The latter is what's fueling this hasty plan. There are other ways to provide the service, and there are wires and cumbersome copper-to-fiber connection boxes. Siemens and Lucent Technologies can place fiber-optic cables to one's home or business—without requiring an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) to assess the cumulative impacts of the AT&T project, plus other equipment, existing or anticipated, cluttering our streetscapes. To reduce the blight of sidewalk-mounted boxes, an EIR also would detail available mitigation measures, such as placement underground or on private property.

The boxes would be 48” high, 54” wide and 26” deep. They would be mounted on a concrete base and 2 bollards would be placed between them and the curb. Oh, and by the way, they buzz all day long - similar to the “sound of an electric toothbrush,” according to an AT&T spokesperson.

To save money and to expedite the implementation of its profit-heavy U-verse program, AT&T has opted to use dated technology and decades-old bulky equipment mounted on the sidewalk. While other companies large and small have run high-speed fiber-optic cables to one’s home or business—without requiring any surface-mounted boxes—AT&T believes it can burden future generations with technology consisting of twisted copper wires and cumbersome copper-to-fiber connection boxes.

There are other ways to provide the service, and there are a number of ways to offer a competitive alternative to Comcast. The latter is what’s fueling this hasty plan.

The neighborhood association for the Castro, Upper Market and all of Eureka Valley since 1878

Mayoral Candidates Forum
MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 7 TO 9:30pm, CASTRO THEATRE

EVNA is partnering with Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA) to host a mayoral candidates forum. This is sure to be a popular and crowded event, doors open at 6:30. EVNA/DTNA has obtained commitments from nine mayoral candidates to participate. This is a great opportunity for you to question and hear what the candidates intend to bring to their administrations.

The Forum will be moderated by Liam Mayclem, Host, KPIX Eye on the Bay. As of press time, the nine candidates are: Former Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier, Supervisor John Avalos, Board President David Chiu, Former Supervisor Bevan Dufty, Former Supervisor Tony Hall, City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Joanna Rees, Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting and Senator Leland Yee. Each candidate will answer at least 6 questions on various major topics impacting The City.

- We want your questions! Each association will select 6 questions. Please email your questions to Alan.Beach@evna.org by Monday, August 1 at noon. EVNA reserves the right to modify questions for clarity and specificity.
- We also need volunteers to help with event logistics. If you are interested, please e-mail Alan Beach.

AT&T Box Update
By Gary Weiss and SFB

San Francisco Beautiful and a coalition of 25 neighborhood groups have pressured AT&T to reconsider its plans to park 726 huge utility boxes on our sidewalks. The San Francisco Planning Department initially gave AT&T the blanket go-ahead for the installation, without requiring an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) to assess the impacts of 726 boxes in the public right of way. SFB and its coalition have requested an EIR since this project was proposed in February. An EIR would include an assessment of the cumulative impacts of the AT&T project, plus other equipment, existing or anticipated, cluttering our streetscapes. To reduce the blight of sidewalk-mounted boxes, an EIR also would detail available mitigation measures, such as placement underground or on private property.

The boxes would be 48” high, 54” wide and 26” deep. They would be mounted on a concrete base and 2 bollards would be placed between them and the curb. Oh, and by the way, they buzz all day long - similar to the “sound of an electric toothbrush,” according to an AT&T spokesperson.

To save money and to expedite the implementation of its profit-heavy U-verse program, AT&T has opted to use dated technology and decades-old bulky equipment mounted on the sidewalk. While other companies large and small have run high-speed fiber-optic cables to one’s home or business—without requiring any surface-mounted boxes—AT&T believes it can burden future generations with technology consisting of twisted copper wires and cumbersome copper-to-fiber connection boxes.

There are other ways to provide the service, and there are a number of ways to offer a competitive alternative to Comcast. The latter is what’s fueling this hasty plan.

