SAN FRANCISCO
This change will also serve to free to those who may have been drinking. a bit by making food readily available community and temper the festivities engage a diverse cross section of our It is our hope that this change will Castro with an array of food trucks. replacing the large stage installation will find this year is that we will be SFPD. Once again the event is dry. perimeter in coordination with the staffi ng as well as volunteer staffi ng last year's successes. We will have the same level of professional security staffing as well as volunteer staffing as last year to engage the crowd and monitor both the footprint and the perimeter in coordination with the SFPD. Once again the event is dry.

The most significant change you will find this year is that we will be replacing the large stage installation at the intersection of Market and Castro with an array of food trucks. It is our hope that this change will engage a diverse cross section of our community and temper the festivities a bit by making food readily available to those who may have been drinking. This change will also serve to free up Market St. to welcome the Dyke March and their sound truck as they join the festivities. We are actively communicating this significant change through local media and social networks to better manage people’s expectations of the event.

In addition to the Dyke March sound truck we will continue to have music setups throughout the event as we have in years past. The music systems at Castro at 19th, Castro Theater Parking Lot, Castro at 18th, Magnet, and Castro Country Club, will be comparable to the systems at these locations in the past. The goal of this is to distribute the crowd more evenly throughout the event. None of the sound systems will be of the scale of recent years on Market St.

As we continue our preparations for this year’s event, we encourage you to share with us any feedback you may have. We also would like to encourage you to participate in the event, whether it is as a volunteer or simply being present during the event as friends and neighbors. Our vision for Pink Saturday is one of a neighborhood block party at which we welcome friends and family. Together let’s define the event as a celebration for the community by the community.


Email selmasoul@thesisters.org with Pink Saturday questions and feedback.

CASTRO COMMUNITY ON PATROL
By Ken Craig, Vice Chair;
Castro Community on Patrol

CASTRO COMMUNITY ON PATROL (CCOP) has been patrolling the Castro and Duboce Triangle neighborhoods for over six years now. Formed at the height of some highly publicized assaults in late 2006, the walking volunteer safety patrol has become an integral part of the safety and security fabric of the neighborhood. Working closely with the SFPD, the Patrol Special Police, business and community groups in the area and with the City’s Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) non-profit crime prevention organization, they provide a vital set of eyes and ears on our streets throughout the week and at special events hosted within the community.

Initially conceived as simply a volunteer walking patrol to cover Friday and Saturday evenings, CCOP has broadened its remit to provide safety and security information throughout the year, distribution of weekly Crime Activity Reports through its partner Community Patrol USA organization, and safety volunteers for a number of large community events including Harvey Milk Day, Castro Street Fair, AIDS Emergency Fund holiday dinner and of course, Pink Saturday.

CCOP’s role during Pink Saturday has changed over the years, from patrolling the exterior of the event to leading groups of volunteer safety monitors within the event footprint itself in the last two years. This will be our role again this year, in cooperation with the Sisters, SFPD, Patrol Special Police and HighRock Security.

continued on page 4
Castro Ambassadors Welcome Tourists

Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District Launches Summer 2012 Castro Ambassadors Program

Castro Ambassadors, volunteers who provide directions, sightseeing tips, and a warm welcome to the Castro, are looking for friendly, helpful people to join them for the 2012 summer tourist season.

The Ambassador Program, organized and funded by the Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District (Castro CBD), assisted 6000 visitors from around the world last summer during its pilot run, and received praise from grateful visitors and neighborhood residents alike. “You fell like an angel from heaven!” an Italian tourist told Ambassador Mari Olund when she offered help.

The focus of the program is to help visitors find their way and feel welcome in the community. Ambassadors receive training in greeting visitors, street safety, and providing information about the area’s amenities and history. Issued photo ID badges, “Castro Ambassador” jackets, and satchels full of tourist information, the volunteers are deployed in the central business district throughout the week from June through October.

“The Castro Ambassadors are a fun and exciting way for volunteers to share their love for the neighborhood with tourists, meet people, and have fun,” stated Andrea Aiello, Executive Director, Castro CBD, adding “it is also a great way for people to give back to the community.”

