

# THE POTRERO VIEW

MARCH 2014 Serving the Potrero Hill, Dogpatch, Mission Bay and SOMA Neighborhoods Since 1970 FREE

## Southside Neighborhoods Center of New Venture Capital Investment

BY SACHIKO YOSHITSUGU

Southside San Francisco is Mecca for technology companies and the investors that fund them. Showplace Square and South-of-Market is home to Zynga, Github, Dropbox, and many younger startups. Last year, the 94107 zip code—which includes Potrero Hill, Dogpatch, Mission Bay, South Park and South Beach—led the Bay Area in total venture capital investment. The 134 companies headquartered in the area captured more than \$1.1 billion dollars in 153 deals, according to CBInsights, a New York-based venture capital research firm.

“Some people say South Park was the genesis of the tech industry in the late ‘90s,” said Julia Georgules, San Francisco market research manager at Jones Lang LaSalle. “It was where the first startups opened up shop, and has really blossomed and expanded from there as the next wave of companies continues to locate in that area.”

The fierce competition for software and computer engineers — who want to live in San Francisco rather than Silicon Valley and work close to home—has drawn many startups to the City’s Southside neighborhoods.



In 2012, Patrick White founded Synata in SOMA because of its central location for all parts of the Bay. Now a couple of venture capital firms, True Ventures and Shasta Ventures are only a two-minute walk from his office. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF PATRICK WHITE

## Sky-High Rents Forcing Out Neighborhood Businesses

BY MORGANE BYLOOS

Potrero Hill and Dogpatch, not so long ago sketchy neighborhoods populated by artists and craftspeople looking for lower rents and an escape from the bustling city, are becoming gentrified. Lower wage workers are being out-priced by a wave of high technology and health professionals. Rents are increasing dramatically, leading to a steady outward migration of sometimes long-term residents and businesses.

According to Keith Goldstein, Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association president, there’s a “propensity for tech companies to relocate to this neighborhood.” He attributed the trend to the neighborhoods’ proximity to Caltrain, a prized transportation link to Silicon Valley, but also because the area has a lot of industrial and commercial space that’s been underutilized.

The Fei Tian Academy of the Arts California is being forced out of its 15th Street space due to rising rents. According to Academy trustee and co-founder Sherry Zhang, their lease rate doubled in just four years, from \$1.5 per square foot to more than \$3, forcing the nonprofit art school to relocate. “We found a new location to move to in another part of the City,” said Zhang. “We love the Potrero Hill neighborhood, but unfortunately we will have to move away. We put in lots of effort to make our current location really beautiful. We are sad that we have to leave.”

Susannah Bruder, owner of Yogasita, had to close her Mariposa Street studio last year due to a steep rent increase. The property owner proposed a month-to-month lease with a 125-percent rate hike. Bruder managed to stay in the space even with the increase for a few months, but soon realized she didn’t want to be under so much pressure. The last straw was when her dog Sita, who attended all of her yoga classes, died last fall. In the midst of her grieving Bruder decided that she didn’t want to have to teach classes with dozens of people just to be able to make rent. She prefers smaller groups or one-on-one instruction.

After 11 years in her Hill studio and almost 20 years of teaching, Bruder is now holding classes at her students’ homes, as well as pop-up sessions in different spaces. She recently found an opportunity to open up a studio. “Yogasita will be reincarnated in about one year after a slight remodel of the building called the Hair Fair on 20th Street,” she said.



Potrero Bicycle Works has left the hill to set up shop in the Mission. PHOTOGRAPH BY MORGANE BYLOOS

**We love the Potrero Hill neighborhood... We put in lots of effort to make our current location really beautiful. We are sad that we have to leave.**

— SHERRY ZHANG, CO-FOUNDER, FEI TIAN ACADEMY

Once small businesses are gone, it may be hard to get them to come back. Sam Kroyer, co-owner of Potrero Bicycle Works, formerly Roll, recently closed his two-year-old bicycle repair shop at the corner of 16th and Rhode Island

streets because he couldn’t afford the rent: \$6,400 for roughly 1,600 square feet. Kroyer, who doesn’t want to give in to the “cookie-cutter style” that bike shops usually have, and doesn’t want to start selling bicycles, said he realized a smaller, less expensive space might be adequate for his needs. He packed up his tools, stored them in his Outer Mission home garage and started working out of a new space near 22nd and Mission streets. It’s only 100 square feet, with 11-foot ceilings, requiring Kroyer to tightly manage his operations.

## Something Stinky Happening on the Hill

BY SASHA LEKACH

That stinky odor lingering throughout the Hill can be blamed on skunks encroaching on residents’ backyards, as humans and wildlife endure one of the state’s driest winters in decades.

Rhonda Stoffel, 52, has lived at De Haro Street and Southern Heights for almost 20 years. She believes that more skunks are out and about this winter. She’s noticed on her early morning walks with her dog Rocco an increasing number of the critters near Missouri and 19th streets, Wisconsin and 22nd streets near the fire station and on Southern Heights between Carolina and Rhode Island streets. In the past few months she’s had a brazen skunk stop in its track and “stare us down.” Her dog, a German

shepherd mix, “was going bananas.” The critters “seem really bold” and “well-fed,” Stoffel said. She advised dog owners to keep their eyes peeled while walking their animals at dawn and dusk, which is when the skunks tend to roam.

“A lot of the other neighbors, they also have been noticing the skunks too,” Stoffel, a floral designer in the East Bay, said. She claimed raccoons have always been common, while skunk sightings, “that’s a new thing.”

According to Rebecca Dmytryk, of the Moss Landing-based Wildlife Emergency Services, skunks are a natural part of an urban ecosystem. By eating rodents “they do us a great service,” she said. Typically, “skunks are attracted to properties that feed



# SHORT CUTS

## Dogpatch = Brewpatch

Dogpatch is emerging as the place to howl, yowl, or whimper, depending on your mood. In addition to long-time wine bar Yield, a rejuvenated Dogpatch Saloon, newcomer Third Rail, and just launched Triple Voodoo Brewery and Taproom, Magnolia Brewery Dogpatch has opened a new 11,000-square-foot brewing facility that includes a barbecue restaurant, Smokestack, helmed by executive chef/pitmaster Dennis Lee. Smokestack – the name was inspired in part by a Howlin’ Wolf song and as a nod to Dogpatch’s industrial history – is dedicated to wood-fired cookery, with a bar that features Magnolia beers on tap and cocktails that emphasize American whiskeys... And just down the block, Long Bridge Pizza Company has opened in the space formerly occupied by Oralia’s, at 2347 Third Street.

## Drill, Baby, Drill

Earlier this year Pitcher Drilling began gathering subsurface soil samples along De Haro Street under contract with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The work is part of an effort to improve the City’s sewer system. According to Pitcher Drilling’s William Stewart, the company is boring down 380 feet. “They [the SFPUC] want to know how good the rock is,” said Stewart, who was operating a drilling rig with a helper just north of the De Haro and 22nd street intersection. A SFPUC notice posted on a nearby telephone pole listed two other drilling sites, along De Haro Street, just north of 18th Street—where work has already begun—and along Texas Street, between Sierra and 22nd streets. SFPUC is drilling

at 24 sites in the Southside neighborhoods, said Manfred Wong, SFPUC senior project manager.

## Star Soccer

Last month the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund awarded a \$10,000 capstone gift to the Dogpatch Playground. The gift enabled the Dogpatch Playground Working Group to meet its \$106,000 fundraising goal. Dogpatch is the only San Francisco neighborhood without a playground, at least until now. Work on the park is scheduled to begin this month, and be completed by June...Also in February, at the San Francisco Vikings Youth Soccer League’s annual meeting, Starr King Elementary School was given the President’s Award for its accomplishments in building its soccer program. The school’s program, which started in 2009, offers teams at every grade level; about half of the kids at the school play on recreational and/or competitive teams.

## Progress Park

A bit of Dogpatch history is on display at the northern extension of Progress Park. Two massive wood and metal gears made in the late-19th century, and recently installed on a strip of land on 23rd and Iowa streets, provide an intriguing reminder of the technology at work in the neighborhood more than a hundred years ago. That’s when the gears formed part of a transport system used by the Tubbs Cordage Company to move supplies along Indiana Street. The gears were unearthed a few years ago by the R Group when it excavated land on Indiana, midway between 23rd and 25th streets, to build the

MillWheel condominium complex. R Group president Redmond Lyons considered the find too important to be piled on the scrap heap along with the detritus discovered in the process of preparing the area for construction. They were moved around the property several times to keep them out of the way of cement trucks, earthmovers and other modern machinery. Meanwhile, a group of neighbors was working with the San Francisco Department of Public Works to complete Progress Park, a landscaped public leisure and exercise space converted from a fenced-in weed patch under the Interstate-280 onramp, which had long served as a place for drug users to pursue their own form of recreation. Park activists secured a Community Challenge Grants from the City, using the monies to replace decades of weeds and trash with a secure footpath along 23rd. The discovery of the old gears inspired the image that became the logo for Progress Park, and Lyons happily gifted them to the park to serve as symbols honoring the area’s industrial past...Progress Park also offers a popular, fenced-in off-leash area, adding a third doggy-specific space to the two mentioned in last month’s “Esprit Park for the Dogs.”

## Jury Service

The City and County of San Francisco is recruiting volunteers to serve a one-year term on the civil grand jury, with service to start July 1, 2014. The jury investigates the operations of the City’s offices, departments and agencies. Jurors must be available for the entire one-year term, commit to 20 to 30 hours a week, and be able to work during and after normal business hours. The jury meets once a week, usually in the evening. Special committees are typically formed to investigate institutions, and gather as needed. Jury members are paid \$15 for each meeting they attend. For more information, eligibility requirements, and application materials: <http://civilgrandjury.sfgov.org>. Applications must be received by April 30...Speaking of public service, Tony Kelly hadn’t actually filed his papers to become a District 10 Supervisor candidate when last month’s paper was published, as indicated in “Kelly to Challenge Cohen in District 10 Board of Supervisors Race.” He did that later in the month.

Tony Kelly filing for his candidacy for District 10 supervisor at City Hall with a group of supporters.



## MCKINLEY PARK

BY SIMON STAHL

IN THE YEARS AFTER THE GOLD RUSH, LIFE WAS CHEAP IN SAN FRANCISCO. ARGUMENTS IN THE STREETS, GAMBLING HALLS, AND SALOONS OFTEN ENDED WITH A BULLET. 49ERS WERE WILD, RECKLESS, AND OFTEN DRUNK -- SHOOTINGS WERE SO COMMON, THEY WERE ONLY A MOMENTARY DISRUPTION.



AN OUTRAGED MOB OF THOUSANDS, INCLUDING TOWN LEADER SAM BRANNAN, FORMED THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE. THEY SURROUNDED THE JAIL WHERE CASEY WAS BEING HELD ALONG WITH INFAMOUS CRIMINAL CHARLES CORA. THEY POINTED A CANNON AT THE DOOR AND DEMANDED THE PRISONERS, WHO WERE GIVEN A BRIEF EXTRA-LEGAL TRIAL BEFORE BEING HANGED FROM THE VIGILANTES’ HEADQUARTERS, “FORT GUNNYBAGS,” IN PORTSMOUTH SQUARE.



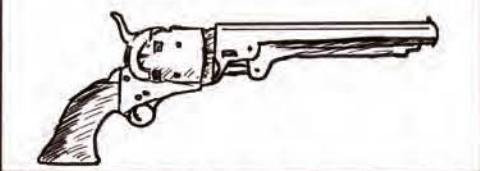
WHEN THE TWO MEN SHOWED UP NEAR LAKE MERCED FOR THE DUEL, SHERIFFS WERE THERE TO ARREST THEM -- DUELING WAS STILL ILLEGAL, AND THIS CONTEST HAD BEEN WELL PUBLICIZED. THEY WERE RELEASED AND RETURNED THE NEXT DAY TO GAIN SATISFACTION. BRODERICK WON THE COIN TOSS, AND HAD THE SUN AT HIS BACK -- ALSO A SUPERIOR MARKSMAN, HE HAD THE ADVANTAGE. THEIR SECONDS PREPARED TERRY’S SET OF FRENCH DUELING PISTOLS, WHICH HAD HAIR TRIGGERS.



PEOPLE TYPICALLY CARRIED LOADED FIREARMS AS A DETERRANT AGAINST ROBBERY OR ASSAULT. THE COLT NAVY REVOLVER WAS ESPECIALLY POPULAR. BOWIE KNIVES AND ‘SLINGSHOTS’ -- LEAD WEIGHTS TIED INTO THE ENDS OF ROPES AND USED AS FLAILS -- WERE ALSO USED AS CHEAPER ALTERNATIVES.



AMONG THE HIGHER CLASSES, STREET VIOLENCE WAS REPLACED WITH DUELS. HUGE CROWDS WOULD GATHER TO WITNESS THE COMBAT, WHICH WAS SOMETIMES ANNOUNCED THE DAY BEFORE IN THE NEWSPAPER. SPECTATORS MIGHT TAKE FERRIES ACROSS THE BAY IN THE HOPES OF WITNESSING THE SLAYING OF A WELL-KNOWN LOCAL CHARACTER.



THE MEN TOOK FIVE PACES AND TURNED TO SHOOT. BRODERICK FIRED EARLY, BEFORE HIS GUN HAD COME LEVEL, AND HIT THE GROUND IN FRONT OF HIM. TERRY, NOW WITH PLENTY OF TIME, SHOT BRODERICK IN THE CHEST, STRIKING HIM IN THE RIGHT LUNG.



TENSIONS ROSE DURING THE BUILD UP TO THE CIVIL WAR. WHEN JAMES KING OF WILLIAM, THE PRO-UNION EDITOR OF THE DAILY EVENING BULLETIN, WROTE A POLEMIC AGAINST JAMES CASEY -- THE SECESSIONIST EDITOR OF THE RIVAL WEEKLY SUNDAY TIMES -- CASEY RESPONDED BY SHOOTING HIM TO DEATH ON THE CORNER OF MONTGOMERY AND COMMERCIAL STREET.



ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS DUELS WAS FOUGHT BY SENATOR DAVID C. BRODERICK, THE HEAD OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY FACTION OF THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE DAVID S. TERRY -- A LEADER OF THE PRO-SLAVERY ‘CHIVALRY’ DEMOCRATS. TERRY GAVE A SPEECH IN SACRAMENTO DERIDING HIM AND HIS FOLLOWERS, AND WHEN BRODERICK READ THE TRANSCRIPT IN THE NEWSPAPER OVER BREAKFAST AT THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, HE YELLED OUT SUCH A TIRADE THAT WHEN WORD GOT BACK TO TERRY, HE CHALLENGED THE SENATOR TO A DUEL.

BRODERICK WAS BROUGHT TO THE HOUSE OF HIS FRIEND LEONIDAS HASKELL IN FORT MASON. AFTER THREE LONG DAYS, HE SUCCEMBLED TO THE WOUND. 25,000 MOURNERS ATTENDED HIS FUNERAL, THE LARGEST SF HAD EVER SEEN. THE DUEL WAS VIEWED AS A THINLY-VEILED POLITICAL ASSASSINATION, SWINGING PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THE CHIVALRY DEMOCRATS. BRODERICK’S MARTYRDOM WAS DEFTLY EXPLOITED BY HIS REPUBLICAN FRIENDS, WHO BEGAN A DYNASTY THAT WOULD LAST UNTIL THE 1930’S.



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## Letters to the Editor

Editor,

So, Potrero Hill will get about a tenth of Tony Kelly's attention, according to your article ("Kelly to Challenge Cohen in District 10 Supervisors Race," March). I was still tempted to vote for him until I happened to read his opinions expressed in the Bicycle Coalition's website... He's for all of their crap, so now I see nobody for whom to vote...

*Bill Reque, Connecticut Street*

Editor,

I'd like to respond to your article that the proposed development at 645 Texas Street by Trumark Urban is without controversy and doesn't require Planning Code exemptions ("No Opposition to Texas Street Development," February). I and many other Sierra Street residents believe that there are a number of issues with the project in its current form. These include height, massing, a poor quality courtyard, and lack of active use at street level. Our concerns are very similar to those noted by the Planning Department in 2012.

I and others voiced concerns at a community meeting on April 23, 2013. The prevailing view at that meeting was that the developer shouldn't seek Planning Code exceptions, and provide a development that meets the requirements of the *Eastern Neighborhoods Plan*.

We had a meeting with Trumark Urban at 25 Sierra Street on January 15, 2014. We were very disappointed to see that they haven't yet acted on the substantive issues raised by the community and the Planning Department. There are four major areas of concern:

**Height.** The proposed building height at 22nd and Mississippi streets—which appears to be 50 feet—doesn't comply with 40 feet zoning, and exceeds the 45 feet ceiling.

**Massing.** There are no massing breaks in the current proposal. The Texas Street property border exceeds 200 feet, and requires at minimum a

30 feet massing break. The bulkiness of the proposed project doesn't fit into the context of the neighborhood, particularly to the north.

**No active use at street level.** Residences at street level appear not to be directly accessible from the street. The plan appears to show doors opening onto enclosed patios only.

**Courtyard.** The courtyard 'feels like a leftover space' and doesn't comply with rear yard requirements for exposure. There's very little public open space in the neighborhood. A poorly designed courtyard will add significant additional pressure, as residents will likely not use the courtyard provided, and make the development unattractive to families.

We understand that the sloped lot presents design challenges. However, at Mariposa and Kansas streets there's a recent condominium project with a very similar slope. In that project at the lowest corner of the lot there's one floor less than the rest of the building, presumably to comply with the zoned height. For the rest of the building the roof remains at the same height above sea level, so that the building naturally transitions in height to two stories at the highest point of the lot, which is similar in scale to the residences along Mariposa Street. In contrast, the current proposal at 645 Texas Street has a height of 50 feet above the lowest corner at 22nd and Mississippi streets, and rather than transition in height to the scale of the residences to the north, it adds an additional floor along Texas Street. The resulting proposed building is too bulky and formulaic, resulting in a need for Planning Code exceptions related to height and massing.

It has one entrance and all the units are accessed by interior corridors, giving the proposed project the feel of a suburban hotel rather than

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—Potrero Hill Buyer

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PUBLISHER'S VIEW

# Anne Heyman

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

On the morning of February 3, while showjumping in an equestrian competition, Anne Heyman, a skilled and experienced rider, was thrown from her mount and suffered severe head injuries. She was rushed to the hospital, where doctors tried to save her. But within hours of her fall, Anne, just 52 years old, was dead. And, for many, many people, the universe shattered.

Anne and her husband, Seth, created an intimate partnership that produced three compassionate and poised children— Jenna, Jonathan, and Jason—an impossibly wide circle of true and loyal friends, and a kind of philanthropy that was rooted deep within their Jewish souls: generous, intelligent, and fundamentally kind. As Seth said at Anne's memorial service, ever since they met when they were just teenagers, his goal was to make as much money as quickly as possible and hers was to give it away even faster. Their collaboration-competition succeeded. Seth made his family rich, while Anne made humankind even wealthier.

Anne's good deeds are too many and varied to list, ranging from helping a poor and neglected family fix their broken refrigerator so they could have fresh food, to supporting college programs to teach tolerance. Her greatest achievement was creating a youth village in post-genocide Rwanda, modeled after a post-World War II kibbutz that emerged in Israel to care for Holocaust orphans. Anne willed the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village into existence, through courage, determination, and a fierce insistence that everyone mattered, especially the weakest among us.

Anne traveled to Rwanda, a country she'd never previously visited, found and purchased a collection of subsistence farming plots, and within a couple of years had built dormitories, a large dining hall, high school, small nature preserve, basketball courts, athletic fields, and a working farm. Anne sent a message out across the country: send me your most impoverished children. And they came: skinny, slump-shouldered, fearful, having lost parents and siblings to machetes, and later to AIDS or other hardships. Many had been living alone on the streets for much of their lives. They arrived so hungry that they piled food on their plates in the dining hall, lest it be their last meal for a long time. And these weren't toddlers, or even adolescents. They were orphaned teenagers, an age group that many Americans believe is beyond redemption; a demographic that some people cross the street to avoid even in our own hometowns.

But redeemed they were, and, along the way, so were hundreds of volunteers and donors, who experienced the kind of healing that only occurs when it's based on helping others. Anne made *tikkun olam*, the Jewish teaching to "heal the world," a centerpiece of the Village. She believed that *tikkun olam* was reciprocal. The orphaned children were healed, and then encouraged to

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PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEJANDRINA HERNANDEZ

## City Solicits More Feedback on Potrero Avenue Streetscape Project

BY KEITH BURBANK

At a Valentine’s Day public hearing on the Potrero Avenue Streetscape Project, many Hill residents expressed anything but love for the project. Upset about the loss of parking that’d be triggered by the initiative, residents opposed to the plans vented their frustration at a City Hall gathering. In addition, several supporters were on hand to express their enthusiasm for it.

“We would like to park safely, conveniently near our homes,” said David Jayne, a Potrero Avenue resident. Safety and convenience were themes for residents opposed to the project. Those in favor stressed safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

According to Jose Manriquez, the City’s claim that 250 cyclists use Potrero Avenue daily is wrong. “I can

be a witness to it,” Manriquez said. Potrero Avenue resident MaryAnn Cheng agreed. Except for brief breaks, Cheng stood at her window all day one day and counted roughly 30 cyclists using the avenue.

Potrero Avenue resident Benoit Lacasse said many cyclists rely on more pleasant streets. He argued that bike lanes are inappropriate on Potrero Avenue, and that Bryant or Harrison streets might be better choices.

“I would never ride my bike on Potrero,” said Susan Logsdon. “It’s not safe.” Logsdon also argued that removing parking spaces would force her and others to walk farther to their homes at night, posing a safety issue for her and other women.

Jesus Gomez, a Mission District resident since the 1960s, said a “lack of parking has always been an issue”

[in the Mission]. He said the proposed project seems to favor commuters over neighborhood residents. “I’ve seen the exodus of my peers,” he said, arguing that less parking will force more people from the City.

Potrero Avenue resident Renee Urizar said a loss of parking in front of her home would devalue her property. The proposal, which will be heard by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Board on March 28, would eliminate the parking space in front of Urizar’s home, a spot she uses to shuttle her children to and from school and other places. She doesn’t have a garage because it’s been converted into a living space.

Cheng, who lives next door to Urizar, agreed with Gomez as well. She asked why residents have to sacrifice their safety and time for people who don’t live in the neighborhood. Like Gomez, she argued that community members are more important than Muni riders who will get to their destination three to five minutes sooner because of the proposed changes.

Tina Diep, who also rejected the City’s proposal, said officials should conduct a survey of residents, rather than relying on the votes they gathered at the project’s public meetings.

During the public comment period, which drew about 30 residents, those opposed to the project outnumbered those in favor. But before residents spoke, SFMTA engineer Chris Pangilinan gave a project overview. Project manager Cristina Calderón Olea, San Francisco Department of Public Works, was also present, but didn’t speak. The two officials have been leading the project.

“This is like *deja vu* all over again,” said Fran Taylor, co-chair, CC Puede. CC Puede is a “coalition of neighbors, merchants, parents and transportation advocates,” according to the organization’s website. Taylor said, she saw the same opposition before improvements were made to Cesar Chavez Street. Advocates of that project eventually won out, and people now seem happy with the changes, she said. For walkers and cyclists, Taylor said the proposed improvements for Potrero Avenue are a “step up.”

“When we walk, we find the sidewalks pretty narrow,” said Elliot Schwartz, a Rhode Island Street resident who strolls with his wife and

children on Potrero Avenue. Taylor agreed. Last year when she was on crutches she found it difficult to walk on the sidewalks.

“It was too good to be true,” said another Potrero Avenue resident, when last year she heard about the proposed project. She said she travels mostly by foot and bike in the neighborhood, and avoids cycling on the avenue because it’s too dangerous. If the proposed changes are built, “I will ride my bike every day,” she said.

If the SFMTA Board approves the project proposal, construction will start in November.

### LETTERS from page 3

San Francisco homes. Recent larger condominium projects in Potrero Hill and Dogpatch have street level-homes or commercial units with direct street entrances, courtyard-level homes with direct courtyard access, and higher-level homes have outdoor walkway access. This type of design promotes the building of community within a residential complex, and provides connections to the wider neighborhood.

The Trumark Urban proposal is a large step back. The design leaves future home owners relatively isolated from one another and from the rest of the neighborhood, and appears to be at least a decade behind the design curve for this area.

This site presents an excellent opportunity for residential development. The Planning Department’s design suggestions demonstrate their professionalism in striking the required balance between the City’s need for additional housing, and the need for new developments to appropriately fit the needs and context of their proposed locations.

If the developers re-evaluate their design strategy, and provide a revised proposal that aligns much more closely to the Planning Department’s 2012 suggestions, we should be able to give our support. However, we cannot support the current proposal, as it stretches the Planning Code zoning beyond what’s reasonable, and will result in a large residential project that has little internal cohesion, and that’s isolated from the rest of the community.

*Andy Shaw, Sierra Street*

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# Developers Meet with Community to Discuss Plans for Cor-o-Van Site

BY KEITH BURBANK

Two meetings held last month to gather neighborhood feedback about future development of the Cor-o-Van site elicited mostly positive reactions from attendees. But according to two community leaders, Potrero Hill won't know if the developers heard residents' concerns are until an actual design is produced.

Property owner Josh Smith, of Walden Development, and the developer, Prado Group, held a public meeting early in the month at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. A week later, Save the Hill, a community advocacy group, sponsored another meeting about the project at Live Oak School. "It was a great meeting," said Melinda Lee, a real estate professional who's been selling on the Hill for 12 years. "I think it's been a great opportunity for people to give their feedback." Jean Bogiages, chair, Mariposa-Utah Street Neighborhood Association, said Walden and Prado are spending more time soliciting feedback than the City requires.

"I found it pretty positive," said Save the Hill member Ergin Guney, after the meeting among Save the Hill, Smith, the Prado Group and architects hired to design the project. According to Guney, the developers are open to an adaptive re-use of the site, something Save the Hill is pushing for. "It seems like there is hope



[for an adaptive reuse]," Guney said.

Before the meeting, Guney spoke to the *View* on behalf of Save the Hill. "We're not convinced yet that Walden Development has the neighborhood's best interests in mind," he said, pointing out that the developer wants to maximize its profits, but his group wants to retain and enrich the community.

Tony Kelly, candidate for District 10 supervisor, and Potrero Boosters president J.R. Eppler took a wait-and-see attitude about the project. Kelly said it's fine to have a meeting, but ultimately "it all depends on what [design] they come up with." According to Eppler, the design will be the proof the developers heard what the community said. "And then we'll know if this has been a worthwhile

enterprise or not," he said of the meetings.

Prado Group calmed some Save the Hill member's fears about the project's design, but concerns remain. "Prado's other recent developments have a suburban or office-park aesthetic, and include formula retail in the formulaic architecture," noted a list of comments and questions from Save the Hill to the developers, referring to projects recently completed by the developer at 1266 Ninth Avenue and 38 Dolores Street. "Should we be concerned that your plans will be similar in style and use?"

Dan Safier, Prado Group president, declined to provide specific responses to the advocacy group's comments. He said he'd just received the questions that day, and needed

Top Left Residents vying to ask questions, rather than watch the prepared slide presentation

Bottom Left 18th Street resident, Peter Linenthal gives feedback to the Prado Design Team.

Right Daniel Safier of Prado Design, facilitated the meeting. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ED RUDOLPH

time to respond.

