

# SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

AUG / SEPT 2008

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Over the next few months and years we are making some significant improvements to our streets, parks, libraries and recreation centers. While you might have to face some temporary inconveniences, we are sure the results will help improve the quality of life in our district.

This is an exciting time in the Sunset as we are finally getting the attention our neighborhood needs and deserves. Working with City departments, the Mayor and other members of the Board of Supervisors we have been able to move forward significant plans to improve our neighborhood.

The neighborhood has been working toward rebuilding Sava Pool since 1999 and now we are close to the completion of this project. Before construction began Sava Pool was the busiest pool in San Francisco, but because it was not of standard length the pool could not be used for swimming competitions. Taking advantage of the need to improve the structurally unsound building, Sava Pool will be configured to meet standard short-course regulations with more and wider lanes for less crowding.

With these improvements, I have no doubt that this newly rebuilt Sava Pool will once again be the most popular pool in the City.

One of the most frequent complaints I hear about is the condition of our streets. I am pleased to tell you that relief is on the way. Over the next few months we will be repaving Noriega Street and Lincoln Way. We will be working with neighbors and the Department of Public Works to make sure that these projects move along quickly and smoothly.

Next year both the Parkside and Ortega branches will undergo significant renovations. At the Ortega Branch we will be creating a completely new library with a large reading area, distinct Children's and Teen spaces, and a Program Room for community meetings and events.

The Parkside Library will be made seismically safe, fully accessible given and given a technological update. In meetings with neighbors, it was made clear that we need to



Supervisor Chu (r) with Mohammed Nuru (l) from Dept. of Public Works at Sunset Blvd clean-up in July

protect and enhance the unique character of this important neighborhood symbol. The improvements will include a small addition, but will not harm the character of the building.

Making sure we have clean safe parks and recreational opportunities for children and their families is vital to our neighborhood. One reason many families

chose to leave San Francisco is the lack of modern, clean and safe parks and recreational facilities. That is why I have been working with the Department to improve both McCoppin and Sunset Park. McCoppin Park received \$5.3 million for improvements that will begin in the fall and construction is expected to complete by July 2011. Sunset Park has \$13.7 million for improvements, planning will begin in fall and will take about a year to complete; construction will begin in spring 2010 and completion is expected by January of 2012. The improvements to the parks include the repair and renovation of children's play areas, fields and courts, restoration of existing roads and pathways, upgrades to the irrigation and lighting systems, modifications to the site to remove barriers and improve accessibility and overall reconditioning of the park landscapes.

The hard working families of the Sunset and Parkside deserve high quality recreation facilities, clean safe parks, modern libraries and well-maintained roads. Along with public safety, these are basic City services and the issues I focus on as your representative at City Hall.

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## IN THIS ISSUE

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### SUNSET TREE PLANTING – FREE TREES!



There is an exciting opportunity for you to participate in the Sunset's largest greening event this year -- Dig It! -- on **Saturday, October 18**.

In partnership with Friends of the Urban Forest, the Neighborhood Parks Council and Timberland, our office will be engaging 300 volunteers to plant up to 150 trees throughout the Sunset and also work on a synchronized greening project at an Outer Sunset park or school.

As sponsor of this event, Timberland has agreed to cover all tree costs for homeowners that sign up. If you are interested in having a tree planted by your home, the deadline to fill out and turn in an application is **September 17th**.

English: [http://fuf.net/tree\\_plantings/free\\_trees.html](http://fuf.net/tree_plantings/free_trees.html)

Chinese: [http://www.fuf.net/about\\_us\\_chinese/index.html](http://www.fuf.net/about_us_chinese/index.html)

If you are able to assist with community outreach by becoming a Neighborhood Organizer or Block Captain, we would love to hear from you!

*Block Captain:* Visit each of the neighbors on your block and tell them about this project! Print out a couple dozen flyers and forms, or have us mail them to you, and visit each home on your block. Speak with the tenants and owners, have a conversation about the benefits of urban trees and suggest they sign up for their own street tree. Remember that the property owners must agree to the planting and submit a completed form. Forms deadline is September 17th!

*Neighborhood Organizer:* Rally a larger area! Manage the Block Captains in your area and also act as a contact person for questions from interested neighbors. Collect forms. Call people to remind them about the community meeting and the deadline for forms.

Dig It! will be one of the largest community events in San Francisco this year. Breakfast will be provided at each meeting location. At the end of the work day, all volunteers will reconvene at one park location for a celebration that will include lunch, guest speakers and prizes. The first 400 volunteers will receive a free ticket to a concert that evening and a special Timberland t-shirt commemorating the achievement of the day.

