SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME PROJECT
By James Moore, EVNA Board Member

The Prado Group has filed plans to add three floors of residential units atop the existing Sullivan’s Funeral Home building at 2254 Market Street and construct two new buildings, rising up to 50-feet in height along Market Street and 40-feet along 15th Street on the funeral home’s parking lots next door.

As proposed, the buildings fronting Market Street would be interconnected and include up to 45 dwelling units, with 13,500 square-feet of retail space on the ground floor and a garage for up to 22 cars below. The original two-story façade of Sullivan’s will be retained.

SURVIVOR UPDATE
By Scott Wiener
representing District 8, including the Castro, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Our public spaces are an essential part of what makes our city work. They are where we walk, where we gather, and where we interact as a community.

However, these plazas, parks, and sidewalks have recently become subject to another use throughout our city - people living in tents.

It is illegal to pitch a tent in our public spaces, yet every day you can find hundreds of tents and encampments on our sidewalks, plazas, and parks. There are any number of reasons why people are in these tents, but the bottom line is they shouldn’t be. Tents are an unsanitary and inhumane way for people to live. The fact that our city has come to this is a failure of our own policies to both provide adequate housing and assistance for those who want help, and to make clear to those who refuse help that tents on our streets are unacceptable.

No one wants anyone living in a tent. When people have no other options available to them, it’s understandable that they feel this is their only choice. But this shouldn’t be - and
often isn’t - the only choice. We need to do more to connect people on our streets to existing services and ensure that we are allocating our resources to finding ways to provide more needed shelter beds and housing.

Currently, we have available shelter beds many nights that are going unused. This means that some people, no matter what is available to them, are choosing to live illegally in tents on our streets instead of legally and safely inside our shelters. There are different reasons they may be doing this: stringent shelter rules around animals and belongings, abuse from other shelter residents, bureaucratic challenges, and others. These are problems that we can address with innovative solutions like the Mayor’s Navigation Center model, which allows people to come into a shelter with all of their belongings, friends, and pets in order to be connected to longer-term service options. Expanding the number of shelter beds, navigation centers, and supportive housing units are also a part of this solution.

However, there are some people who, no matter what we offer them, will never choose services like the Navigation Center over living in a tent on the street. What we need to know is why, and what are we doing about this part of the population. Some believe we should just leave these people be. I disagree with that approach. Tents on our streets are not acceptable for people living in them, nor for those living in the neighborhoods surrounding them.

I recently made a formal request to our City agencies that provide services and enforcement to report back on how many tents are on our streets, what services are available to these people, including the amount of nightly vacant shelter beds, what our plans are to expand shelter and navigation center capacity; and, assuming available shelter beds, what will be done to remove these illegal encampments from our streets. With this information, we can have a better understanding of what is driving this tent population and what we can do to eliminate the tents in a humane way.

The status quo is unacceptable. We all want people living in safe and sanitary conditions. City Hall needs to step up and take charge of this situation. The residents of San Francisco deserve action.
As I step into the shoes of Alan Beach-Nelson, my predecessor as president of the Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association, I consider the tremendous accomplishments achieved during his tenure. When Alan became president of EVNA in 2010, the organization had just over 50 members, plus an equal number of nonmember subscribers to the EVNA’s one-page newsletter. The Board of Directors consisted of six members and there was just one active committee, the Planning and Land Use Committee, the members of which were also members of the EVNA Board. The organization’s bi-monthly general membership meetings attracted only a handful of attendees. As Alan himself noted, while the EVNA often represented Eureka Valley, or Castro, to City agencies including the Planning Commission, involvement from neighbors living in the 5,000 homes in the core Eureka Valley area wasn’t always robust.

Over the past six years under Alan’s leadership, the EVNA has grown to become a more democratic organization that actively engages ever greater numbers of people across Eureka Valley. The Board of Directors has doubled in size, membership in the PLUC has grown and the EVNA has multiple active committees. The EVNA produces a 16-page newsletter six times a year, covering a wide range of topics relevant to our neighborhood, which is distributed to over 3,500 homes and businesses in the Castro/Eureka Valley area. The newsletter not only informs Eureka Valley neighbors of topics of importance to the neighborhood, it also broadens EVNA communications, giving neighbors greater awareness of the EVNA decision making process.

