

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Celebrate Arbor Week in District 4

When it comes to celebrating Arbor Week in San Francisco, our district has the distinct honor of hosting the highlight event of the week on **Saturday, March 14th**. From 9:00am – 2:00PM, I hope you will join neighbors and people from all over the city as we help the Department of Public Works (DPW) replant trees along Sunset Boulevard.

Last year, DPW and our office were able to secure grant money to fund the replanting of 1,000 trees for Sunset Boulevard. With your help, we will plant the remaining trees funded by this grant. This is important because we want to make sure this unique corridor remains green as our older trees reach the end of their life span.

All volunteers will meet at **37th Avenue and Ortega at 9:00AM**. There are other green and family-oriented events happening throughout the day – including children's activities provided by RecConnect, tree care and equipment demonstrations by Urban Foresters, tree tours by certified arborist and author Mike Sullivan, a workshop on rainwater recycling by the SF Public Utilities Commission, and much more!

If you make an appointment, you can also drop off large bulky items that day between **8:00AM to Noon** as part of the **Gigantic 3** recycling program. Again, please note that you **must** make an appointment by March 12 before dropping off your items. Please call (415) 330-1300. Drop-off location is the West Sunset parking lot at 40th Ave & Quintara Street.

For a full list of events happening during Arbor Week in San Francisco, visit www.sfarborday.org. You can also contact our office at (415) 554-7460 or chustaff@sfgov.org.

Parkside Branch Library Undergoes Renovation

As the Parkside Branch Library prepares to undergo a renovation to bring the facility in compliance with ADA rules and seismic safety standards, our office joined the San Francisco Public Library in a community closing ceremony on February 7th.

While the branch is closed during construction, there will be alternative programming at the Taraval Police Station community room (Fridays at 10:00am and 11:00am for pre-school storytime) and there will be a bookmobile service at 24th Avenue & Santiago (Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 – 5:00pm). The bookmobile will offer books for adults, teens and children, CDs, DVDs, audio books and magazines. You will also be able to obtain or renew a library card, borrow and return materials, and reserve/pick up materials from other branch collections.

I also encourage you to participate in the Parkside Library campaign effort to raise money for furniture and equipment for the library once the renovation is complete.

For questions on how to participate, or for updates on hours and status of the bookmobile, please contact our office or the SF Public Library at (415) 557-4353 / www.sfpl.org.

Save the date – March 3rd (Tuesday)

I invite you to join me in riding MUNI to work on Tuesday, March 3rd. We'll meet at **Java Beach Café II** – located at 2650 Sloat Blvd (at 45th Ave - across the street from Zoo) at **7:30AM**. I'll be sharing information regarding the increase of the transit tax benefit, which would allow those who commute to work by transit to save up to \$1000 or more a year. At **8:00AM**, we will board the L-Taraval at the SW corner of Wawona and 46th Ave and ride MUNI to Civic Center Station. I hope to see you then!



Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

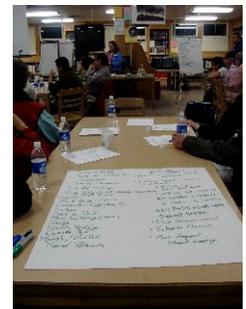
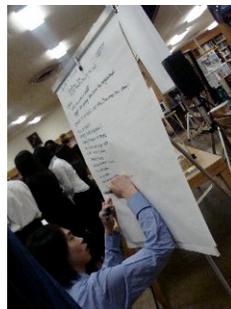
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-7460 Fax: (415) 554-7432 Email: chustaff@sfgov.org
Legislative Aides: Katy Tang & Cammy Blackstone

IN THIS ISSUE • Lincoln High School Community Meeting • Sunset Book Give-Away • Pedestrian Safety Campaign • Celebrating Doggie Diner Heads • Recreation & Parks Community Meeting • Free Tax Help • Emergency Planning Town Hall • Ocean Beach Vision Council Forum • Summer Resource Fair • Community Challenge Grants • Free CPR Training • Pine Lake Park Clean-Up • Upcoming Events

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HOLD COMMUNITY MEETING



In an effort to bridge Lincoln High School students with the surrounding neighbors and community, a team of students and teachers hosted a forum on February 18th. Attended by about 70 people, the meeting focused on neighborhood perception and concerns with school students and included discussion on ideas to address these issues. We applaud the students from Lincoln High School for taking the initiative to reach out to our community members, and look forward to the continued dialogue. If you are interested in more details related to the forum or have any suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office. You can also visit www.lincolnhigh.net for current news and upcoming events.



