Behind the Secondhand Smoke
“Smoke Screen”
By Jane Aceituno; Advocate, Freedom From Tobacco

Now is the time to enforce secondhand smoke laws in our community.

I know from experience that secondhand smoke is an incredible hazard. Both of my parents smoked while I grew up - in the house, around us kids outside of the house, in the car - everywhere. My mother smoked through all of her pregnancies - the worst secondhand exposure possible.

The repercussions were serious. All of my siblings became smokers and half of them still smoke now. My parents left a legacy of addiction. I am afraid that my siblings will die like my grandfather who succumbed to emphysema after decades of smoking.

As a lesbian, I am also afraid for the LGBT community, which smokes twice as much as the general population.

Many people believe secondhand smoke exposure is not a serious problem. Some say that smokers should consider smoking a right and other people should simply walk away from smokers when they light up. Some people believe that secondhand smoking laws are bad for business.

These arguments don’t get the facts or priorities straight.

A useful comparison is to drinking and driving, which used to be taken far less seriously than it is today. It took the activism of groups like Mothers Against Drunk Driving to raise our consciousness about that issue.

Similarly, we need to recognize secondhand smoke exposure as the deadly hazard that it is. Secondhand smoke kills 53,000 people a year in the U.S alone. The Surgeon General has declared that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

Freedom From Tobacco recently partnered with UCSF to measure the air quality on several of the backyard bar patios in the Castro and other parts of the city. We discovered that outdoor spaces with walls and 50% or more ceiling coverage had dangerously high levels of pollutants. Many studies worldwide have found comparable results in outdoor settings.

Employees of these bars are forced to make a choice no one should ever have to make - whether to continue to work in a toxic environment or or quit their jobs and lose their livelihood. For these workers, walking away from secondhand smoke is not an easy option.

(Cont on page 7)
LIVE IN THE CASTRO
Join Castro/Upper market CBD this summer for some great live performances from Jump Swing music Sunday, July 15th to Lit-Quake on Saturday, October 6th. All performances start at 1:00 and will be held at Jane Warner Plaza, Castro and Market Streets.

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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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.
I would like to thank you all for your warm reception and support. I feel lucky to be surrounded by so many people who care so passionately about the success of their neighborhood. Steve has done an amazing job over the last five years of representing and growing MUMC membership and presence at City Hall. I have some very big shoes to fill. I would also like to thank last years Board for all the hard work they did to make sure everyone knows that the Castro is the place to Eat, Drink, Shop & Stay! I look forward to continuing this work with our newly elected Board. I would also like to thank Scott Weiner for his dedication to our community. We are a rare merchant’s organization which is lucky to have its district supervisor so involved and responsive to our needs.

As many of you know, I was born and raised in the Castro. I attended school at Douglas (now Harvey Milk), Hoover & Lowell. I studied Psychology at San Diego State University. After graduating in 1997 I moved back home and have been working in my family’s business, Cliff’s Variety, ever since. In 2002 I married my husband, Rich, who can be found at the store working side by side with my dad. I am quite sure they are up to no good. My stepdaughter, Ceci, graduated from high-school in June. We are very proud of her. She is now working in the store part-time and attending Berkeley City College. My daughter Camille is about to be a 4th grader at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. Camille has plans on becoming President so she can tell people to quit smoking, get rid of styrofoam and to not discriminate. I hold Camille personally responsible for my inability to retain people’s names, for which I will apologize upfront.

I look forward with a lot of excitement and a little bit of fear to serving our community as President of MUMC this year.

Terry Asten Bennett, President, Merchants of Upper Market Street

“New Face” from page 1

Should these spaces be limited in size to better serve the neighborhood needs? The mayor recently held meetings with the small business community to better understand their needs and to understand how to help them navigate through the City process. If the process were made easier, we could benefit from more small businesses. But we need to support small businesses along with the formula retail.

We need to support the small businesses that make sense for our neighborhood. They help to create the character and quality of life we enjoy.

The corner of 15th St., Market and Sanchez is now in danger of becoming a corner with four formula retailers. It soon might appear more suburban than urban.

Supervisor Wiener’s latest report from the office of Economic Analysis shows that restaurants account for 80% of customer spending, $3.2 billion, in the entertainment industry in San Francisco. And restaurants fuel growth in urban neighborhoods. They often provide a hub in the community. Planning’s criteria for a Conditional Use permit for a restaurant in the Upper Market and Castro is that no more than 20% of storefronts should be bars or restaurants, so the character of the neighborhood does not tip like it did in North Beach, where it is more like 50%.

