
Sunnyside News

*Voice of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
26 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, 1975-2001*

Vol. 3, No. 1




Spring 2001

SNA Meetings

**May 8
October 9**

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association meets on the second Tuesday of February, May and October. Meet your neighbors, find out what's going on in Sunnyside and hear informative speakers.


SNA meets at 7:30 pm., Sunnyside Elementary School, 250 Foerster. Please join us! 

SNA Web Site

Visit SNA's web site at:
www.Sunnyside-Association.org

Send Your E-mail Address!

Please be sure to include your e-mail address on your membership renewal, or send it to: Sunnyside-Association@INAME.com.

SNA pledges to use the addresses only for SNA or neighborhood-related business. We will never make the addresses available to any for-profit entity. 

President's Message

by Don Price

Hello to all. We have big news concerning Monterey Blvd. In Spring 1999, SNA asked the Department of Public Works to consider a redesign of the Monterey corridor. Now, two years later, the funding and planning are in place to begin in September 2001.

The City and SNA have met with neighbors four times over the last year concerning improving Monterey Blvd., reaching a consensus on how the street median along Monterey Blvd. will be re-planted and maintained. The street median will be done in three phases, with Phase One, Ridgewood Street to Edna Street, beginning in September. Phase Two, Edna to the I-280 entrance, will feature a sign at the entrance that will read "Monterey Blvd. District." Phase Three will be from Ridgewood to Plymouth in Westwood Park. The second two phases do not have firm start dates yet but will likely be 2002 and 2003, contingent on City funding.

The median will be planted with several kinds of palm trees, self-maintaining ground cover, with the median itself encased in used cobblestone—similar to Market Street. Our median is too narrow to allow for the large Canary palms used on Market Street; rather, we will have four or five smaller palms that will look quite nice together. SNA has spent many hours making this happen for our neighborhood and we hope this will be a renaissance of the Monterey business corridor.

To complement this effort, we must all begin to think now about how we will use this renaissance to bring back shopping to Monterey Blvd. In the days before the 1970s, there was a true shopping district here in Sunnyside. SNA hopes that with the support of residents, businesses, and the City, a revitalized district with retail operations will spring forth in the next few years.

Of course, parking is always an issue. SNA tried, and failed due to residents' objections, to get parallel parking with meters along Monterey

President's Message, continued on page 5

From the Editor

by Rita Evans

City College has almost completed construction on the huge shop and warehouse building that had been slated to be built on Judson Avenue. Imagine the tractor trailer traffic roaring along local streets, or the loss of one of the only stands of trees in neighborhood, had they built there.

SNA fought City College's plans and persuaded them to locate the building near the practice fields. This advocacy for the neighborhood is a good reason for you to join SNA or renew your dues today.



Spring can be breathtakingly beautiful, even in our urban environment. For years, neighbors have planted the lower part of the Judson

From the Editor, continued on page 4

SNA February Meeting

DPW Outlines Details of Landscaping Planned for Monterey Boulevard

A report from DPW on Monterey Boulevard improvements and an update on police activity in the area were the focus of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association's February meeting.

John Thomas, from the Landscape Architecture Section of DPW's Bureau of Engineering, reported that the project will be handled in three phases, with the first phase covering the commercial district, from Edna Street to Ridgewood Street. The entire project will extend from the I-280 entrance at Glen Park to Plymouth Street on the west.

Thomas said that heavy wind limits the choice of trees and other plants. High volumes of high speed traffic also make maintenance difficult, so the planted area will be reduced to about 50% of the medians. Low plants near intersections will preserve sight lines at intersections, with plant and tree height increasing in mid-blocks. Palms trees, which will both complement the palms in the Conservatory and be distinct from other street trees in the neighborhood, have been chosen, although the specific variety still needs to be determined.

Officers Craig Wilson and Ken Weems of Ingleside Station gave neighbors a run-down of recent activity in the neighborhood. The mauling death of Diane Whipple has led to zero-tolerance enforcement of leash laws in city parks, including Sunnyside Park. Where previously officers had taken a low-key approach focused on education, now they are writing citations when dogs are found off-leash.

The officers also reported that they have been writing lots of tickets to people running stop signs and speeding in the neighborhood. Call Ingleside Station to request enforcement in specific areas. ⚙

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

President - Don Price

Vice-President - Dave Wall

Treasurer - Rita D'Amico

Editor/Secretary - Rita Evans

We encourage all members to contact the president or other board members when you have neighborhood concerns.