Perhaps most importantly, under Alan’s leadership, EVNA membership has also grown astronomically. EVNA membership is six times what it was when Alan took office and non-member subscription to the newsletter has increased similarly. We currently have 302 members and 225 non-member subscribers. While there is still more growth to be realized, Alan’s leadership in this area is commendable. EVNA’s bi-monthly public meetings now have over 50 members and non-members in attendance. As a result, the EVNA outgrew the Castro Community Meeting Room above the Bank of America at 18th and Castro, and moved to the auditorium of Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy at 19th and Collingwood. With this growth the EVNA sees more active participation and involvement from neighbors. This is not only a measure of EVNA’s success; it also helps to democratize the activities of...
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.

CafeSF.com • Facebook.com/TheCafeSF • Twitter.com/TheCafeSF
The Café • 2369 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114 • (415)834-5840
Historic Context Statement

By Susan Detwiler, EVNA and PLUC Member

One of the things we love about living in the Castro/Eureka Valley is the “character of the neighborhood”. Of course, much of that character has to do with the people, past and present, who have been lucky enough to live and work here. There is also the physical fabric of the neighborhood: the hilly, tree-lined streets with an eclectic mix of Victorian houses, “Romeo” flats, 1920s bungalows, the Castro Theater… and more! So much more, that it’s hard to list all of the historic buildings and sites that surround us. In fact, EVNA has launched a project to do just that.

Having secured a grant from San Francisco’s Historic Preservation Fund Committee, we aim to create a “historic context statement” for the Eureka Valley/Castro neighborhood. A historic context statement is a planning document that gives an overview of the historical and physical development of a neighborhood or city and, the potentially historic property types connected to themes, geographic patterns, people, and events that shaped the place. More information on Historic Context Statements is available on the San Francisco Planning Department website at http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=1835#hcs.

You may have heard that at the end of 2015, a team of historians, in partnership with the GLBT Historical Society, submitted a citywide context statement to document LGBTQ history in San Francisco. The Eureka Valley context statement will reference that document, but will also include neighborhood history prior to when “Eureka Valley became the Castro”.

EVNA has contracted with Elaine Stiles to produce the historic context statement. Elaine has worked as an architectural historian and preservation planner in San Francisco for a number of years, and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the History of Architecture and Urbanism at UC Berkeley.

At our next general membership meeting (Jan. 27), Elaine will present an overview of the project, followed by a question and answer session. We also welcome community members to share what older buildings, landscapes, and aspects of the neighborhood are important to them. If you can’t attend the meeting but want more information, please email eurekavalleyhistory@gmail.com. This address can also be used for any other inquiries, questions, or comments. We welcome community feedback!
While the plan for the retail space has yet to be specified, it’s probably safe to assume Sullivan’s is not long for this world.

While proposals for new buildings in San Francisco are typically assigned, reviewed and completed by San Francisco’s Planning Department in the order they’re received, there are a couple of ways to jump the line. As a proposed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum project “with an exceptionally high standard for green building,” the planned redevelopment of the Sullivan’s Funeral Home building at 2254 Market Street and construction of two new buildings was prioritized for processing and is now formally under review.

As designed by BAR Architects, the proposed 15th Street building is a duplex with the two units averaging a little over 3,100 square feet apiece, under which the garage entrance for the overall development would be located. The three unit Victorian building, which is part of the same land parcel, will be left intact and the three rent-controlled units will remain rent-controlled.

**Mayor Lee to Focus on Homelessness in Second Term**

*Excerpted from Mayor Edwin Lee’s press release of December 12, 2015*

With many city departments, agencies, community-based organizations, and non-profits all providing a myriad of services and outreach to tackle the decades-long homeless situation throughout San Francisco, Mayor Ed Lee has announced his plan to assist at least 8,000 folks out of homelessness by the end of his term.

