



May 2013 Newsletter

Office Phone: 415-554-6968
Email: scott.wiener@sfgov.org
Website: www.scottwiener.com

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March With Me At Pride

Please join me for the 44th SF Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30th! Don't miss out on all the colorful and outrageous fun that makes Pride a must-attend event every year. For those who have never marched in the Parade before, this will be an unforgettable experience. Friends, families, children and pets are all encouraged to join in the festivities. Date & time for the start of the parade are as follows:

*Sunday, June 30th
10:00am-1:00pm (tentative)*

To join us in the celebration, please email your name, t-shirt size and mobile number to Adam Taylor at adam.taylor@sfgov.org or call my office at 415-554-6968. If you're interested in helping to organize or get other people involved, please contact Adam. Don't miss out on this fantastic, only in San Francisco celebration!

Policy Updates

Entertainment Regulations

According to a report by the City Economist, our entertainment and nightlife industries generate \$4.2 billion a year, which provides a substantial economic value-- in addition to the cultural value-- to our city. This week, the Land Use and Economic Development Committee approved my legislation to enhance our nightlife and entertainment industries. Specifically, the legislation will simplify permitting for venues (e.g., cafes, art galleries) that want to use a DJ before 10 p.m., allow limited outdoor music in plazas and courtyards, enhance and expand the enforcement powers of the Entertainment Commission, and address enforcement of excessive noise by street performers in areas like Union Square. These are important changes to the Police Code that will foster better access to responsible nightlife, while ensuring that bad actors are appropriately handled and brought into compliance. This legislation will go to the full Board for a vote next week.



Scott with the 2nd grade ballet class at McKinley Elementary

Voter Information Pamphlet Legislation

Every election, voters receive a voter guide in the mail filled with important information about the upcoming election, including legal

texts associated with each ballot measure. Most of the time, these texts consist of 1-4 pages. However, in our upcoming election, the referendum on 8 Washington will have 500 pages of legal text associated with it, which will cost the city upwards of \$1.75 million to print and mail (the Department of Election estimates that each page in the voter guide runs about \$3500.) In order to avoid having these phonebook-sized voter guides sent to every registered voter in San Francisco, I've introduced an ordinance that will allow the Department of Elections to omit any legal text that exceeds 20 pages from the mailed guides. These materials, per my legislation, will be required to be available online, in every branch library and by mail free of charge to any voter who requests it. This legislation will ensure voters continue to have access to all the information they need while avoiding the waste of city resources.

Mission Alcohol District and Valencia Street Zoning

In the early 1990s, the Mission Special Use District (MSUD) was created in response to the proliferation and clustering of problem businesses serving alcohol in the Mission. Controls within the district placed restrictions on alcohol sales and the transferring of liquor licenses. However, the unintended consequences of these restrictions have led to, among other things, freezing in place the very businesses that MSUD intended to address while preventing productive establishments, such as the Roxy Theater, from thriving. To address this, I've introduced legislation -- along with Supervisor David Campos -- to update alcohol controls in the Mission District that support businesses that contribute to the vitality of the commercial corridors while strengthening controls to protect against negative businesses. The area affected by this legislation includes significant Mission District commercial corridors such as Mission Street, Valencia Street and 24th Street. The legislation will also limit conversions of retail spaces to restaurants on a limited stretch of Valencia Street. This legislation will allow neighborhood grocery stores, which currently are barred from selling alcohol, to sell beer and wine; improve the ability of business owners to repair, renovate and make their stores compliant; and allow bars and liquor stores to move within the district, which they currently cannot do without losing their license. In addition, to address the proliferation of restaurants on Valencia Street, the legislation will require that any restaurants planning on moving into retail space on Valencia Street between 15th and 24th Street will have to go to the Planning Commission for approval. These updated controls aim to continue to protect the Mission from the proliferation of negative businesses, while allowing the neighborhood to continue to flourish as the cultural and culinary mecca it has become.