In addition to Dig It! our office worked with the Department of Public Works in securing \$100,000 in grant money for tree planting along Sunset Boulevard. As our trees near the end of their life span, we are working to ensure that we start planting the seeds for new greenery along the boulevard. We will keep you posted on a future planting event.

If you are interested in having a tree planted by your home or would simply like more information about the October 18<sup>th</sup> event, please call our office - (415) 554-7460 or [chustaff@sfgov.org](mailto:chustaff@sfgov.org)!

We look forward to seeing you out there!

### CLEANING OCEAN BEACH – FROM THE DESK OF INTERN ANGEL AU-YEUNG



My summer internship at Supervisor Carmen Chu's office was a great learning experience, and more than I expected. Working there made me realize how important and rewarding helping your community was, and I couldn't have asked for a greater job. Aside from helping and answering constituents' questions, watching board meetings, reading proposals and ordinances, and just being in the exciting city hall atmosphere where almost daily eruptions of applause from marriage ceremonies occurred, the highlight of my internship was the Ocean Beach Clean-Up on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.



Working with Java Beach Café, Surfrider Foundation and the Department of Public Works (DPW), organizing the Beach Clean-Up was not at all tedious as I thought it would have been but rather oddly satisfying. Everyone I contacted and worked with was very courteous and helpful, and they almost made it *too* easy. Java Beach Café donated muffins and coffee, and the Surfriders and DPW provided cleaning supplies and extra volunteers. Going to the Clean-Up and seeing members of the community actually show up, wanting to help and clean their city really showed me how dedicated they were to the improvement and welfare of San Francisco.

When it comes to bureaucracy, some say it's almost always impossible to get anything done because bureaucrats are slow and unresponsive. With our city, however, this stereotype simply does not fit. My time at City Hall showed me that all our city representatives truly want to make our city by the Bay the best place possible. Supervisor Carmen Chu and her staff tried to exemplify those qualities, and I couldn't have asked for a better team to work with.

*-- Angel Au-Yeung is a currently a senior at Lowell High School*



## SUNSET MERCHANT SUMMIT



On August 27, our office hosted a Merchant Summit for Sunset business owners at the Irish Cultural Center in conjunction with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Representatives from City departments such as the Department of Public Works and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development were also on hand to provide more information on resources available to merchants.

The summit was a great venue for dialogue between merchants and city officials, but we also encourage you to contact our office if you have any suggestions or concerns.

During the budget process, Supervisor Chu successfully advocated for \$200,000 that would go toward improving our district's merchant corridors, and we look forward to working with you on making these improvement ideas a reality.

## SUNSET SOIREE BENEFITING WEST SUNSET PLAYGROUND

Join the Friends of West Sunset Playground (FOWSP) for an evening of gourmet food, wine and good company at City Hall on Thursday, **October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00pm**. FOWSP was formed by a group of Sunset parents who hope to redesign and rebuild West Sunset Playground so that it can better serve our children and the community. We hope you will join us and learn more about how you can help this playground rebuilding effort. For more information, visit [www.fowsp.org](http://www.fowsp.org) or call 415-839-8875.



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Outside Lands Music Festival

In response to numerous complaints from residents bordering Golden Gate Park related to the Outside Lands Music Festival (Aug. 22-24<sup>th</sup>), Supervisor Chu requested at the September 9<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting that the Recreation & Parks Department, Department of Public Works, Police Department, Municipal Transportation Agency, 311 and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development report on impacts from the festival.

Supervisor Chu has requested that the report include information on total revenue generated from event and what the City will be receiving, number of participants that attended the festival, whether the City was able to recover costs from the event, number of complaints made by neighbors, number of traffic or vehicular problems, and impacts on Golden Gate Park and surrounding neighborhoods in terms of cleanliness and traffic flow.

Supervisor Chu has also asked the Recreation & Parks Commission to examine the feasibility of holding Recreation & Parks Commission meetings in neighborhood(s) that may be impacted by future events.

### Street Sweeping

Supervisor Chu directed the Office of the Legislative Analyst to conduct an analysis of the Department of Public Works' decision to cut street sweeping from once a week to twice a month in many residential neighborhoods, affecting about 8,500 city blocks. The analysis of impacts will address potential loss in revenue generated from parking fines for street cleaning days, impact of abandoned vehicles left on streets for longer periods, and overall loss of revenue versus anticipated savings from reduction in street sweeping services.