In order to help such a vast number of homeless people, Mayor Lee is creating a new Department to help homeless residents permanently exit the streets and move into housing and services and has committed to maintaining and enhancing funding for homeless prevention and solutions of at least $250 million per year.

“Despite decades of best efforts, we haven’t eliminated homelessness, and as we house and serve thousands, they’re replaced by new thousands. And they all deserve our compassion and care,” said Mayor Lee. “Building on the work that came before us, we can solve street homelessness, but it will require cooperation like never before.”
before. With a goal of helping at least 8,000 people off our streets in the next four years, we can make a difference if we leverage the passion and energy from our service providers, advocates, national experts and our City departments and work together. All of the ingredients for success on ending homelessness for thousands of our fellow citizens are already here in the City of Saint Francis. Moving forward with progressive approaches on mental health, expanding the successful navigation center program, creating a Department to coordinate these and other efforts, with the nation’s best minds working with us, we can make homelessness rare, brief and one-time.”

The new Department will bring together the multitude of homeless outreach, housing, shelter, and supportive services that exist across San Francisco government under one roof. Barbara Garcia, the director of Public Health, Trent Rhorer, the director of Human Services, and Sam Dodge, the Director of HOPE, who have all implemented some of the most forward-thinking, progressive homeless policies in America, are tasked to develop the new Department with service providers, homeless advocates and national experts.

The Mayor also challenged the courts, the public defender, the District Attorney, and our health providers to come together next year for a task force to redesign the 5150 and conservatorship programs to better serve the intended populations while respecting their civil liberties.

Finally, the Mayor called for stepped-up enforcement for predatory drug dealing around Navigation Centers, shelters, and other homeless service locations. Drug dealers who loiter around places where the homeless congregate are preying on addicted people, selling them drugs they use to self-medicate, and contributing to serious health problems. The Mayor has made it very clear that the City is not criminalizing drug addiction, but instead better enforcing existing laws to protect the most vulnerable.

Since Mayor Lee’s creation of the nation’s first Navigation Center, more than 250 people have been successfully moved off the streets and into healthier settings in just nine months. Under the new Department, the City will be expanding the successful Navigation Center program that has made a difference by removing barriers to entry into the shelter system and pairing every Navigation Center client with a housing exit.

Mayor Lee hopes that existing philanthropic partners and business leaders – and any new funders interested in supporting the compassionate work – will participate as sustainable funders to help San Francisco end homelessness once and for all.
Neighbors’ Faves!
Neighbors share their favorite places in the ‘hood!

This issue’s Faves come from EVNA Member Alan Beach-Nelson

Cliff’s Variety
479 Castro St.
My best description of Cliff’s Variety is “A neighborhood institution and a community gem!” More often than not, I leave Cliff’s Variety muttering, “Thank you Cliff’s!” because no matter my need, Cliff’s Variety has it. Working on a project around the house – Cliff’s will have what I need. From electrical, plumbing, lighting, hardware, arts and crafts, cooking, decorating to really just about anything, – all can be found right here in our neighborhood.

Always Tan Skin and Body
550B Castro St.
My “go to” place for a relaxing massage, Always Tan Skin and Body has a masseur to give you the 60 or 90 minutes of relaxation you need. Whether deep tissue, Swedish or whatever type of massage you like, they have someone to take care of you, often with same day appointments. For deep tissue, Scott, Joshua and Braxton can’t be beat! Take advantage of their once to twice-yearly two for one sale to stock up on a year’s worth of massages at an unbeatable rate and you are all set.

Mudpuppy’s Tub & Scrub
536 Castro St
Our puppies, Rico and Powder, love their once a month spa day at Mudpuppy’s Tub & Scrub. A mani/pedi, wash and dry with other health treatments and our babies are set for a month – all with a cute little bow to show off their well-groomed look with style.

La Tortilla
495 Castro St.
My husband, Daren, and I love this neighborhood alternative to our other favorite neighborhood Mexican eatery. Daren loves the spicy chicken super nachos, while I go nuts for the Aztec Super Burrito – killer with the delicious enchilada sauce smothering an enormous burrito.

