**THE STATE OF FORMULA RETAIL**

By Pat Tara, President, Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association

The San Francisco planning department, members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, a wide cross section of neighborhood groups and merchants associations, as well as the San Francisco Realtor and Broker coalition are all debating the various aspects of restrictions on formula retail (chain stores) throughout our city.

In part, this is in response by the willingness of some neighborhoods, including the Upper Market, to put a limit on formula retail in their areas. Some neighborhoods (Hayes Valley) have a ban, some are considering one (Divisadero Street in NOPA) and some have placed limits (the Upper Market limitation, passed earlier this year, recommends against formula retail establishments that would exceed 20% of businesses within 300 feet of each other.)

In part, this is in response by the willingness of some neighborhoods, including the Upper Market, to put a limit on formula retail in their areas. Some neighborhoods (Hayes Valley) have a ban, some are considering one (Divisadero Street in NOPA) and some have placed limits (the Upper Market limitation, passed earlier this year, recommends against formula retail establishments that would exceed 20% of businesses within 300 feet of each other.)

The Planning Department has embarked on a citywide analysis of Formula Retail land use controls. The primary focus of the study is to analyze the economic implications of formula retail and nonformula retail uses in San Francisco neighborhoods, and the effects of formula retail uses on community vitality and character.

The Board of Supervisors has embraced limitations by introducing nine proposals, which impose various restrictions on the spread of formula retail. The Planning Department has asked the supervisors to delay introducing any more legislation until the economic impact study is completed sometime this year. Concern around the

**INVASION OF GIANT AT&T UVERSE BOXES**

By Gary Weiss, EVNA Treasurer

For the last EVNA General Meeting, I put together a to-scale example of the AT&T utility boxes that are proposed for our sidewalks. It was enormous - 59" wide X 48" high X 26" deep. In addition, they would be mounted on a large concrete base, and have 2 steel bollards to protect them from traffic. The proposal is to place them within 300 feet of almost every existing AT&T box on our sidewalks - up to 726 of them citywide. They are to be painted a very pale green - perfectly inviting for graffiti "artists" - and they buzz all day long - similar to the sound of an electric toothbrush, according to Marc Blakeman, the AT&T rep.

**HISTORY OF AT&T'S SYSTEM:**

In the 1880s Alexander Graham Bell invented what's referred to as POTS - plain old telephone service. The system uses what's called "twisted pair." One wire goes from the caller, the other goes back.

Fiber optic is a superior option in that it can carry multiple times the data in a tiny thread. It can also carry the signal for huge distances with no degradation.

The problem with AT&T's Uverse plan is that rather than going directly to the door, it would go to the new

**Continued on page 7**

**Continued on page 7**
Friends for a New Collingwood Park
Rob Anderson, resident

During a recent EVNA meeting, we had the pleasure of welcoming a guest from the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Parks, Dawn Kamalanathan, Director of Capital & Planning, to discuss last year’s successful 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Park Bond initiative that included the aptly named Community Opportunity Fund. This voter approved initiative was championed by Supervisor Scott Wiener and supported by EVNA. The residents of the Castro and Eureka Valley neighborhoods overwhelmingly supported this initiative by a vote of three to one.

As we learned about the funds set aside for future park improvements as well as the transformations that have already taken place in other neighborhoods, several in the audience commented on the state of our very own beloved Collingwood Park. Although officially known as the Eureka Valley Recreation Center (EVRC), which includes the dog run, baseball diamond and tennis court, many longtime residents and visitors still refer to the outdoor area as Collingwood Park.

Immediately following the EVNA meeting, Friends of Collingwood Park, a neighborhood coalition of interested residents was born and quickly discovered a similar vision for a new and usable green space. Earlier this summer we met with Supervisor Wiener, the Department of Rec and Park, and the SF Parks Alliance to discuss the current situation and possibilities. The response from our future partners was encouraging. We’re ready to begin the community outreach phase for transforming a little-used, fenced-off area into a park we can all be proud of.