The volunteer Castro Ambassadors is accepting new applications for the 2012 season. Contact the Castro CBD via their website at http://castrocbd.org/content/ambassador-program to complete an application online, or call Andrea Aiello at 415-500-1181.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, ADVERTISE IN CASTRO/EVNA’S NEWSLETTER!

Eureka! is distributed to 2,000 addresses in Castro/Eureka Valley; generally, Sanchez to the East, Liberty/20th to the South, Eureka to the West and 16th to the North and to civic, planning and community leaders across the city.

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We will form safety teams of four to six community volunteers who will be led by one or two CCOP Patrollers. Each team will be assigned to a specific sector within the overall event footprint and they will be provided a two-way radio for communication with our CCOP control center. The teams will patrol throughout their sector in bright t-shirts and safety vests to assist event attendees and will report any situations that require professional assistance via radio.

While many people perceive our general patrolling function outside of special events such as Pink Saturday as “breaking up fights and making arrests” the truth is we respond to far more medical emergencies than assaults and we don’t make arrests – as that is best handled by the professionals. In our six years of patrolling we have undoubtedly saved a few lives and prevented more serious injury to persons in need than we have called on police to make an arrest. Of course, we’ll do that when needed, but we often find our mere presence resolves many issues peacefully without the need for arrests to be made.

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Chief Ken Craig with Castro Community On Patrol volunteers at Officer Jane Warner Plaque dedication
Neighbors’ Faves!

Neighbors share some of their favorite things and places in the Castro/Eureka Valley.
To submit your Fave, e-mail evna.org

This month Rob Cox shares some of his Faves!

**Poesia**
The best Italian restaurant in San Francisco that no one knows about. This small space on 18th Street serves authentic Calabrian dishes right from the toe of Italy. Francesco and the staff treat you like family and are genuinely happy to serve you.

**Cliff’s**
This is an obvious choice. But I can always find what I need and if they don’t have it I am always shocked! Ernie and Terry hire the greatest people who are always ready to help.

**Edel**
Edel Custom Tailor is a throwback to the days of fine needle work. From basic alterations to expert tailoring I am always happy with Edel’s work. The shop is across from Mollie Stones.

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**Joseph Hittinger**
415.937.8068
joseph@vanguardsf.com
Lic. #01876241

*SAV E THE DATE!
MAY 22 TO SEE “MILK” AND PRESERVE THE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM AT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!*

By Liz James, Eureka Valley Resident

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, at 19th and Collingwood Streets across from Collingwood Park, is one of about 40 public elementary schools in San Francisco. It started life as Douglass Elementary, but on June 25, 1996, San Francisco Unified School District’s Board of Education voted to rename the school to Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy under its then principal, Sandy Leigh. About 250 students attend Kindergarten to 5th grade at the school.

One of the most important ways that the school encourages collaboration and mutual support is with its Families program. Students are assigned to a teacher’s “family” and once a month they work with their family members on projects outside of the normal curriculum. Each family is made up of students from all grades, so that kids have a chance to be supported by older kids, and be a source of support for younger kids as they grow themselves. We also try to meet as a community each morning before school to share news and encouragement before students start their day.

Like most other schools in the district, Harvey Milk has experienced budget cuts in recent years. Things most adults took for granted when they were students, like a school nurse, physical education teacher, and art teacher have been virtually eliminated from the school. There is no technical support to maintain our network of rapidly aging computers. Equipment for science projects, library books, school supplies, all have been cut from the budget. No student should have to worry about whether or not they will have books or pencils or tissue or snacks, or whether or not there is an adult they trust when they need to say, “something’s not right.” Teachers and staff are making do the best they can, but in the long run we know it’s not fair to leave it all to them.

Families and the community have stepped up to fill some of these gaps. We are grateful to have dedicated staff who work hard to provide what Sandy Leigh called “our students’ seamless day.” The community includes two groups of parents and faculty who are working really hard to fund activities at school, the Parent-Faculty Club (PFC) and Friends of Harvey Milk (FOHM).

The Parent-Faculty Club (PFC) recently hosted an auction and carnival on a sunny Saturday, made some money and had a lot of fun. The PFC also presents the semi-annual drag shows featuring professional drag artists including our hostess, Ivy Drip.