SUPERVISOR CHU HOSTS BOOK GIVE-AWAY



In partnership with the Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center, our office hosted a book give-away at AP Giannini Middle School on February 19th. Thanks to a generation donation from Scholastic Inc., about 650 students in after-school programs have received free books already, and another 50 students picked up books at AP Giannini.

*Today a reader,
tomorrow a leader!*

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY



Supervisor Chu joined Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired, the Independent Living Resource Center, and the Senior Action Network in January to launch a new public education campaign to draw attention to illegal sidewalk parking. Members of the campaign, called Sidewalks Are For Everyone (SAFE), will spend the next few months meeting with community organizations in the Sunset to raise awareness among neighbors. Rather than focus on punitive measures, SAFE hopes outreach and education will change the neighborhood. The campaign is funded by a grant through the Department of Public Health.

HISTORIC DOGGIE DINER HEADS CELEBRATED



Each year around Valentine's Day, the City celebrates our community's treasured icon – the Doggie Diner Head – located at 45th Avenue and Sloat. The Doggie Diner, founded in 1949, was a chain of 30 Bay Area diners. In 1966, sign designer Harold Bachman created the Ocean Beach doggie head, a smiling 700-pound fiberglass dachshund wearing a white chef's hat and bow tie. The Ocean Beach Doggie Diner on Sloat became one of many doggie diners to go out of business in 1986. When the community learned of tentative plans to demolish the aging café – including the Doggie Diner Head – the Department of Public Works (DPW) and community leaders teamed up to save this San Francisco icon.

In April of 2001, the Doggie Diner Head was further damaged when 45mph winds knocked it over onto Sloat Boulevard. With the help of community leaders determined to save the community icon, the Doggie Diner Head was restored. DPW crews successfully relocated the Doggie Diner Head to its new home on the median of Sloat and 45th Avenue on January 27, 2005.

On February 13th, Supervisor Chu joined DPW and second grade students from Ulloa Elementary School in greening the median strip where the Doggie Diner Heads rests. Ulloa students also paid tribute to the Doggie Diner Heads through song.



COMMUNITY ATTENDS FORUM TO ADDRESS RECREATION & PARKS ISSUES



Over 100 community members attended a forum on February 4th to express their concerns regarding potential cuts to the Recreation & Parks Department. Jared Blumenfeld, interim General Manager of Recreation & Parks, was on hand to address issues raised.

The department faces an \$11.4 million shortfall for the next fiscal year, and has been working on finding ways to generate extra revenue and save on expenses.

Meeting attendees also questioned the department's recent change in policy for charging individuals who wish to reserve tables at recreation centers across the City. Supervisor Chu called for a hearing at the Budget & Finance Committee to examine the department's implementation of charging fees for recreation activities that were previously free of charge.

FREE TAX HELP

If your 2008 income was less than \$45,000 you qualify for free tax assistance. Locally tax preparation services will be help at the **Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center, 3925 Noriega@46th Ave. Saturdays 3/7 through 3/28, 10AM – 3PM.**

Walk-in, Chinese spoken.

Please bring with you: a Social Security card for each family member or ITIN # for each adult, a W2 & other income forms, your child care provider name, address & tax id #, your bank routing and account numbers for checking and savings and the name, address and phone number of landlord for renters credit.

Did you know?

The San Francisco Working Families Credit (WFC) gives \$100 to qualified low-income working families in San Francisco. WFC recipients can also get benefits such as discounted MUNI passes. The Working Families Credit program also raises awareness of the other money and benefits for San Francisco working families including:

- * Up to \$4,800 through the Earned Income Tax Credit
- * Up to several hundred dollars per month in food assistance
- * Free and low-cost health coverage for children and many parents
- * Free job search and career services
- * Free or low-cost checking accounts
- * Other services for working families

For more information:

call: (415) 557-6284

email: wfc@sfgov.org

EMERGENCY PLANNING TOWN HALL MEETING – COMING UP FEBRUARY 26

With San Francisco exposed to a wide variety of hazards, both natural and man-made, our office is hosting a town hall meeting on Thursday, February 26th so that residents can be as prepared as possible for any disaster or emergency that may occur.

Diana Rivera, Sunset-Parkside Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) Coordinator and Lt. Erica Arteseros, NERT Program Coordinator for the San Francisco Fire Department will give a presentation on emergency planning for families and neighborhoods. Vicki Hennessy and Rob Dudgeon from the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management will discuss the City's response in an emergency situation.