CEQA Appeals Procedures Legislation

My CEQA Appeals legislation, which will clarify and improve our current

chaotic and opaque CEQA appeals process by setting clear and predictable timelines for filing appeals, continues to go through the legislative process as it works its way towards the full Board of Supervisors. My legislation has broad support from various good-government, neighborhood, transit, affordable-housing, and labor organizations. It has also been endorsed by the San Francisco Chronicle, the San Francisco Examiner, and the Bay Area Reporter. Both the Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission have recommended it. The legislation will be heard at Committee next week, and at that point Supervisor Kim's alternate legislation will also be ripe for a vote. At that point, with both measures before the committee, I'm hopeful that a decision will be made on which legislation to send for the Board for a vote.



Scott with friends, including Supervisor London Breed, at his birthday.
(Photo courtesy of Rink Foto)

Condo/TIC Conversion Update

The legislation that I've sponsored - along with Supervisor Mark Farrell - has been sent to the Land Use Committee for a hearing on new amendments that have been drafted that will hopefully lead to a resolution on this legislation to provide much needed relief for TIC owners, while still maintaining the rights of the few tenants in units that are converted. A few weeks ago, several of my colleagues (David

Chiu, Norman Yee, and Jane Kim) made a first set of amendments that would allow the bypass to go forth only if controls were placed on the future lottery, including a ten-year moratorium on conversions, an increase in owner-occupancy requirements and a ban on the future conversions of 5 and 6 unit buildings. My concern with these amendments was that we could create a scenario where current TIC owners made a financial decision based on a certain set of circumstances, only to find that the rules had changed on them. I don't want to trap any current owners who invested in their homes from ever being able to convert. I'm hoping with the second round of amendments, I will be able to vote to support this much needed relief for struggling TIC owners.

Pedestrian Safety Hearing

Sidewalks and street conditions in many of our neighborhoods don't have the capacity to safely carry our pedestrian traffic. We need to focus on implementing pedestrian safety projects to improve our streets, like the sidewalk widening on Castro Street and the bulb-outs and pedestrian plaza at Dolores and Market. However these projects often get tangled up by outdated codes and interagency bureaucracy. To combat this, I've introduced pedestrian safety legislation that will be heard in a few weeks at the Land Use and Economic Development Committee. This legislation consists of four parts: an ordinance that mandates interagency coordination by creating a centralized Street Design Review Committee; an accompanying resolution calling for city agencies to modernize street code provisions, better coordinate their efforts around public projects, and formulate clear procedures to do so; an ordinance making it easier for developers to build pedestrian safety projects and gift them to the city; and an ordinance amending the Fire Code to ensure that pedestrian safety projects are not unnecessarily impeded by the code's definition of minimum street width.

Noe Valley Town Square Update and Legislation

The dream of turning a parking lot on 24th Street into a Noe Valley Town Square is moving closer to becoming a reality. Next week on Wednesday, May 22nd, the Budget and Finance Committee will hold a hearing on whether to recommend approval of the purchase of the lot on 24th Street. This is the last hurdle before going to the full Board of Supervisors for a vote. At the Rec and Park Commission hearing last month -- where the proposal was recommended for approval -- we heard many neighbors effectively make the case for the merits of this project. I encourage community members to attend the Budget Committee hearing to speak in favor of the Noe Valley Town Square. This is the last opportunity for the public to comment on the project, as there will be no opportunity for comment at the full Board. The Budget meeting will be at 1 PM on Wednesday, May 22nd in the Board

Chambers. For more information, please contact my office at (415) 554-6968 or Todd David at todd@noevalleytownsquare.com.



Scott at the Buena Vista Park Trail ribbon cutting

Community Updates

Noe Courts

This week we held our first community meeting to discuss the new plans for Noe Courts. Up for review are plans to renovate the bathrooms - which have already been funded through the 2008 Parks Bond - and a broader strategy to improve the park, part of which will be funded through a grant secured by the Friends of Noe Courts. At the community meeting last night, representatives from Rec and Park and DPW described the bathroom project and presented maps on the current conditions of the park. After this, meeting attendees broke out into working groups so that neighbors could share their ideas and hopes for the park. There will be another meeting in about a month when City staff will return with concept plans drawn from last night's community suggestions. For those who want to find out more about the project, you

can contact the Recreation and Parks Department project manager Marvin Yee at Marvin.Yee@sfgov.org.

