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SUPERVISOR SCOTT WIENER

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 8

March 2014 Newsletter

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Thursday, April 3rd
12:30pm-2:30pm

Policy Work

Castro In-Law Legislation

Last year, as part of a broader effort to address our city's housing crisis, I introduced legislation to legalize the construction of new in-law units in the Castro. In-law units are the most affordable type of non-subsidized housing and tend to be more accessible than other housing stock, since they are typically on the ground floor. The Planning Commission recently [voted unanimously to support the legislation](#), and the proposal has earned supportive editorials from the [Bay Area Reporter](#) and the [San Francisco Examiner](#). The legislation will now go to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Utility Box Legislation

During a hearing last year that I held on our process for placing utility boxes on our neighborhood sidewalks, I announced that I'm working on legislation to set clearer and more pro-neighborhood standards for allowing these boxes. While state law requires that we allow utilities to place their boxes on our sidewalks, we have the power - and the obligation - to ensure that the process is consistent with the needs of our neighborhoods, and with walkability and safety concerns. The legislation is almost complete. I anticipate introducing it shortly.

City Hall, Room 274

Saturday, April 5th
10:00am-12:00pm
Martha and Bros. Coffee
3868 24th Street

NOTE: Occasionally, we need to reschedule office hours. To ensure that you learn of any changes before making the effort to attend, please check with the office a day or two before or alternatively call the office to put your name on the office hours list so that we can notify you if any changes occur.



Scott at the 50th Annual Hibernian Lunch with keynote speaker Regis Philbin and his wife Joy

Transportation Updates:

Muni Performance Hearing

Muni has many challenges, including \$2.2 billion in deferred maintenance. We need to shore up the system to meet the needs of current residents, while also expanding the system's capacity to match our current and projected population growth. We can't afford to allow Muni to languish. Last year, I held a [hearing on Muni's performance](#) and requested that the agency provide quarterly reports tracking the system's performance, in order to keep riders updated on how the system is progressing. These reports have provided useful details on service delivery, vehicle availability, on-time performance, extended line delays, bus crowding, and the economic impact of service disruptions on city productivity. Given recent exacerbated problems with the subway's performance, I'll be convening a hearing next month to hear Muni's explanations about the subway's continuing challenges and what the agency is doing to address them.

Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP)

MTA recently held a community meeting at the LGBT Center on the TEP, under which Muni is proposing to make changes to various routes in order to improve the system's performance to better align routes with riders' needs. The TEP has generated quite a bit of discussion around a number of lines, including the 35 and 48 lines. After meeting with numerous Glen Park and Diamond Heights residents, Muni has revised its proposal for the 35, so that the line can still reach Glen Park BART Station without cutting Moffitt and nearby streets out of the route. Muni is continuing the discussion with residents around proposed changes to the 48 line. More information about the TEP and how to be involved [here](#).

Transit Funding Lobby Trip to Washington, DC

I have the honor of representing San Francisco on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Bay Area's regional transportation funding and planning agency. Last week, I joined several of my fellow MTC Commissioners and MTC staff, as well as representatives from other transit agencies, to travel to Washington to meet with members of Congress and their staff about the critical need to ensure adequate federal transit funding. The trip was productive but also a sobering reminder of the dysfunctionality in our nation's capital. I will continue to be a staunch advocate - locally and at the state and federal levels - for strong investment in our transit systems, which are the backbone of our region's economy, environment, and quality of life.



Scott with Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin and MTA Board of Directors Chair Tom Nolan in Washington D.C.