Continued on page 7
Upper Market Development Round-Up

NOTE: The following report was prepared by the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association and published in their April-May 2012 newsletter. It is reprinted here with their permission. Castro/EVNA and DTNA are working closely together to provide community input on these projects. To become involved, please join your neighborhood association, attend the meetings, and offer your thoughts and services.

Over 900 units of housing are either fully approved or in the approvals process for the Upper Market corridor between Octavia and Castro. Here is an updated round-up report on the various developments “in play” for the Upper Market area.

There’s still lots of action to be taken through the development “entitlements” process on these projects — the critical development design reviews, community benefits negotiations, and city approvals that establish the end development “product” the community will get once these projects are actually constructed.

Arco site (376 Castro x Market): status = Hot
A 24-unit, 65 foot (six story) project in the entitlement process.

A coalition from DTNA, the Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association (EVNA), Castro Area Planning and Action (CAPA), and the Castro Community Benefits District (CBD) has been meeting over the last couple of months to work out a deal on a series of design issues, and to ensure neighborhood benefits in connection with the proposed development on the current RC gas station site.

As of this writing, thanks to the hard work of all the team members, especially EVNA President Alan Beach-Nelson, the coalition is close to an agreement with the project sponsor and other developers. The agreement would lock in improvements to the design agreed upon by the lead project architect and the architects on our team. It would ensure on-site affordable housing units. It would also provide for a permanent office and home for the Castro CBD, along with a meeting space for community organizations.

In addition, a green area, benches, wayfinders, and other streetscape improvements would be installed by the developer in concert with their work on the site. The developers have also agreed to post design drawings on a website so the community can see what the building will look like.

Thanks go to not only the team members, but to Supervisor Scott Weiner, who hosted a meeting of the interested parties following the coalition’s appeal, last year, of the negative declaration of the need for an Environmental Review, an appeal filed to insure that design, community benefits, and affordable housing issues are addressed prior to the project receiving its approvals from the Planning Commission. More details here next time, and on the 376 Castro website.

76 Station site (Market x 15th): status = Hot
This 80-unit, 65 foot high (six story) project is in the pre-development stage, and the sponsor has been meeting with DTNA and other community organizations the past two months. DTNA is coordinating with Sharon Street Neighbors, EVNA, CAPA and the CBD in detailed review of design issues and feedback to the project architect. Additional issues around pedestrian safety and public realm improvements, ground floor retail uses, and affordable housing will be sorted out with the project sponsor in the coming months.

Hole-in-the-ground (2299 Market x Noe): status = Hot
This 18-unit, 50 foot high (five story) project was entitled in 2010 and started construction this past January. The developer will also soon begin detailed planning for pedestrian safety public improvements along the Market/16th/Noe intersection frontages, and specifics on the project’s affordable housing provisions are also to be sorted out. Retail uses for the 5,000 square foot ground floor space are being explored by the project sponsor and are to be discussed with the community.

“Leticia’s” site (2200 Market x Sanchez): status = Hot
This 22-unit, 55 foot high (five story) project was entitled in 2008. Demolition permit issued on 3/14 and they are ready to pull building permits.
Pit site at LGBT Center (1844 Market): status = Hot
This 114-unit, 85 foot high (eight story) project was entitled in 2007 and has been sold at least twice since then. It had been on hold, but the Chronicle reported 3/23 that construction will start for real in April.

S & C Ford site (2001 Market x Dolores): status = Warm
This 85-unit, 85 foot high (eight story) project with ground floor Whole Foods Market was entitled in 2010. Building permits have been applied for and we expect that construction will begin this year, perhaps before summer. The project sponsor has reiterated to Supervisor Wiener’s office its commitment to follow through on dedication of a nearby site for affordable housing in lieu of providing affordable units in the 2001 Market project itself. This was a key provision in gaining DTNA support for the project last year. The project sponsor is also finalizing a proposal to the Planning Commission for pedestrian safety improvements around the site.

CPMC Davies expansion (Noe x Duboce): status = Warm
This 50,000 square foot, six-story medical office building on Noe Street was proposed in 2007 but never entitled. CPMC has resubmitted the proposal and approval hearings could happen by the end of the year. DTNA, LHMNA, EVNA, and CAPA are actively reviewing conditions of approval and the community benefits program for the project.

