



Message from the Supervisor



West Sunset construction in progress

I am excited to announce that Saturday, **September 10th at 11:00am** marks the grand re-opening of West Sunset Playground and Ortega Branch Library. As a major community hub for Sunset District residents, West Sunset has served generations of families, and we invite you to participate in the celebration!

West Sunset Playground

Located next to A.P. Giannini Middle School and the Ortega Branch Library, West Sunset Playground is one of the most heavily used playgrounds on the west side of the city. Our office began working with community members in 2007 to have the outdated playground rebuilt.

Built in 1978, the playground saw its share of improvements that needed to be made and the aging structures were no longer serving the children in a safe way. The new playground will have an increased play area, and will also be updated to comply with Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

The design of the playground also takes into consideration public safety issues, and the new playground will be more visible from Ortega Street. The playground's surrounding courtyard area will also feature more seating areas for to accommodate family activities. In addition to the playground, the courtyard leading to Ortega Branch Library is also undergoing a renovation to address safety issues from the uneven pavement.

This rebuild project was the result of a huge collaborative effort between community members, including the Friends of West Sunset Playground (FOWSP), and the city's Recreation & Park and Public Works Departments. A group of parents who frequented West Sunset Playground with their children formed the FOWSP in an effort to get the playground rebuilt. They worked for years to fundraise, organize playground clean-up events, and generate community awareness about the rebuild and maintenance of the playground. I would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy days to ensure that many more generations of families can continue to enjoy West Sunset Playground.

If you are interested in learning more about how to get involved with FOWSP, visit: <http://fowsp.org/> or email: info@fowsp.org.

Ortega Branch Library

The new Ortega Branch Library was designed and managed by the Department of Public Works with input from the community beginning in 2003 after voters passed a bond measure in November 2000 to upgrade San Francisco's branch library system. The new and expanded library, going from 5,000 square feet to 9,000 square feet, will be seismically safe, closer to

Ortega Street for added visibility and safety of patrons, will have approximately 40 percent more seats, more than 20 public computers including laptops for lending at the library, designated teen and kids spaces, and an expanded library collection space. Through the public input process, neighbors expressed interest in a program room open to community members, and the new Ortega Branch Library includes a new program room that can be used by the community even after library hours.

The Friends of the San Francisco Public Library has been working in partnership with neighborhood residents and communities to raise funds, awareness and support for the Ortega Branch Library improvements. For more information on how to support the Ortega Library Campaign, please contact Mary Abler at (415) 626-7512 x107 or mary.abler@friendssfpl.org.



Coupled with a newly renovated courtyard and rebuilt West Sunset Playground, West Sunset will soon be ready to welcome back the community.

I hope you will join us in this neighborhood celebration on **Saturday, September 10th from 11:00am – 12:00pm.**

San Francisco Public Library

Grand Opening

ORTEGA
Branch Library
and
WEST SUNSET
Playground

Saturday, September 10, 2011
11:00 a.m.

Library services begin at 12:00 noon
3223 Ortega Street (at 39th Avenue)

San Francisco Public Library

Building better libraries
for stronger communities.

© Printed on recycled paper

UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT EVENT

On Saturday, **September 24th**, the Department of Public Works will be holding the Community Clean Team/Gigantic 3 Recycling Event in the Sunset District. The Gigantic 3 program is a free bulky item drop off service that allows residents to get rid of unwanted household items at various locations around the city. **On September 24th, you can drop off items at: West Sunset Playground Parking Lot (Quintara between 40th & 41st Ave).** Items that can be dropped off include mattresses, yard waste, furniture, appliances and electronics. Please be prepared to show proof of San Francisco residence. Residents only – no businesses.

Residents are encouraged to make an appointment to drop off their items by calling Sunset Scavenger at (415) 330-1300. For more information about the program, visit: <http://www.sfcleancity.com/>

On the same day, our office will be working with the Department of Public Works to clean the **Noriega business corridor, between 19th – 24th Ave and 30th – 33rd Ave.** We will be picking up litter, doing graffiti paint out, sweeping, and cleaning our streets. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our office for more information at: chustaff@sfgov.org or (415) 554-7460.

ADA WORKSHOP HELD IN THE SUNSET

Providing equal access for everyone has always been the intent behind the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). However, many small businesses throughout San Francisco and the state of California have been hit with "drive-by lawsuits" targeting businesses for noncompliance.



Our office has been working with the Office of Small Business, Mayor's Office on Disability and the Bar Association of San Francisco to educate merchants about requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Together, we have worked on centralizing important information about the ADA, and have been working actively to share information on resources available to businesses through merchant walks, merchant association meetings, mailings to all restaurants in the city, and most recently, an ADA workshop held at the Taraval Police Station on August 3.