### Safe Drinking Water

Residents have expressed concerns that they may not be sufficiently notified during situations where disruptions to the water system result in brown water or unsafe drinking water. Supervisor Chu has directed the Public Utilities Commission to re-examine their notification procedure during emergency situations resulting in water stoppage or brown water for residents and businesses. Our office has also asked the PUC to report on the feasibility of timely automated telephone calls to residents and businesses impacted by water disruptions, and also the frequency of water disruptions and the number of residents/businesses affected by these disruptions in the past year.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

### MTA Board Meeting - Public Comment on proposed changes to MUNI

**When:** Tuesday, September 16, 2pm (public comment begins at 3:30pm)

**Where:** City Hall, Rm 400

**Details:** The MTA Board meets and will hear public comment regarding proposed route changes for MUNI lines as result of the TEP (Transit Effectiveness Project). Although changes would not be implemented until at least next year in July 2009, this is the time for folks to come out and voice their concern for any route changes that they disagree with. For more information on the TEP, visit [www.sftep.com](http://www.sftep.com).

### Outer Sunset Neighborhood Tree Planting - FREE Trees!

**When:** Deadline for FREE Tree: September 17

Planting Event: Saturday, October 18, 9am-1pm

**Where:** Planting area is 19th Ave to Great Highway and Lincoln to Sloat

**Details:** Plant a FREE tree in front of your house with the help of Friends of the Urban Forest. Trees increase property values, block wind and noise, reduce pollution and strengthen communities. For more information call Suzanne at 561-6890 x101 or email [suzanne@fuf.net](mailto:suzanne@fuf.net).

### Sunset Reservoir Community Celebration

**When:** Wednesday, September 17, 5pm-7pm

**Where:** Corner of 24<sup>th</sup> Ave & Quintara St

**Details:** Supervisor Carmen Chu, the PUC and Shimmick Construction thank neighbors for their patience during construction and invite them to celebrate the completion of the Sunset Reservoir North Basin Seismic Retrofit Project. There will be raffle prizes and refreshments! For more information, contact Suzanne Gautier from the PUC - [sgautier@sfgwater.org](mailto:sgautier@sfgwater.org), or call 415-554-3204

**San Francisco Hep B Free Gala**

**When:** Thursday, September 18, 6pm

**Where:** Hilton Hotel Financial District, 750 Kearney St

**Details:** Help support the Hep B Free Campaign by enjoying an evening of food and entertainment with the Chinese Cultural Center of San Francisco. For more information and to purchase tickets please contact Stacy Norman at 415.775.7005x17

**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi hosts annual citizenship workshop**

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 9am-2pm

**Where:** UC Hastings College of the Law - 198 McAllister (at Hyde), Louis B. Mayer Lounge

**Details:** Become a U.S. Citizen - Eligible applicants will receive free assistance with their citizenship applications at the workshop as time permits. Participants can also obtain answers to questions regarding their applications or the citizenship process. For more information, contact Congresswoman Pelosi's office at 888-841-8801. Reservation is encouraged.

**Sigmund Stern Grove History Walk**

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 11am

**Where:** Meet at 19th Ave and Sloat Blvd

**Details:** City Guides walk led by WNP board member Lorri Ungaretti. Explore this 63-acre city park, the jewel of the Sunset District. Learn of the area's colorful history and the park's free summer concerts held during the past 70 years. One steep hill and some dirt paths; wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels the tour. Free (donations accepted).

**California Coastal Cleanup Day**

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 9am-12noon

**Where:** Ocean Beach (multiple sites)

**Details:** California Coastal Cleanup Day is the premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment in the country. Volunteer at sites in San Francisco and Marin to help to keep our coast and shorelines clean, safe, and beautiful. Contact: (415) 561-3077 or [volunteer@parksconservancy.org](mailto:volunteer@parksconservancy.org) Check out the postings: [parksconservancy.org](http://parksconservancy.org) or [coastal.ca.gov](http://coastal.ca.gov).

**SF Hep B Free Community Education Workshop\***

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 2008 from 12pm to 2pm

**Where:** Chinese American citizens Alliance Auditorium, 1044 Stockton Street (between Jackson & Washington) at San Francisco Chinatown

**Details:** Hepatitis B is a serious but treatable disease. Come learn how to protect you family and friends from Hepatitis B and liver cancer caused by Hepatitis B. Learn where you can get tested, vaccinated or treated. FREE gift and lunch for the first 200 participants. Visit [Sfhhepbfree.org](http://Sfhhepbfree.org) for more info.