Before this latest development effort, Walden Development was working with Kaiser Permanente to build a medical complex at the site, located at 16th and Mississippi streets. Kaiser dropped its plans in face of strong community opposition, instead relocating two blocks away, at 1600 Owens Street. Kaiser claimed it pivoted to the Owens Street site because it'll be able to open its offices

COR-O-VAN page 23

## Potrero Hill's Latest Single Family Home Sales

### Recent Sales

Address	Property Type	BD/BA/PKG	List Price	Sold Price
1624 20th	SFR	3 / 3 / 1	\$2,495,000	\$2,275,000
341 Mississippi	SFR	4 / 2 / 2	\$1,849,000	\$2,000,341
958 Carolina	SFR	3 / 2½ / 2	\$1,695,000	\$1,900,000
753 Kansas	SFR	3 / 2 / 3	\$1,695,000	\$1,680,000
2321 19th	SFR	3 / 3½ / 2	\$1,595,000	\$1,675,000
1015 Carolina	SFR	3 / 3 / 2	\$1,395,000	\$1,650,000
557 Vermont	SFR	4 / 2½ / 1	\$1,649,000	\$1,645,000
1422 Rhode Island	SFR	4 / 3½ / 1	\$1,495,000	\$1,610,000
312 Texas	SFR	3 / 2½ / 2	\$1,399,000	\$1,600,000
2331 19th	SFR	2 / 2 / 1	\$1,400,000	\$1,425,000
880 Wisconsin	SFR	4 / 3 / 1	\$1,279,000	\$1,385,300
515 Kansas	SFR	2 / 2 / 1	\$1,200,000	\$1,380,000
837 Wisconsin	SFR	2 / 1 / 1	\$899,000	\$1,301,000
2242 19th	SFR	2 / 2 / 1	\$1,149,000	\$1,140,000
606 Arkansas	SFR	2 / 1 / 1	\$895,000	\$1,105,000
576 Texas	SFR	2 / 1 / 2	\$899,000	\$1,035,000
658 Connecticut	SFR	2 / 1 / 2	\$849,000	\$987,000
1019 Rhode Island	SFR	2 / 2 / 0	\$949,000	\$965,000
1039 Carolina	SFR	1 / 1 / 2	\$799,000	\$860,000
1422 Rhode Island	SFR	2 / 1 / 1	\$895,000	\$825,000
1409 Kansas	SFR	2 / 1 / 1	\$799,000	\$760,000
1434 Kansas	SFR	2 / 2 / 0	\$699,000	\$755,000

Source: San Francisco Association of REALTORS® Multiple Listing Service (SFAR MLS). Display of MLS data is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed accurate by the MLS.



**Susan Olk**

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PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEJANDRINA HERNANDEZ

## Potrero Avenue Walgreens to Remain Open

BY KEITH BURBANK

A rumor that the Walgreens located at 24th Street and Potrero Avenue is closing is false. According to the company's corporate office, as well as the local manager, the store is staying open.

"At this time we have no plans to close or relocate the store," said Phil Caruso, a Walgreens Company spokesperson. The store opened in February 1997; several residents said it plays an important role in the community.

"It's such an accessible place and such an accessible area," said Ap Arthor, a Potrero Avenue resident. "They've been here for years." Arthor said the store is a good outlet to pick up household items, quickly get beauty supplies, and obtain prescriptions. She said a lot of community members would suffer if it closed. Carla Srrai, an area resident for 24 years, agreed that the community benefits from the store's presence.

The 24th Street and Potrero Avenue store is within blocks of San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH), and is a member of Calle24, an organization representing merchants, neighbors, nonprofits, and artists along 24th Street. "They've been a pretty good neighbor," said Erick Argulo, Calle24 president. Argulo said the store employs local residents,

pays a good salary and provides insurance. Closing the store would mean a loss of jobs.

According to Tristan Cook, SFGH and Trauma Center spokesperson, the hospital "has a great community partnership with Walgreens, and their pharmacy and store is well-used by our patients and staff."

Argulo suggested that the source of the closure rumor may be confusing the 24th Street store with the 16th and Mission streets Walgreens. That store may be shuttered if a proposal to build two 10-story towers at the site is approved by the City. Argulo added that there's significant opposition to that project.

One Wednesday afternoon at the 24th Street store customers, many of whom seemed to be English-as-a-second language speakers, were picking-up prescriptions, buying snacks, and purchasing household supplies. Bus stops flank each side of the store.

Walgreens has 60 stores in the Bay Area. The company operates 8,206 drug stores across the United States, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 2011, Walgreens employed 247,000 people. The same year it held 20 percent of the retail prescription market, and filled 289 prescriptions per drugstore, per day, on average.

### VENTURE CAPITAL from Front Page

"Companies are locating there because it's centrally located between Caltrain and BART, with good Muni routes allowing companies to attract talent from throughout the Bay Area," said Alex Niehenke, a principal of Scale Venture Partners and six-year SOMA resident.

"Until the last two years, it was also reasonably priced because it was predominantly old warehouses renovated for an urban, loft-like experience," Niehenke said. "Rents have subsequently increased due to demand, but a lot of startups still like this style of open office, since they believe it fosters creativity and communication."

That's why Patrick White decided in 2012 to found Synata near his SOMA apartment. Synata is a cloud-based search engine for businesses that enables employees to look for information across Gmail, BOX, Dropbox and Salesforce, among other applications. The startup's nine employees commute from the Financial District, Mission District, East Bay and South Bay to office space in the Hatchery, a co-working site at Second and Townsend. "It's such a central location for all parts of the Bay, but still has this great San Francisco feel to it," said White.

The company's location is benefiting from another trend. Silicon Valley VCs are moving to San Francisco and opening up satellite offices in SOMA to be closer to their target

markets.

"Traditionally, for an entrepreneur like me your life is kind of defined by driving down to Palo Alto when you're fundraising," said White. "There is a three-month period where literally every other day you get in your car and drive down to Palo Alto to go to Sandhill Road. It's brutal."

White, who is seeking seed funding to grow his company, recently met with True Ventures and Shasta Ventures at their offices overlooking South Park, just a two-minute walk from the Hatchery.

Internet companies based in 94107 received 56 percent of VC funding in the zip code, followed by 22 percent for mobile and telecom, according to CBInsights. In the Bay Area as a whole, Internet companies took 40 percent of VC funds; mobile and telecom received 15 percent. The top three VC investment industries nationally were software, biotechnology and Internet, according to the *MoneyTree Report* released by the National Venture Capital Association.

Non-technology companies—in healthcare and energy—funding share in the Bay Area has steadily declined since 2009. Still, the healthcare sector ranked third in the 94107 zip code for both VC dollars and deals last year. Healthcare companies—like medical technology firm Channel Medsystems, located at 101 Mississippi Street—received eight percent of total dollars and deal share in the zip code, with Medsystems securing \$9.8 million in a series B round of funding led by Andreessen Horowitz.

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# San Francisco Heritage Works to Preserve the City

BY MORGANE BYLOOS

*Morgane Byloos interviewed Mike Buhler, executive director of San Francisco Heritage, about development pressures in the City, and how they may impact historical resources.*

*View: What's SF Heritage's mission, and why is it important for San Francisco?*

**Buhler:** We were established in 1971 in the wake of redevelopment efforts in the Western Addition and other parts of the City where parts of the neighborhood would be demolished. That was a time when a lot of preservation organizations emerged. SF Heritage has a mission to preserve and enhance San Francisco's unique architectural and cultural identity. In more recent times we have broadened to focus on cultural preservation as well. An example of this would be an initiative we launched this year called Legacy Bars and Restaurants aimed to protect the City's legendary eating and drinking establishments, many of which have been threatened with displacement or closure in recent years.

*View: What about the Southside neighborhoods and the waterfront?*

**Buhler:** We have also been very active on the waterfront. I, myself, serve on the Central Waterfront Advisory Group and work closely with the Port in reviewing developments and projects in the Southside neighborhoods. Through our Issues Committee, which

is comprised of members of our board and staff, we often review proposed development projects early in the entitlements process. That gives us, as the City's leading historic preservation organization, an opportunity to provide early feedback to developers to avoid or minimize impact on historic resources for proposed development projects.

*View: What kind of work has SF Heritage done in the neighborhood?*

**Buhler:** In more recent history, we did the survey work of the Dogpatch landmark district, which led to the nomination of that residential district as a San Francisco historic district. Also, another thing that we do is we hold easement on historic properties. The properties that we hold easements on we have the right to review and approve alterations to those properties. That is the one instance where we do have kind of a regulatory role. In the case of the Southside, we have an easement on Bayview Opera House. We are responsible for reviewing alterations to that property and approving them. We have an on-site role to review contracts at Bayview Opera House and in addition to that, for the last few years, we have co-sponsored a concert series with the Bayview Opera House in conjunction

San Francisco Heritage is following the course of development proposals for this site. Front and back views of the Cor-o-van site located at the corner of 16th and Mississippi streets. PHOTOGRAPHS MORGANE BYLOOS



with the Black History Month in February. Also, I mentioned our Legacy Bar and Restaurant project, which is an advocacy and education initiative. We have several establishments that are legacy establishments in the Southside neighborhood: Anchor Brewing, Dogpatch Saloon, Sam Jordan's Bar, The Old Clam House. Future additions would be The Ramp, which is adjacent to Pier 70.

*View: Why is Pier 70 so important historically?*

**Buhler:** Pier 70 is the oldest continuously operating shipyard on the West Coast and it is extraordinarily significant. We applaud the Port for its effort to maintain this historic use at Pier 70 while rehabilitating the historic buildings there.

*View: What is SF Heritage's position on Pier 70 and the transformation of the area?*

**Buhler:** With respect to Pier 70, we



are in the midst of our review of the three separate projects that comprise the overall development plan for Pier 70. Crane Cove Park is a project that we have issued a formal comment letter on. The two development parcels on the site are the historic buildings on 20th Street, with Orton Development as the developer. The remainder of the site has Foster City as the developer, and

HERITAGE page 18



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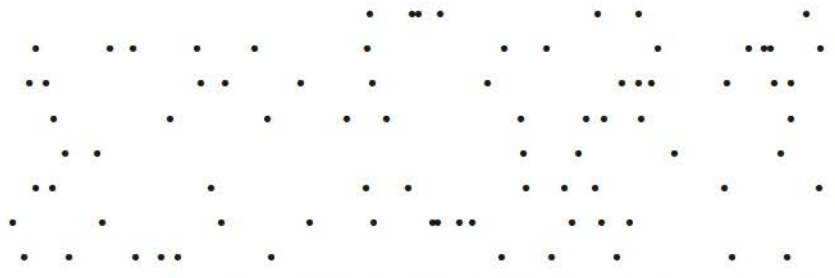
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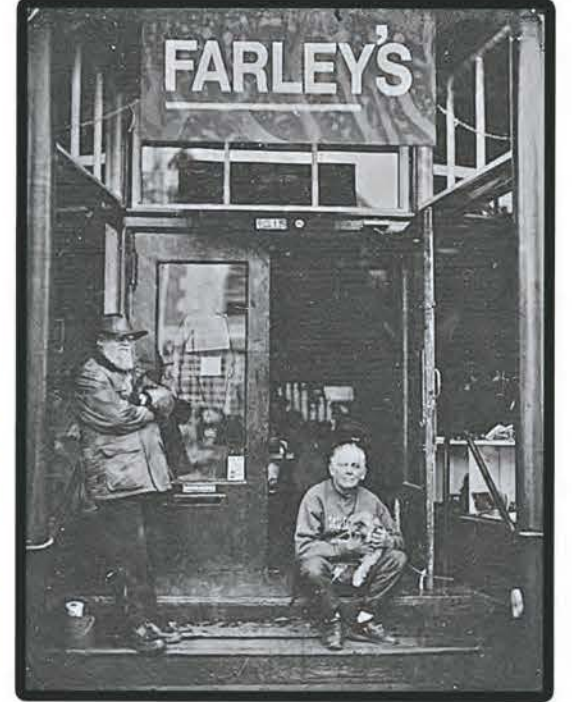
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A MONTHLY UPDATE  
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VOLUME 42 • MARCH 2014

# REBUILD POTRERO

In February's Rebuild Potrero column we outlined the key findings related to safety and health and well-being from a household needs assessment that was conducted amongst Potrero Terrace and Annex (PTA) residents. Additional findings regarding Transportation and Technology Access are presented below.

### Transportation

Access to transportation is extremely important in order for families to conduct their daily routines. While seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents utilize the bus for their everyday needs, a significant percentage (27%) had never used any type of Muni or other transit-related resources. About half reported having access to a car while the other half do not have access to a car at all. Survey respondents indicated they would use public transportation more if the wait were shorter, it went closer to places they want to go, there were fewer transfers, and if it were cheaper, cleaner, and safer.



phone, while 32% do not use the internet at all. While 44% have a working computer at home, 27% of respondents stated they could not afford to buy a computer.

### Technology Access

Numerous studies have shown the impact of the digital divide is most felt in low-income and communities of color. By understanding PTA residents' use of technology, access to the internet, and knowledge of computers, we are better able to develop programming that will help close the technological gap. Twenty-five percent (25%) of surveyed residents do not know how to use a computer and 37% have only basic knowledge. Forty-one percent (41%) access the internet via cell

More than just a physical redevelopment, Rebuild Potrero is taking a comprehensive approach to improving the health, education and economic outcomes for children and their families living in public housing. The assessment was conducted to better understand the current conditions and needs of families and to set the stage for development of an effective program and service delivery strategy. Providing comprehensive transportation options and increased technology availability will allow residents of Rebuild Potrero to fully utilize program and services and access other opportunities.



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF FARLEY'S EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE INDICATED



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SUSAN OLK

For more information, visit our website at [rebuildpotrero.com](http://rebuildpotrero.com) or e-mail us at [potrero@bridgehousing.com](mailto:potrero@bridgehousing.com)



# Starr King Elementary School Principal Discusses Opportunities and Challenges

BY LIZ MELCHOR

*This is the first of a series of View interviews with principals of public school located in the neighborhood. A different school will be featured throughout the winter and spring.*

The 2013-2014 school year marks Wendy Cheong's first year as Starr King Elementary School's principal. Before coming to Starr King, Cheong was an assistant principal at Gordan J. Lau School, and worked at the San Francisco Unified School District's central office as the Mandarin immersion curriculum coordinator. She started her career as a classroom teacher at Jefferson Elementary School.

*View: What should the community know about Starr King?*

**Cheong:** We are a very diverse school, with balanced representation of all cultural groups and ethnicities, including Asians, African-Americans, Latinos, and Caucasians. We have four different programs at the school. These are pre-k, Mandarin immersion, special day class, and general education, meaning English only. Mandarin immersion is the larger program, with 200 to 220 students right now. It begins with 80 percent instruction in Mandarin in kindergarten and first grade, and slowly increases until it is about half-half English-Mandarin by the fourth and fifth grades. Special day class is for four students who have moderate to severe autism and requires specialized instruction from both teachers and paraprofessionals.