Perhaps the Planning Department needs to consider codifying the same requirements on formula retail. If the City doesn’t want bars and restaurants overtaking our commercial spaces, why should billion dollar corporations pushing coffee shops, banks, and drugstores be allowed to dominate the commercial landscape?

We are a community of forward-thinking residents living in a highly desirable neighborhood. Upper Market needs a business model anchored with a core of solid businesses that contribute to a vibrant community of workers and residents. Let our neighborhood best reflect the model urban lifestyle of local services, a transit-rich corridor, and environmentally-friendly neighbors. What will be the spark that creates a new identifier along with the new residences?

Originally published in the Duboce Triangle Newsletter, reprinted with permission of the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association.

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association
July - August 2012
Page 4
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 Tim Eicher shares some of his Faves!

Castro Theater

Between the Frameline LGBT Film Festival and all of the classic films I’ve seen there, the Castro Theater sometimes feels like a second home. I never get tired of the beautiful architecture and the amazing organ.

Dancing Pig

A new addition to the neighborhood, the Dancing Pig offers great BBQ with a San Francisco twist - and with a Texan partner I have to love BBQ. Try eating on the lush back patio for a special treat. The Brisket and Hearts on Fire salad are my favorite menu items.

Best In Show

My babies have all the best toys and treats, thanks to Best In Show.

Hot Cookie

Hot Cookies and cute red underwear. What’s not to love?

SFPD MISSION STATION NEWS:

The San Francisco Police Department’s Mission Station is responsible for covering the Eureka Valley neighborhood. They have their own excellent website: www.missionstation.org. Under “Captain’s News” is a daily log of “Notable Incidents,” listed below. Also Captain Robert Moser writes an occasional article for this section.

“Greetings,

“This week I would like to highlight the efforts of Mission Station Officers to reduce gun violence. In the past two weeks Mission Officers have seized seven firearms from individuals during street encounters and while on calls for service. Just this week, Officer Carl Uber was on patrol in the area of 24th and Shotwell Streets when he saw several known gang members standing on the sidewalk drinking alcoholic beverages. When Officer Uber exited his vehicle, one of the suspects took off running. Officer Uber gave chase and the suspect attempted to discard a backpack he was holding. Officer Uber was able to take the suspect and the backpack into custody. Upon searching the backpack, Officer Uber located a fully loaded revolver.

“Just last night Officers Chris Servat and Adam Kujath were in the area of 25th and Vermont when they saw two suspects sitting in a vehicle smoking narcotics. Officers Servat and Kujath contacted the suspects and began an investigation. During their investigation, Officers Servat and Kujath seized a loaded revolver from the driver’s front waistband. They then seized an additional loaded semi-automatic pistol from the back seat of the vehicle.

“The Mission district has seen a spike in auto thefts during the past several weeks. The thefts have occurred at various locations throughout the district and the thieves have been mostly targeting the Castro and other parts of the Mission. The arrests were for drunken disorderly conduct.

“The Mission District enjoyed another Sunday Streets which saw no arrests and as always was an outstanding event enjoyed by thousands of people both locally and visitors alike.

“Patrol Officers in the last two weeks have been extremely busy seizing seven guns off the streets and sizable amounts of narcotics.

“Patrol Officers are working hard to curb the increase in stolen vehicles in the last two weeks as data shows a spike in this area.”
NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION REACHES AGREEMENT ON 376 CASTRO PROJECT
By Alan Beach-Nelson, EVNA President

For nearly a year and a half, EVNA has been working with the project sponsor of a proposed 65-foot tall mixed use development at 376 Castro (the RC Gas Station) - see March, May, and September 2011, and March 2012 issues of Castro/EVNA’s newsletter, Eureka! for details.

In order to ensure that as many voices as possible were heard and that the needs of the community were met, EVNA formed a coalition with Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District (CBD), Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA), and Castro Area Planning + Action (CAPA).

Over the past 7 months, prompted by District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener’s leadership, the coalition and the project sponsor’s team met extensively to resolve numerous concerns we had with the project. These meetings have been productive with both sides negotiating and reaching compromise.