While the name Collingwood Park can conjure up certain memories and emotions, favorable or not, it is hard to ignore the fact that this little plot of land contains a great deal of history, significance and value for those who proudly call this neighborhood home. After all, this is the park where the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence first started their traditional Hunky Jesus contest and Children’s Easter Egg Roll in the early nineties.

The redesign that occurred ten years ago was a decent attempt to allocate space and placate the needs of interested groups; however, as you walk around the outside, the result is more reminiscent of a prison yard than an inviting green space. The densely fenced-in areas create a feeling of restriction and barriers in a city and neighborhood that tries so hard to be welcoming and inclusive. It’s clear the area could use a serious makeover: the fences are old and rusty, the sidewalks are cracked and uneven, and the trees have been damaged or completely fallen over in previous storms.

As the neighborhood continues to grow and morph through its current resurgence, this is the perfect opportunity to reflect on our previous decisions and plan for the future. Our desire to leave something behind for the next generation of San Franciscans is reason enough to think about the possibilities for redesigning a cultural landmark for the Castro.

Collingwood/Eureka Park looking towards Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. While the dog run is popular, a large portion of the park is mostly unused.
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.

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**Looking Beyond Bad**

If I believed all the headlines and loose chatter in some of the circles I frequent, I might think I live in a very dangerous place. If I actually listened to the words I hear on the street, and read on the internet blogs and Facebook pages, and heard in conversations with some friends - I would be worried. If I took the story to heart that some are saying reflects our neighborhood, I would be concerned and fearful all the time. I might even think that things were spiraling downward toward chaos and were close to being out of control. That's the message that seems to be getting louder.

Everywhere I turn, I hear about all the muggings and bike thefts, the break-ins and vandalism…the senseless violence and malevolence committed against each other. You know, the story says, it's getting worse! Good people I know are walking around in a state of shock and disbelief, and wondering if the tide can ever be turned, and if we can ever return to a shared sense of civility and order in our neighborhood. And I wonder, “Should I be worried, too? If they're afraid, mustn't I be, too?”

Instead, I find myself watching and listening and observing more these days. I see some good friends buying into the story of what’s wrong in the Castro. I see these guys lining up at the counter to get the latest batch of demise and dread. The message repeated and parroted more and more often: be afraid, you’re helpless, there are bad things happening out there…it’s just not safe anymore.

Last month, Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy was burglarized and vandalized. “How awful!” one of my friends said. “Who would do such a terrible thing?” said another. And then someone asked a question: “Well, what are we going to do about it?” That simple question changed the conversation entirely. If I want to focus on the bad stuff, I can. But if I want to find what good can come of this, I can. I have to look beyond my first impulse. This guy’s question asked each of us to look harder, and ask another question: “What do I want to see; more fear, or something else?” It made each of us aware that we had some level of choice in how we respond to a bad event.

Within me, a spark was ignited that offered the possibility of doing something about the school break-in. I decided that I was going to raise $1,000 to help replace stolen stuff. So, I spoke with my friends, and they each turned to their friends and asked what they could do to help. Some responded by spreading the word, some gave money, and... Continued next page
others donated things. From this small choice, to take some kind of action, I watched as friends, neighbors and business owners actually came together to do something good about a bad thing that happened. Together, we all chipped in to raise about $25,000 to help those kids recover from what the thieves took. The money given was breathtaking, but the process was heartwarming; I saw our community coming together to help; I saw people reconnected and friendships strengthened, and I saw new friendships being made. Any crime isn’t good, but the effects don’t all have to be bad, if we’re willing to look beyond our fear, and choose to do something good about it.

Take your comments to the Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association Facebook Page: How will you make something good happen?

Collingwood/Eureka Valley Park looking towards EVRC and the popular dog run.

Collingwood, from page 2

Additionally, the area surrounding the EVRC and Collingwood Park appears to be experiencing a rash of burglaries and muggings. In response, Supervisor Wiener recently held another community safety meeting to address our concerns. Watch groups such as the one set up for the 200 block of Diamond Street are quick to notify neighbors when there is suspicious activity or reports of actual crime. Awareness of our surroundings and our vigilance remain our best assets; but improvements to the heart of the Castro should result in a more usable, accessible, and safer space as well.