*View: How many Starr King students*

*live in Dogpatch or Potrero Hill?*

**Cheong:** While we are a citywide school, roughly one-third of our kids come from the neighborhood. Generally speaking, neighborhood kids are in the general education or Mandarin program. However, the Mandarin program draws children who come from all over the City.

*View: What are some recent or ongoing initiatives at Starr King?*

**Cheong:** We have many programs at one school, so we are always working on creating a united culture across the school. We want a culture of peace builders, and we encourage the use of words to resolve conflict. We develop social skills and work on the academic curriculum. It shouldn't matter what program students are in or where they come from; we want all students and parents to



Wendy Cheong, Principal of Starr King Elementary School. PHOTOGRAPH BY DON NOLTE

have the same access to activities and programs. That is our mission.

*View: Are there any physical improvements on the horizon?*


**Cheong:** We will be renovating our school and implementing a new green schoolyard initiative. The greening will help build up our environmental education program, eco-literacy if you will. Currently, we have a gardening program where the gardening coordinator and teachers work hand-in-hand to provide experiences that coordinates with their science units. Our new green yard will transition the children from play in a more traditional sport environment to a more nature setting. Reconstruction will begin in March. Bungalows, serving as temporary classrooms, will move into the schoolyard. The completion date of the whole project is October 2015. The construction will be in phases, and we are trying to make sure there are minimal disruptions.

*View: How can community members volunteer or get involved with the school?*

**Cheong:** We welcome volunteers.

	Daniel Webster Elementary	Starr King Elementary	International Studies Academy	KIPP College Prep	Downtown Continuation High School	San Francisco Unified School District	State of California	
Address	465 Missouri St.	1215 Carolina St.	655 De Haro St.	655 De Haro St.	693 Vermont St.			
Grades	K-5	K-5	6-12	9	9-12			
Enrollment	262	359	395	120	252			
API	754	812	603	875*	457	806	790	
STAR	English/ Language Arts	41	55	26	74*	3	59	55
	Math	45	67	6	51*		56	50
	Science	53	49	22	60*		60	59
	History/ Social Sciences			27	81*	7	51	49

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# What Happened Last Year with Real Estate on Potrero Hill?



This condominium at 415 Missouri Street attracted thirteen offers after just a few days on the market.

Low interest rates and powerful demand have made the market on Potrero Hill stronger than it has been in years. Many homes are attracting multiple offers after just a few days on the market.

If you have been thinking of selling your home this may be an excellent time to take advantage of strong demand from buyers.

## Sales Prices for All Potrero Hill Homes Sold in 2013\*

1817 19th St .....\$1,825,000	901 De Haro St .....\$3,180,000	1219 Rhode Island St .....\$950,000
2242 19th St .....\$1,140,000	1052 De Haro St .....\$899,000	1422 Rhode Island St .....\$825,000
2321 19th St .....\$1,675,000	1177 De Haro St .....\$1,250,000	1470 Rhode Island St .....\$693,900
2331 19th St .....\$1,425,000	515 Kansas St.....\$1,380,000	243 Texas St .....\$1,350,000
1425 20th St .....\$1,055,000	566 Kansas St.....\$2,412,500	312 Texas St .....\$1,600,000
1624 20th St .....\$2,275,000	753 Kansas St.....\$1,680,000	376 Texas St .....\$1,350,000
2004 22nd St.....\$1,050,000	761 Kansas St.....\$3,195,000	576 Texas St .....\$1,035,000
2106 22nd St .....\$673,000	835 Kansas St.....\$1,710,000	422 Utah St.....\$1,050,000
2104 23rd St .....\$1,428,000	1407 Kansas St.....\$885,000	557 Vermont ..... \$1,645,000
606 Arkansas St.....\$1,105,000	1409 Kansas St.....\$760,000	711 Vermont St .....\$1,193,225
23 Blair Terrace.....\$500,000	1419 Kansas St.....\$700,000	779 Wisconsin St.....\$1,150,000
75 Caire Terrace.....\$510,000	1434 Kansas St.....\$755,000	837 Wisconsin St.....\$1,301,000
700 Carolina St .....\$1,265,000	1300 Mariposa St.....\$1,525,000	880 Wisconsin St.....\$1,385,300
958 Carolina St .....\$1,900,000	1919 Mariposa St.....\$1,450,000	930 Wisconsin St.....\$1,175,000
1015 Carolina St .....\$1,650,000	341 Mississippi St .....\$2,000,341	983 Wisconsin St.....\$1,430,000
1039 Carolina St .....\$860,000	541 Mississippi St .....\$1,380,000	
658 Connecticut St.....\$987,000	1019 Rhode Island St .....\$965,000	

**In 2013 the average sales price for a home on Potrero Hill was \$1,338,434.**

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\*Sales information as of January 21, 2014 in SFAR MLS.



RENTS from Front Page

According to District 10 Supervisor Malia Cohen, she and her colleagues are working to retain and support small businesses. “The Eastern Neighborhoods Production, Distribution, Repair – PDR – legislation that I introduced does a number of things to retain and support the growth of small businesses,” Cohen said. “Including allowing manufacturers to pool their resources to share retail spaces which are central to business. In some areas, this legislation will allow self-storage uses to be reconstructed if they also deliver the equivalent of new manufacturing space on the same site.”

Cohen said that most cities in the country are trying to get rid of their last bits of industrial spaces, but San Francisco isn't. “We recognize that if we are going to thrive as a city we need to support and maintain a diverse economy, and the PDR sector is vital to this.” She also emphasized the importance of having those businesses around to create jobs. “We simply cannot look at our city's

affordability crisis without looking at ways to support living-wage jobs for a diverse population of residents.”

In addition to threats to neighborhood businesses, Goldstein, who has been a Hill resident and business owner for 40 years, said community members are concerned about the lack of open space, growing traffic and poor access to public transit. But while some enterprises are struggling to stay in the area, others welcome the new wave of potential customers. Goldstein's building waterproofing and restoration business is prospering thanks to the healthy economic climate. “I'm reluctant to demonize the tech companies and hold them responsible for everything bad that's happened.”

Other business owners, like Bruder, are just hoping that the commercial rental market will get saturated so they can once again thrive in their neighborhood.

Potrero Bicycle Works closed their Potrero Hill location and moved to the Mission District in late December. PHOTOGRAPH BY MORGANE BYLOOS



PUBLISHER'S VIEW from page 3

heal others. They build homes for the elderly, volunteer at schools, and fix broken computers. And in doing so, they heal themselves and those around them.

Just last year, virtually every one of the Village's first 124 graduates passed the national exams, equivalent to our high school exit test. Many received college scholarships. At the commencement ceremony, Rwanda's president, Paul Kagame, told the graduates that they—teenagers who only four years earlier were viewed as little better than street garbage—were the future of the country.

Over the past 30 years I've visited many development projects in Africa. I'd never before encountered such a fully realized dream, as well and quickly executed, as Agahozo-Shalom.

While Anne made what she did seem effortless, it wasn't. Early on she had to overcome intense stage fright whenever she spoke in front of a group. Raising funds for the Village was a hand-to-hand, exhausting effort. But she was buoyed by her cherished children, her friends, supporters, and Seth. They were a couple locked in lifelong love, renewing their decades-old vows just last year during a vacation in Hawaii. Whenever she was praised for her good works, Anne would quickly deflect the conversation by pointing out that every significant achievement “takes a village.” That may be true, but for many of us Anne was the essential village chief.

When news of Anne's death reached the Village, a collective wail of despair was raised, one echoed in homes from New York to San Francisco, Israel to her native South Africa. Many of the children felt that they'd lost their second mother, and that her passing meant they'd be quickly ejected back onto the streets, a swelling panic that was rapidly and firmly quelled by Agahozo's staff and board.

Days before her death, Anne concluded a hard-negotiated agreement to develop an 8.5 megawatt solar field on Village property, an amount of generation equal to almost 10 percent of Rwanda's electricity grid. As chair of the board's business committee, I worked closely with Anne on developing the deal, an effort that, along with nurturing other enterprise initiatives, kept us in near daily contact for

almost a year. The project was part of Anne's determination to realize Agahozo's full dream: to create revenue-generating enterprises that would also provide training and employment opportunities for the children and the country. When the solar field opens later this year, electricity will spill throughout Rwanda, powering lights, refrigerators, computers, lives, and businesses. Pure, catalyzing energy. Just like Anne.

A few months ago, Anne and my wife, Debbie, were planning our second annual couples' vacation to New Orleans' Jazzfest, which will never take place. In between their email chatter, which mixed brainstorming potential donors for the Village and what hotel to stay at, Anne threw out a P.S.:

“I am sure you know this, but your husband is a true gem. I cannot thank you enough for donating him to the Village—he is the best business partner I could ever have. We make the perfect negotiating team...I am totally the mean girl; he is completely the nice guy. And neither of us has to even act a part!”

The email is classic Anne: praise for me, while playfully teasing her own role. The truth is, in the years I worked with her, Anne was never mean. But she was always fierce. She fought without restraint to protect the Village's present, and secure its better future. And whoever she engaged with received her unadulterated attention, creating a sense that she was always fully present, despite the many projects and people she interacted with daily. Hundreds of people attended Anne's funeral, and hundreds more passed through the family's *Shiva* house in honor of what Anne did, and who she was, to each and every one of them.

In Kinyarwanda, Rwanda's native tongue, “Agahozo” means the place where tears are dried. In Hebrew, “Shalom” means peace. With the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, Anne dried the tears of children parched from poverty and violence, and helped to heal a country on its way to post-genocide peace. Those of us who knew Anne are left with our own tears, and a loss so profound that it will take a very long time to feel at peace.

*Steven Moss serves on Agahozo-Shalom's board, and chairs its business committee. Donations to the Village should be made to: [www.asyv.org](http://www.asyv.org).*



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DADDY'S HANDBOOK

# Seize the Day

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

Sara had her first seizure when she was one. She was playing in "Dirty Park," a Noe Valley playground given that nickname by our nanny, Gilda, because it featured a popular indoor area choked with large, well-loved, plastic toys that never seemed to be washed. As Sara convulsed, Gilda shouted to the other caretakers that something was wrong. A clutch of nannies — immigrants from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico — gathered round to see how they could help. Someone called 911.

The paramedics arrived quickly, swept Sara up, and climbed into their ambulance. Gilda tried to follow.

"Are you related to this child?" asked the paramedic, as she blocked Gilda from getting into the vehicle.

"No, no, I'm her nanny," Gilda responded, her Guatemalan accent thickened with stress. "I'm responsible for her."

"Sorry ma'am, only relatives are allowed. You can follow her separately."

"But I don't have a car!" Gilda cried. But by that time the ambulance doors had shut, and the vehicle wheeled away.

I was working at home when my cell phone rang.

"Gilda just called me. Sara had a seizure. She's in an ambulance to

Kaiser hospital. I'm in the car now," said Debbie.

"Which hospital?" I asked.

"The one on Geary Boulevard, where she was born. They're taking her to the emergency room."

I jumped into my car, and raced to Kaiser, arriving at the emergency entrance just as the ambulance pulled up. A paramedic stepped out clutching Sara. Her clothes had been stripped off. She was naked, wrapped in a blanket, screaming.

"Is this your daughter?" she asked. I nodded.

"She was running a high temperature so we took her clothes off to cool her down," she said. Sara reached over and grabbed me, snuggling into my chest.

"She's seems to be okay now, though."

I rushed her into the hospital. Her screams turned to sobs, and then she relaxed into sleep on my chest. Debbie arrived 10 minutes later, though was delayed getting in as security demanded to see her identification.

Sara had experienced a febrile seizure, a convulsion triggered by rapidly rising fever. By the time she got to the hospital her temperature had mostly subsided. She exhibited no other health problems. We were told to take her home, make sure she drank liquids, and monitor her temperature.

Debbie and I were with Sara when she had her second seizure. She'd had a mild fever all day, which started to rise significantly as the sun set. As Sara's temperature swelled, Debbie called an advice-nurse, who told her to do what

she could to get her fever down: take off her clothes, put her in tepid water. We tried everything, but Sara's fever stayed high, zooming past 104 Fahrenheit. And then she started to shake.

I've never experienced anything more frightening than seeing my baby daughter in full convulsions. I scooped her up; she felt like a steaming hot potato. Debbie called 911. A few moments later Sara stopped seizing, and went limp. I raced around the apartment holding her, thinking she might be dead.

The paramedics arrived. Debbie and I ran out of our apartment, Sara in my arms. Our downstairs neighbors, Joe and Sam, roused by the ambulance's siren, were standing on the landing. Joe looked stricken. Sam, who was holding her new baby, Ella, in her arms, radiated maternal concern.

At the hospital the doctor told us that we needed to get fluids into Sara.

"We can put an IV in her," he said.

"She won't like that," I protested.

"I understand. We can take her and strap her down to get the needle into her arm. You don't even need to be in the room when we do the procedure."

"That's not going to happen," I said. "We're not leaving her alone, and we're not going to stick a needle into her."

"Well, you're not leaving here until she gets hydrated," replied the doctor. "You need to get enough liquid into her so that she pees."

The emergency room was packed with patients waiting to be seen, suffering from deep wounds, broken limbs, and other ailments. Since there weren't any treatment rooms available, we were directed to a couple of plastic chairs in

the hallway. Over the next six hours — until 2 a.m. — we fed water to Sara from a needleless syringe. Each time she'd clamp her mouth shut. We'd beg and cajole her to take a few drops. We made a game out of it, flying the syringe like an airplane, or having it "walk" towards her mouth saying "water, water," a thirsty girl lost in the desert.

New patients arrived; others were escorted into examination rooms. A man clutching his bloody stomach was wheeled in, and placed next to us, moaning. We continued to ply Sara with syringes of water. Periodically, Debbie or I would check her diaper, to see if she was wet.

"I felt something," Debbie finally said. "I think she peed!" She took off Sara's diaper; it was moist.