SF Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee
By Jay Lee

The San Francisco Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) needs your input on pedestrian safety issues affecting Eureka Valley. PSAC is San Francisco’s citizen representative to the Board of Supervisors on pedestrian issues, and is currently seeking community input on a variety of pedestrian safety initiatives. Please check out more information about PSAC at http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cpdsafe/19509.html.

PSAC recently produced its first report to the Board of Supervisors (a copy may be downloaded). PSAC is in the process of drafting its follow-up report, and your input will be critical in determining which recommendations PSAC will be presenting to the Supervisors this year.

In addition, PSAC is working with the City’s WalkFirst program, an interdepartmental effort to identify key walking streets throughout San Francisco and establish criteria to prioritize pedestrian improvements. In addition to pedestrian traffic levels and pedestrian generators like retail and transportation hubs, WalkFirst is seeking your input on which intersections should be prioritized for pedestrian safety improvements.

Lastly, the Mayor has convened a Pedestrian Safety Taskforce that, among other duties, is tasked with producing San Francisco’s first Pedestrian Master Plan. PSAC is attending Task Force meetings as the public’s representative, and would like your input on which issues need to be addressed in the plan.

A PSAC representative will be attending our July 27 membership meeting to discuss these and other pedestrian safety developments in San Francisco. Please come and share your questions and concerns!
Budget
On July 1, at 2:30am, the Budget Committee, on which I serve, passed a balanced budget. The full Board will vote on the budget shortly. Although we never get everything we want, the result was a good one, and I give major credit to Supervisor Carmen Chu, the committee chair, for a strong process. Of particular interest, I was able to get the committee to restore $300,000 to DPW’s street tree maintenance budget, half of the proposed $600,000 cut. It’s important to note that even before the proposed cut, DPW’s street tree budget was woefully inadequate, resulting in more and more trees being pushed onto property owners for maintenance. Similarly, Rec & Park’s tree budget is inadequate, as Duboce Triangle recently witnessed when two large trees toppled over in Duboce Park. I tried to add funding for more Rec & Park arborists, but unfortunately that effort did not succeed. My goal in the next few years is to develop a sustainable tree funding stream for DPW and Rec & Park so that DPW can assume responsibility for most or all street trees and Rec & Park has the resources it needs for solid tree maintenance.

I also obtained $38,000 for the Duboce Park Youth Play Area, which will help get that important project over the finish line, and I was able to restore funding cuts for several HIV service providers. And I obtained funds for streetscaping work at the corners of 16th and Market and 18th and Dolores, as well as for the LGBT History Museum on 18th Street.

Better Streets Plan Hearing
On July 11, I held a hearing at the Land Use Committee on the implementation of the Better Streets Plan, and specifically how the various City departments are coordinating to ensure that our public rights-of-way are being well managed for our neighborhoods. The controversy over AT&T’s proposal to place 726 utility boxes on our sidewalks exposed a significant lack of clarity around how the City decides what goes onto our sidewalk and how items are placed. The hearing was a good first step in airing these issues and having better coordination, and I thank Gary Weiss of EVNA for attending.

My Proposal To Reform San Francisco’s Ballot Measure System
As I submit this column, the Board of Supervisors is poised to place my ballot measure reform proposal on the November ballot. Our ballot measure system is broken. There are many reasons for this, but one is that once legislation is passed by the voters, it becomes permanently unchangeable except by another ballot measure, no matter how much time has gone by and no matter how minor the change. As a modest first step in reforming this system – a unique system since no state other than California prohibits legislative changes to ballot measures – I’m sponsoring a charter amendment that would gradually allow the Board, after a number of years, to amend or repeal ballot measures that were placed on the ballot by the Board or Mayor. The measure has no impact on measures placed on the ballot by voter signature drive – those will remain amendable only by the voters. Since California and San Francisco are addicted to ballot measures, I can’t say for sure that this measure will pass, but I want the voters to have the opportunity to weigh in one way or the other.

As always, if you have questions or need anything, please contact my office at 554-6968 or scott.wiener@sfgov.org.

Dean Rizzi-Home Loans

Serving Eureka Valley residents since 1995
Specializing in residential loans including TICs
Call for your free mortgage review today.