Our vision for the new Collingwood Park imagines not only basic improvements such as new perimeter fencing, street scape with new sidewalks, better drainage, new trees and lighting, but also a new park entrance with paths that connect Collingwood St. to the east with Diamond Street to the west. This park should be well integrated with its interior and exterior surroundings including Castro Street, schools, businesses, and homes that envelope the park.

If you are interested in hearing more about our ideas and to share your own thoughts for a new park, please join our mailing list at info@friendsofcollingwoodpark.org and look for our announcement and presentation at an upcoming EVNA General Membership meeting.
QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CASTRO
By Aaron Seivertson, Board Member
EVNA has recently restarted our Quality of Life Committee with me as chair.

QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE CHARTER
EVNA’s Quality of Life Committee addresses EVNA’s mission and goals with a particular focus on major and day-to-day issues that impact neighborhood quality of life, including:

- Reducing and minimizing nuisance issues: noise, rowdy behavior, drunk patrons disturbing the peace, abuse of public space, and encampments
- Protecting and improving public health through the creation of Neighborhood Watches, Safety Zones, etc.
- Maintaining balance between prospering businesses and residential livability
- Serves as EVNA’s “Point of Contact” and liaison with Police and other organizations for major neighborhood events—Pink Saturday, Castro Street Fair, Halloween, etc.

The Quality of Life Committee meets monthly on the third Wednesday, 7:00-8:30 PM in the Chase Bank Community Meeting Room, 15th and Sanchez at Market.

Our first meeting was held in August. The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 16. At the initial meeting we discussed neighborhood watches, the noise issue at night in the Walgreens parking lot, the need for more beat police presence at night on Hartford and Collingwood streets and the homeless issue in the neighborhood. We will further discuss these and any other issues that need to be addressed. Please feel free to attend if you would like to participate or have other concerns.

There are a variety of problems that are somewhat unique to the Castro due to the number of bars we have in the area and the fact that they are well frequented seven nights a week. These include noise, public urination, littering and altercations associated with alcohol. There has also been an increase in criminal activity such as muggings and home/auto break ins. Working to address these issues with the appropriate city agencies, the police department, Castro Community on Patrol and Castro After Dark which is a group formed by local bar owners to prevent crime and nuisance related to late night entertainment.

Focus on Problem Areas:
Hartford and Collingwood are very poorly lit, and this is one of the issues we are addressing. Motion sensor lights are one of the ways we are working to deter these problems. We are also working with Lt. William Escobar at Mission police station to get more beat cop presence on these two problem streets.

There have been many complaints by near by residents about late night noise in the parking lot behind Walgreens. We had the same problem with the houses that border the Castro Theatre parking lot. Fellow EVNA board member Rob Cox and I worked very hard for 2 years with Supervisor Scott Wiener, SFMTA (who manages both lots), Andrea Aiello from CBD, Tim Eicher (also on EVNA board and local bar co-owner) from Castro After Dark and several SFPD officers. Last year we were finally able to get the lot closed at 1:00 AM and this has mostly solved the problem. Tim Eicher was especially helpful in securing funding from his and the other local bars to fund the gate through Castro After Dark. Hopefully similar efforts can be made regarding the Walgreens lot.

QOL, continued on page 9
boxes and stop there. From there to the door, they would continue to rely on Alexander Graham Bell's twisted pair. Because of this, the maximum speed of the data being transferred would be about 1/5 of what Comcast (which spent tens of billions on their infrastructure) already has in place.

Other services such as Monkey Brains are able to provide superior service for a fraction of the cost — without needing to install these environmentally obnoxious boxes in the public right of way. A recent convert to Monkey Brains reports download speeds 36 times faster than what AT&T provided and upload speeds more than 151 times faster. His landline is no longer necessary. The cost: a flat $35/month. And humans answer the phones! Check out “internet service providers” on Yelp and see where AT&T comes in.

From a Google employee: “Wireless technology is on the verge of surpassing (and for some applications, has already surpassed) wired networks in terms of efficacy, and San Francisco should not have to ‘bail out’ AT&T by accepting this blight as a result of its inability to compete.”