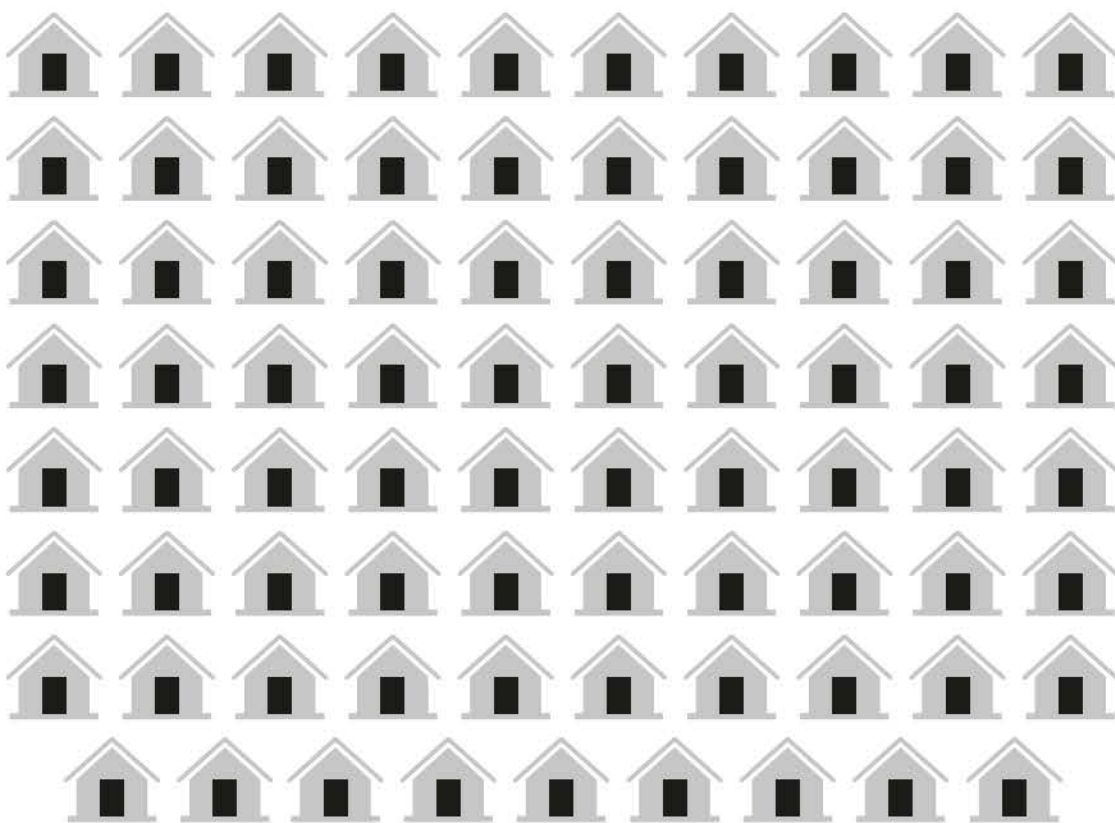
"I'll tell the nurse," I exclaimed, grabbing the soiled diaper and waving it in front of me like a trophy.

"It's wet! It's wet!" I said, as I hurried to the nurse who'd been monitoring us throughout the night.

She smiled. "I guess you can go home now."

We could have gone home within an hour of having arrived at the hospital, avoided camping out in the hallway as the nightly array of medical emergencies paraded by, if we'd just let the doctor put an IV in Sara. But we were unaccountably stubborn, especially given how freaked out we'd been about Sara's condition just moments before. I'm glad we were; sometimes how care is delivered, and by whom, is as important as who is providing it.

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Left Nina Katchadourian at Catherine Clark Gallery

Below Hosfelt Gallery on Utah Street

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON NOLTE

storefront—which is thenorm there —I wanted ground floor access rather than an upstair space, as I had at 49 Geary. Now that we are installed here, I find the location, ease of parking, ambience and, of course, the proximity to my colleagues and other art resources to be invaluable. The location is equally convenient for Peninsula, East Bay and City audiences. Foot traffic has been steady—there’s a crowd here right now—and business has been good. We’ve received a lot of attention and the reception has been very positive. In terms of the potential, I think other galleries will surely follow suit.”

“I am encouraged by the welcome we have experienced from the neighbors in Potrero, and by the new faces in the gallery,” said Clark, who moved her gallery from Minna Street.

“We’ve had a great reception. It

has been great to have visitors and to do business with clients we never saw at 49 Geary as well as our established clientele. There has clearly been a need for San Francisco’s art scene to expand into a new area outside of downtown,” said Brian Gross. “I’m thrilled to have relocated to Potrero.”

“We have become a much needed new art hub,” said Jack Fisher.

“The Potrero location has not changed the focus of what we show,” added Lawson. “Our commitment to contemporary painting on an international scope is only strengthened by the ease and economy with which we can mount exhibitions in the new space. San Francisco’s art galleries are an amazing resource for the City. We are free, remarkably varied in our offerings, and now that five of us plus the Wattis are within walking distance of one parking space, readily accessible. I hope a new crop of folks will rediscover the simple pleasure of gallery hopping.”

## Potrero Emerges as Art Hub

BY RYDER W. MILLER

Over the past year a community of art galleries has emerged on 16th Street, Utah Street, and Potrero Avenue, with roughly a half-dozen exhibit spaces now on offer. The cluster has replaced Valencia and 16th streets as a key artist hub, as galleries and shops in that area steadily close or move. Recent arrivals to Potrero Hill include the George Lawson Gallery, Jack Fisher Gallery, Catherine Clark Gallery, Brian Gross Fine Art, and Hosfelt Gallery. And the California College for the Arts’ Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts and Artitud are within walking distance.

“The Potrero neighborhood and adjacent Dogpatch and Mission are desirable areas of San Francisco, with

a healthy blend of cultural venues, educational institutions, residents, design businesses, and nonprofits. It was therefore a compelling neighborhood for us to consider for the re-location of the gallery,” said Catharine Clark, of her gallery. “The addition of new and more galleries deepens the many reasons people already are drawn to the area, and expands our audience to include patrons who may have avoided downtown in recent years due to congestion, traffic, lack of parking, and noise.”

“Initially I picked Potrero because this is where I found a building that would work; a space that had the right volume, light, accessibility, and affordability to support the gallery’s program,” said Lawson. “After my experience in Los Angeles with a



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PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF ODC

## The Aftermath Affair : Ferocity Made Physical

BY LORI HIGA

The word “powerful” doesn’t do justice to Bianca Cabrera’s new production, *The Aftermath Affair*, at ODC Theatre. With an all-female company of 16 dancers, known as the Blind Tiger Society, an original soundtrack composed by Ben Juodvankis, *Aftermath* is an astounding *tour de force* and brilliant calling card for Cabrera and Juodvankis, two rising stars of the Bay Area dance world.

The result of years of collaboration, *Aftermath* is a visceral, theatrical work that bristles and aches with intensity, virtuosity, and sub-

limity. Imagine post-Burning Man, Nine Inch Nails-styled industrial tracks colliding with mesmerizing soundscapes; dancers with the delicacy, precision, and athleticism of Baryshnikov melting and exploding into each other’s bodies with atomic energy.

Through an intense mixture of energy, movement and sound, the Society gives a raw, supernova performance that will leave unsuspecting audiences breathless, emotionally drained but wanting more.

Both Cabrera’s and Juodvankis’ genius is obvious. Though *Aftermath* boasts no plot, its imagistic approach



tells a profound and timeless story of the human struggle to survive, balancing internal and external forces. Juodvankis’ lush beats and sometimes elegiac score are the perfect complement to Cabrera’s propulsive, exhaustive creativity.

Cabrera calls her company “Blind Tiger Society” in homage to her West Oakland base of operation, where the View witnessed a rehearsal of *Aftermath*. The term was the nickname for Prohibition-era speakeasies and, according to Cabrera, pays tribute to the do-it-yourself ethos of today’s dance artists.

Born in Los Angeles of Mexican and Polish descent, Cabrera traveled through Chicago, Colorado, and Seattle before landing in San Francisco to found her dance troupe. The young choreographer juggles multiple jobs—teaching, bartending, and studio management—to bring her works to fruition. Funding to pay for the performance space comes from the Fleishhacker and Rainin Opportunity Awards.

If you only see one contemporary dance performance this year make it *The Aftermath Affair*. You won’t regret it...and you’ll never forget it.

*The show runs February 28 to March 2, 8 p.m. at ODC Theatre. Tickets: pre-sale \$20/at the door \$25, Student/Senior \$20. For information: 415.863.9834 or <http://odcdance.org/performance.php?param=187>.*

## Transforming Concrete into Open Space

TODAY



TOMORROW



**Rec-re-a-tion (noun) - a pastime, diversion, exercise, or other resource affording relaxation and enjoyment.**

Currently 1601 Mariposa is used as a parking lot, diesel bus depot and the Mackenzie auto parts warehouse. Our plan for this mixed-use development is to transform much of this industrial area into a beautiful and accessible public open space and a flexible neighborhood gathering place where the community and residents can read, exercise, catch up with friends, organize children’s playdates and congregate for community events and activities.

One of the hallmark features of 1601 Mariposa is over 21,000 square feet that make up the Midblock Mews, the publicly accessible greenway leading to Jackson Playground which allows for convenient pedestrian access from 18th Street to Mariposa Street. The Mews is thoughtfully designed to encourage child’s play and community engagement such

as farmers markets or movie nights. We will be using sustainable landscaping, planting new trees and hearty plants, improving street drainage, and creating public seating areas and dynamic formations to transform this parking lot into an engaging outdoor space the whole community can enjoy.

Additionally there will also be two parklets on the corners of Mariposa & Carolina and 18th & Arkansas along with courtyards, gardens and terraces reserved for residents – all adding up to over 39,000 square feet of open space. This is nearly twice the required amount because we feel it creates a happier and healthier environment, reflecting the true San Franciscan lifestyle. That’s definitely something that will all make us breathe a little easier.

This is one in series of updates we will be providing to the community.

# 1601 Mariposa

Stay tuned for an upcoming community charrette where participants are invited to help us in our landscaping selections! For more information about the proposed project and to contact us, please visit [www.1601mariposa.com](http://www.1601mariposa.com).



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## Get a Job

BY MAURI SCHWARTZ



The View asked Hill resident and career expert Mauri Schwartz to answer questions from job seekers.

### Q: Do you have any special tips for a phone interview?

A: Congratulations on securing that interview! These days it takes hard work to get even that far in the search process. Consider a phone interview pretty much like a face-to-face meeting. Prepare in detail; dress the same too. Create a private space without noise or distraction to take the call, one where you know you'll get the best phone reception. Be ready a few minutes ahead of time, operating on all cylinders. Be at your best.

The nice thing about phone interviews—that aren't Skyped—is that you can have notes in front of you, but be very careful not to have too much paperwork. You don't want to make noise by shuffling papers or take too much time to answer because you're searching through your materials to find a particular notation. Use your computer to help you, one with a large enough screen to be useful. Not your phone; it's not big enough. I highly recommend that you bring up the person with whom you're interviewing's LinkedIn profile so you know who you're talking to. It's not ideal, in that the facial expression is fixed, and you won't be able to read body language, but you can still tell a great deal just from a photograph.

And don't forget to prepare ahead. You can download a free copy of my proven Interview Prep Guide from my website's resources page. Good luck!

### Q: I have a group interview with four people coming up soon; what should I watch out for? This will be a group of my peers.

A: As in my answer to the phone interview question above, make sure you're fully prepared. Research each participant so that you're familiar with what are likely to be their particular hot buttons. If these are peers, they'll probably want to know your job-specific skills, experiences, and achievements: have you used x tool or procedure, how did you use x, and what was the result.

Introduce yourself and shake hands with each one at a time. Eye contact and body language—reading it and exhibiting it—are key, and can be challenging even with only one interviewer. A few tips include making eye contact with the person asking the question; while it's being asked and during the beginning of your answer. Then shift to make eye contact with each of the other interviewers one at a time while you're speaking, and return to the questioner to finish. You'll want each person to know that you're addressing them all equally, even if one person is hogging the show. Leave the same way you came in: shake the hand of and thank every participant and ask for their business card so that you can write each a personalized thank you email. You can download a copy of my 4R Thank-You Letter Template too.

Mauri Schwartz is President / CEO of Career Insiders [www.CareerInsiders.com](http://www.CareerInsiders.com).



# KIDS BLOCK

The View is delighted to publish local kids' birthdays and milestones. Please email your image and/or caption to production@potreroview.net by the 18th of the prior month. High resolution photos, please!



# LOCAL & IMPRESSIVE

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**2013 TOP PRODUCERS** Bill Kitchen | Tanja Beck | Amy Clemens | Michael Ackerman | Vicki Valandra | Tim Hawco | Chris Sprague | David Baskin | Faye Dibachi | Ken Eggers | Darryl Honda | Isabelle Grotte | Dave Cunningham | Erik Reider | Gillian Pontes | Ravi Malhotra | Richard Sarro | Lynne L. Priest | Steve Dells | Andrew Roth | Michael Salstein | John LePage | Peter Goss | Hugh Grocock | Michelle Kim | James R. Holloway | Daniel Fernandez | Nadia Ruimy | Jan Medina | Wes Freas | Britton E. Jackson | Damon Knox | Kevin Markarian | Dan Bunker | Harry Clark | John Zhou | David Antman | Eric Castongia | Jeff Hand | Lily Remoundos | Christine Doud | Danita Kulp | Claire Chessen | Tyron Hooper | Jane Mermelstein | Rita Roti | Nancy Meyer | Matthew Goulden

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## Library News BY LISA FAGUNDES, LIBRARIAN

### PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

**Reference Drop-In**—Do you have questions about how to use computers and the internet, how to download eBooks to your device, or how to use the library's databases? Come to Reference Drop-In, where you'll get one-on-one time with a librarian to help answer your toughest conundrums! Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Learn the Ancient Art of Jewelry Making**—Jeweler extraordinaire Chelsea Robinson will guide you in learning the latest jewelry-making techniques and applications. Work with real stones, crystals, beads, and more to create a beautiful necklace, bracelet, or earrings! All materials provided. Ages 12 and up. Space limited to 20. Sign-ups start two weeks before the event. To enroll or for more information: 355.2822 or [lisa.fagundes@sfpl.org](mailto:lisa.fagundes@sfpl.org). Sunday, March 9, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

**Boost Your Immunity: Self Healing Tips**—Learn from nutritionist Amy Woodbury how to boost your immunity by eating holistic foods, herbs and spices. Wednesday, March 26, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

### PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

**Game On!**—Play PS3 games on our big screen. We have a selection, or you can bring your own T- or E-rated games to share. Challenge your friends to determine who is the ultimate gamer. Ages nine to 19 welcome. Tuesdays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

### PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

**Foam Printing Workshop**—Join the Museum of Craft and Design in a drop-in workshop exploring foam printing. Create a design, transfer it to recycled foam, and use it to make a unique print to take home. Saturday, March 8, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**Magical Moonshine Theater** presents *The Puppet Man*, in which Michael Nelson creates his version of traditional European street theatre. In this selection of skits and bits selected from years of performing in the "strolling puppet stage," audiences, puppeteer, and puppets respond to each other to create the play together in this uniquely exciting theatrical experience. Recommended for children ages four and up. Saturday, March 15, 4 to 5 p.m.