You can leave questions or suggestions for SNA by calling **Sunnyside Line**, 415-331-1500 x100. Your call will be returned within a week.

Send e-mail to: Sunnyside-Association@INAME.com.

You can also reach us by mail at Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn, PO Box 27615, SF, CA 94127. ⚙

Sunnyside News

Your news, features or letters to the editor are welcome. All letters must be signed.

Contact News editor Rita Evans, never@sirius.com, or at SNA, PO Box 27615, SF, CA, 94127.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions expressed in *Sunnyside News*. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SNA.



Why You Should Belong to SNA - Join or Renew!

For more than 25 years, SNA has effectively represented neighborhood interests at City Hall and with City College.

Twice a year, *Sunnyside News* brings you local news of interest and concern to the neighborhood.

Representatives from Parking and Traffic, Recreation and Parks and other city departments provide up-to-date information and address neighborhood concerns at regularly scheduled SNA meetings.

SNA worked with the City to open the City College reservoirs to student parking, relieving some of our local street parking pressure.

Revitalization of our local parks is being accomplished through efforts begun by and through SNA.

We kept City College from building a huge warehouse on Judson which would have clogged the streets with tractor trailers.

Our meetings provide a forum for neighbors to express concerns and network with others.

If the date on your mailing label is December 2001 or earlier, it's time for you to pay your dues.

For just \$10 a year, you can help us keep Sunnyside a lovely place to live. Join or renew your membership today! ⚙

Find the Hidden Artist in Yourself - Take a Class at the Conservatory!

The Landmark program is sponsoring a Spring Art Class Series on Saturdays and Sundays in March, April and May. Discover something new at the Sunnyside Conservatory!

To register, please call 415-905-4418 or e-mail sunnysideconservatory@yahoo.com.

Sun Printing with Susannah Hays. Two sessions: Saturday, April 28, 1-4 p.m. or Saturday, May 12, 1-4 p.m.

Bookmaking: Reading the City and Neighborhood with Susannah Hays. Two-session workshop: Saturdays, March 31 and April 7, 1-4 p.m.

Landmark Architecture: Blueprints for Magical Spaces with David Roccasalva & Elizabeth Milnarik. Sunday, April 1, 1-4 p.m.

Abstracting Nature with Gabrielle Thormann. Two-session workshop: Sundays, April 22 and 29, 1-4 p.m.

Giant Puppetmaking for Families with K. Ruby. Sun., May 20, 1-4 p.m.

Watercolor with Paula Roberts Pangaro. Two-session workshop: Saturdays, April 14 and 21, 1-3 p.m.

Mother's Day Watercolor Cards with Paula Roberts Pangaro. Saturday, May 5, 1-3 p.m.

Family Art Day with Paula Roberts Pangaro. Two sessions: Sunday, May 6 at 1 p.m. and again at 2:30 p.m.

Botanical Illustration with Dorothy Klein. Saturday, May 19, 1-4 p.m.

Urban Landscapes Special Masters Class for Artists with Mark Brest Van Kempen. Wed., March 28, 7-9 p.m. and Sunday, April 1, 1-4 p.m.

Due to the popularity of the free classes, participants may register for no more than two classes during the Spring Art Series.

Landmark is an innovative artists-in-residence program supporting visual artists whose work signals our intimate connection to nature and place.

The Friends of Sunnyside Conservatory is a grassroots community group of neighbors and residents dedicated to preserving the historic Sunnyside Conservatory and its surrounding natural habitat and fostering a sense of neighborhood. ⚙

Friends of Sunnyside Park

Flower Planting Marks Beautification Days

by Robert M. "Bob" Byrne

Friends of Sunnyside Park's mission is to encourage community support of Sunnyside Park.

In an effort to achieve that goal we sponsor routine Park Pickups on the first and third Saturday each month. Complimentary coffee and doughnuts are provided for all volunteers. Many hands make light work and the morning goes quickly

In addition to our regular pickup, on May 5, August 4 and November 3, we'll work in cooperation with the SF Recreation & Park Dept. to beautify Sunnyside Park by planting native plants and removing ivy and weeds. At our last Beautification Day on February 3, fifteen friends cleared an area under the new entrance sign at the park entrance at Mangels and Edna. We also planted yarrow, artemesia (sage), phacelia, native bunch grasses, dudleya, seaside daisy, buckwheat, lizard tail and wallflower

Friends of Sunnyside Park is open to all of our neighbors. Our President, Jay Shaffer, prepares a monthly message to keep people informed of activities at and around Sunnyside Park.

