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# Sunnyside News

*Voice of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association  
30 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, 1975-2005*

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Vol.6, No.4



Winter 2005

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## Upcoming SNA Meetings

Monday  
February 6  
May 8

7:00 pm  
St. Finn Barr  
Church Hall,  
Edna at Hearst

All Sunnyside  
residents are invited  
to attend.

## Sunnyside History Event

Saturday  
February 11  
12:00 - 3:00  
Sunnyside School  
Auditorium.  
See page 3.

## President's Message

*by Chris Coghlan*

Happy Holidays! The year is almost over and so is my term as president of the SNA.

When I read the recent article in the *Chronicle* about our neighborhood it made me think about my view of our corner of the city. I've been in the Sunnyside for about eight years. I spent my first 20 years in San Francisco living in the Haight. I loved it there and thought I would never leave.

When I met my wife and moved here, I felt a little like a fish out of water. There weren't any tourists or panhandlers and I could park in front of my house. There were kids playing in the street, and we passed focaccia bread and other treats over the fence with our wonderful neighbors Art and Barbara Wilbrand. I realized that I had truly struck gold.

Not long after that I was approached by Mario Paz to help form our SAFE block group. I met many of my neighbors through these efforts and realized the need and value of being involved in the neighborhood where I lived.

Art, Barbara, and Mario have all passed away. Unfortunately Mario's life was recently cut short at 68. He was a true servant to his community and was everything a good neighbor is supposed to be.

I guess the point of this message is to encourage all of us to remember to step out of ourselves and spend a little time getting to know our neighbors and discover the wealth of love and friendship that our community offers.

In closing, I want to invite you to serve on our board during the next term. Elections will be held during our February meeting. I have enjoyed being on the board. It has been a lot of work at times, but the rewards have been great. If serving is something you would be interested in, please let me know.

As always feel free to give me a call if you have any neighborhood issues or concerns, 902-7310. ⚙

## SNA Contacts

Please contact any board member when you have neighborhood concerns.

President – Chris Coghlan  
Chris@CoghlanRealEstate.com  
415-902-7310

Vice-President – Ric Lopez  
RicLopez@sna.org

Treasurer – Robin Levine  
r\_levine@yahoo.com

Secretary – Bill Wilson  
wfwilson@sbcglobal.net  
239-8203

Member-at-Large – Jennifer Heggie, 415-412-5548.

You can also reach us at  
SNA, PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127, or  
info@sna.org.

Visit [www.sna.org](http://www.sna.org).

## Time to Pay Your Dues?

If the date on your mailing label is *December 2005* or earlier, it's time to pay your dues. There's a form on page 7.

Questions about your membership information? Contact Rita Evans, 587-6234, or [rita\\_e@pacbell.net](mailto:rita_e@pacbell.net).

## From the Editor

by Rita Evans

“Fortune Shines on Sunnyside: Long a blue-collar enclave, midcity gem is the latest San Francisco neighborhood to undergo transformation” – what a surprise to see this headline highlighting the *SF Chronicle's* Sunday, November 20 issue! One of San Francisco's best-kept secrets is definitely a secret no longer.

Whether you agree or not with statements such as, “The transformation of Sunnyside is the clearest sign yet that the city is being gentrified to the point where it's shedding its working-class roots and becoming a veritable five-star hotel,” or a real estate agent's assessment, “I feel that in a couple of years, Sunnyside will just be an extension of Glen Park,” it was a very interesting article. I've lived here almost 20 years and found most of the observations about the neighborhood's changing demographics on target.

There also were some nuggets of historical information in the article, including the fact that Sunnyside was named around 1890 by Behrend Joost, a developer who hoped to get rich in what was a far-flung suburb. And did you know that City College sits on the former site of the city's jail?

If you missed it, the article is available at [www.sfgate.com](http://www.sfgate.com) or in print at any public library branch. ☼

## Sunnyside News

*Sunnyside News* is published four times per year. SNA encourages members to submit news, features or letters to the editor to *Sunnyside News*. All letters must be signed. All items are subject to editing.

For more information, including the next newsletter deadline, please contact *Sunnyside News* editor Rita Evans, 415-587-6234, [rita\\_e@pacbell.net](mailto:rita_e@pacbell.net), 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.*

# Shining the Spotlight On Sunnyside's History

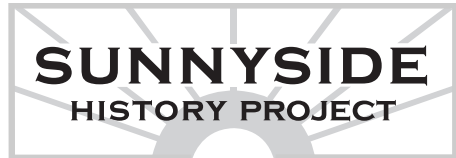
## *A Day to Remember*

Mark Saturday, February 11, 2006, on your calendars! Come and celebrate Sunnyside's history at our community history fair. Photographs, ephemera and memorabilia from Sunnyside School, St. Finn Barr, Sunnyside Conservatory, City College, our residents and our neighbors will be on exhibit.