Proposed F Market Fare Hike

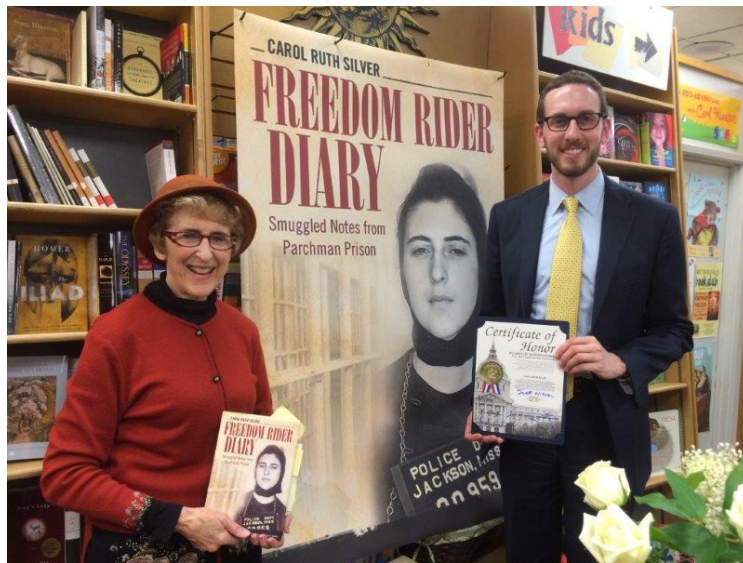
MTA recently proposed [raising the fare on the F Market line](#) to as high as \$6 a ride. This idea disregarded the critical role the F plays for everyday Muni riders who use it commute from the Castro to downtown and along the Embarcadero. Indeed, the F is the only surface transportation from the Castro to downtown and plays an important back-up role when the subway melts down. Supervisor David Chiu and I wrote a letter to MTA opposing the idea. Last week, [MTA announced that it is abandoning the idea](#), which is a great result. Following is the letter:

Soda Tax Update

Last year, I, along with several colleagues, introduced a proposal to tax soda and other sugary beverages to address our exploding type 2 diabetes epidemic, with proceeds of the tax dedicated to nutrition, physical activity, and health programs in public schools and elsewhere. A [new study](#) from researchers at Stanford and Cornell confirms what research at UCSF and other institutions have been saying for years: that a tax on sodas and other sugary beverages will reduce consumption and thus improve public health.

To better understand the impacts of type 2 diabetes in our city, I've [called a hearing](#) where medical providers and city departments will report on the causes, prevalence, impacts and costs of diabetes, particularly in relation to the consumption of soda and other sugary beverages. Healthcare providers, who see firsthand the effects of diabetes in hospitals and examination rooms, will detail the human cost of this disease. Additionally, these providers will address the long-term economic impacts on medical costs with current and projected diabetes rates. We know that diabetes and other diseases caused by consumption of these beverages hit low-income and minority communities the hardest. Here's [a fantastic \(and scary\) video](#) featuring Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Obasi Davis describing how these drinks are marketed to his community. There will also be a Town Hall meeting hosted by St. Mary's Medical Center and the San Francisco Medical Society on the soda tax next Monday, March 24th at 6 PM at St. Mary's Hospital at 2250 Hayes Street in Morrissey Hall. For more details, see the events section later in the newsletter.

Raising awareness about this issue is important, since the beverage industry is already spreading misinformation in order to protect its bottom line. A full 8 months before the November election, residents are already receiving mailers, push polls, and robo-calls claiming that the cost of a can of soda is somehow related to the rise in evictions. As we move through the legislative process, we will work hard to ensure that decisionmakers and residents have accurate information about the significant health problems that these beverages are causing for our city and our country.



Scott with former Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver at the book signing party for her new book

Waterfront Ballot Initiative Analysis

The proposed ballot measure to require voter approval of any development project that exceeds current height limits on Port of San Francisco property will change development on our waterfront, if it passes. To ensure that voters have full information about the impacts of this measure, I introduced a resolution asking for an impartial, multi-departmental study of the initiative. I believe the public deserves all information needed to make an informed decision at the ballot box, whatever one's view on the measure. Unfortunately, some of the proponents of the ballot measure don't agree that the public deserves this full analysis and are [fighting my efforts to obtain it](#). If this measure may impact the production of housing (including affordable housing) and infrastructure investment, the public should be aware of those impacts in order to make as informed a decision as possible.