Event:	Town Hall Meeting about Emergency Planning for the Sunset District
Host:	Supervisor Carmen Chu, District 4
Date:	Thursday, February 26, 2009
Time:	7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Place:	Sunset Recreation Center, 2201 Lawton St. between 28 th & 29 th Ave.
Info:	415-554-7460 or chustaff@sfgov.org

OCEAN BEACH VISION COUNCIL HOSTS DISCUSSION ON RENEWABLE & ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

The Ocean Beach Vision Council and the Department of the Environment hosted a discussion on renewable and alternative energy on February 11th. Dozens of San Francisco residents came to hear about various alternative energy projects currently in use around the world and about the possibility of these types of projects for our City.

Jared Blumenfeld, Director of the Department of the Environment, spoke about sustainability and the environment. San Francisco's goal is to reach 20% below 1990 energy use by the year 2012. To make that goal, San Franciscans will need to drive less, "reduce, reuse and recycle", and generate power with new renewable technology. Mr. Blumenfeld thinks San Francisco and Ocean Beach can be the center of ocean power technology.

Ian Austin of the engineering firm URS spoke about the different renewable energy projects going on around the world. URS has begun a 36-month contract with the SF PUC to study wave and tidal power. These studies are in the very early stages, and URS expects that not all will prove feasible. But who knows, as predicted over a hundred years ago by Adolf Sutro, maybe some day soon, San Francisco will be able to harness the power of the sea.

For more information on the Ocean Beach Vision Council check out www.oceanbeachsf.org



The 4th Annual San Francisco Family Summer Resource Fair is a FREE showcase of everything for city children, youth, and families to do when school is out this summer. Plus: Fun and games for kids and massages for moms (and dads)!

NEW THIS YEAR: Three Exhibitor Areas
Businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies may all exhibit at the Summer Resource Fair. You will be asked to register in the Area that best fits your organization.

General Exhibitors: Space for 200 organizations presenting summer programs and services including:

- * Camps - Day Camps & Sleepaway
- * Classes - Tutoring & Enrichment
- * Activities
- * Arts & Crafts
- * Sports & Leagues
- * City Services & Information
- * Family & Community Resources

JobSpace: Space for 40 organizations serving youth ages 14 to 21 seeking employment:

- * Youth Workforce Employers
- * Training
- * Teen Support
- * Volunteer & Service Learning Opportunities

Shape Up San Francisco: Space for 30 organizations presenting healthy lifestyle programs and resources:

- * Exercise
- * Health Care
- * Nutrition

If you have questions about the Summer Resource Fair, please contact Mary Boyle, Event Coordinator: MBoyle@DCYF



SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM

The Community Challenge Grant Program (CCG) provides matching grants to local residents, businesses, community groups, and nonprofits to make physical improvements to their neighborhoods. The CCG focuses on projects that directly engage residents and businesses in working together to create green spaces, gathering places, public art, and other neighborhood amenities.

Only nonprofit organizations can receive a CCG award. Residents or business owners who form a committee or group solely for the purpose of performing a project must have a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization to serve as their fiscal sponsor. The application timeline is:

Application Opening	Wednesday, February 11, 2009
Application Deadline	Wednesday, March 25, 2009 by 4:00 PM
Award Notification	June 2009

Grants are awarded in the following categories:

Award size	Small Projects	Medium Projects	Large Projects
Project Duration	Up to \$10,000	\$10,001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$100,000
Other requirements	6 months	6 months	1 year
	50% match requirement	25% match requirement	25% match requirement and demonstrate history of successful project implementation.

If you are interested in receiving an application with funding guidelines or additional information regarding CCG please contact Lanita Henriquez, Program Manager at (415) 554-4830 or via e-mail at lanita.henriquez@sfgov.org. You can also download the information at the CCG website - www.sfgov.org/ccg

FREE CPR TRAINING

March 14, 2009

www.RedCrossCPRSaturday.org

(888) 686-3600

Register today and learn life saving skills that will better prepare you and your family for emergencies.



Participants will learn:

- Adult CPR
- Care for choking victims
- 911 emergency services
- Information on how to stay safe during emergencies

Pre-registration is required

Spanish and Cantonese at some locations

Local training sites:

Lowell High School
1101 Eucalyptus Dr.
San Francisco, CA 94132
(888) 686-3600

San Francisco Chinese Alliance Church - Chinese
1150 Vicente St.
San Francisco, CA 94116
(888) 849-7390

PINE LAKE PARK DOG RUN CLEAN-UP

Our office has started a community clean-up effort at Pine Lake Park in an effort to clean and maintain the dog run. We meet every second Saturday of the month from 9:00AM to Noon. Supplies are provided.