**Baby Rhyme and Play Time**—Songs and rhymes for infants up to 18 months old and their caregiver. Tuesdays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25, 1:15 to 1:45 p.m.

**Family Story time**—Featuring stories, songs and rhymes. For children from birth to five years old and their caregiver. Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, and 27, 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

**Homework Help**—Kindergarten through third grade students can receive one-on-one help from our capable volunteer. Need homework support? Drop by the library for free assistance. Tuesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

**Fun Flicks**—This program is offered the second Wednesday of the month and includes short films based on children's books and stories. March's films are: *This is the House That Jack Built*; *Three Little Pigs*; *The Ugly Duckling*. For children three to eight. Bring a snack and enjoy the show! Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

**Movie Day:** In partnership with the Potrero Hill Family Support Center, we'll present *Kung Fu Panda* and PHFSC along with a meal. Friday, March 21, 3 to 5:30 p.m.

### LIBRARY SPONSORED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**Creative Writing Workshop:** A free class to help you write your own stories, develop characters, and find your own unique voice in a supportive and creative environment. Contact Shevi for more information: [sheviros@gmail.com](mailto:sheviros@gmail.com) or 602.7961. Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, and 27, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

**The Potrero Hill Book Club:** Meets at the library every third Wednesday of the month. February's selection is *Stoner* by John Williams. Join the discussion on Wednesday, March 19, 7 to 8 p.m.

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## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS March 9

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HERITAGE from page 7

includes a few historic buildings as well and a large open parcel for infill development. In the fall of 2012, we issued a formal comment letter supporting the Crane Cove Park project. At the time we were presented with a few different options for how the site would be laid out and interpreted and how construction would be phased in. We provided early support and input on the interpretive approach of the site. Of course, that project has evolved over the last several months and some changes have been made. As a member of the CWAG, the Central Waterfront Advisory Group, we saw the latest iteration of the project a few weeks ago. We are still strongly supportive of that and its treatment of historic resources.

*View: Orton is the developer for the 20th Street buildings. What's going to be the challenge for them?*

**Buhler:** Orton has a very strong track record for this type of historic building. They completed the rehabilitation of the Ford assembly building in Richmond, which is a spectacular award-winning project. It was initially a car factory in World War II, in which they used to build tanks. It's a massive brick structure on the Richmond waterfront that was derelict for I think decades before Orton came in. The challenge will be, of course, structurally reinforcing the buildings. They are in very fragile condition, and the most significant alterations that will occur for the 20th Street buildings generally relate to seismically strengthening the

buildings. A part of our review is to ensure that the seismic intervention complies with the historic integrity of the building.

*View: What about Foster City?*

**Buhler:** With respect to Foster City, we toured that portion of the site as well. We've had one presentation with Foster City to review their plans for the site. We have submitted a number of questions to Foster City and I expect they will come back to us with a more formal presentation. Basically, our focus is ensuring that in the case of the Foster City development that the proposed infill construction's height, density, materials, and design are compatible with the historic character of the surrounding site. The Port has submitted a National Register historic district nomination. Being listed as a National Register historic district will enable the building to qualify for federal tax credit, which is a financial incentive for projects that restore and rehabilitate historic properties. That is an important incentive to the overall financial viability of the entire development project.

*View: Could you talk about the Cor-o-Van site, what is your position?*

**Buhler:** We are not even in the process of reviewing it. Of course we are following the course of development proposals at this site. We have been contacted by residents in the neighborhood concerned about the previous proposal on the site and the potential impact on historic resources. Kaiser has backed out. I believe there is interest from other developers in this site. We

have not reviewed those plans, but the focus of our review will be essentially the same as Pier 70 and all projects that San Francisco Heritage reviews: whether there are historic resources on the site and which buildings would qualify as historic. In looking at the proposed development, we will recommend measures for minimizing any adverse impacts on historic resources and hopefully enhancing them going forward. Like I said, we have not seen any proposed development plan for that site although we hope to have an opportunity to review that when the developer is ready.

*View: What are the criteria for a building to be considered historic?*

**Buhler:** In general buildings are either eligible based on the architectural significance, which would be, as an example, buildings that are designed by a well-known architect, or buildings that exemplify high-quality craftsmanship or design qualities. Or buildings can be completely modest in appearance and can be significant for their association with significant events in history. In addition to the architecturally significant buildings at Pier 70, for example, that complex is associated with ship building on the West Coast, mobilization during two world wars and has a tremendous significance based on its association with those important historical events. Or it could be other forms of association that would enable a building or a site to be eligible. It might include an association with a significant person or a significant event. Like there could have been a labor protest at a building or on a block that might

have brought it above the threshold of eligibility for designation.

*View: What is the overall process for reviewing of projects?*

**Buhler:** The developers do not have to abide by what we say. We are a nonprofit organization. We are an advocacy organization, but we are a private organization. We have no regulatory authority over any developer or property owner that comes and seeks our view. However, the Planning Department will often encourage or require project applicants to seek our input before the project continues further in the process. The City has a very robust process under the California Environmental Quality Act that provides many opportunities for public participation. Beyond our review of projects early in the process through our Issues Committee, we will often participate actively in the CEQA review process. That means issuing comments on the environmental impact report.

**Rick Collins**

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– Janet J.





# The Wattis Institute Helps Invigorate the Hill's Art Scene

BY TERRI COHN

Potrero Hill has emerged as an important node in San Francisco's vibrant art scene. As noted in "Potrero Emerges as Art Hub" in this issue, over the past year the Catherine Clark, Todd Hosfelt, and Brian Gross galleries have relocated to a renovated building at 260 Utah Street, and Jack Fisher and George Lawson have opened new galleries on Potrero Avenue. In addition, the San Francisco Center for the Book—located on De Haro Street for seventeen years—recently moved to a newly designed, expanded space around the corner on Rhode Island Street.

Adding to the vitality of the hearts on the Hill has been the relocation of the California College of the Arts' Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, Kent and Vicki Logan Galleries, to 360 Kansas Street. This new gallery space, which was redesigned and completed in 2013, is walking distance from Eighth Street, where CCA built its San Francisco campus in the mid-1990s. The Wattis Institute hosts exhibitions and discussions focusing on contemporary art, and provides training opportunities for CCA students involved in the curatorial practice program.

The Wattis Institute's new location has improved its potential to connect with the neighborhood's lively street life. According to Rita Souther, Wattis Institute programs coordinator, in addition to students, working artists, and art professionals, a great number of the Institute's visitors are people who walk in off the street. With its largest street front windows that permit viewing of the gallery, the new Wattis naturally attracts attention during open hours. This encouraged local residents to explore the space during its first year. Attendance has grown with awareness of the gallery's exhibitions and



Above *Codex* on during opening night. Right *Provisional Realities* PHOTOGRAPHS BY NIKKI RITCHER, COURTESY OF CCA WATTIS INSTITUTE

accompanying programs, all of which are free to the public.

The Institute's current curatorial vision is a continuation of the programming that was planned for the gallery while it was still on the CCA campus, where it was created in 1998. This included establishing a relationship with the Mission District-based Kadist Art Foundation. In 2013, Kadist created a fellowship program for a CCA student, who will work with the Kadist Foundation, Paris, to create programming that will take place at the Wattis Institute.

Heidi Rabben, the current Kadist Curatorial Fellow, chose an artist from the Kadist collection for the current Wattis exhibition and pub-



lication, titled *Provisional Realities*. She selected Daria Martin, a London-based artist originally from San Francisco, who has been exploring the intensive relationship between objects, subjects, and reality in film. In considering how something—such as an object or film—becomes part of and is absorbed into a collection, Martin became interested in showing her work with artist Susan Hiller, an American-born artist who is also

a longtime London resident. Like Martin, Hiller's films address questions concerning reality, phenomena such as automatic writing, and levels of consciousness, and the body, all of which work to shift viewers' ideas about dreams, memory, and perception. Both artists' works operate in conceptual and perceptual spaces between conscious, unconscious,

WATTISpage23

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# Museum of Craft and Design Showcases Objects

BY JIM VAN BUSKIRK

“Come visit, and come visit often,” invited Marc D’Estout, the Museum of Craft and Design’s curator. D’Estout, a wiry man sporting a salt-and-pepper Van Dyke beard, radiates passion for the museum. The 10-year-old museum was located downtown for a number of years but had been temporarily homeless before moving to Dogpatch last April. D’Estout enthused that the neighborhood is “rich with creative energy. The San Francisco Art Institute’s Graduate Center is upstairs, Workshop Residence is nearby on 22nd Street, and the neighborhood is changing.” He proudly pointed out the museum’s much larger space, with its flexible gallery configuration, high ceilings, and LED spotlights.

D’Estout curated the current exhibition *Obsessive Reductive*, which is on view through March 30. This group exhibition showcases 18 local and national artists, including Drew Daly, Brian Dettmer, and Jim Dingilian. “They take the process to different extremes, intricately, precisely, and “obsessively” removing material by hand to create extraordinary imagery in works that involve astonishingly complex patterns or form,” D’Estout explained in his curatorial statement. “In many cases, the use of material absence is employed as a significant design component, positioning negative space as the dominant element in the work.”

A found chair, hand-sanded for more than 300 hours by Daly, seems to be disappearing before one’s eyes. Many of the other artists spent as much time, or more, hand-crafting their work, meticulously removing material to create an unexpectedly visual experience. Although much of the work is paper-based, there are notable exceptions. Farnaz Shadravan, who also works as a dental assistant, removed the porcelain from four full-



size bathtubs to create reproductions of drawings by Albrecht Durer. Dingilian smoked the interiors of old glass bottles with candle soot, and through a process of delicate scraping depicts the marginal landscapes where such discarded bottles might be found. Each of the two- and three-dimensional wall hangings and sculptural objects bear close scrutiny; the more closely one looks the more they reveal their mysteries as they begin to “converse” with one another.

In the museum’s larger gallery *A Sense of Balance: The Sculpture of Stoney Lamar* is on exhibit through March 23. The exhibition serves as a retrospective of the artist William

Torso for WT (William Turnbull) by Stoney Lamar  
PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF CRAFT AND DESIGN

Stoney Lamar, based in Saluda, North Carolina. Guest Curator Andrew Glasgow of the Asheville Art Museum described Lamar’s process, “Crafted primarily through a unique approach to multi-axial lathe work, Lamar’s wood sculptures embody a distinct



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW MILLMAN, COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF CRAFT AND DESIGN

sense of line and movement. Occasionally putting paint and metal to use in his works, Lamar frequently allows the shape, color, and modeling of the wood to determine a piece’s finished appearance.” Though still quite active, Lamar’s work changed after he was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. The show includes some of his new and experimental pieces. Renowned local exhibit designer Ted Cohen is responsible for both installations.

D’Estout highlighted upcoming shows: *The Tag Project* by Wendy Maruyama, an installation referencing Executive Order 9066; as well as an exhibit showcasing the work of Tel Aviv designer Pedy Mergui. As might be expected, the museum’s well-stocked gift shop features items expertly chosen for their relationship to design and craft: toys, home décor, books, jewelry, accessories, and more. It’s a perfect complement to the experience, as are the frequent programs for both adults and children. As D’Estout suggested, this museum merits visits, and repeat visits.

*Museum of Craft & Design is at 2569 Third Street, between 22nd and 23rd streets. <http://www.sfmcd.org/>.*



## Love Jackson Playground? Want to make it even better, cleaner, and safer?

The Friends of Jackson Playground want to hear what improvements you’d like to see made at our local park.

Following the most recent spate of hypodermic needles, crack vials, broken bottles and other detritus found in the sand, it’s time to cast a critical eye on Jackson Playground to ensure that it’s meeting the demands of our rapidly growing neighborhood.

Please help us to develop an action plan to present to the city in the hopes of securing a Community Opportunity Fund to make our wish lists a reality. We will be holding two public meetings in March to further solicit ideas and input from neighbors and park supporters.

**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. JOIN US!**

**Saturday, March 1st:**

Jackson Clubhouse, Arkansas St. and 17th Street, 1-2:30pm

**Thursday, March 13**

Live Oak School, 1555 Mariposa St., 7-8:30pm.

We will have snacks and refreshments at the ready.

**WANT MORE INFORMATION OR WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED?**

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### March 4 through April 8 Art: Women in Action/Mujeres en Accion

Curator Calixto Robles arrays the work of sixteen artists who explore themes relating to women as mother, object, icon, and the many roles played. Artists include: Alexandra Blum, Veronica Soils, Veronica Perez, Marsha Shaw, Gloria Morales, Jennifer Clifford, Denisse Ogata, Martha Rodrigues, Martha Castrillo, Linette Morales, Cecile Robles-Blum, Evelyn Gutierrez, Rosarie McHugh, Amy Diaz, Michele Simons, and Paulina Suarez. Opening reception, March 4, 3 to 4 p.m. Free. Puerto Alegre, 546 Valencia. Information: 255.8201

### 4 Food: Portuguese Malasadas on Mardi Gras at Goat Hill

For the 20th time, Goat Hill presents this celebration with Portuguese *malasadas*, tasty fried dough balls, which are found in almost every Latin culture under various names like *beignets* or *bunuelos* as well as in the Queen's English: fritters or elephant ears. *Malasadas* are popular from Massachusetts, to California, to Hawaii—wherever there are descendants of the 19th and 20th century Portuguese immigrants who came seeking agricultural or maritime opportunities. In celebration of Shrove Tuesday, Goat Hill Pizza will again be serving *malasadas* until supplies run out. This year the celebration will include the unveiling of the Potrero Hill goat hoof prints, circa 1920, that were rescued from a Carolina Street sidewalk by Rose Marie Ostler and presented to the restaurant in memory of its longtime mascot, Goat Hilda de Anchovy. This event is a result of a collaboration between the restaurant and the Potrero Hill Archives Project. Free. Beginning at 11:30 a.m. Unveiling, 3 p.m. Goat Hill Pizza, 300 Connecticut Street. Information: 641.1440.