The coalition have been impressed with the project’s sponsors, represented by Joe Tierney and Eileen Campbell and their architect Mitchell Benjamin, and their clear commitment to working with the coalition to resolve our concerns. While we fully recognize that we cannot and did not address everyone’s concerns, the coalition and the project sponsor feel confident that we have come to an agreement on a project that will add to the fabric of the neighborhood. It is anticipated that the additional housing, including onsite affordable housing, retail space and streetscape improvements will bring positive improvements to the district. Moreover, the project sponsor’s contribution of a 450 square-foot storefront community space, in the form of a 20-year lease, renewable in 10-year increments, will serve as an additional space for neighborhood groups to meet and hopefully will feature a Visitor’s Center sponsored by the Castro CBD.

This is an important corner for the Castro neighborhood. Situated at the crossroads of Castro and Market streets, this building will become an important landmark for the neighborhood, visually putting boundaries on the district and helping to define the commercial corridor.

Many members of our community were involved with this process. While we would like to recognize and thank all involved, EVNA and the entire coalition would especially like to thank Rafael Mandelman and Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP, for their invaluable guidance and leadership in developing the best agreements possible.

To view the complete agreements between the neighborhood coalition and 376 Castro LLC, please visit www.EVNA.org.
Some people may say that bars will lose revenue by protecting their workers. In fact, enforcing secondhand smoke laws is actually good for business. Every rigorous, scientifically conducted study has shown that bars and restaurants do not suffer financially from secondhand smoke laws, and some make more money after going smoke-free.

Freedom From Tobacco is urging the SF Department of Public Health to enforce existing laws, including the requirement that backyard bar patios cannot allow smoking areas with a ceiling. To sign on to our letter to DPH, please visit our website at www.fftsf.org.

Our society made drunk driving laws a priority over time. The time is now to protect ourselves from secondhand smoke. No one has the right to harm other people with their habits. I know my parents regret smoking around us. They might have felt more compelled to quit smoking if society made it harder for them to smoke. We need to get past the “smoke screen” presented by secondhand smoke naysayers and enforce secondhand smoke laws. We all deserve it.

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“A tavola non si invecchia mai...”
Miller-Joost House (3224 Market Street) by Gary Weiss, with much of the content by Mae Silver and Catherine G. Tripp

The Miller-Joost House, built in 1867 and considered to be the oldest house on Twin Peaks, is San Francisco Landmark #79. For most of the last century it was painted bubblegum pink - a choice made by Mrs. Joost who was impressed with the brightly colored houses she saw during a vacation in Greece and decided to paint hers hot pink, much to her husband’s dismay. The property address before Market Street was cut was 104 Falcon Street. The area surrounding the house was mostly farmland at the time. The land used to slope gently downhill but the Market Street cut created a high retaining wall directly in front of the house.

The house is named after two German immigrants, Adam Miller and Behrend Joost. Miller, who ran a milk ranch on Old Corbett Road, was the builder of the house. Joost married Miller’s daughter Anna in 1874 and moved into the house, which he then purchased.

Behrend was 15 when he arrived in San Francisco in 1857. Three other brothers also came to California to find their fortune. One became a goldminer; another had a grocery store where Behrend became a salesperson. In two years time Behrend saved $1000, and in 1859 he opened his own grocery store at 11th and Mission. As his businesses improved and expanded he lived frugally and invested all of his profits in local real estate.

His focus changed from groceries to hardware, and then eventually he became the principal organizer of the California Dredging Company, which was involved early on in building the Panama Canal. After 14 months of work, he took his $850,000 own vast portions of those lands.

Besides construction, groceries and real estate, he opened a bank and trust company and eventually started the Mountain Spring Water Company which had its origin at Corbett and Clayton. There was a surface spring there where water was sold by the cup or bucket. A wooden bridge across Corbett on Clayton made the road, which was muddied by the spring, much more passable.

Two of the Joost brothers - Isaac and Behrend - owned property far beyond Twin Peaks. They had purchased a vast portion of the Mexican land grant at the time as Rancho San Miguel which, at 4,444 acres - one-sixth of San Francisco - included Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Mount Davidson, Ingleside Terrace, Twin Peaks, and most of Noe Valley, Ocean View, Forest Hill and the Outer Mission. The rancho was originally deeded to Jose de Jesus Noe in 1845, but he was forced to sell it soon afterwards.