Handy Resources for Home

Call 311 for:
Report Litter and Graffiti, St. Cleaning, Abandoned Vehicles, St. Signs Missing/Damaged, Pot Holes

Police:
Non-Emergency: 553-0123
Report nuisance and non-urgent issues. Always ask for a CAD #.
Mission Station: 558-5400
Captain Dan Perea’s email: daniel.perea@sfgov.org

Homeless issues:
Community Awareness & Treatment Service (CATS) non-emergency: 734-4233

Parking and Traffic Issues:
SFMTA Parking Enforcement: 553-1200
SFMTA Parking Tickets: 701-3000

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener: 554-6968, Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org
News from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Protect Your Property from the Risk of Flooding

While California remains in a drought, we know that when it does rain, it pours. Many neighborhoods in San Francisco experienced flooding during the intense rains in December. The SFPUC is working to develop a citywide flood resilience program to develop projects and programs to help property owners minimize the risk of damage due to large storms. Intense storm events can overwhelm any urban stormwater system. While the SFPUC is working to mitigate flooding, property owners share the responsibility for minimizing the risk of flooding damage caused by rain.

• The SFPUC Floodwater Grant Program reimburses San Francisco property owners for installing physical barriers such as flood walls, implementing plumbing modifications and other special projects: sfwater.org/floodwatergrants

• FEMA's low-cost National Flood Insurance Program is available to all San Francisco homeowners, renters, and businesses in the City.

For more information on these programs and how you can prepare for a storm, visit sfwater.org/stormprep. Report clogged catch basins, street flooding and sewer backups by calling 311, logging onto sf311.org or using the 311 app for iPhone and Android.

Are You Achieving Your Conservation Goals?
Are you wondering how much you should reduce your watering? Not certain if you’ve hit your goal? My Account now features a Drought Water Use Target for account holders. Log on and see if you have reduced water use by 10% over your 2013 usage. Log on at myaccount. sfwater.org

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.

When you shop with us, you accomplish the following:
1. You keep your dollars in our local economy.
2. You create local jobs.
3. You nurture our community.
4. You help the environment by buying locally.
5. You invest in local ownership.
6. You create more choice in shopping.
7. You utilize our expertise.
8. You embrace what makes us different and unique from larger chain supermarkets & supercenters.
9. You make our store a destination, and we appreciate it!
10. Every week you will find hundreds of specials throughout the store.
CASTRO HOODIES - STORIES FROM HOODLINE

As you may have heard, the Castro Biscuit has moved over to Hoodline - San Francisco Neighborhood news. Biscuit founder Roy McKenzie is still on the beat for Castro news, but now you’ll find him at http://hoodline.com.

DOLORES PARK RE-OPENING
DELAYED DUE TO WEATHER

By Steven Bracco

You’re going to have to wait a little bit longer to enjoy the renovated southern half of Dolores Park. With rain on the horizon for the next few days, the park’s big glow-in-the-dark grand reopening, set for Thursday afternoon, has been delayed.

“The event will be rescheduled in the future,” says SF Rec & Park in a press release, adding that the southern half of the park will remain closed until the event can take place. We’ll keep you updated with when a new date is set; until then, you’ll have to find some other way to enjoy your glow-in-the-dark gear.

WORKSHOP PLOTS BIKE SHARE STATIONS FOR DISTRICT 8, COMING THIS FALL

By Steven Bracco

It’s been a long time coming since it was first announced in 2013, but Bay Area Bike Share (BABS) is finally expanding to the Castro, as well as many other city neighborhoods.

Last night, the organization held the first in a series of workshops discussing where bike share stations should be placed in each neighborhood. Held at Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, the meeting focused solely on District 8, giving community members the opportunity to share their input.

Bay Area Bike Share comes from parent company Motivate, which operates eight bike shares in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. They include CitiBike in New York/New Jersey, Divvy in Chicago, and Hubway in Boston.

In the Bay Area, the bike share pilot launched in 2013 after numerous delays, with 700 bikes systemwide. The vast majority were located in downtown and SoMa, with none east of Van Ness; a handful of others were centered around Caltrain stops in the South Bay.