UC Extension site (55 Laguna x Market): status = Warm
This 350-unit project, along with a 110-unit senior affordable project for Open House, was entitled in 2008. DTNA, HVNA, and LHMNA recently succeeded in protecting the 50 on-site below-market-rate units that were part of the original 55 Laguna approvals when there was talk of eliminating those units.

Open House and their development partner Mercy Housing are applying for a “transit oriented affordable housing” loan to fund the land lease payment to University of California and proceed into pre-development phase of that project. The master development of the remainder of the 2-block 55 Laguna site is still going through final detailed site planning and approvals.

Blockbuster site (160 Church Street): status = Simmering
This site is on the market and is a prime opportunity for housing development. Ideally DTNA would like to see it become an affordable housing or mixed-income development.

Gold’s Gym site (2301 Market x Noe): status = Simmering
This 16-unit, 55 foot (five story) project is still in pre-development stages with no formal application filed with the city.

76 Station site (1960 Market x Buchanan): status = Simmering
This 118-unit, 85 foot (eight story) project was entitled in 2008. Progress toward applying for building permits is unknown.

Sullivan Funeral Home site (2254 Market): status = Simmering
This site is on the market, and is a prime opportunity for housing development.

“A tavola non si invecchia mai...”
A Look Back
By Mike Zelinsky, Contributor

Back in the mid 50s, my friend, the late Terry Sullivan, was a student at USF. He was rattling up the 17th St. hill in his 1946 Ford coupe, a long plume of oil smoke following the ratty roar of his rusted out mufflers.

At the top of the hill, he was pulled over by a motorcycle patrolman from the SFPD. “What’s wrong, Officer?” he asked, politely. “You were speeding, kid. I clocked you at 45 going up 17th St.” Terry got out of his jalopy and handed the keys to the cop, saying, “Here! You can have this car if you can get up to 30 going up that hill!” The cop laughed, climbed on his bike and motored away.

Terry graduated from USF and became a respected member of the San Francisco Police Department, retaining his sense of humor throughout his career.

SYMBOLS OF PRIDE AND PREJUDICE
By Dan Risman Jones, EVNA Boardmember

“We needed a logo, a symbol. We needed a positive image that could unite us,” Gilbert Baker reminisces on the words of Harvey Milk, affectionately known as the Mayor of Castro Street. The Rainbow Flag and the Pink Triangle are now known the world over as universal symbols of the Gay Community. Yet they each have a special history tied forever to our neighborhood.

The Pink Triangle was a symbol forced upon gay men during the Nazi Regime. In the same way that many other minorities were targeted, so too were gay men so persecuted during WWII. In the 1970s, the Pink Triangle was reclaimed by the gay movement as an act of empowerment. Although it became widely recognized, its acceptance was limited by its sordid origins.

When Milk entered the political scene, he wanted a symbol that he would be proud to stand behind. He entrusted this task to his friend Gilbert Baker, who was famous both for his dressmaking skill and the banners he made for the LGBT activist movement in San Francisco. Baker envisioned a symbol that could express the diversity inside the gay rights movement and so the Rainbow Flag was born.

In June 1978, the Rainbow Flag, in its original design with eight colors, was first raised at Civic Center during Gay Pride. So many requests poured in for more flags that Gilbert ran out of hot pink; he improvised by creating a second design, the commercially available six-color flag, that could be quickly replicated for the growing movement.

While the Rainbow Flag steadily grew in popularity in the years after its San Francisco debut, it was at New York City’s 25th Anniversary of the Stone Wall Riots that Baker’s extraordinary mile-long version of the Rainbow Flag captured worldwide attention. After the parade the flag was cut up and sent with activists to cities around the globe. In the following years, these flag pieces were used in local parades, marking the beginning of the international recognition of our locally created symbol.

Today, just steps away from where Castro’s Rainbow Flag prominently flies over its birthplace is the less conspicuous Pink Triangle Park. Dedicated in 2003, Pink Triangle Park stands as a memorial to its own darker history. 15 granite columns stand as a stark memory to the estimated 15,000 gay men killed during Nazi Germany. The 15 columns themselves stand in a triangular pattern as pink quartz surrounds their base and a pink triangle is inlaid on each pillar just as the badges were placed on the men in Germany. Pink Triangle Park was the third of its kind worldwide (after similar parks in Amsterdam and Sydney) and remains the sole memorial of the Pink Triangle in the Western Hemisphere.