Beginning of the Budget Process

I have the honor of again serving as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. We recently began meeting as part of our annual budget process. Among my priorities this year are to protect funding for HIV services - including backfilling federal HIV cuts - beefing up our ability to clean and maintain our public spaces, ensuring adequate resources for Animal Care & Control, providing strong infrastructure and affordable housing investment, and generally making sure that our budget stays on track to fund critical city services while also putting away funds for a rainy day. The budget process is never an easy one, but it is incredibly important for our city's future.

Community Spotlight

Gwyneth Borden

During the recent African American History Month celebration at the Board of Supervisors, I was proud to honor Gwyneth Borden. Gwyneth has been a member of the Planning Commission and recently became Executive Director of the Golden Gate Restaurant Association.



Scott with Gwyneth Borden at the Board of Supervisors meeting

Community Updates

It's been an exciting month in District 8, with four major steps forward:

Streetlight Improvements in Glen Park and on Guerrero Street

In December of last year, I coordinated a walking tour of Glen Park with members of the Glen Park Association, the PUC and PG&E to address the lack of acceptable street lighting in the neighborhood. As a result, the PUC will present its plans to increase the number of streetlights in Glen Park at the next GPA meeting on April 9th (see Calendar section below for more details). Please join me on the 9th to participate in the PUC's presentation and to offer feedback on the proposed streetlight installations. Additionally, I'm happy to announce plans to upgrade the streetlights along Guerrero Street (between Market Street and San Jose Avenue) to LED lighting. This is great news for the neighborhood, as LED lights last longer, are more energy-efficient and provide a whiter light akin to moonlight. To see an example, go over to Cesar Chavez Street where these lights were installed as part of the streetscape project. The PUC plans to install the LED lights in July.

Castro Sidewalk Widening Groundbreaking

Last week I joined city officials and Castro neighborhood leaders and residents for a celebration at Jane Warner Plaza to mark [the official groundbreaking](#) of the Castro Streetscape and Sidewalk Widening project. This project is a visionary one for the neighborhood, and I'm proud to have championed it and worked closely with the community and city staff to make it a reality. It will be completed in two phases, with the first phase completed by mid-June and the second in October. There will be a construction moratorium the last two weeks of June to accommodate the Frameline Film Festival, Pink Saturday, and Pride events. Please visit www.castrostreet.org, hosted by the Castro/Upper Market CBD, or www.sfdpw.org/castro, for information, updates, and construction alerts.



Scott at the Castro Streetscape groundbreaking ceremony with city staff and Castro neighborhood leaders

Guerrero Median Greening

In late February, I co-hosted a community meeting with the Department of Public Works, the San Jose/Guerrero Coalition, and neighbors to discuss greening the Guerrero street medians between 20th and Market Street. I look forward to working with the community and city staff to making this vision a reality. The next step forward is to organize each of the blocks. As part of that process, we need to identify (a) who lives on or adjacent to what block and (b) which neighbors will volunteer as Block Captains for each block. The responsibility of the Block Captains will be to act as liaisons between the neighbors and the city. We currently need two captains for each of the 8 un-greened blocks between 20th Street and Market. Please email my legislative aide Adam Taylor (adam.taylor@sfgov.org) or call him at (415) 554-6987 to get involved. Please provide Adam with your block and whether you are willing to serve as a Block Captain. We will create an organizing spreadsheet and then work with the captains. Please feel free to pass this information onto your neighbors who may not be on our distribution list so that we can ensure strong neighborhood participation.