You'll be able to view photographs and memorabilia never before seen publicly, talk with people involved in the recording of our past, learn the history of our homes and institutions, meet long-time residents and Sunnyside school alumni, and introduce new arrivals to the neighborhood.

That photograph hanging on your wall that you no longer notice and the old phone bill tucked away in a box in the garage may be items you've had for a lifetime and forgotten. They are part of our Sunnyside history.

If you have information, photographs, or ephemera to share, or if you are just interested in helping out with the fair preparation or publicity, please e-mail [historicsunnyside@yahoo.com](mailto:historicsunnyside@yahoo.com) or call Jennifer Heggie at 415-412-5548. The deadline to request an assigned table at the Fair is January 15, 2006.



## *Sunnyside Stories*

Are you or a family member a long-time Sunnyside resident with stories to tell about what it was like growing up and living in our special part of San Francisco?

The Sunnyside Oral History Project wants to talk to you. The project's goal is to capture Sunnyside's history by recording our residents, former residents, and neighbors. It is currently focused on interviewing those who lived in Sunnyside prior to the 1950s or who have family members who did.

While many neighborhoods have richly documented histories, Sunnyside has comparatively little. Help fill that gap with your contributions and help create a historical resource for the future.

Written histories will be archived in the SF Public Library by way of the non-profit Western Neighborhoods Project.

If you would like to be interviewed or know someone who would be a good candidate, please e-mail [historicsunnyside@yahoo.com](mailto:historicsunnyside@yahoo.com) or contact Jennifer Heggie at 415-412-5548. ☼



## Sunnyside History Fair

**Sunnyside School  
Auditorium  
250 Foerster Avenue**

**Saturday  
February 11  
12:00-3:00**

Sunnyside residents,  
former residents and  
SF neighbors are  
all welcome.

Co-sponsored by  
the Sunnyside  
Elementary School  
PTA  
and  
Sunnyside  
Neighborhood  
Association.



## SNA Elections Slated for February 6 Meeting

In February 2006, SNA will be holding elections for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Member-at-Large. The term of office is two years.

According to the bylaws, nominations will be accepted from the floor, followed by voting. The incoming board will take office at the May meeting.

The Fall issue of *Sunnyside News* reported incorrectly that each SNA household is entitled to one vote. In fact, each SNA household membership entitles *each member* of the household of major voting age to one vote.

SNA members are encouraged to consider running for office. If you're interested, contact the current office holder for information about responsibilities and time commitments. See page 2 for board members' contact information.

## CCSF Promises Prompt Action To Mitigate Problems At Greenhouse Site

At a meeting with SNA representatives in late November, CCSF pledged to take immediate corrective action to address problems with the temporary classrooms located on the former greenhouse site.

College officials acknowledged their failure to follow through on a previous mitigation agreement. Recessed lights, already on order, will be installed as soon as they arrive, and they should reduce light shining into adjacent homes. Venetian blinds in the classrooms will be replaced with translucent film on the windows, further reducing glare and restoring some privacy. "No Smoking" signs will be posted on all the temporary classrooms. Landscaping will be done.

SNA board members Chris Coghlan, Ric Lopez, Robin Levine, Bill Wilson and Jennifer Heggie and Judson Hill Committee Chair Rita Evans thanked Chancellor Philip Day and Vice Chancellor Jim Blomquist for their willingness to quickly address the problems.

Also discussed were projects in the planning stages at CCSF and on adjacent properties.

## Update on Projects Planned For the Campus and Nearby Properties

### Ocean Avenue and Reservoir Property

The Public Utilities Commission owns the bus turnaround and layover area on Ocean near Phelan that is known as the Phelan Loop. The commission plans to develop the property with housing over commercial establishments. A developer plans to build a supermarket where Kragen now stands; housing would be built above the store.

City College, on the other hand, has no plans for building any housing on any of its property. As the chancellor put it, the college is opposed to any development that displaces parking.

Plans for two-and-a-half levels of parking under the college buildings slated for the reservoir property are being reconsidered due to soaring construction costs. As an alternative, CCSF plans to seek permission to remove the south berm and expand reservoir parking to accommodate an additional 300-400 cars.

SNA asked if the college would consider making parking in the reservoir free of charge to encourage students to park there instead of on neighborhood streets. The chancellor countered that they must charge something or they will be encouraging students to drive instead of taking public transit. The college will make sure that signs directing students to the reservoir parking lot are in place.