Regular users can purchase an annual membership ($88), while visitors can buy one for 24 hours ($9) or three days ($22). Each membership allows for an unlimited number of 30-minute rides.

In May 2015, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) approved the expansion of BABS to 7,000 bikes, spanning Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, San Francisco and San Jose. The expansion will take place over a series of four phases; District 8’s bikes will be incorporated in Phase 1.

By the end of the project’s expansion in 2018, San Francisco will have 4,500 bikes across the city, funded through a public-private partnership at no cost to taxpayers. Discussions with a major sponsor are underway, and an announcement is planned in the future.

In a similar fashion to the Curb Management Workshop back in November, workshop attendees were asked to give their feedback on the provided maps, using red and green stickers to indicate locations that would be good or bad choices. Some were concerned about stations in congested areas like Duboce and Steiner or Castro and Market, while others encouraged stations at transit hubs like Church and Market.

“Draft final station locations will be posted online after we review all the great input we’re receiving through the public workshops, likely within the month,” said Motivate’s Paolo Cosulich-Schwartz, who previously worked for the SF Bike Coalition. All Hoodies continues next page
The stations themselves can be placed on the street or the sidewalk, with their size varying by location. A typical station has 19 bike docks, but “you can expect slightly smaller stations in residential areas, and average to slightly above-average stations on commercial corridors and at transit hubs, where demand tends to be highest,” said Cosulich-Schwartz.

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener has served on the MTC since 2011 and was a vocal supporter of BABS, whose expansion was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors in December.

“Through my work both on the Board of Supervisors and on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, I’ve pushed to bring bike share to San Francisco, and to expand it throughout the city,” he said in a press release. “This is great news for our city, our transit system, and our residents. A robust and sustainable bike share network will allow us to reap the benefits of bike share, including reducing traffic, improving public transit, and stimulating the local economy.”

The next Bay Area Bike Share workshop, hosted by Supervisor Jane Kim and centered on SoMa, is scheduled for January 20th at Gene Friend Rec Center (270 6th St.) from 6:30-7:30pm & 7:30-8:30pm. The next day, January 21st, Supervisor David Campos will hold the final workshop, centered on the Mission, at Mission Neighborhood Center (362 Capp St.) from 6-7pm & 8-9pm.

STRUT HEALTH CENTER OPENS ITS DOORS IN THE CASTRO
By David-Elijah Nahmod

Heavy rains did not dampen the spirits of the more than 100 attendees who showed up this morning for the official ribbon-cutting and opening celebration of Strut, the long-awaited new HIV health clinic at 470 Castro St.

A project of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Strut combines all SFAF services under one roof at the new 14,700-square-foot wellness center for gay, bisexual and transgender men. “This is a great way for the Foundation to kick off the New Year,” said TJ Jones, SFAF interim executive director. “With the opening of Strut, we are providing exemplary service to the community.”

When clients enter Strut’s glass-framed building, they’ll be greeted by a receptionist who’ll direct them to whichever service they need. Staff offices are behind the reception area, while the second floor features Strut’s sexual health clinic. Several examining rooms in which clients can get tested or seek treatment for HIV and other STDs can be found down a long corridor, and the second floor also includes a community room which will be used for group meetings, art shows and readings.

The third floor hosts Strut’s various wellness programs, and includes an outdoor balcony where staff can take breaks. There are also private meeting rooms where counseling services can be obtained.

Services at the new center include medical examinations and treatment, plus counseling if needed. The center also features special community projects, including the Elizabeth Taylor 50-Plus Network, a sharing and support/discussion group for men age 50 and over which includes consultations with a wellness coach.

The often underserved African-American community will find support with the Dreaam Project, designed for African-American gay, bisexual and trans men in their late teens and twenties looking for opportunities for self-expression, leadership and activism. Dreaam includes weekly drop-in social groups, discussion groups and individual case management.

Positive Force will enable HIV-positive men and allies to connect and network for practical support, education and assistance in accessing care, while Bridgemen invites you to participate in fun and relevant community service projects and social events, such as art shows and poetry readings.