Dolores Park Groundbreaking

Early this month, we [officially broke ground](#) on the Dolores Park Renovation project. The renovation is funded by the 2008 parks bond and resulted from more than a year of community design meetings in which hundreds of residents participated. Dolores Park is a civic gem, but it's worn down. Its irrigation and drainage systems are defunct, it doesn't have enough restrooms, and its paths are not accessible. The renovations will include new irrigation and drainage systems, refurbished tennis courts, new restrooms and elimination of the existing restroom building (tripling restroom capacity), and accessible paths. During construction, at least half of the park will remain open at all times. The northern portion of the park is now closed, and will remain so through fall 2014. For more information about the project, please contact Jake Gilchrist at Jacob.Gilchrist@sfgov.org or (415) 581-2561.



Scott with Bike Polo players at the Dolores Park groundbreaking

24th Street Urban Village Streetscape Project Update

On January 23, 2014, over 40 community members convened at St. Philip Parish to provide feedback on proposed streetscape designs for 24th Street. The Department of Public Works, with guidance from my office, MTA, and community input from last year, proposed bulb-outs and decorative crosswalks to the 24th Street streetscape. Bus-bulbs will be installed at the intersections of Noe and 24th Streets and Castro and 24th Streets. Decorative, high-visibility crosswalks will be installed on the Church Street, Noe Street, and Sanchez Street intersections along 24th Street. This project will improve pedestrian safety, transit efficiency, and neighborhood aesthetics, as well as spotlight 24th Street as a transit and community hub. Currently, DPW is creating construction documents for the project. The drawings are expected to be completed by summer, and construction to finish this Fall.

Glen Canyon Re-Opening

We held a ceremony to mark the reopening of the recreation facilities in Glen Canyon. Glen Canyon now has new tennis courts, a new playground, and a dramatically improved entrance from Elk Street. These improvements - funded by the 2008 Parks Bond - are a great first step to an improved the park. We are now in the planning process for renovating the entire recreation center, which is in awful condition. Please direct questions about the project to Karen Mauney-Brodek at karen.mauney-brodek@sfgov.org or (415) 575-5601.



Scott with Glen Park Association President Michael Rice and former GPA President Zianne Nordstrom at the Glen Canyon celebration

Community Spotlight

Laura Thomas

This month I honored Laura Thomas for Women's History Month, where the theme was Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment. Laura has shown all these traits in her irreplaceable advocacy for HIV care and prevention, reforming drug use criminalization, and other smart public health policies.



Scott honoring Laura Thomas at the Board of Supervisors meeting

Community Calendar

Shape Up San Francisco Walking Challenge

Shape Up SF is gearing up to virtually walk up the coast of CA March 31-June 6! Online Registration is now open for the Shape Up SF Walking Challenge! Start recruiting family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to form a team. Are you up for the 10-week challenge? For more info please visit: shapeupsfwalkingchallenge.org or email: staff@shapeupsfcoalition.org.

Police Athletic League Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for free and low cost healthy activities for your kids which develop personal character and foster positive relationships among police officers, youth and the community? Do you want to give back as a volunteer coach, referee, or mentor? Check out opportunities in our programs: Conditioning, Seahawks Football and Cheer/Dance, Law Enforcement Cadets, Judo, Soccer and Baseball. We also have special events like Golf Tournaments and Basketball Jamborees. Visit San Francisco Police Activities League's website at <http://www.sfpal.org/> to learn more.



Scott with Police Academy Recruits from the 238th Recruit Class and Laterals

Google Impact Challenge

The Google Impact Challenge is an open call that invites local nonprofits to share their innovative ideas for making our communities an even better place to live. Four winners will each receive a \$500,000 grant and access to workspace to help scale their efforts. An additional 21 organizations will also receive funding. Applications are now open and eligible nonprofits can apply online by March 31 at: g.co/bayareachallenge. Advisors Reverend Cecil Williams, Barry Zito, Fire Chief Teresa Deloach Reed, Aida Alvarez, and Secretary Norm Mineta are joining in the Impact Challenge to identify the top projects, and the public will be invited to pick which projects they'd most like to see in action later this year.