Four meetings will be held in 2001 to discuss changes on the drawing boards for Sunnyside Park. Meeting dates will be posted in the *SF Independent*, on bulletin boards at Sunnyside Park and around the neighborhood, and via email.

Friends of Sunnyside Park can be contacted by phone at 587-2383, by mail at P.O. Box 31942, SF, 94131-0942, or at sunnysidepark@yahoo.com. Drop us a line if you'd like to join or be added to our mailing list. ⚙

Ocean Avenue Slated for Face-lift

Ocean Avenue renovations have begun, and the unsightly Muni turnaround at Phelan has been targeted for improvement. Part of a program to beautify Ocean from San Jose Avenue to Junipero Serra Boulevard, funding will come from a \$1.27 million Muni appropriation. Improvements include retracking and repaving the street and moving overhead telephone and electrical wires underground, and installing ornamental street lights. ⚙

BARBER CLIPS

*Local Humor and Wisdom
As Collected in the Sunnyside
by Ron the Barber*

A man walked into a lumberyard and ordered a dozen two-by-fours. "How long do you want them?" asks the clerk. "Oh, for a long time," the man said. "I'm building a house."

Baby prunes are not so big, but wrinkled just as bad. No matter how young a prune may be, he looks just like his dad.

Middle age: When knees buckle and belts don't.

Little boy: "Dad, can you sign your name with your eyes closed?"

Dad: "Sure, son."

Little boy: "Then will you sign my report card?"

The "theory of relativity" says, no matter what you do with your life, your relatives will have a theory.

When Bill showed up at work with both ears bandaged, he was asked what happened.

"I was watching the ballgame on TV and my wife was ironing nearby. She left for a moment and the phone rang. I grabbed for it, and put the hot iron to my ear instead."

"But what happened to the other ear?"

"Wouldn't you know it, no sooner had I hung up, the guy called back." ⚙

hillside, and it's ablaze with huge ceanothus, salvia, wild roses, hebe, irises and other flowers. Many are head-high or taller, and you can literally disappear in the riot of color.

If you'd like to help keep this bit of the great outdoors intact, give me a call, 587-6234, as we're putting together a committee to work with the college on making this permanent open space. ⚙

Sunnyside Park Families and Neighbors

Design Process Continues, But Awaits Policy Decision

by Andrea O'Leary

The District 7 Parks Council includes residents of Sunnyside who advocate for parks and recreational opportunities within the district. These issues have an immediate ear in Supervisor Tony Hall, a member of the Board of Supervisors' Neighborhood Services and Parks Committee. Information on the Parks Council is available through Allison Brooks, Neighborhood Parks Council, at 621-3260 or districtparkplanning@sfneighborhoodparks.org.

Many parks expect to start renovation designs now that most Recreation and Park Department property Needs Assessments are completed, Propositions A and C capital improvement bonds are ready for sale, and park planners are slated for hiring.

Sunnyside Playground's design process will not proceed until the issue of off-leash dogs dominating the on-leash grass field is resolved. This will be after the Recreation and Park Department Dog Policy is completed and goes through a public input process, then is approved by the Department Commission, all within the next few months.

The Sunnyside Playground programs are scheduled at the recreation center for spring; call Barbara Tate at 337-4720. After many attempts, parents and kids are very pleased to see T-Ball and other sports skills practices planned for the grass field. Younger-aged teams will play games at Sunnyside and older kids will play at Balboa.

Dog owners are encouraged to curb their pets outside the park to insure maximum cleanliness of the field and minimize pitting of the turf caused by dogs running off-leash on the wet grounds. ⚙

Weeders Needed at CC

Friends of the Urban Forest planted more than 60 oak trees near the eucalyptus grove along Judson last year. Volunteers from the college water the trees, but we could use help weeding so they'll thrive. If you could spare an hour or two on a Friday or Saturday, please call Rita Evans, 587-6234. It's pretty pleasant work on the sunny hillside! ⚙

President's Message, continued from page 1

(similar to West Portal). This would be the perfect answer to getting businesses to locate on Monterey and slowing down traffic, too.