*CCSF, continued on next page*

# Rec and Parks to Employ Phased Process to Complete Sunnyside Playground

Bill Wilson

The final community meeting to review designs for the Sunnyside Playground was held on October 26 and was well attended.

Lizzie Hirsch, Recreation and Parks Department project planner and John Thomas, Department of Public Works landscape architect, presented plans for the playground on the lower level. They introduced a phased bidding strategy in an effort to avoid delayed construction due to bids coming in higher than expected.

The first phase includes the play area, bathroom/storage, some leveling of the field, trees, a plaza where the tiny tots sand area now is, and linking ADA ramps to the Recreation Center. If funding permits, other projects include tennis court resurfacing, fencing and additional ADA ramps.

Bids should go out by May 2006, groundbreaking should follow in September 2006 and the project should be completed in May 2007.

Residents expressed concerns about increased graffiti, lack of maintenance and security in the park. Dennis Kerns, RPD's new Operations Chief, stated that he has formed several task forces to look into the issues of bathrooms and how to secure and maintain them. ⚙

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*CCSF, continued from previous page*

## Soccer/Practice Field

Chancellor Day said the college will be installing a practice field for soccer south of the Marston extension in the area where the child care facility now stands. There had been some discussion about building a full-size soccer facility at that location but the college instead will negotiate with the city for priority use of facilities at Balboa Park.

## Graffiti

The SNA reps thanked CCSF for its prompt and ongoing graffiti removal from the fence along the Judson/Phelan construction site.

## Circular Extension

The college has met with the mayor and head of Rec and Parks about extending Circular Drive south, alleviating some of the traffic now using Havelock and other neighborhood streets. The extension would necessitate moving two tennis courts which are owned by the city but built and maintained by CCSF.

SNA will continue to keep residents notified about campus activities that have an impact on our neighborhood and will work to minimize negative impacts. Please contact us if you have concerns. ⚙

# Emergency Training Offered Through NERT

Six Sunnyside residents participated in NERT training in September and October at Aptos School. A new NERT coordinator for Sunnyside, Bonnie White, has been appointed.

NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team), a program of the San Francisco Fire Department, trains residents to be self-sufficient in case of emergency.

Participants are trained when and how to turn off gas, electricity, and water; put out fires; and handle people who are bleeding, unconscious or in shock. The lectures are entertaining while offering important life skills at no cost to the participants.

Five class sessions are available beginning in January or February, including one to be held at Dolores Plaza from 6:00-9:00 on Monday nights beginning February 27.

For a complete course schedule and online registration see [www.sfgov.org/sffdnet](http://www.sfgov.org/sffdnet).



# Sunnyside's Picnic Brings Residents Together in the Park

Sunnyside neighbors enjoyed an afternoon in the park on Saturday, October 5, at SNA's second annual neighborhood picnic. Good food and good entertainment marked the neighborhood event.

The picnic provided good publicity and served as a recruiting tool for the association: eight households were signed up as new SNA members.

SNA thanks members of the picnic committee for the many hours they spent planning, publicizing



*St. Finn Barr School provided a set-up crew of students supervised by Denise McEvoy.*

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## Ingleside Crime Alerts Available Via Email from Captain Chignell

Captain Paul Chignell, Ingleside Police Station, issues a daily crime report via email. News about neighborhood meetings and other events is also included in the email alerts. If you'd like to subscribe and receive the daily report, email the Captain Chignell at [Paul\\_Chignell@ci.sf.ca.us](mailto:Paul_Chignell@ci.sf.ca.us). ☼

and putting the picnic on.

SNA also thanks our generous sponsors for their contributions to Sunnyside's picnic:

### Food and Related Donations

*Made in France/Village Imports*: \$100 in beverages  
*Dreyer's*: 180 chocolate Haagen Daz ice cream bars  
*Entenmann's, Inc.-Orowheat Foods Co.*, Bryant St.: 318 hot dog/hoagie rolls  
*Bell Market* 24<sup>th</sup> St. \$20 gift card  
*Safeway Monterey Blvd.*: bottled water and cookies  
*Safeway 16<sup>th</sup> and Potrero*: \$25 gift card  
*Foodsco* 14<sup>th</sup> St.: \$25 gift card  
*Monica Ramirez family*: 75 hot dogs  
*Chris Coghlan*: veggie and turkey hot dogs  
*Christie Kay*: Henna artist/face painting at picnic  
*Chris Loughran*: face paints  
*Ric Lopez*: \$125 towards the band and supplies  
*Jeff Minster, David Tejeda and Michael Gagne*: paper goods, plastic silverware and cups