San Francisco Marathon: Volunteers Needed

The San Francisco Marathon could not be possible without the assistance from over thousands of volunteers. We are looking for groups to volunteer their time on race day, Sunday, July 27th, 2014. We will offer a donation of \$15 per volunteer per day to service organization groups for their efforts to give back to the community. Come out to support and celebrate the accomplishments of over 25,000 runners on race day. If your group is interested, please contact Molly Portillo at mportillo@jumpingfences.org. We look forward to working with you!

Friends of the Public Library Volunteer Opportunity

It takes a lot of volunteers to run the largest used book sale operation west of the Mississippi, and Friends of the San Francisco Public Library needs your help at our upcoming Spring Book Sale at the Ft. Mason Center, April 14-21st. Help is most needed on the 14th and 15th. All shift volunteers get a \$5 voucher (which goes a long way when everything is \$3, \$2, or \$1) to help set-up, stock books, or greet shoppers at the cashier. For more information, please contact Donalda Watson-Walkinshaw at (415) 626-7512 ext. 120, or Donalda.watson-walkinshaw@friendssfpl.org. The Spring Book Sale is free for shoppers April 16-20, 10AM-6PM.

St. Luke's Campus Community Meeting

Wednesday, March 19th

6:00pm

3555 Cesar Chavez (at Valencia)

Learn more about the new hospital at the CPMC St. Luke's Campus. Participate in the discussion and learn more about the construction plans.



Scott at the Castro Farmers Market Opening

Soda Tax Community Townhall

Monday, March 24th

6:00pm

St. Mary's Medical Center, Morrissey Hall

2250 Hayes Street

This town hall is co-hosted by St. Mary's Medical Center and the San Francisco Medical Society. Supervisors Scott Wiener and Eric Mar will join public health professionals to meet with the community about the soda tax currently being proposed for the November ballot. Come ask questions and find out more about the proposal. For more information, [click here](#).

Lunch with Supervisor Wiener Auction Opportunity at New Orleans Brass Band and Gumbo Event

Saturday, March 29

Doors open at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm

St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church is hosting an evening with music, dinner and silent and live auctions including the chance to bid on lunch for six with Supervisor Scott Wiener followed by a private tour of City Hall. Proceeds benefit St. Aidan's community outreach programs. Saturday, March 29, Doors open at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm at St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr. San Francisco, CA 94131. Parking is available in the lot next to Safeway. Tickets: \$50 per person, \$350 table for 8, or \$45-\$25 sliding scale. For tickets [click here](#) and for information call 415-285-9540 ext. 3.

3rd Annual LGBTQ Families Dinner

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Aptos Middle School

105 Aptos Avenue (near Ocean Avenue)

SFUSD School Health Programs, and the Office of Family and Community Engagement invite you to our 3rd annual Families Dinner, LGBTQ Pride District Wide. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Castro Community Benefit District Annual Social

Thursday, March 27th

6:00pm

The Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street

Meet the Castro CBD Board of Directors, City Officials, your neighbors and colleagues. The mission of the Castro/Upper Market Community Benefit District is to provide services that improve the quality of life in the neighborhood, emphasizing clean, safe, beautiful streets. It also promotes the area's economic vitality, fosters the Castro's unique district identity, and honors its diverse history.