Once the median project is complete, SNA will again revisit the parking issues and possibly ask the City to obtain a parcel-lot on Monterey to be used for metered parking. So all-in-all, Monterey Blvd will be looking quite sleek again over the next couple of years.

SNA is also starting up the Judson Avenue Hillside committee again. This committee will negotiate with City College regarding future uses of the hillside on CCSF property and the current use as a botanical garden. If you want to help, please e-mail info@sunnyside-association.org, or call 587-6234.

Questions concerning the neighborhood? E-mail info@sunnyside-association.org. The SNA website is www.Sunnyside-Association.org.

Lastly, please remember to renew your annual membership this month. The very low cost of \$10 per household /per year is kept low so that all can afford to join. This covers the cost of printing, mailing, and related expenses for the newsletter and meeting notices only. All SNA work is done by volunteers.

The group can only remain viable and active with paid memberships. All dues are now payable.

Have a great Spring and Summer! ⚙

SFPL Looks for Properties To Build New Branches

The San Francisco Public Library is seeking to purchase properties to build branch libraries to replace rented space now used by the Ingleside Branch and Glen Park Branch. Two community meetings will be held to discuss options for our two local libraries.

Ingleside Branch - Wednesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. at Ocean View Senior Center, 1948 Ocean Avenue.

Glen Park Branch - Tuesday, April 10, 7:30, at the Auditorium in Glen Park Recreation Center, Elk Street (Glen Park Canyon Park).

For information, call the library's Chief of Branches, 557-4353, or Public Affairs, 557-4277. ⚙

DPW Introduces Hotline And District Work Crews, Improves Customer Service and Response

Tired of dirty streets, graffiti or illegal dumping of trash in our neighborhood? A new program from the Department of Public Works has crews dedicated to each district in the city. These crews should deliver better and quicker response to residents' complaints.

Residents also can call the new DPW Customer Service Hotline at 28-CLEAN (282-5326) seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., to report problems and make specific requests for areas to be targeted. You can leave messages for District 7's captain, Melvin Powell. Powell will maintain a master list of projects for our district.

DPW will make a report on the problem, and will issue you a tracking number to allow you to follow up on the case, increasing their accountability. If the problem isn't something that DPW handles, instead of telling you they can't help, they will refer the problem to the appropriate city agency and track its progress.

The Community Clean Team, an effort by the Department of Public Works and other city agencies, will focus on one city district each month. Working with city residents and local merchants, the team will work on special beautification efforts, stepped-up street cleaning, street sign replacement and other projects.

District 7 was the focus during March, with neighborhood broom sweeps, street and sidewalk steam cleaning, graffiti removal, curb painting, tree planting and a cleanup around Lake Merced planned. The city is providing materials and technical expertise for the neighborhood cleanups.

For more information about DPW's programs and the Community Clean Team, call SF Clean City at 554-5447. You can also visit www.sfdpw.com or www.cleancity.com.

Editor's note: I called the hotline at 7:30 a.m. on a Sunday; the phone was answered on the second ring by a very polite and helpful human being. How nice to call a city agency and not get ensnared in an unfriendly voicemail tree! ⚙

How to Get Involved

Groups Pitch In To Save Lake Merced

Not so long ago, Lake Merced's extensive fishing program provided wonderful recreation opportunities. The lake also provided fish and wildlife habitat, and an emergency water supply for domestic use and fire fighting.

Now this urban jewel is suffering as increased and uncontrolled groundwater pumping has caused an imbalance between the lake's natural level and the water table of its underlying aquifer. Fish are starving and dying from lack of oxygen, the city's emergency water supply has declined from a 10-day to only a 4-day supply and the water is turning stagnant.

If you're tired of watching the lake slowly die, get involved with one of the groups working on Lake Merced's problems.

California Trout, one of the groups that successfully sued to revitalize Mono Lake, has filed a petition with the state Water Resources Control Board asking for appropriate limitations on groundwater pumping. Call 392-8887, or visit www.caltrout.org.

Friends of Lake Merced is working in a number of areas, with special emphasis on habitat restoration. Volunteers meet the first Saturday of every month to pull ice plant and remove litter; meet at the Mesa, located across Lake Merced Blvd. from the Lakeshore School. Visit www.lakemerced.org.