Guarantee Mortgage is locally owned and operated and we have a Five Star rating on Yelp!

636 4th Street, San Francisco, CA 94107
415-694-5533 • Fax: 415-694-5501 • www.DeanRizzi.com

DRE #01125960, NMLS #237278
Real Estate Broker, CA DRE Lic #01370741 & NMLS #2527
The Café is committed to ensuring that the Castro has a vibrant and active nightlife and a peaceful neighborhood.

All who live, work and play in our neighborhood deserve a positive and healthy community.

We are proud to help set the tone for working in partnership with fellow businesses, neighborhood leaders and residents.

It’s about respect.
It’s about partnership.
It’s about fun.
Getting to Know Eureka Valley: Pink Triangle Park and Memorial
By Jack Keating

Eureka Valley has so many interesting points to explore, and one of them is the Pink Triangle Park and Memorial (PTPM) at the intersection of Castro/Market/17th Streets.

In 2000, a number of neighbors “took over” what had become a blighted triangle of public space. They planted roses, cleaned up the area, and embarked on a mission to create a lasting memorial to the homosexual victims of the Nazi regime, an estimated 15,000 of which were lost in concentration camps. These oppressed people were required to wear the Nazi’s symbol of gay shame - the pink triangle.

Through a partnership of the EVPA, the Mayor’s Neighborhood Beautification Fund, and the San Francisco Department of Public Works, the PTPM became the beautiful space it is today. Robert Bruce and Susan Martin designed the sculpture in the park. The landscape design by Jason Rowe includes the lawn, path, and trees we can all enjoy year round.

Since its dedication by Willie Brown in 2001, the park has been maintained regularly by several neighbors and EVPA members. This effort includes care of the 50+ roses, trees, plantings and lawn, as well as cleaning up garbage, graffiti and other improvements. Neighbors are always welcome to join in the maintenance of the park or simply to stop by and enjoy its beauty.

In 2008, PTPM became a 501(c)(3) non-profit, so donations are tax deductible. If you are interested in organizing fundraising efforts or public relations for the park, please come forward! The park is currently supported by donations from patrons as well as from funds from EVPA. A long-term goal is to make the park a self-supporting entity.

The PTPM is a unique memorial in the United States and one of the largest memorials to the gay/lesbian/transgender community in the world. It is truly a place to remember that the battle for human rights is an ever-evolving struggle, and one that requires awareness, regardless of one’s gender, ethnicity or walk of life.

PTPM, just steps from Castro, provides a beautiful place to reflect and honor the memories of gays lost to the Holocaust.

To make a gift to support PTPM, mail your tax-deductible donation payable to:
EVPA Foundation
PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114
BIG PLANS AND CHANGES AHEAD FOR GOLDEN GATE PARK

By Judith Hoyem, Chair
EVNA Planning and Land Use

Two major development projects are planned for the western end of Golden Gate Park:
1. Construction of a two-acre water treatment plant next to the Murphy Windmill
2. Conversion of the existing grass playing fields at Beach Chalet meadow into a soccer sports complex with 7 acres of artificial turf and night sports lighting.

PLANNED RPD PROJECTS WILL NEGATIVELY IMPACT OUR CITY TREASURE, GOLDEN GATE PARK

Two development projects are proposed that will have a major negative impact on the western end of Golden Gate Park:

1. Beach Chalet soccer fields project. These practice fields are located across the Great Highway from Ocean Beach, in a meadow surrounded by groves of trees and inhabited by wildlife. The project will change this meadow into a hard-edged, urban sports complex. It will remove over 7 acres of top soil and living grass and replace it with artificial turf (gravel base + plastic grass + tire waste). Additional parkland will be paved for other built elements. There will be 10 sets of 60-foot tall, multi-fixture sports lights - they are twice as high as the trees that screen the fields from Ocean Beach. These intense stadium lights will give off one quarter of a million watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year.