Gross Receipts Tax Seminar

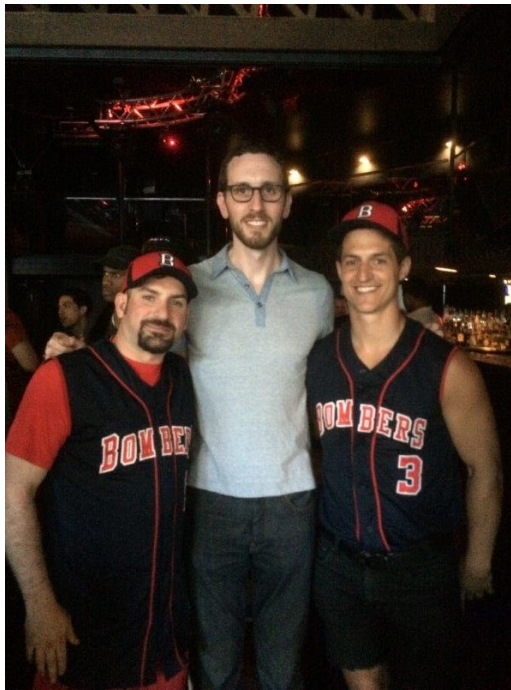
Thursday, April 3rd

2:00pm-3:30 p.m.

San Francisco Public Library, Latino Room

100 Larkin St

In 2014, the City will phase in a Gross Receipts Tax and reduce the Payroll Expense Tax over the next five years. The Gross Receipts Tax will only apply to businesses with more than \$1 million in annual gross receipts, exempting most small businesses. Business Registration Fees will also change for all businesses. The seminar will include an overview of the new changes and a schedule of tax filings. Seating is limited. Please RSVP to Marianne Thompson at 415.554.6297 or marianne.thompson@sfgov.org. The seminar is hosted by the City and County of San Francisco in partnership with the Golden Gate Restaurant Association.



Scott with members of the Bay Area Bombers

Glen Park Association Quarterly Meeting/Glen Park Streelight Improvement Presentation
Wednesday, April 9th
7:00 PM

Glen Park Recreation Center

Attend GPA's quarterly meeting to hear a City Hall update. The PUC will also present a plan to improve street lighting in Glen Park. For more information, [click here](#).

Duboce Park Monthly Clean Up

Saturday, April 12

10:00am-12:00pm

Join the Friends of Duboce Park at their next volunteer day. Meet in front of the Rec Center. All supplies, tools, and gloves will be provided. 30 minutes or an hour of your time makes a big difference in the appearance of our park. For more information, [click here](#).

Thomas Edison Charter Academy Resource Fair and Fundraiser

Saturday, April 12th

11:00am-3:00pm

Thomas Edison Charter Academy

22nd Street and Dolores

TECA will be selling first aid kits and other emergency supplies as a fundraiser for their PTC. Various non-profits and city departments, including the San Francisco Fire Department and SF Safe, will also set up booths to provide information that is useful to parents. For more information, [click here](#).

Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Monday, April 14th

7:00pm-9:00pm

CPMC / Davies Hospital

Gazebo Room

Castro and Duboce Streets

The Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA) represents residents, businesses and property owners in San Francisco's Duboce Triangle neighborhood, bordered by Market St., Castro St., Divisadero St., Waller St., Webster St. and Duboce Avenue. Our goal is to protect, maintain and improve our neighborhood quality of life, and ensure that the Duboce Triangle continues to be San Francisco's very best neighborhood in which to live, work and play.

7th Annual Black Health and Healing Summit: We the People

Saturday, April 19th

9:00am - 4:00 PM

San Francisco State University's Cesar Chavez Student Center

The day's events include panel discussions, workshops, health screenings and vendor displays. Don't miss an opportunity to engage in an important dialog with policy makers, health professionals, community activists and others. Admission is free. Register early and/or obtain more information from Mark at (415) 615-9945, x115, or mmatthews@bcoa.org.

Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence - 35th Anniversary Celebration / Easter in Golden Gate Park

Sunday, April 20th

10:00am-4:00pm

Hellman Hollow (formerly Speedway Meadow), Golden Gate Park

As a result of the Dolores Park closure, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence annual Easter celebration has been moved to Golden Gate Park. All the usual antics can be expected - Music, laughter, adult contests - Easter Bonnet, Hunky Jesus, and the newly added Foxy Mary! Wizard of Oz costuming encouraged. Bring a picnic and join us for a wonderful afternoon of joyful irreverence. Children's Easter (Easter Egg Hunt/games) will

begin at 10:00am, and the Easter Stage and Show will go from 12:00-4:00pm.
[Click here](#) for more information.