In 2011 AT&T stated, on several occasions — including at a Board of Supervisors hearing — that if a neighborhood opposed installation of these boxes it would not get them. Now AT&T is ignoring those promises. When asked why, the response has been “things change.”

With this understanding, do you support the installation of these boxes on sidewalks in Eureka Valley, if AT&T commits to working with neighbors to identify locations?

YES
NO

PLEASE RESPOND BY GOING TO OUR HOMEPAGE AT EVNA.ORG AND COMPLETE THE SURVEY.
Issue has grown. The Planning Commission is often forced to make controversial decisions with minimal economic analysis to reference. Community members who have attended Commission hearings know well the arguments that are made on either side.

A coalition of neighborhood and merchant associations has engaged in the process with the Planning Department. The organizations include: the Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association (EVNA), the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA), the Lower Haight Merchants Association, the SF Locally Owned Merchants Alliance (an Upper Market coalition), the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association and the Valencia Corridor Merchants Association. We all believe that the study of formula retail on a citywide scale is long overdue.

Now enters the retail brokerage community, which has launched a fight against any limitations on formula retail in the city of San Francisco. They have released a study titled, “Formula Retail: Safe for Mom & Pop.” Supporters of formula retail cite consistent quality of product, job creation, and financial contributions to community organizations. Those opposed to formula retail draw attention to increasing retail rents that result, pressure upon local businesses, the conformity of building design and the diversion of expenditure away from the local economy.

The retail brokerage community believes however, every retailer wants nothing more than to open another store; everyone wants “proof” that their success was not an accident and that they can do it again! They also argue against the notion that formula retail stores pay higher rent and invest more capital in developing retail premises. They contend, when multi-unit retailers lease larger spaces the bigger the business, the harder they bargain and the less of their own money they spend. They fault small retailers for overpricing, especially when the small retailer overpays for his merchandise or tries to make up for lack of volume with higher prices. It is a fact that chain stores sell their homogenous goods at lower prices. So the assumption is that fixed prices based on corporate purchasing power is acceptable; big fish eat the little fish and the big fish get bigger.

However studies have shown that for every $100 spent, locally owned independent businesses generate $68 in local economic activity, whereas national chains generate only $43. And out of state online sellers who don’t collect sales tax are virtually a total drain on the local economy. Multiple studies have shown that the encroachment of formula retailers harms neighborhood economic vitality, and results in more empty storefronts and fewer shoppers. We have seen this in our community with some landlords leaving spaces vacant for years on end, allowing them to decay while waiting for formula retailers to come along, fix up their property and pay top dollar.

Tourism is the lifeblood of our city and is at risk if the unique character of our neighborhoods is lost. So a process which will provide a better understanding of the economic impacts that result from formula retailers has been embraced by all the organizations mentioned above, with the exception of course of the retail brokers.

The study will include neighborhood case studies, and will examine existing formula retail controls vs. neighborhoods where formula retail is not regulated. The city is planning to look at the definition of Formula Retail, and at the numbers of international outlets vs. number of national outlets. It’s important to note that 75% of formula retail conditional-use permits currently in play in the city have been approved since just since 2004.

The Upper Market corridor is one of the areas which has an approved formula retail concentration policy. The policy measures the concentration of formula retail in a 300-foot radius. If that immediate vicinity is above 20% concentration, the Planning Department will recommend against approval. The intent is to create a vibrant mix of businesses which includes formula retail and independently owned businesses. This is not an anti-formula retail policy, this is a balanced approach which was vetted and approved by the Planning Department, and unanimously approved by the Planning Commission.

DTNA conducted extensive research to define the methodology of this process, which included comparison of our neighborhood with the Upper Haight and Valencia Street. We found that the concentration of formula retail in Upper Market was indeed much higher than in the comparison areas. With the surge of 60,000 sq. ft of new retail space coming available as new buildings are constructed, there was a great danger of the
Neighborhood Watches:
Neighborhood Watches are one of the best ways that we, as residents can help prevent crime in our neighborhood. Several of us have formed a neighborhood watch for our block on Hartford between 17th and 18th streets.

For more information on setting up a neighborhood watch for your block, the Quality of Life Committee can help you get started. For information, please email me, Aaron.Seivertson@EVNA.org. Also visit SFSafe.org for information.