**Taraval Merchants Senior Citizen Dance**

**When:** Saturday, September 21

**Where:** Irish Cultural Center, 2700 Sloat at 45th Ave

**Student Art & Essay Contest: "I Love My Afterschool Program Because..."**

**Contest deadline:** Tuesday, September 23 at 5:00 pm

**Art & Essay Submission Locations in the Sunset:**

- \* Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center at APG Middle School (3151 Ortega Street)
- \* Sunset Neighborhood Beacon Center Administrative Office (3925 Noriega Street)
- \* SFUSD School Health Programs Department (1515 Quintara Street)

**Details:** All SF afterschool program participants in elementary and middle school are invited to submit a short essay or artwork in celebration of Lights On Afterschool 2008. One essay contest winner and one art contest winner will be selected from each SF supervisorial district. Students may create a poster (up to 11" x 14") and/or an original essay (150 words or less) that illustrates why afterschool programs are important and fun. For more information, contest rules and entry forms, go to: [www.dcyf.org](http://www.dcyf.org)

**44th Annual Big Book Sale Presented by: Friends of the San Francisco Public Library\***

**When:** Members Sale - September 24, 4-8 pm

Public Sale - September 25-28 (Thursday-Saturday 10-8, Sunday 10-6)

**Where:** Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center

**Details:** Help support the San Francisco Public Library by joining us for the biggest used book sale on the West Coast! Over 300,000 books all prices \$1-\$5.

### **14th Annual Sunset Community Festival - Greening the Sunset**

**When:** Saturday, September 27, 11am-4pm

**Where:** Sunset Rec Center – 28<sup>th</sup> Ave & Lawton

**Details:** Join your neighbors and local merchants and organizations in celebrating the Sunset. This year's spotlight is Greening the Sunset, so come out and enjoy the green fun! If you would like to become a sponsor, have a booth, place an advertisement in the festival booklet, or have any questions, please contact Susan Suval at [ssuval@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ssuval@sbcglobal.net).

### **California Academy of Sciences Opening Weekend Celebration**

**When:** Saturday, September 27, 9:30am-9:00pm (Free admission)

Sunday, September 28, 9:30am-5:00pm (Paid attendance)

**Where:** California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park

**Details:** Join the Academy of Sciences for a weekend-long celebration of historic proportions in Golden Gate Park – with family-friendly activities and entertainment from morning to night. Enjoy live music and dance performances. Sample sustainably-sourced food from all over the world. Marvel at Chinese acrobats. Browse the latest in green technologies. Scale the rock-climbing wall. And so much more! And this is just what's outside the Academy in the Music Concourse. Admission inside the Academy is free on Saturday, September 27th. Plus, hours are extended both days.

### **Sunset Soiree benefiting West Sunset Playground**

**When:** Thursday, October 2, 6pm-8pm

**Where:** City Hall, North Light Court

**Details:** Join the Friends of West Sunset Playground (FOWSP) for an evening of gourmet food and wine and good company. FOWSP is a non-profit, community based organization whose mission is to redesign and rebuild West Sunset Playground to be maintained, sustained and integrated with the neighborhood, while continuing to provide programs to best serve the community. For more information on the Sunset Soiree, visit [www.fowsp.org](http://www.fowsp.org) or call 415-839-8875.

## **RESOURCE EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS**

### **Children's Health and Safety Day**

**When:** Saturday, October 4, 9:30am - 12:30pm

**Where:** Sunset Ministry, 3010 Noreiga St at 37th Ave

**Details:** The event will host various nonprofit organizations and public agencies in the Sunset neighborhood that will provide information to families on healthcare, after school programs, safety awareness, recreational programs, protecting the environment, fire prevention and safety, and other family services. For more information about how to table or participate in this event, please contact Sandra Eng or Rev. Gerald Mann at 415-753-3950 or [office@sunsetministry.org](mailto:office@sunsetministry.org).

### **Organic Gardening Workshops at Garden for the Environment**

**When:** Almost Every Weekend

**Where:** Garden for the Environment, 7th Ave at Lawton St

**Details:** Garden for the Environment is San Francisco's organic demonstration garden. Nearly every weekend of the year Garden for the Environment is hosting an Organic Gardening, Sustainable Landscaping or Urban Composting workshop of some kind. We teach everything from Seed Starting, Vegetable and Fruit Tree Growing, Drip Irrigation, to Keeping Chickens in San Francisco. Check out our rotating schedule of classes, updated each month, on our website. Have a question for us or would like to volunteer? Visit us on Wednesday or Saturday, 10am till 4pm, at the Garden for the Environment, located in San Francisco's Inner Sunset District. Please visit our [gardenfortheenvironment.org](http://gardenfortheenvironment.org) for directions.

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