In addition to impacting Ocean Beach, night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Immediately south of the fields lies a construction storage yard; a water recycling plant is proposed for this parkland. This 40,000 square foot facility includes a chemical building, 30-foot blank concrete walls, 24-hour lighting, and security gating. Close to 300 park windbreak trees will either be cut down or threatened by these projects.

Combined, the two projects turn valuable parkland into a paved, lighted, developed site that cuts the rest of Golden Gate Park off from Ocean Beach and the coastline and is contrary to the 1998 Golden Gate Park Master Plan.

We support renovating the soccer fields with natural grass and using the remaining $11 million to renovate other fields. We have identified alternative sites outside of Golden Gate Park for the factory.

Golden Gate Park is a precious resource that we need to protect for kids today and for future generations.

For more information: www.goldengateparkpreservation.org and www.sfocceanedge.org

OUR KIDS DESERVE SAFE FIELDs FOR PLAY IN GOLDEN GATE PARK

San Francisco has a dramatic shortage of playfields for all The City kids who want to play ball. Up to 4,000 kids take to The City’s athletic fields to play sports on a given day. At the same time, the rising popularity of youth sports, particularly girls’ sports, has The City scrambling to find places for kids to play.

In 2004, an independent assessment of San Francisco’s recreation facilities showed that The City was in critical need of an additional 35 soccer fields just to meet the then-current demand.

The solution? In 2006, Rec/Park teamed up with the City Fields Foundation to address this challenge. Our partnership already has resulted in six renovated sports fields, with synthetic turf and lights, and added lights to one of The City’s existing synthetic fields – adding 66,000 more hours of playtime.

The renovation of four dilapidated soccer fields near the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park is currently undergoing environmental review by the San Francisco Planning Department. The draft EIR will be available for public comment upon publication.

By renovating these fields with synthetic turf and lights, we will:
• Add more than 9,000 hours of new playtime - tripling the fields’ use;
• Save nearly 6 million gallons of water each year;
• Eliminate the need for herbicides and pesticides;
• Prevent injuries that are due to abundant gopher holes;
• Rehabilitate the restroom, add bike racks, increase public safety of pick up and drop off, and make the site much more family-friendly with spectator seating, a small play structure and BBQ picnic areas.

The Beach Chalet soccer fields have been used for sports for more than 75 years and are some of the primary sports fields for San Francisco kids. We should do all we can to get more kids playing in our parks, and this is another step in the right direction.

For information, visit www.cityfieldsfoundation.org or www.sfrecpark.org
Neighborhood Courts
By District Attorney George Gascón

Recently, a young man tagged the side of a building with graffiti. The police cited him with a misdemeanor. The building owner was skeptical that anything would happen. After all, it’s not the first time his building had been tagged.

This time, however, the tagger got more than a citation. The police handed him an orange card that read: “Instant Hearing, You May Be Eligible for Neighborhood Court.” The young man decided to check it out. He went to the local police station, met with a neighborhood prosecutor and signed up for a neighborhood court hearing that same week. Instead of going to criminal court and face a conviction, he decided to go in front of a panel of residents and let them decide his fate.

At neighborhood court, the panelists—volunteers from the neighborhood trained in restorative justice—listened to the young man and discussed the impact of graffiti on the neighborhood. They talked about what store owners go through, how residents feel, and why street art is important to the young man. In the end, the panelists directed him to complete community service and pay the store owner for the repairs. He agreed to the directive and the store owner was repaid within weeks.

If this same case had made its way through the traditional justice system, it likely would have been many months before resolution and may not have been resolved at all. Not only is this expensive, it’s also ineffective.

From my decades of working in law enforcement, I know that it isn’t the severity of the punishment, but the assurance of a swift and certain consequence that changes behavior and deters repeat criminal conduct. By taking a restorative justice approach to crime through our Neighborhood Prosecution Program, we will be able to bring a more effective resolution to the kinds of offenses that frustrate residents, deteriorate neighborhoods, but will never be the top priority in our packed criminal courts.