America’s Next Tennis Stars Making Tennis Accessible

Residents, Dominic Abbott, Tennis Director

America’s Next Tennis Stars is a revolutionary tennis organization that is focusing on bringing progressive coaching and teaching programs in the form camps and after-school programs to city parks across San Francisco Bay Area.

We strive to make sure that more children have the opportunity to access tennis and learn a sport that can last a lifetime. We focus on healthy youth development that teaches life-long skills that last both on and off the tennis court. All of our coaches are ANTS certified and FUN certified!!

ANTS missions and goals are to have children fall in the love with sport and to teach them the proper fundamentals that will set them on the right track.

With our very own ‘most touches possible partner work’ philosophy we get away from forming lines and traditional styles of managing kids on the court. Through our modified equipment and our philosophy, we focus on all-inclusive methods that are meant to develop the agility, balance, and coordination (ABC’s) of the child. We then develop the FUNdamentals of the tennis game to further develop the child’s love of the game. Only after a passion has been developed and the fundamentals learned, can the child succeed. ANTS aims to foster both and help create an experience of a lifetime for children!

Ages: 3 to 10
Teams: 8 to 12 children per team
Registration: Spring, Summer and Fall
Locations: 12 SF locations, 2 near you!
(Noe Valley Park & Corona Heights)
Details: Visit ANTStennis.com for info!
Dante’s Table

This new restaurant on Castro between 18th and 19th is owned by Francesco DiPolitto, who owns Poesia Osteria on 18th. While Poesia is a bit upscale, Dante’s is casual. The pizza alone is worth a visit but the whole menu is outstanding. The pizza is traditional neapolitan thin crust, crispy with a delicate chew. The Rigatoni Spinaci is prepared with a truffle oil and it’s hard for me not to order it every time. The bartender Teddy is a true mixologist putting his own twist on a traditional cocktail. And, the prices can’t be beat!

18th Street Cleaners

These guys are great. This cleaner has been around ever since I’ve been in the neighborhood – a long time! It’s a weird thing to suggest a dry cleaner as a favorite because we have several, but there is a neighborhood feel to this place from the owners and people who work there that goes beyond a typical customer service commitment.

The Wednesday Market

How lucky are we to have a Farmers Market that runs through most of the year?! I love the Ferry Building Market on but the Castro Farmers Market is just small enough and just big enough. The seasonal produce is fantastic, there are bakery options and even a fish monger.

Then You Can Take Me To the Fair!

By Rob Cox, Board Member and resident

The 40th Annual Castro Street Fair will be held on Sunday October 6th. The Fair officially begins at 11:00 am and will go through the day until 6:00 pm.

This year the Castro Street Fair will celebrate its 40th anniversary. It is one of the oldest LGBT community celebrations in the world. Founded by Harvey Milk and the Castro merchants in 1974 the Fair is not only a showcase and celebration of the Castro neighborhood and community it also features a wide array of local artists, craftspeople and performers. More than 50,000 guests visit the Fair each year. It will feature well over 200 exhibitors.

The Fair strives to honor Milk’s original vision and embody all that is San Francisco and the Castro. The historical, and very local, grassroots event includes entertainment for families, dancing, informational booths, food and drink, and much more.

This year world renowned and sexually progressive pop star, Peaches, will perform at the Castro Street Fair. Peaches — along with her Peachettes — will be headlining the Main Stage at Market and Castro.

At entry gates surrounding the Fair, volunteers collect donations from attendees which benefit over 20 neighborhood non-profits. To volunteer and help local organizations raise funds, go to the Castro Street Fair web site or visit the volunteer link listed below.

http://www.castrostreetfair.org/index.php or email at, volunteer@castrostreetfair.org.
Residents of the Eureka Valley/Castro community for over 29 years collectively. Gain from our combined expertise and experience.

Call David or Pat if you’re deciding to sell or buy a property, or for a complimentary market analysis.

We're Happy To Help!

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**Formula Retail continued from page 8**

concentration index being pushed even higher. The Planning Department and the Commission both recognized this danger and voted for a balanced approach.