Established programs such as Magnet, an STD treatment program, and Stonewall Project, a treatment and counseling program for people with alcohol or substance abuse issues, will also be incorporated as part of Strut.

Supervisor Scott Wiener addressed the opening-day crowd, saying that he himself was at one point an SFAF client. “When I first got here in 1997, the protease inhibitors had just been approved,” Wiener said. “Now we’re turning a corner, instead of being on the defense, we’re on the offense.” Wiener has been quite open about his usage of the HIV prevention drug PrEP, and says he plans to continue getting regular HIV tests at Strut.

“The SFAF came to me four years ago and asked for help,” he told us after his speech. “I thought it was an exciting project,” he said, explaining his interest in funding, zoning, and community outreach for the project. “Strut is an important step in the community’s health and in getting to zero HIV infections and zero HIV deaths by having all SFAF services under one roof: testing, treatment, mental health care, and substance abuse treatment.”
the organization. This growth in membership and meeting attendance helps the Board and committees to be more informed about the interests, concerns and views of our community. This in turn helps the EVNA to represent the neighborhood in a way that is more reflective of community wishes.

In short, the EVNA is a stronger, more vibrant and more democratic group as a result of Alan's leadership. As I mentioned at the beginning of my column, I have big shoes to fill.

I joined the EVNA two years ago with a long history of community organizing – most of it here in the Castro/Eureka Valley neighborhood where I have lived for almost 30 years. In taking on the position of EVNA Board President, I want to continue to grow the organization, especially the committees, and to engage the membership, particularly on issues of planning and land use. San Francisco is growing, and with that growth housing availability and affordability has become for me one of the most important issues the City faces today. I think the EVNA is well placed to be an important voice in determining how the City and the neighborhood accommodate that growth. At our most recent public meeting in November, we learned from SPUR that the Bay Area is projected to add 2.1 million new residents over the next 25 years; and that San Francisco alone has identified capacity for 97,000 new units of housing by 2040 (5,500 of which are in the Market/Octavia area). I support this planning for high-density growth in part because I believe it is an important step to make San Francisco more affordable. To address affordability I also believe it is important to maximize on-site, below-market rate (BMR) units into housing developments. Last fall, along with many other neighborhood groups, the EVNA Board voted in favor of a 20%, on-site, BMR minimum for housing developments in the City and I wholeheartedly supported this motion. However, since San Franciscans voted (Prop C, 2012) overwhelmingly in favor of reducing the on-site BMR minimum to approximately 12% for most projects, getting to 20% will take time and effort. Challenging though it may be, I believe the EVNA is well positioned to engage in this planning policy debate.

I look forward to being part of community organizing with the EVNA particularly in regard to planning and land use and I appreciate the trust the membership has placed in me by electing me to be president of the board.
Perhaps you've enjoyed dining at a farm to table restaurant, or even visited the farmers market to get some farm fresh produce to serve on your table. Now, a new company, Foodscape, is bringing the farm even closer to your table. Foodscape is improving access to fresh and healthy food by making it easy to grow and share food with the community, and they're starting a farm in our neighborhood!

In 2013 Foodscape began creating these small farms and large vegetable gardens (aka “foodscapes”) for individuals, neighborhoods/communities, schools, and companies in Oakland, San Francisco and a few other cities. People who wanted a Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program in their own backyard could sign up. Open to landowners, with 250 square feet or more, they would have their yard turned into a farm!

Most recently, Foodscape is creating a Neighborhood Foodscape in our neighborhood – a farm made up of backyards, empty school gardens, and other unused land in the neighborhood. Everyone is invited to join to contribute land or get some of the produce, whether or not you live in Noe Valley. It works like a very local community supported agriculture (CSA) plot. Once a minimum number of members join, Foodscape has an experienced “foodscaper” set-up and maintain the farms. Members of the foodscapes pay a monthly membership fee – usually around $50/month. These fees are used to set up and maintain the foodscape throughout the season. Members get a share of the harvest, can get additional local food items (eggs, meats, cheeses, dry goods, etc) from other local farm partners, and get to know their neighborhood community around homegrown food.