The workshop featured speakers from the Bar Association of San Francisco, Office of Small Business, Mayor's Office on Disability, and Opportunity Fund. To view the workshop video online, visit: www.sfgov.org/smallbusiness and click on: *Video: "ADA Compliance for Small Businesses"*

You can also find information regarding ADA requirements for businesses online in several languages at the same website. For any questions regarding ADA requirements and lawsuits, please contact the Office of Small Business at (415) 554-6134.

CPUC SMART METER "OPT OUT" WORKSHOP

You have probably heard about the new Smart Meters™ that PG&E has been installing. These new meters replace the old analog meters, and are said to allow customers to view hourly electric and daily gas energy usage data, valuable information that can be used to make smarter energy choices. PG&E uses wireless radios attached to an electric meter to send customer usage information securely and wirelessly with its SmartMeter™ devices to PG&E for data collection. Some customers have expressed concerns about potential health effects related to radio frequency (RF) emissions from the meters and have asked PG&E to not install them in their homes. Last Spring, PG&E proposed an "Opt Out" program for people who do not want the Smart Meters™ installed in their homes, and the California Public Utilities Commission is still reviewing that proposal. In the meantime, the Administrative Law Judge in this case has requested a public workshop to consider the various options for customers to opt-out of the Smart Meter™ program. This workshop is scheduled for Wed. Sept. 14 and is open to the public.

Date: September 14, 2011

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m

Location: Commission Auditorium, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue

Are you the parent of a San Francisco public school student in middle or high school?

Take part in a focus group hosted by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority to share your opinion on school transportation options. Contact Alexis Smith at smith@barcoast.com or (415) 364-0000 to sign up. Focus group attendees will receive \$50 for their participation. You also can take our online survey—or encourage your child to do so. Visit svy.mk/transitzschool

McCOPPIN SQUARE GRAND RE-OPENING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER – “FRIENDS” NEEDED!

The Recreation & Parks Department is finalizing plans for the Grand Re-Opening of McCoppin Square. The new McCoppin Square, set to open in October, will feature a new playground next to the library with both a Tot Lot and school-aged play areas, ADA accessible pathways, an improved baseball field with new bleachers, a new half basketball court and resurfaced tennis court, a contemplative garden with seating, and a new public restroom building. McCoppin Square will be better prepared to serve its neighbors and visitors for generations to come.

Most parks in San Francisco have a “Friends of” group that acts as a steward of the park. “Friends of” groups organize periodic clean-ups, report graffiti, and raise funds if additional improvements are needed. Now that they have finished this amazing renovation, the Recreation and Parks Department would like a “Friends of McCoppin Square” step in to oversee this beautiful new community space. If you are interested in participating or leading the “Friends of McCoppin Square”, please contact our office at 415-554-7460.

NEW NERT COURSE:

Personal Readiness for a resilient community one time workshop for you and your neighbors!

What's in it for you?

You will learn the basics to take care of yourself and others.

SFFD NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) and SF SAFE (Safety Awareness for Everyone) want you to have skills to be prepared for emergencies big or small, and get to know your neighbors on your block to maximize resiliency after a disaster.

- Risk Awareness
- Disaster supplies
- Personal/Family Disaster Planning
- Utilities Overview
- NERT Overview
- Disaster Pre-Planning – building community one block at a time



Details:

Tuesday - September 13
6:30pm-8:30pm
West Portal Branch Library
190 Lenox Way @ Ulloa

To RSVP: call the NERT Training
Registration Line 970-2024

THE DOG PIT OPENS ON TARAVAL : 1404 Taraval Street

Just in time for the return of hungry Lincoln High School students, the Dog Pit has opened at 1404 Taraval Street. The Dog Pit serves a wide variety of gourmet dogs from the classic hot dog to



chicken, turkey and vegetarian sausages, as well as the exotic all beef Tokyo Dog (w/ bonito flakes, seaweed, and house made wasabi aioli) and the Baked Italia Dog (w/ tomatoes, mozzarella, basil, and house made pesto aioli). Proprietor Jason Tam grew up in the Sunset District and is excited to share his passion for hot dogs with the neighborhood. Pick up their September Stamp Special Card for freebies...

The Dog Pit is open Mondays - Fridays 11am-9pm & weekends 11am-7pm. <http://www.dog-pit.com/>

SUNSET CELEBRATES NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



The Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center hosted our district's National Night Out, a nationwide event that aims to cut down on crime, build a sense of community and create positive relationships between police departments and local residents. There was free barbeque, fun and games, and performances from many of our talented Sunset District kids.