Continued next page
Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association  May-June 2012 Page  9

We also have a non-profit organization that was formed to raise money for our before- and after-school program, Friends of Harvey Milk. On Tuesday, May 22, FOHM will be co-hosting a showing of the feature film “Milk” at the Castro Theater. Please join Cleve Jones and other special guests to celebrate Harvey’s birthday and help preserve programs for our kids. All proceeds benefit Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy’s all-inclusive after school program, plus science and arts and nutrition and literacy and civil rights education programs for all of the students at the school.

VIP ($50) and regular tickets ($15) are available online at http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/233452 or at the Human Rights Campaign store, 575 Castro Street for the movie showing Tuesday, May 22, 2012; Doors open at 6:00 pm, Program starts at 7:30 pm. VIP tickets include pre-show catered appetizers and drinks at a reception with Mr. Jones and other special guests on the mezzanine level plus reserved seating on the main level.

Liz Janes is a 20+year Castro resident and an HMCRA parent. For information about the event, visit www.Harveymilk.com. Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy is a public elementary school in San Francisco. Friends of Harvey Milk is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that raises funds solely for the benefit of the school.

Thank you for shopping Mollie Stone’s!

As a small, local business we’d like to thank you for shopping at Mollie Stone’s Markets, your neighborhood food store. Our roots are deep within our community, and we appreciate your choice to support a community-based business such as ours.

Visit www.molliestones.com for more information and store locations.

Pride and Prejudice

Continued from page 8

Here in Eureka Valley, the two symbols both juxtapose and complement each other. Symbolically one corner of the triangle points towards the more flamboyant Rainbow Flag. The image of the bright and colorful Rainbow Flag waving above the Castro graces postcards, mugs and souvenir t-shirts found throughout the world. Steps away, between the busy streets of Market and 17th, the unassuming Pink Triangle Park rises from the earth and stands quietly in memorial of the darker history of this pride symbol.

Baker’s success in creating a new unifying gay pride symbol surprised even himself. Though the flag quickly turned into the more prominent of the two, the Pink Triangle remains an important pride symbol of Gay history. These two symbols, one imported and reclaimed from the darker past and the other a celebrated Castro native that has gone global, reflect our neighborhood’s importance in the ongoing struggle for equal rights and its role as a beacon for tolerance the world over.

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President’s Column
Alan Beach-Nelson
May 23 MEETING
- Pink Saturday is right around the corner, join us at EVNA’s bimonthly membership meeting to hear from Sister Selma Soul, of The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, who manages the event along with Sgt. Charles Limbert, from Mission Station and Ken Craig, Castro Community on Patrol, to learn of their plans to ensure that it remains a party for and by the community.

HOT TOPICS AROUND THE ‘HOOD

376 Castro - The neighborhood coalition has hit a bump with the project sponsor on community benefits, specifically the permanent community serving space planned for a future Castro Visitor’s Center. The coalition hopes the issues can be resolved quickly.

Small Business Week - May 14 thru 19 is Small Business Week in San Francisco. It is packed every day, all week with events, free small business conferences, classes and more. Visit www.SFSmallBusinessWeek.com for a full schedule of events.

MUMC’s Annual Sidewalk Sale - Saturday May 19 throughout The Castro. A perfect day to get out and support our local, community businesses.

Third Annual Harvey Milk Day at Harvey Milk Plaza - Saturday May 19, 1:00 pm with a rededication of Harvey’s re-installed memorial plaque, followed by a march down Castro Street to the site of Harvey’s Camera Store. Also, in celebration of Harvey Milk Day on Harvey’s birthday, May 22 (Tuesday), the Castro Theatre will host a special showing of the movie “MILK” as a fund-raiser for Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

International Design Competition for Castro’s Rainbow Honor Walk Ends July 15, (www.rainbowhonorwalk.org) - A tribute to historic LGBT figures, the first 20 names have been announced. Four finalists will be selected by a jury comprised of curators from San Francisco’s leading cultural institutions plus LGBT leaders and a member of the SF Arts Commission’s Civic Design Committee. The winning submission will receive an honorarium of $1000. There is no fee for submission.