### Raffle Donations

*Fanny Granata*: handmade crib-sized quilt/wall hanging  
*Silk Road, Monterey Blvd.*: jacket, value \$175  
*Chenery Park Restaurant*: dinner for two  
*Chris Coghlan*: 3 one-year SNA memberships  
*Siam Dish*: 10 \$15 gift certificates  
*Snap Dragon Florist*: \$15 gift certificate  
*Elizabeth Golda, Edward Jones, Monterey Blvd*: 2 piggy banks with 5 Sacagawea dollars and a copy of the book *Smart Couples Finish Rich*  
*Copy Edge on Ocean Ave.*: \$10 gift certificate  
*Big Joe's /Joe's Broiler #2*: 2 \$5 gift certificate  
*Monterey Barbershop*: gift certificate for haircut  
*Martini Cleaners*: \$10 gift certificate  
*Happy Palace Restaurant*: \$10 gift certificate  
*Dance Studio on Monterey*: 3 gift certificates for lessons  
*Chris Mirkovich*: 10 children's backpacks and children's coin purses  
*Glen Park Hardware*: floating lantern  
*Paragraph Clothing*: gift certificate  
*Bird and Beckett bookstore*: gift certificate  
*Modernpast*: lotion/bubble bath set  
*Red Rock Bar*: bottle of wine



# ***The Sunnyside of Life*** **Strolling...**

*by Ric Lopez*

While taking a stroll down Monterey Blvd, I tried to remember the locations of the shops, restaurants and gas stations located along this corridor that have disappeared or transformed. Of course, due to some of the new buildings that now acquire the spaces where our old commerce once stood, this task would be challenging.

Let's see, I recall three or four gas stations; I guess we were the big gas stop for cross-city venturing. A Bank, Gifts and Ice Cream Shop, plenty of Salons. Does anyone remember the Pet Hospital? And yes, some have withstood the change of time, like Big Joe's and the Barber Shop. And some have made some big switches, like the old O'Donohue Irish Pub which is now a Clothing, Art and Furnishings store named Silk Road.

The holidays are upon us, and the store windows and homes along Monterey Blvd are starting to show their cooperation. Take a walk, you never know what you will discover or remember by just taking a leisure stroll. Happy Holidays! ☼

## **SNA Annual Membership Dues**

Membership in the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association  
is \$10 per year for households and \$25 per year for businesses.

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

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

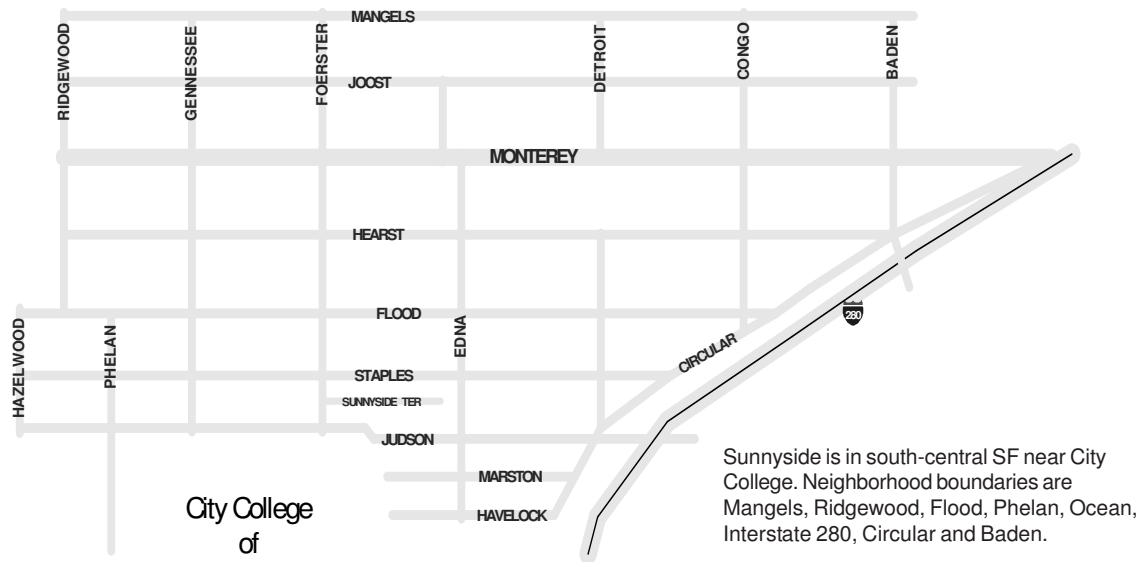
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Household \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ or Business \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Win05

Donations to Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax-deductible.



Sunnyside is in south-central SF near City College. Neighborhood boundaries are Mangels, Ridgewood, Flood, Phelan, Ocean, Interstate 280, Circular and Baden.

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

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

***Time to renew?***  
***Send your dues today!***