design plan for the Castro area, for which he secured $100,000 from city planning. In addition, Dufty hopes to secure funding to co-locate the GLBT Historical Society with the Castro branch library and open a family resource center in the neighborhood.

For more information, please visit Bevan’s website: www.bevandufty.com.

Message from Alix Rosenthal

Dear Neighbor:

I know and love all the diversity that District 8 represents. From Duboce Park to Glen Park, from Twin Peaks to Mission Dolores with Noe Valley nestled in between to the fun and funky Valencia corridor alive with creative energy, these are not just neighborhoods, but communities.

Our communities have been hit hard by out of control real estate speculation fueling middle class flight, sky-high rents and evictions displacing our most vulnerable residents. District 8 need leadership to address these and other issues in a broad-based manner to move toward a city that is affordable, livable and sustainable.

Solving the problems of the City solves the problems in our neighborhoods. As Supervisor, I will focus on the issues critical to the well being of our district and the city by:

- Expanding affordable housing and middle class homeownership opportunities.
- Improving MUNI’s efficiency and reliability.
- Protecting our environment with proven innovations such as green roofs and solar energy.
- Renewing our commitment to public safety through community policing, not just more cops on the street.

The incumbent has been absent on these issues. Fixated on small scale, squeaky wheel matters, he addresses individuals’ problems one at a time. A Supervisor must also see such complaints in a broader context and solve problems thousands at a time with comprehensive policy. We can do better.

Please visit my web site at www.votealix.com for more details on how we can solve District 8’s problems while protecting San Francisco’s economic and cultural diversity.

-Alix Rosenthal
For any EVPA members or member referrals—5% of my commission donated to EVPA.

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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

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

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My concerns for the neighborhood include___________________________________
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I am interested in working on the following issues:
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  ___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

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

General Membership Meeting
Thursday September 21, 2006 7:30pm
Eureka Valley Recreation Center
100 Collingwood St.

AGENDA
1. Introductions
2. Approval of August 17 Minutes