SUPERVISOR CHU'S 4th ANNUAL COSTUME DRIVE IS COMING



Halloween is just around the corner, and our office is gearing up for the **4th Annual Halloween Costume Drive for Kids**. Every kid loves dressing up for Halloween, but during these difficult economic times not every family can afford buying a new costume. You can help by donating gently used costumes, masks and props. Drop off locations include the Taraval Police Station, Firehouse # 18 and the new Ortega

Branch Library. You can begin dropping off costumes at these locations beginning mid-September. Costumes will be distributed to kids in need in time for school Halloween parades and trick-or-treating. Thanks to the generosity of the community, last year we were able to distribute over 200 costumes!



SUSAN G. KOMEN 3-DAY FOR THE CURE



The annual Susan G. Komen 3-Day For the Cure will pass through the Sunset District on September 9th. Participants in this event walk 60 miles over the course of three days, and each has raised \$2,300 or more to fight breast cancer. The proceeds from this annual event fund innovative global breast cancer research and local community programs supporting education, screening and treatment. More than 2000 walkers will be along the Great Highway, Friday, **September 9th, from 8:00am – 12:30pm**, so if you are in the neighborhood, make a point to stop and offer your cheers and support.

17th ANNUAL SUNSET COMMUNITY FESTIVAL : SEPTEMBER 24

The ever popular Sunset Community Festival is back for the 17th year with a change of location. Due to the scheduled renovations at Sunset Recreation Center, home of the festival for the last 16 years, this year the Festival will be relocating to the newly redesigned and remodeled West Sunset Playground and Plaza -- right next door to the new Ortega Branch Library - 39th Ave and Ortega. The Sunset Community Festival engages members of the community every step of the way—sponsoring, planning, production, entertaining, and volunteering. And there is still time to participate. To find out how you can join in the fun, email sunsetfestival@sbcglobal.net or call 415-731-3322 and leave your name and number.

ENERGY SAVINGS COMING TO THE SUNSET DISTRICT

Be on the lookout for SF Environment representatives, who will be visiting the Sunset District starting next month to help businesses cut energy costs through the SF Energy Watch program. Thousands of businesses have already reduced costs through this program. To read about different energy efficiency projects implemented by various local businesses and organizations visit www.sfenergywatch.org.

San Francisco Energy Watch was launched in 2007 to help businesses and multifamily building managers or owners in San Francisco lower their energy bills and help the City reduce its impact on the environment. The program offers these energy- and cost-saving benefits:

- FREE on-site assessments to identify energy savings
- NEW ENERGY-EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT and technical services at greatly reduced cost
- EXPERT INSTALLATION of energy-saving equipment
- LOWER UTILITY BILLS over the life of the new equipment

Businesses of all sizes and multifamily residential properties located in San Francisco that are currently Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) customers can participate in the program.

To schedule a free assessment and learn how you can save energy and money, call the SF Energy Watch hotline at (415) 355-3769. SF Energy Watch is a partnership between PG&E and the City of San Francisco.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3 Sept** **Irving Street Autumn Moon Festival**
Irving Street between 22nd & 25th Avenues
11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- 10 Sept** **Ortega Library & West Sunset Playground Grand Re-Opening Ceremony**
39th Ave & Ortega
11:00 am – 2:30 pm
- 11 Sept** **San Francisco 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb**
A non-competitive “vertical road race” up 52 floors of the TransAmerica Building, San Francisco’s tallest “climbable” building, to honor the fallen firefighters of 9/11/2001. For more information, go to: <http://www.sf911msc.com/news>
- 11 Sept** **Police and Fire Departments’ 9/11 Mass**
St. Monica’s Church, Geary at 23rd Ave.
10:30 am
- 13 Sept** **SFMTA Fell and Oak Street Bikeways Community Meeting**
Preliminary design options for bike improvements on these streets will be discussed San Francisco Day School (350 Masonic Avenue at Golden Gate Avenue)
6:30 pm
- 18 Sept** **Mayor Lee’s Ping Pong Tournament & Event**
Portsmouth Square, Chinatown
Tournament - 9:30 to 11:30 am
Workshops and Open Play 11:30 am – 4:00 pm
- 20 Sept** **Captain Lum’s Monthly Community Meeting**
Taraval Police Station - 2345 24th Ave
7:00 pm
- 24 Sept** **Sunset Festival**
West Sunset – 39th Ave & Ortega
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
- 24 Sept** **DPW District Clean Up day & Gigantic 3 Recycling Event**
Contact Supervisor Chu’s Office for more information: 554-7462 or chustaff@sfgov.org.
- 1-3 Oct** **Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival in Golden Gate Park**

Follow **SupervisorChu** on Twitter!

Find **Carmen Chu** on Facebook

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter:

chustaff@sfgov.org

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