Due to Arbor Week events on March 14th, the clean-up will be cancelled for the month of March, and will resume on April 12th.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 24 (Tue) – 7:00 to 8:30PM

Police/Community meeting in Chinese

Taraval Police Station community room
2345 24th Ave & Taraval Street
Opportunity for Chinese-speaking residents of Taraval District to express concerns and ask questions of Chinese-speaking police officers

February 26 (Thur) – 7:00 to 8:30PM

Emergency Planning Community Meeting

Sunset Recreation Center
2001 Lawton St at 28th Ave
Representatives from Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) and Department of Emergency Management (DEM) will speak about how your household can prepare for an emergency.
Sponsored by Supervisor Carmen Chu, NERT and DEM

February 26 (Thur) – 6:00 to 8:00PM

New Census Bureau Recruitment Office/Test Center

located at SNBC evening program site:
A.P. Giannini Middle School, 3151 Ortega St at 38th Ave
The Census Bureau is recruiting now for the 2010 Census, and you can be a part of it. Data gathered during the census is essential to determining how federal monies are spent. The Census Bureau offers great pay, flexible hours, paid training, career advancement and a chance to improve your community. Visit www.census.gov or call 1-866-861-2010 for more information. Drop-in applicants accepted, limited to 20 people per night.

February 26 (Thur) – 6:00 to 10:00PM

NightLife at the California Academy of Sciences

55 Music Concourse Drive
Every Thursday night from February 12th through October 29th, the Academy will be transformed into a lively venue filled with music, provocative science, mingling, and cocktails, for visitors 18 and older. Activities and performers change week to week.
\$10 per person (\$8 for Academy members)
<http://www.calacademy.org/events/nightlife/>

February 27 (Fri) – 4:30 to 6:00PM

Sharon Art Studio Registration

Golden Gate Park near the Children's Playground
The non-profit studio is taking registration forms for the spring session. Classes range from \$30 to \$155 per session. Youth on Friday, February 27, 4:30-6pm. Adult and youth on Saturday, February 28, noon-1:30pm. For more information, call 753-7004.
<http://www.sharonartstudio.org>

February 27 (Fri) – 10:00AM – Noon

Children's Story Time

Taraval Police Station community room
2345 24th Ave & Taraval Street
For more information regarding Parkside Branch Library alternative services, visit www.sfpl.org or call (415) 557-4353. Children's story time takes place every Friday from 10:00AM to Noon.

March 2 (Mon) – 9:30AM to 2:30PM

Sidewalk and Pedestrian Safety Class

Taraval Police Station community room
2345 24th Ave & Taraval Street
During the month of February, Senior University will focus on Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety in the Sunset. Classes will include training in public speaking, how to do walkability assessment walks and writing a pedestrian safety resolution.
Contact Pi Ra, Senior University Director, at 415-546-2096 or srira@sfsan.org

March 3 (Tue) – 7:30AM

Ride MUNI to work with Supervisor Carmen Chu

Meet at Java Beach Café II -- 2650 Sloat Blvd (at 45th Ave)
Supervisor Chu will be at the café to speak about increased transit tax benefits. At 8:00AM, you can join the Supervisor on the L-Taraval for your commute downtown.

March 9 (Mon) – 6:30 to 7:30PM

Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Training

AP Giannini Middle School
3151 Ortega St at 38th Ave
Please enter school through doors at top of ramp
Learn how to be prepared for an emergency
Training conducted by Red Cross Bay Area
Brought to you by Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center
Register by March 6th: 415-759-3690 x7304
Darrow@snbc.org

!SAVE THE DATE!

March 14 (Sat) – 9:00AM to 2:00PM

Arbor Week Tree Planting on Sunset Boulevard

Meet at 37th Ave & Ortega
Volunteers needed to help the Department of Public Works reforest Sunset Boulevard
www.sfarborday.org

March 27 (Friday) – 7:00PM

Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center's Fifth Annual Film Festival

Ulloa Elementary School
2650 - 42nd Ave
www.snbc.org

More events available through www.SunsetDistrict.org

To subscribe/unsubscribe to this newsletter, please contact us at (415) 554-7460 or email chustaff@sfgov.org

Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

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