Mary Lemmer is the cofounder and CEO of Foodscape. She’s excited to share the process of growing food and sharing food with the neighborhood. You can join our Neighborhood Foodscape before the season starts! For more information, you are invited to attend an info session on Monday, February 8, at 6:30 pm at 381 Noe St. You can also learn more and sign up at join.myfoodscape.com. Contact Mary at mary@myfoodscape.com or 415-484-9749 with any questions.
Castro Cares Update January 2016
By Andrea Aiello, Chair, Castro Cares

In December Castro Cares overtime police officers (10B officers) provided added enforcement, an increased presence of police on the street and compassionate services. Some of the work the officers did in the Castro/Upper Market is detailed here:

- Area around the public library got a lot of attention with 10B officers, making repeated patrols, clearing tent encampments on 16th St. between Pond & Prosper.
- DPW ordered to clean up trash in area several times.
- On several occasions the officers cleared campers from Jane Warner Plaza, Harvey Milk Plaza and Pink Triangle Park.
- Moved loiterers from 17th & Hartford.
- Officers noted multiple instances of moving people along who were blocking the sidewalk on Castro Street and on Market Street.
- A sex offender was arrested for failing to register and with a warrant for his arrest.
- Moved encampment at 18th and Hartford St.
- Warnings given for loitering near ATM
- Suspicious person looking into vehicles; warned and told to leave area

Compassionate care activity:
- 10B Officers sent a psychotic individual to the hospital on a 5150 hold.
- Requested an ambulance for a man high on methamphetamines
- Provided shelter for a transient female requesting to go to the women’s drop-in shelter.

Hearing on Former 'Home' Restaurant Redevelopment
By Brian Ray, Hoodline

It’s been a while since we checked in on the proposed development at the old Home location at 2100 Market St. Both Jeffrey Horn and Gina Simi with the San Francisco Planning Department shared some updates with us, including changes to the design and an upcoming hearing in the works.

Horn gave us an overview of the current iteration of the plans. Some obvious changes between the most recent iteration and the current one involve the size of the commercial space and the number of units. The previous plans called for 60 units (down from an original 64), and the current proposal now includes 62 units.

The commercial space has also been reduced to 2,600 square feet, and the current proposal includes a request for conditional use authorization “to establish a restaurant” on the ground floor.

The space originally also needed an environmental review, but Simi explained that the project had a Community Plan Exemption, meaning that the review will not be required.

As for the below-market-rate units, bike parking spots, and 4,800-sq-ft roof terrace, those appear to have survived through the latest round of design changes. However, the newest proposal makes no mention of any on-site parking spots aside from two spaces which would be reserved for service vehicles.

In terms of the next steps for the project, Horn said that there is a Planning Commission hearing scheduled for February 4th. The hearing will consider conditional use authorization.

The Feb. 4th hearing will be held in City Hall’s Room 400. If you plan to attend, keep an eye on Planning’s agendas for the specific time.
A Brief History of Eureka Valley

The following is from an article written by Sean Timberlake for SF City Guides (www.sfcityguides.org), edited by Judith Hoyem.

One Neighborhood, Many Names
Among San Francisco’s rich tapestry of neighborhoods, one particularly colorful patch stands out. Today many refer to it as The Castro, but over the years this chameleon of a community has had many monikers.

For centuries, the gentle slopes leading up to Twin Peaks proved a fertile foraging ground for indigenous Ohlone Indians based in the diminutive village of Chutchui on the shores of a lagoon. Life changed for them in 1776 when the de Anza expedition arrived and established the Mission de San Francisco de Asis, or Mission Dolores, as well as the Presidio. The Mission Trail, which connected the two encampments, intersected existing Ohlone hunting trails at what is now Castro and Market Streets.