The Planning Department has targeted the end of the year to complete their study. The budget for the study is a mere $40,000 which given the complexity of the issue seems to DTNA to be dramatically underfunded. Members of the Planning Commission have expressed concerns that the project was under funded, which could effect the outcome, and is a cause for great concern at DTNA.

What is at stake is not only the vibrancy and walkability and usefulness of our neighborhoods for local residents, but more broadly the economic vitality of our city, which is made up of neighborhoods defined by strong character.

Many New Yorkers fled to Brooklyn when the corporatization of Manhattan became too overwhelming, let’s hope that across the bridge is not our destiny. Instead let’s stay and fight for rich, textured and varied businesses in our neighborhoods, not outposts of corporate America and the world.

**Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy Update**

Tracy Peoples, 3rd year Principal

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy opened in 1996. Supervisor Tom Ammiano, campaigned to name the school after Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to public office in California. Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy represents a vision of inclusion and diversity. Our Mission is to empower student learning by teaching acceptance, awareness, non-violence, and celebrating our diversity. Academic excellence, home, school and community connections are essential to our success. We continuously embody values represented by Harvey Milk which focus on civil rights, social justice and equity. Our community, parents, staff and students are extremely supportive.

Educational assemblies, field trips, and various resources are supported by all stakeholders. The morning ritual of Morning Circle evokes many important elements of Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. Morning Circle emphasizes our focus on inclusion, diversity and strong relationships with students, families and communities. Morning Circle is one way in which we demonstrate an overall push for civil rights and social justice.
Contact Alan.Beach@EVNA.org to advertise.

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Advertise with Castro/EUENA
Eureka! is hand-delivered to 3,000 addresses in Castro/Eureka Valley and to city and community leaders across the city.

Eureka Valley playground and Fieldhouse, aka Collingwood Park and EVRC under construction, ca 1940s-50s

GETTING INVOLVED

President's Column, Alan Beach-Nelson

Join us at EVNA's Bimonthly Public Meeting, September 25, featuring: A Panel on the Hot Topic of Formula Retail, Deb Kinney, Principal at DLK Law Group will discuss the practical impact of the Supreme Court of the U.S.' rulings on DOMA and Prop 8.

HOT TOPICS

• Formula Retail. Regardless of your position on formula retail, i.e. chain stores, it is important for you all to be informed on the issue - what are the “Facts Regarding Formula Retail.” This is especially important as the planning department is currently undergoing a citywide study of the issue with plans to implement a citywide policy on formula retail. I personally don't know all the ends and outs of this very complex topic. Do limits on formula retail improve a business districts economic vitality, or does it hinder it? Does formula retail cause rents to increase or decrease? What is the right mix of formula retail in our neighborhood - 10%, 20%, 30%? Are formula retail establishments more stable than locally owned? At our public meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 7PM, EVNA is hosting a panel discussion on this important topic. While I know this can be an emotional topic, often based on gut reactions, this panel discussion will be FACT BASED to answer these and other relevant questions. See cover story on this complex issue.

• Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy Fundraiser nets $25,000! Under the amazing leadership of EVNA Board Member, MUMC Board Member and Herth Real Estate agent, Mark McHale, over $25,000 was raised to help the kids at HMCRA after their school was burglarized and vandalized August 5. Community support was phenomenal - EVNA members contributed an amazing $5,000, and local merchants, along with word of mouth among friends and associates, easily beat the initial goal of $1,000. Thank you to Mark for his inspiring leadership and thank you to everyone in the community, especially our merchants! See article “Love Where You Live” on page 4.

• Castro Street Fair, Sunday, October 6 - 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 or go to http://www.castrostreetfair.org/index.php and be sure to select EVNA as your beneficiary in the drop down menu. See article on page 10.

• LGBTQ Homeless Connect, Monday, October 7, 10AM - 3, at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St: The City's 2013 Homeless Count shows that 29% of homeless individuals identified as LGBT; this requires that San Francisco employ many new strategies to bring this number down. The first LGBTQ Connect take place on October 7, 2013! This is a new event for us to provide homeless preventative services directly to the LGBTQ community.