The **Lake Merced Task Force** is developing a framework within which the lake's many stakeholders can contribute and communicate. Many groups are involved and the next Task Force meeting is April 26, 5:00-9:00 p.m., at SF State. Visit ww.lakemerced.org, or e-mail lakemerced@aol.com.

The **Committee to Save Lake Merced** focuses on increasing the lake's water level. It is fighting to force the Olympic Club to comply with the mandated environmental reviews before it drills a new well to tap the lake's aquifer. Contact Jerry Cadagan, 456-8411. ⚙

Balboa Park Vicinity Targeted

Better Neighborhoods 2002 Focuses On Neighborhood Revitalization

Better Neighborhoods 2002, sponsored by the San Francisco Planning Department, is a program to create plans that improve neighborhoods where possible while supporting what's already working well.

Better Neighborhoods 2002 will do this through an open public discussion with residents about the appropriate future for San Francisco's neighborhoods. The vicinity around the Balboa Park BART station has been chosen as one of the first three areas for which neighborhood plans will be created.

A series of focused community working sessions will zero in on key areas and issues within the greater Balboa Park Station Area. These discussions will be reported back to participants at the next large community workshop, tentatively scheduled for May.

Three working sessions will be held at Lick Wilmerding High School, 755 Ocean Avenue:

Ocean Avenue/Phelan Loop Working Session #1,
Saturday, March 31, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

BART/Muni Station Area Working Session,
Wednesday, April 18, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Ocean Avenue/Phelan Loop Working Session #2,
Saturday, April 28, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

If you have not signed up and would like to attend, please RSVP via phone or e-mail:

Ken Rich, Project Coordinator, 415-558-6345 or
ken_rich@ci.sf.ca.us

For more information on Better Neighborhoods 2002, see www.betterneighborhoods.org. ⚙



SNA Annual Membership Dues



Membership in the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is \$10 per year.

Make checks payable to SNA, and send to:
SNA., PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127

Name _____

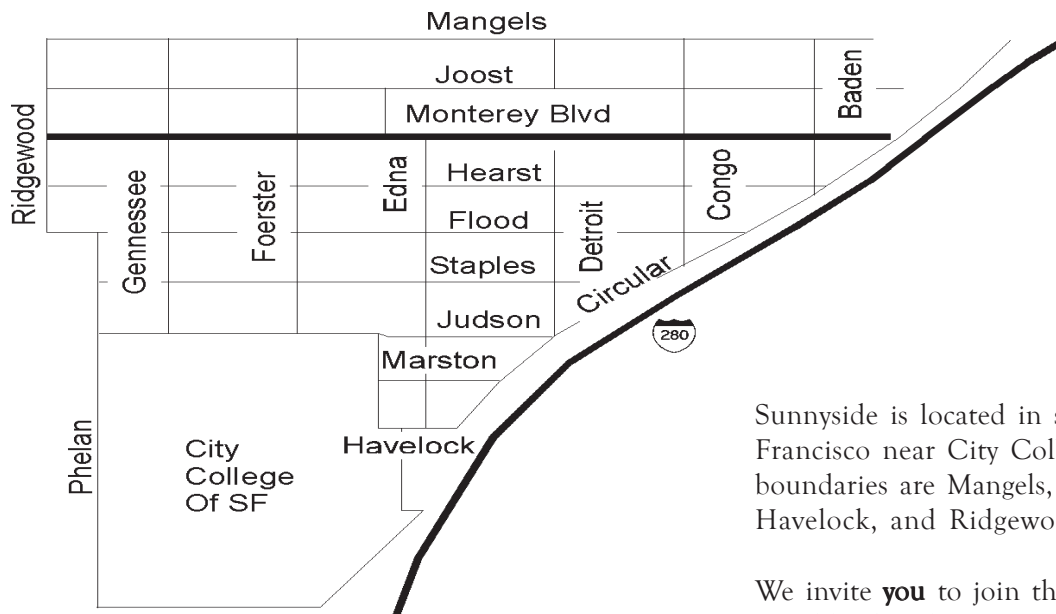
Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Spr01



Sunnyside - A Great Place to Live!



Sunnyside is located in south-central San Francisco near City College. Neighborhood boundaries are Mangles, Baden, Circular, Havelock, and Ridgewood.

We invite **you** to join the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association today!

Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn.
P.O. Box 27615
San Francisco, CA 94127