The recorded history of Eureka Valley began in 1846 when Jose de Jesus Noe, the last Mexican Alcalde of San Francisco, received as a land grant from the Mexican government the sprawling Rancho San Miguel, encompassing more than 4,000 acres from the slopes of Twin Peaks all the way to Daly City. Its eastern border ran from a point at approximately what is now Cole and Parnassus Streets south to Valencia, crossing the intersection of what is now Castro, Market and Seventeenth Streets. Were Noe’s home standing today, it would be near the corner of Eureka and 22nd Streets.

In 1848 with the end of the Mexican War, California passed into American hands, gaining statehood two years later. In 1854, an ambitious Mormon, John Meirs Horner, arrived from New Jersey and purchased a broad swath of the Rancho San Miguel. Bounded by Valencia Street on the east, 18th Street on the north, 30th Street on the south, and Castro Street on the west, the parcel became known as Horner’s Addition and retains that name today in the city assessor’s office. Horner laid out the grid of streets and named many of them after significant Spanish figures and former landowners: Jose Castro, Jose Antonio Sanchez and, of course, Noe himself.

Throughout the majority of the 20th century, Eureka Valley remained a quiet, working-class area. But more often than not, locals referred to their location by parish, so you’d more likely hear that they lived in Most Holy Redeemer Parish. In the ’60s and ’70s, as blue collar families fled the cities to the suburbs, many gays and lesbians filtered in, buying up property at relatively low prices. The complexion of the neighborhood changed rapidly, and the strip of businesses along Castro became known as Castro Village -- establishing itself as a counterpart to New York’s Greenwich Village -- and eventually just The Castro.

An area this broad and rich of course has more than one identity. Duboce Triangle, Mission Dolores, Dolores Heights, and Corbett Heights all either overlap or lie within the historic boundaries of the district. Old-timers, though, still refer to the valley and slopes of Upper Market and Castro as Eureka Valley.
INTERIM OFFICER AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

EVNA candidates for Secretary and Directors for ratification by membership, Wednesday, January 27, 2016. With membership approval, we will elect the whole slate in one vote, or we’ll vote on each candidate individually.

Scott Johnson

Scott Johnson moved to San Francisco in 1995 and has been a resident of Eureka Valley since 2002. He and his husband have been members of EVNA for four years. Scott has worked in the retail industry in San Francisco for the past 18 years. In his spare time he enjoys pairing outdoor activities with health and wellness fundraising. He has completed two Aids LifeCycle rides from San Francisco to LA as well as participating in other events to raise funds for the SF AIDS Foundation and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. He also has a passion for animal rights and is a lifetime member of the World Parrot Trust.

Gary McCoy

Gary McCoy has lived in the Castro neighborhood for about 5 years as a renter - currently above Walgreens at 18th and Castro with his husband. He has previously served as an appointee to the SF Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (Vice Chair, 4 years) representing District 8, as well as the Market Octavia Community Advisory Committee (2 years), and served 2 years on the Castro Country Club Advisory Board as Secretary. Currently he is a board member of the Alice B Toklas LGBT Democratic Club. Gary has also served as a legislative aide for Supervisor Wiener, Supervisor London Breed, and Supervisor Julie Christensen.

Zac Townsend

Zac Townsend works at Silicon Valley Bank, where he leads efforts around direct channels. Zac has lived on Dorland Street for three years, since moving from the east coast where he lead innovation and technology efforts for then Newark, NJ Mayor Cory Booker.

Andrew Hattori, Strut’s Director of Marketing and Community Outreach, reminded us of the thinking behind the name Strut, which not everyone is pleased with. “The word is multidimensional,” Hattori said. “As a verb it means to walk confidently. As a noun, a strut is an architectural beam of support. It’s very important that our clients feel supported when they come to Strut.”

Jones pointed out how critical it can be for people to take control of their sexual health. “PrEp is just one solution to HIV transmission,” he said. “When you’re on PrEp you’re in the system—this requires you to go into your doctor’s office to be treated on a regular basis.” Jones added the reminder that there are other STDs besides HIV, and that regular communication with a doctor can be instrumental in getting treated.

Services at Strut are free of charge—the clinic is financed entirely through donations, and is currently 84 percent of the way towards its $15 million goal.