The Miller-Joost house is situated on half an acre, and the property also includes a guest cottage, wash house and a potting shed. It was sold a couple of years ago to a South Bay couple. For the first time since it was built the residents are not descendants of the original owners. The famous “Pink Poodle House” is now gray.
Supporting Our LGBT Vets - 30 years of Eureka Valley History
By Dan Risman Jones

A major milestone in the fight for equal rights for Gays in the Military was recently reached with the end of the “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” policy. For those new to the movement, it would seem that this political battle occurred largely in the Nation’s Capital. However, the importance of our neighborhood in this 30-some-year-old civil rights struggle cannot be overlooked. In particular, a former Castro resident, Leonard Matlovich, was a noted pioneer.

Despite having earned both a Bronze star and a Purple Heart, Leonard was dishonorably discharged from the Air Force in 1975 due to his sexual orientation. Leonard, as a poster child for LGBT equality in the military, came into the national spotlight when he landed on the cover of Time Magazine in 1975. In March 1979, after the premature end of his military career, he moved to 4096 18th Street, at the corner of Castro Street. From there, he spearheaded the fight for equality in the Air Force. In November 1979 he ran for City Supervisor to fill the seat left vacant by the late Harvey Milk (a former Gay serviceman himself) but was defeated due to his conservative viewpoints. Though his contributions made a huge impact, his time in the movement was cut short. Leonard’s attention soon turned to the fight against AIDS after contracting the disease himself. He passed away from the disease in 1988. Twenty years later at his former residence, a plaque was dedicated to his memory and his contributions to the fight for LGBT equality in the military.

In a neighborhood that contributed so greatly to the beginning of the movement it is inspiring to hear about the LGBT Veteran’s Memorial that is gaining support in the neighborhood and city. The LGBT Veteran’s Memorial is set to be constructed in a little-used portion of Harvey Milk’s Plaza. John Caldera, a local Vet and president of the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission has been garnering support for his project. If this memorial comes to fruition, it will be the country’s fourth such memorial.

As an almost daily pedestrian along 18th Street, I’m ashamed to say I have never taken notice of the plaque modestly affixed to the exterior of the corner apartment building. As a remembrance to a man who fought so hard and lost so much, it is fitting for him to be singled out and remembered for his contribution via the plaque. Leonard Matlovich would no doubt be proud to know that, after 30 years of fighting the discrimination experienced by countless military personal, he and his fellow LGBT veterans will forever be remembered for their contribution to our country with the creation of a memorial in the neighborhood where he once lived.

The timing of this is no doubt thanks to the overturn of Don’t Ask Don’t Tell. It means that the quote written upon Leonard Matlovich’s plaque will describe a form of discrimination which can no longer be repeated. His epitaph and plaque read “When I was in the military, they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one.” Thanks to the work of this social trailblazer and the countless men and women who have taken up the fight since then, discrimination of this type will only be found in plaques and memorials. Our neighborhood can be proud of this pioneer, as well as its continued support to LGBT veterans nation wide through the creation of what promises to be a beautiful and significant memorial.
**President’s Column**

Alan Beach-Nelson

**July 25 Membership meeting**

Join us at Castro/EVNA’s bimonthly membership meeting featuring presentations on:

- **A bit of History of Eureka Valley** - noted local historian Rich Brandi will join us to discuss some important and notable

**San Francisco Fire Department Sanchez Station** - Four members of the Sanchez Station will give a 15 minute Fire Safety presentation and some Q&A on fire safety

**HOT TOPICS**

- **Castro Street Fair**, Sunday, October 7 - 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!

- **Church Pit** - Plans for a Bank of the West branch and 3 other storefronts. A Neighborhood Coalition was formed to work with the Project Sponsor and Supervisor Wiener to set guidelines appropriate for the retail-mix and size at this prominent site.

- **CVS at Noe Center** - CVS has reached out to various neighborhood groups about plans to open in the long vacant space at Noe Center. CVS has agreed to not offer alcohol sales as well as setting aside some retail space for neighborhood specific needs and interests. Details are still being worked out.

- **376 Castro** - Neighborhood coalition of Castro/EVNA, Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District (CBD), Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA), and Castro Area Planning + Action (CAPA) reaches agreement with 376 Castro LLC. for 65-foot mixed use development at the RC Gas Station site. See full article on page 4.