Restorative justice is a concept that focuses on working in collaboration to repair the harm of crime on the community and the victims, and get the offender out of the cycle of crime. It does not mean giving offenders a pass. Instead, it brings those who have committed offenses together with those who have been harmed to swiftly mete out remedies that will lead to sustainable changes in behavior and better public safety outcomes.

To grow this effort, we need your help. Please sign up to volunteer and serve on a Neighborhood Court Panel. Help improve your neighborhood and promote justice and peace.
CORBETT SLOPE FUTURE COMMUNITY GARDEN!
By Gary Weiss, President
Corbett Heights Neighbors

The largest green space in Corbett Heights is almost 18,000 square feet and extends from Corbett all the way down to Market Street. With the exception of about 1,000 square feet on Corbett it is steeply sloping. There are 26 full-grown trees on the site, and there are incredible views of eastern San Francisco.

Until the early 1980’s the neighbors would have weeding and planting days, and also garage sales and barbecues at the site. After an accident and an increasing homeless problem the site was fenced off and has remained so ever since.

After years of attempts to save it from development, it finally looks as though it will be opened for us to use as a community garden. This has happened with the incredible help of the Neighborhood Parks Council, the SF Parks Trust and Supervisor Scott Wiener’s office.

KitchenGardenSF and the SF Permaculture Guild have worked with us in planning the paths and planting areas. We will begin having workdays at the site shortly, with plans to make the neighborhood proud - so watch for updates!

Support your local neighborhood association, advertise in Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association’s Eureka Newsletter!

EVNA recently began including advertising in our Bi-monthly newsletter, the Eureka! While we encourage our members to support all businesses in the Castro, please be sure to frequent those businesses who advertise with EVNA.

Eureka! is distributed to 2,200 addresses in the core Castro/Eureka Valley District, generally, Sanchez Street to the East, Liberty/20th Street to the South, Eureka Street to the West and 16th Street to the North and to civic, planning and community leaders across the city.

2011 Advertising Rates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ad size</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>1 issue</th>
<th>Half-year</th>
<th>Full-year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus Card</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/6 page</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4 page</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$270</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/3 page</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$333</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 page</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-page</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$810</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Alan Beach-Nelson at Alan.Beach@EVNA.org if you would like to advertise.
EVNA
PO Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114
Address service requested
www.evna.org

President’s Column
Alan Beach-Nelson

JULY 27 MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Join us at Castro/EVNA’s bimonthly membership meeting
featuring discussions on:

• Pink Saturday Re-cap - Sister Sharin’ Dipity of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Greggy Carey of Castro Community on Patrol will join us for a re-cap. As many may have noticed, the SFPD beefed up patrols the entire week before and there was well coordinated plan for the evening that resulted in a relatively smooth event.

• Neighborhood Courts - Rebecca Prozan from the new Neighborhood Courts will speak about this innovative program. See Page 6.

• Big Changes at Golden Gate Park - There are Big Changes in the works for the western edge of Golden Gate Park. Hear from Park and Rec on their vision and plans, and a different take on plans from SF Ocean. See page 5.

• SF Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee - Pedestrian safety has long been a concern in Eureka Valley, most notably at Noe, 16th and Market Streets. Learn about efforts to make our pedestrian experience safer from EVNA member Jay Lee. See page 1.

HOT TOPICS:

• Mayoral Candidate Forum, Monday, August 8, 2011, 7–9:30pm, Castro Theatre. Doors open at 6:30pm. Don’t miss what is sure to be a lively forum featuring 9 of the top mayoral candidates. Moderated by Liam Mayclem, Host, KPIX Eye on the Bay.

• Castro Street Fair, Sunday, October 2 - EVNA is again a beneficiary of the Castro Street Fair. This is one of our largest sources of funding and helps us keep our memberships fees low. Last year our volunteers earned a rate of nearly $30 per hour for EVNA! If you are interested in volunteering for two hours or more, please contact Rob Cox at Rob.Cox@evna.org and Alan.Beach@EVNA.org with your name and contact info.