Mayor's Office of Housing Community Meeting

Tues, April 22nd

6:00pm- 8:00pm

*Mission Campus, City College of SF
1125 Valencia St.*

The Citizen's Committee on Community Development will host four community meetings to discuss the grants that fund Housing, Workforce Development, Economic Development, Public Services, and Capital Programs in San Francisco. Residents, business owners, representatives of community-based organizations and other stakeholders are invited to attend one of two community meetings in San Francisco to provide input on the upcoming Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME) and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) funding. The City has received approximately \$30 million this year under these four U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant programs. It is imperative to hear the community's feedback on how these funds could better serve San Francisco in the coming years. Meetings are scheduled at the locations listed below. All sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. Language translation services will be available in both Spanish and Cantonese.

Openhouse's 10th Annual Spring Fling

Sunday April 27 11:00am-2:00pm

Four Seasons Hotel

757 Market Street

Openhouse enables San Francisco Bay Area lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) seniors to overcome the unique challenges they face as they age by providing critical housing, direct services, and community programs. Openhouse works to reduce isolation and empower LGBT seniors to improve their health, well-being and economic security. You can register and buy your tickets now [here](#).

The Garden Project Earth Stewards Summer High School Apprenticeship Program

Program Application April 30th

Students work everyday at the Garden Project farm at the San Francisco County Jail. They earn \$11 per hour while working on projects that directly benefit the environment and people of San Francisco. They work propagating native plants, on fire prevention projects, litter and invasive weed removal, and planting organic vegetables. The program teaches job and life skills, offers participants the opportunity to experience the natural world, and exposes them to environmental and public service careers. [Click here](#) to learn more information. Participants must be San Francisco residents, and must be current high school students in San Francisco. Participants work four hours per day, meals are provided. Participants earn \$11 per hour, and must obtain a work permit from the SFUSD. Students with physical disabilities welcome.



Scott joining the groundbreaking for the new Children's Day School site at 601 Dolores

NERT Workshop

Wednesday April 30th

6:30pm-8:30pm

SF Main Library

100 Larkin St

Attend this one time workshop about personal readiness for a resilient readiness for you and your neighbors.
[Click here](#) for more information.

Golden Gate Restaurant Association Scholarship Foundation Applications

Deadline April 30

Do you know a student currently studying in a culinary or hospitality program who could use financial assistance? If so, encourage them to apply for the Golden Gate Restaurant Association annual scholarship. The Golden Gate Restaurant Association Scholarship Foundation (GGRASF) is a 501©(3) and has provided scholarships annually since its inception in 1968 to students dedicated to careers in the culinary and hospitality fields. The foundation also contacts all Bay Area high schools, community colleges, colleges and universities

with culinary/hospitality programs to promote the opportunity to their students. The application is available [here](#) and is also available in an online version. For more information, contact Donnalyn Murphy at donnalyn@ggra.org or call (415) 781-5348 ext 2.

Castro Farmers' Market

Weekly on Wednesdays

4:00pm-8:00pm

Noe Street at Market Street

The Castro Farmers Market runs every Wednesday from March 12th to December 17th. For more information, [click here](#).

Noe Valley Farmers' Market

Weekly on Saturdays

8:00am-1:00pm

24th Street (between Sanchez and Vicksburg Streets)

The Noe Valley Farmers' Market is a year-round California certified farmers' market operated primarily by community volunteers and run in partnership with the Noe Valley Ministry. [Click here](#) for more information

Glen Park Farmers' Market

Weekly on Sundays

10:00am-2:00pm

Glen Park BART Parking Lot (Bosworth and Diamond)

The Glen Park Farmers' Market runs every Sunday from March 30th to November 23rd. [Click here](#) for more information.