### 5 June Election: Debate with State Assembly candidates David Campos and David Chiu

Potrero Hill Democratic Club presents a debate between the two supervisors running to succeed Tom Ammiano in State Assembly District 17: David Campos and David Chiu. The two Davids, both Harvard-educated attorneys, agree on many issues, which is why it's important to bring their differences into sharp focus. Which David do you want to represent you in Sacramento? Moderated by PHDC board member J.R. Eppler. Refreshments will be served. 7:30 p.m. Free. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St @ Southern Heights. Information and updates: PHDemClub.org or email contact\_us@PHDemClub.org.



PHOTOGRAPH BY DANA EDWARDS

March 4, Fat Tuesday at Goat Hill Pizza, commemorating Goat Hilda de Anchovy (left).

### March 8 to 9 Film: When the Fall Comes

*When the Fall Comes*, by Adriana Marchione, is a performance and film project that chronicles the loss of a spouse and the dreams that guide the path of the one left behind. Using dance, poetry and spoken word, this project reflects on grief, memory, and the variety of ways healing after loss can take shape. *When the Fall Comes* was originally performed to an intimate audience at Noh Space Theater in San Francisco last January as a personal healing ritual. While creating the performance, Marchione partnered with filmmakers Wyatt Roy and Michael Brandt to help document the process, conduct interviews to create the film, *When the Fall Comes*. The film tells a story of loss and love, illustrated through dance and the arts. Tickets: \$12. March 8, 8 to 10 p.m. March 9, 2 to 3 p.m. Joe Goode Annex, 401 Alabama Street, Information: creativesourcesf.com/performance/index.html

### 9 Community: Move and Play at Daniel Webster Elementary School

Get up and move; onto the school playground for a morning full of activities, including yoga, Hapkido, Zumba, soccer and more. Don't forget to check out the new turf to be installed at the end of the month. Free. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Daniel Webster Elementary School, 465 Missouri Street. Information: 695.5787

### 9 Kids: Sunday Streets on the Embarcadero

The northbound lanes of Embarcadero will be car-free for everyone to bike, skate, walk, dance and play on! Along the way will be family-friendly activities such as yoga, Zumba, live bands, free bike rentals and repairs and a host of fun activities and great deals at Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39. Enjoy the first day of Daylight

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Savings Time (remember to set your clocks ahead) with thousands of San Francisco families, residents and visitors along 3.6 miles of temporarily car-free streets. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Information: SundayStreetsSF.com/Embarcadero-3914/

### 13 Make Art: Speakeasy Bottle Cap Jewelry

Make functional crafts from bottle caps provided by Speakeasy Ales and Lagers; earrings, keychains, and more. Gretchen Schwartz of CraftBrewery shows you how. \$10 includes all materials and brew. Adults 21+. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. Information: sfmcd.org.

### 13 Community: Friends of Jackson Playground Meeting

Love Jackson Playground? Want to make it even better? Friends of Jackson Playground want to hear what improvements you'd like to see made at our local park! We're applying for a Community Opportunity Fund grant this spring. Join the meetings to share ideas and hear input from neighbors and park supporters in how best to ensure that Jackson Playground is a safe, thriving, and happy place that meets the community's needs. Please join us! Snacks and beverages provided. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Live Oak School, 1555 Mariposa Street. Information: friendsofjacksonparksf@gmail.com.

### 15 Garden: Magnolias by Moonlight

Roam the moonlit paths of the Garden, marveling at the magnolia blossoms overhead reflecting the silvery moon and inhaling their lovely fragrance. You'll be guided by a San Francisco Botanical Garden naturalist to the moon viewing pond, where you'll enjoy hot, aromatic tea and home-made cookies. Bring a flashlight. Heavy rain cancels. Tickets: \$10 to 20. 7 p.m. San Francisco Botanical Gardens, 1199 Ninth Avenue. Information: sfbg.org

### 17 Community: Farley's Celebrates 25 Years

Put on something green and head over to Farley's to raise a cup to celebrate it being the neighborhood's favorite living room for 25 years. There'll be live bagpipes, Irish music, and coffee, of course. The menu will have special items, like corned beef, cabbage Panini and Irish stew. Free. Farley's, 1315 - 18th Street.

### 21 Dinner Discussion: Mindful Meats

Mindful Meats brings local, organic beef to California natural foods markets. Founder Claire Herminjard launched Mindful Meats in 2010 to increase access to organic beef while strengthening local farms. Working with farmers in Marin and Sonoma, she sources cows directly from farmers, and processes her meat at an organic facility in Merced. Claire was motivated to start the company when she learned that livestock consume most of the grain grown in the U.S., and most of this grain is genetically modified. Join Claire for an evening of discussion and enjoy her delicious beef, generously contributed to 18 Reasons for the event. Menu: Bar Tartine's steak tartare, beef stew, spring meadow salad, bread and Straus butter. Dinner/Discussion \$55. 7 to 9 p.m. 18 Reasons, 3674-18th Street. Information: 18reasons.org

### March 21 through March 23 Dinner: San Francisco Blind Café—Potrero Hill

Experience a concert and sensory tasting in the pitch dark! The San Francisco Blind Cafe is a pop-up event, a mind-bending experience where the audience will indulge in a vegetarian meal, and participate in a question-and-answer session with their blind wait staff. A concert to follow with music by Rosh & One Eye Glass Broken, all in the pitch dark. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Accessible Science, a nonprofit that advocates for accessible methods in the science lab for blind students and The California Association of Blind Students. See website for times. Tickets: \$65 to \$125. Potrero Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. Information: theblindcafe.com/san-francisco-blind-cafe.

### 23 Science: The Science of Lasers

In 1960, the laser was known as "a solution looking for a problem." Now we can hardly imagine life without them. Learn what's special about laser light, how it's made, and how it's used in everything from DVD players to eye surgery to fusion energy research. Join Exploratorium scientist Ron Hipschman for colorful explorations of the physical world. Free with admission. 2 p.m. Exploratorium, Kanbar Forum, Pier 15. Information: Call 528.4444 or visit exploratorium.edu.





# Untethered at Dogpatch Gallery

BY JIM VAN BUSKIRK

The past few years have been challenging for Mark Garrett. His mom died, he tested positive for HIV, he left his 25-year-long senior museum technician position with the Fine Arts Museums, and he reached, as Garrett put it, “the speed limit.” 55. No wonder his new show is called *Untethered*.

“The name *Untethered* was important to me because it references both a sense of dislocation as well as a sort of liberation and possibility,” Garrett explained. “It perfectly describes the state I found myself in while I was traveling in Europe for six weeks. Ties to my day-to-day life felt more and more tenuous. My mother’s death generated both a sense of loss and acceptance of change. Terminating a 25-year day job severed my intense work identity, but opened exciting—sometimes terrifying—new doors of opportunity. Seroconverting at 50 was scary, and also brought me to a better understanding of my body and a more vibrant state of health. All of these

things came to represent the language of my artwork.”

Dogpatch Gallery owner John Warren attended Garrett’s open studio last fall, and shortly thereafter offered him a show. Garrett had participated in several prestigious group exhibitions, but this is his first solo show. Garrett appreciates that Warren exhibits “people whose work he likes, with no heavy commercial element.”

*Untethered* will feature between fifteen and twenty fairly large-scale works. The show’s subtitle, “Drawing with Scissors,” speaks to Garrett taking old maps, found at yard sales, flea markets, or on eBay, and cutting them up, or as he puts it “doodling.” He then arranges the fragments on either black or white backgrounds and carefully applies paint. The results are indescribably mesmerizing, less a reimagined geography than a cosmic implosion. The beautiful and mysterious pieces can be “about” many things, but are generally in the realm of the “fragility of consciousness, of the planet in general.”

“This liminal body of work evolved



before I was fully aware of its origins,” said Garrett. “My practice of folding and cutting maps with scissors and applying the deconstructed fragments to paper with paint became my technical mantra for almost three years. Their sinewy, emotionally linear, and ruptured appearance are visually reminiscent of Rorschach inkblots. There is often some evident duality, or mirroring effect, at play here. Though it was never in the forefront of my mind, I believe these maps fueled a better understanding of my/our subconscious minds and how a series of life altering events contributed to this visual expression.”

When asked about his expectations for the show, Garrett said that he hopes it “gives people of sense of how you can look at something so familiar and look at it differently, see it visually transformative at least, if not some other way. These

Above *Old Europa*, by Mark Garrett. Below Mark Garrett in his Potrero Hill studio PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF MARK GARRETT

mapworks conjure up ideas of fragility and polarity, the geophysical ‘ring of fire,’ our Bay Area vulnerability, and also our constant state of uncertainty relative to our present—and at times—dislocated sense of the world...Their explosive and sometimes tenuous appearance emerge for me as a metaphor of holding the world even as its outlines shift radically and unpredictably.”

As difficult to describe as any artwork, these pieces must be experienced to be fully appreciated. Don’t miss the chance to meet Garrett at the opening, March 21 from 6 to 8 p.m., and then revisit the exhibit through April 19, 2014.

*Dogpatch Café & Gallery is at 2295 Third Street, at 20th Street.*



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## An openhouse invitation from PG&E

PG&E invites you to a Community Open House to learn about cleanup activities we have planned at the former Potrero Power Plant site.

What:

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Where:





SKUNKS from Front Page

birds, because mice and rats come after the loose seed.”

She noted that mating season for skunks usually begins in February. But the warm, dry weather has prompted a premature birthing season, which may be contributing to the seemingly increasing number of baby skunks spotted around the neighborhood. With mild weather the animals can breed almost year-round.

The drought is also bringing out “odd behavior,” with skunks and other wildlife going into people’s yards looking for sustenance, such as grub, because normal food sources aren’t available. They’re also “attracted to our artificial, urban environments,” where food scraps are plentiful. Most city critters, including skunks, are “looking for places to hole up and have babies,” Dmytryk said.

Skunks “get into a lot of trouble in our urban environments,” she said, noting that they’re poor climbers that get trapped easily in walls and fences. She advised homeowners to keep an eye out for spots where skunks can get stuck. To make up for their lack of climbing skills, the animals are excellent diggers.

Residents should be careful about trapping skunks, raccoons, possums and other critters, Dmytryk advised, as there are strict state laws regulating how humans should interact with the animals. Instead, she encouraged residents to contact a wildlife rescue center when dealing with skunks or raccoons found on their property.

As for Potrero Hill dogs and their owners, Dmytryk advised avoiding getting sprayed. But if it does happen owners should find a recipe to make a concoction to wash out the stink that includes peroxide, soap and baking soda.

For help dealing with wildlife call (855) 5-HUMANE

COR-O-VAN from page 5

two years sooner.

At the outset of the meeting, Save the Hill supporters took a cautious, even contentious, approach with the developers. When Safier called the Cor-o-Van buildings “metal sheds,” one community member took offense. “I wasn’t trying to cast any judgment,” Safier said, asking what he should call them. The resident said that he preferred the use of the word, “historic.” But besides a brick building at the site, it appears Walden Development regards the other three structures on the property as non-historic.

In 2008, Christopher VerPlanck, of Tim Kelley Consulting, designated most of the site as historic, according to DPR Form 523A, which is used by the California Office of Historic Preservation to record historical resources. But Walden Development appealed this designation to the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission, which adopted a motion in 2011 that eliminated the historic designation, except for one building. Save the Hill supporters are skeptical of the Historic Preservation Commission’s decision because it was based on a report done “at the request of Farella Braun & Martel, legal counsel for the property owner,” Walden Mission Bay I LLC.

WATTIS from page 19

and paranormal planes, suggesting some of the ways art can change our perceptions of the real.

Also on view in the Wattis’ main gallery is the exhibition *Codex*, which is visible from the street during open hours. This show was curated by artist and book collector Pierre Leguillon as a result of a residency

Work Machine, Texas and 19th Streets

Photograph By Ed Rudolph



at the Kadist Art Foundation in 2011. Leguillon became fascinated with the way the Prelinger Archive in San Francisco classifies subjects, both spatially and conceptually. The photographs and digital images of books, which are hung salon-style, raise questions about why the traditional book form—or codex—remains the primary format with which we engage in the era of on-line libraries and the development of new digital media. Why do the Kindle, Nook, Ipad, and other digital book forms imitate physical books, going so far as to simulate turning pages, despite the fact that the book has been effectively “flattened”? These questions are especially relevant in a neighbor-

hood that has become San Francisco’s technology center.

Last summer Anthony Huberman was named the new director of the Wattis, and is now overseeing programming. His plans include a solo show, which will be in the main gallery. An artist-in-residence will curate an exhibition in the smaller gallery. In addition, a research project will be ongoing throughout the year, focused on a single artist. The research team will include CCA faculty, Wattis Institute staff, and select outside participants, and will result in a publication.

Below *Codex* PHOTOGRAPH BY NIKKI RITCHER, COURTESY OF CCA WATTIS INSTITUTE



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# Film: Double Feature

BY RICK ALBER

The Oscar-nominated blockbuster *The Wolf of Wall Street* and the understated Swedish documentary, *Liv and Ingmar* don't have much in common, but both films illuminate the surprisingly seamy sides of two powerful and revered directors.

Film has always been a director's medium, and the most influential and unique directors have historically been men. The Swedish director Ingmar Bergman created a series of masterpieces over a 62-year career, punctuated with bleak black-and-white dramas of death, sickness, and despair, as well as human comedy/tragedies dealing with marital conflict, betrayal, loneliness, and deep love. They are mostly unforgettable.

When he was 47, Ingmar fell in love with his 25-year-old leading actress, Liv Ullman. *Liv and Ingmar* tells the little-known story of their 42-year, love-hate relationship. In voiceover, Ullman describes her life-long infatuation for Bergman, and his psychological abuse. He essentially imprisoned the two of them for years on a desolate island. What makes the film compelling are scenes from Bergman's masterpieces—*Persona*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, *Cries and Whispers*—intercut with an interview of Ullman reflecting on her fear, delight, and confusion about the relationship. The scenes are often of Ullman with a leading man grappling with the same strong feelings she describes

having with Bergman.

Some of these cinematic illustrations are trite; others deeply moving. Bergman was obsessed with the spiritual, and the two artists engaged in a destructive attraction with one another. Together they created films, starring Ullman, to explore the drama, joy, and anguish they lived. Bergman was a deeply-flawed artist who was unafraid to confront his monstrous instincts, and played the object of his affection, as Ullman says, "like a Stradivarius." In doing so, he enriched the lives of generations of filmgoers. Bergman died in 2007 at 89.

Representing another extreme is *The Wolf of Wall Street*, the latest meticulously-crafted, three-hour grand spectacle by film legend Martin Scorsese. *Wolf* cinematizes the life of Jordan Belfort, a Wall Street con man who bilked gullible investors out of tens of millions of dollars before cooperating with federal prosecutors and serving a prison term. Along the way Belfort—played by Leonardo DiCaprio—builds a debauched empire based on drugs, women, and motivational bravado delivered via impassioned speeches to hundreds of employees, each hoping to achieve his success.

*Wolf's* music, acting, cinematography, and technical accomplishments are top notch, and the film deserves whatever Academy Awards it receives. That'd be enough to qualify for some reviewers' top ten lists but, at its heart, the film is undeniably empty. *Wolf* has nothing to say about the inner motiva-

tion that drives Belfort or any character to pursue the hedonistic heights the film depicts. If there's a moral position advocated, it's not obvious.

Instead, the film celebrates the extent to which juvenile men can be captivated by the rush of illicit drugs and willing women, all the while rationalizing the fleecing of investing chumps who believe that Wall Street advisors know more than they do. In the end, Belfort continues his deception, shifting to motivational seminars, after serving less time than did his associates convicted by evidence he provided.

At age 72, Scorsese has repeatedly demonstrated his cinematic artistry. His masterpieces will live forever. But it's hard to understand why the director of *Goodfellas*, *Raging Bull*, *Mean Streets*, and even the recent *Hugo* would spend his remaining time and energy to flamboyantly depict thoughtless swindlers staggering through orgies on coke and Quaaludes. When a talented man has a gift for moviemaking and an obvious understanding of the human condition, doesn't he feel a call to share a message that's meaningful and helps his audience deal with the challenges in their lives? *The Wolf of Wall Street* presents that question, but fails to answer it.

— your kid will be visited by what will seem to be every single illness in a pediatrician's textbook: colds; flus; respiratory viruses; "slapped cheek;" hand, foot, and mouth disease; and a host of mysterious coughs, fevers, and rashes. If it's your first child you'll feel like you're trapped on a ship heaving through rough waters, with a foul, disease-ridden pack of sailors who like to breathe, spit, and vomit on you. Don't worry; this voyage will end. But, you may get many a bug along the way, including, in my case, walking pneumonia. Pull together a comprehensive medicine cabinet, including a few doses of Nyquil. You'll be needing those yourself.

- Doctors, teachers, counselors, and other experts deserve great respect. But they only know so much, and nobody knows your child like you do. Sometimes being stubborn in the face of authority is exactly the right thing to do.

- You can eat right, and exercise, but there's only one way to ward off communicable diseases: wash your hands! The filthiest place on earth isn't a men's room in Scotland; it's your local playground.

*This is an excerpt from The Daddy Handbook, a book by View editor Steven Moss, sections from which will appear in the paper throughout 2014. He's looking for a publisher for this work. Fellow parents are encouraged to write in with their experiences: editor@potreroview.net.*

DADDY HANDBOOK from page 12

HANDBOOK TIPS: WELCOME TO DISEASE LAND!

- From the time they're born to early adolescence — if not longer



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STARR KING from page 9

To work in the school, we can refer them to the San Francisco Education Fund at [www.sfedfund.org](http://www.sfedfund.org). They are an agency that works with potential volunteers to provide training, fingerprinting, and the proper documentation so that they can work with children. We have many parent volunteers. We would welcome volunteers to tutor in reading, math, or whatever they might have an interest.

*View: What are some current challenges?*

**Cheong:** One is the reconstruction. Our space is going to be very precious. We are going to have to rearrange schedules and be ingenious about space usage. Another is reaching out to all families to have them come and participate in activities to help the students succeed.

*View: What are some of the school's strengths?*

**Cheong:** I would say our strength is a very dedicated staff, volunteers, parents, community, and Parent-Teacher Association who invest an enormous amount of time, energy, and funding to help our kids be successful. Additionally, we are a diverse representation of San Francisco, and our diversity is a rich piece of the school. I am very proud of that, and it makes us strong.

# CRIME & SAFETY REPORT

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## High-Speed Car Chase Forces Lockdown of Local Schools

BY KEITH BURBANK

A high-speed car chase through Potrero Hill forced a lockdown of the neighborhood's public schools last month. At Daniel Webster Elementary School, one of the schools closest to the chase, the lockdown lasted for roughly an hour, with various campuses locked down from 12:30 to 2 p.m. The other impacted schools were Starr King Elementary, International Studies Academy, Kipp High School and Downtown High School.

According to the San Francisco Unified School District's School Site Emergency Plan, a lockdown involves moving students inside, covering windows, turning off lights, and seeking cover under furniture and away from windows. No students in the public schools were harmed during the incident.

"We received a phone call from the Bayview Police Station stating that the school needed to be on lockdown due to an incident [at] 25th and Connecticut [streets]," Principal Moraima Machado wrote to the Daniel Webster school community.

"I want to assure you that all efforts were made to keep the students and school community safe," she added.

The incident began when police observed a stolen vehicle at 25th and Dakota streets. As officers attempted to stop the car, the driver accelerated, leading police on a chase. Officers relinquished pursuit for public safety reasons, but caught up with the suspect at 19th and Third streets, where the suspect's automobile had collided with vehicles at a stop light. The suspect tried to drive his car between two automobiles, while officers attempted to contain him. The suspect started ramming cars, and drove his vehicle at an officer, who fired at the driver. Police don't know if the bullet hit the suspect.

Officers relinquished pursuit again to help a victim in pain, and later located the vehicle, which was empty, at 25th and Dakota streets. Police believe the suspect may have entered a Potrero Terrace or Annex apartment.

Albie Esparza, public information officer, San Francisco Police Department, said the department asked the schools to lockdown be-

cause the suspect showed a gross lack of concern for public safety. No arrests have been made, and Esparza didn't know if the investigations unit had identified a suspect. The police department's crime scene investigation unit is examining the car for forensic evidence.

"A variety of emotions, including shock, sadness, fear, and anger could affect us," Machado said in her letter to Daniel Webster parents. "I want you to know that we, the Daniel Webster staff, care about the feelings our students, families, [and] staff may be experiencing." The school's crisis response team was available to address students' emotional needs. Members of the Daniel Webster team include Machado, as well as staff members Jessica Matos, Therese Rebong, Laura Sherwood, and Martini Veronica.

According to Gentle Blythe, executive director, public outreach and communications, San Francisco Unified School District, every SFUSD school has a crisis response team. And a district-wide team is available to assist school teams.

"This recent school/community emergency may prove stressful for your family, especially if your family has experienced a trauma or loss recently," Machado added. "This recent incident may trigger feelings about your trauma or loss, and is a normal experience."



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**Bayview Police Station Captain's Community Meeting** is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Bayview Station, 201 Williams Avenue. Next meeting: March 4th, 6 p.m.

**Dogpatch Neighborhood Association** usually meets the second Tuesday of each odd-numbered month. Next meeting: March 11th. Voting membership is open to anyone living in or owning property or a business in Dogpatch. For more information or to join/pay online: mydogpatch.org

**Friends of Franklin Square** Join the Friends of Franklin Square to help improve our local park! We need your ideas and input to update the master plan and to help seek grant money to improve the park. Concerned about park safety and cleanliness? Want the soccer field to be re-carpeted? Interested in getting a dog-friendly area built? Now is your chance to make it happen! Meet your neighbors and share ideas. Free snacks and drinks provided. We will also have a mini-trivia contest with prizes from our neighborhood businesses! For more information contact: friendsoffranklinsquare@gmail.com. Next Meeting: Saturday, March 15, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Franklin Square Park Playground.

**McKinley Square Community Group** is a communication and discussion group regarding events and activities, clean-up days, improvement and beautification, and other concerns, such as crime in the neighborhood. MSCA board meets approximately quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month. Look to the online discussion group for postings of upcoming meetings. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/McKinleySquareCommunity>. Locations vary between the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House and Downtown High School. For updates, including sustainable gardening and park workdays, and our grant progress, check out the MSCA blog at: <http://mckinleysquareblog.blogspot.com>.

**Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association** meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time begins at 6:45 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information: [potreroboosters.org](http://potreroboosters.org) or email [president@potreroboosters.org](mailto:president@potreroboosters.org). Next meeting: March 25th, 7 p.m.

**Potrero Dogpatch Merchant's Association** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Visit [www.potrerohill.biz](http://www.potrerohill.biz) or call 341.8949. Next meeting: March 11th, 10 a.m.

**Potrero Hill Democratic Club** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information: 648.6740, [www.PHDemClub.org](http://www.PHDemClub.org). Next meeting: March 4th, 7 p.m.

**Potrero Hill Garden Club** usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Discussions are held on organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's microclimate. Call 648.1926 for details.

**Starr King Open Space** On the third Saturday of each month neighbors and friends of SKOS are welcome to get down and dirty while sprucing up the Open Space. Come learn about our native flowers while being a steward for our land. For more information: [www.starrkingopenspace.org](http://www.starrkingopenspace.org); email the Board of Directors at [starrkingboard@gmail.com](mailto:starrkingboard@gmail.com); voice mail 6336.SKO (756).

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# Former Hill Resident Explores Issues Facing Modern Day Chinese

BY JIM VAN BUSKIRK

Hao Wu lived in Potrero Hill for only a few years, while commuting to Excite.com in Silicon Valley, but the experience made a lasting impression on him. He has fond memories of the neighborhood, where he still visits many friends and former colleagues.

With a degree in molecular biology from Brandeis University and a masters of business administration from the University of Michigan, Wu entered the technology industry. But his heart was always in storytelling. Wu's first film, *Beijing or Bust*, documented the experiences of six diverse "ABC"s—American-born Chinese—who left their American jobs and families to make a home in Beijing. His latest documentary, *The Road to Fame*, chronicles the staging of the American musical *Fame*, China's first official collaboration with Broadway by the senior class at Central Academy of Drama, China's most prestigious theater school.

Wu heard about the production from a friend, and was pleasantly surprised to be allowed unprecedented access to the proceedings; Chinese educational institutions are often very protective of their students' privacy. During the eight-month filming process in 2009, Wu followed students as they competed for roles, struggled with pressure from family and authorities, and prepared to graduate into a cutthroat and corrupt show business. Part of China's single-child generation, many of the students were spoiled

growing up but now feel obliged to carry on the failed dreams of their parents. The film focuses on five young adults who must confront complex social realities and their own anxieties, and, in the process of staging *Fame*, negotiate their own definitions of and paths to success in today's China.

While creating the documentary Wu also worked in Beijing, first for alibaba.com, and then for tripadvisor.com, filming during evenings and weekends. Lacking time to edit, he put the film on hold until he quit his day job at the end of 2011.

No longer in the technology industry, Wu now devotes himself fulltime to filmmaking, dividing his time between Beijing and New York, where his partner is in the finance industry. When the *View* spoke to him Wu was in Mexico participating in a fellowship program sponsored by the New America Foundation, "a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy institute that invests in new thinkers and new ideas to address the next generation of challenges facing the United States."

Wu is dedicated to storytelling, specifically showing the complexities of contemporary China. He believes it's important for Americans, and especially Californians, to have a more nuanced understanding of the Chinese people, other than the good/bad images portrayed in mainstream media.

is being broadcast on public television in England, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Israel. Wu is pursuing other international markets and film



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF HAO WU

festivals, and hopes that PBS will acquire the film. In the meantime, this entertaining and illuminating film screen twice at CAAMFest 2014, on March 15 at 4:30 p.m. and March 21 at 9 p.m.

The 11-day festival, which takes place from March 13 to 23 at the Sundance Kabuki Cinema, and

is sponsored by Center for Asian American Media, "aims to explore the landscape of Asian and Asian Americans in all avenues of multimedia. Through live events, fresh musical talent, culinary arts and cinema, CAAMFest gives festival attendees a diverse, immersive experience that entertains and enlightens."



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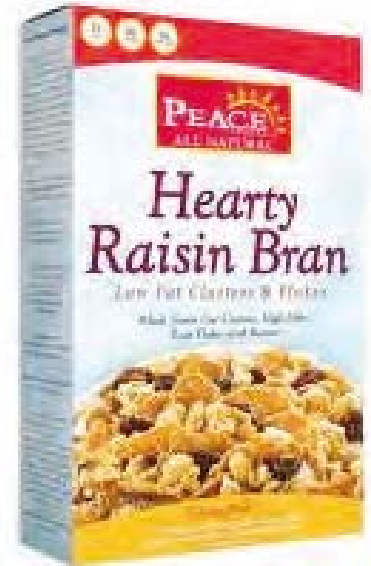
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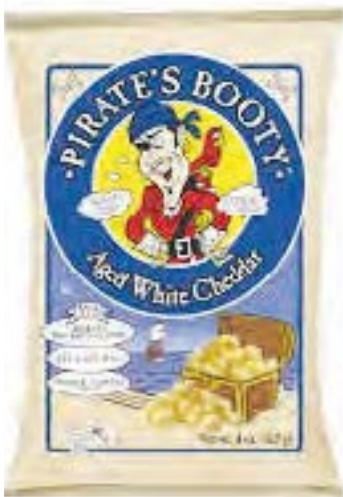
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