Castro Streetscape

On Tuesday night, we held the final community planning meeting for the Castro Streetscape Project, where the final conceptual design was unveiled. The workshop presentation, final conceptual design and related materials are available [on-line](#). For more information, contact Nick Perry at (415) 575-9066 or at Nicholas.perry@sfgov.org.

Diamond and Bosworth Improvements

The Diamond/Bosworth intersection has had draft conceptual drawings developed to add pedestrian bulb-outs. These drawings are currently being reviewed by the SFMTA Sustainable Streets and Transit Divisions. They will be then presented to various city departments such as the Planning Department and the Fire Department for further comments. Surveying of the area will be performed in conjunction with the city department review. Upon approval of the draft conceptual drawings they will, with any changes, be handed of the Department of Public Works to develop the construction drawings. An amendment to address differences between the conceptual drawings and the original Environmental document will concurrently be performed with the development of the construction drawings.

Bill Kraus Meadow

The Bill Kraus Meadow and Pathway has been a part of Corona Heights Park for decades since after his death in 1985, but in recent years the sign marking the meadow and path was painted over and [nothing remained to mark the meadow](#). Bill Kraus was a former President of the Harvey Milk Club, aide to Supervisor Harry Britt and Democratic congress members Philip and Sala Burton. He was diagnosed with AIDS in 1984 and died two years later. Money is now being raised to install a bulletin board or kiosk in the park, and this could be an opportunity to recognize Kraus. Anyone interested in helping with the naming effort can contact John Mehring at johnmehring@hotmail.com.



Scott with Gill Sperlein and John Mehring at Bill Kraus Meadow

Small Business Month Awning Fee and Lighting Waiver

To celebrate Small Business Month, Supervisor Katy Tang sponsored legislation that the full Board passed, to provide assistance to small businesses seeking to replace their store awnings and signs. Under this legislation, awning replacement and pedestrian level lighting permits for small businesses will be waived for the month. For more information, please contact the Department of Building Inspections at (415) 558-6088 or visit www.sfdbi.org.

Rec and Park Summer Program Registration Begins

Saturday May 18th

Summer is almost here. Once again, the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department offers summer programs with hundreds of classes for the entire family, including Zumba and fitness classes, singing and dancing for adults 55 and older, and swim lessons for kids. You can register by going to www.SfRecOnline.org or visiting the McClaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park (831-6800) or one of the neighborhood registration sites, including at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, the Randall Museum, and the Upper Noe Recreation Center.

Small Business Week at the Board of Supervisors

This week at the Board of Supervisors, I honored the owners of the Castro bars QBar, Midnight Sun, The Edge, and the soon-to-open

Beaux. These owners -- Tim Eicher, Jeff Eubanks, Rob Glijum, Rob Cotterman, and John Bellemore -- have been great business owners who have brought new energy to the neighborhood bar scene and have been generous community partners. I applaud them for their success.



Scott with owners and employees of QBar, Midnight Sun and The Edge.

Community Events

NERT Training

The San Francisco Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) is free training from the San Francisco Fire Department in how to help yourself and your neighbors prepare for and respond to a disaster by working together. The 20-hour training taught by First Responders includes personal preparedness, light search and rescue, disaster medicine, shutting off your utilities, and how to participate as a member of a neighborhood response team. NERT also offers continuing training for graduates and activities that support building robust neighborhood teams. For more information, visit the NERT website at <http://sfgov.org/sffdnerf>, or contact Lt. Erica Arteseros at (415)970-2022 or sffdnerf@sfgov.org.

Free Computer and Internet Classes for Seniors and Younger Adults with Disabilities

SF Connected is San Francisco's Computer Learning and Literacy Program for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities. Participants can choose from an 8-week class in computer basics, or ongoing sessions in special topics like Facebook, Skype, Genealogy, typing

tutorial, online discount coupons, health resources, job training, politics and news on the web, and many other topics. Each location schedules classes independently to accommodate the needs and interests of the Seniors and Adults with disabilities in their neighborhood. There is no limit to the number of free classes or tutoring sessions a participant may choose to attend. Classes are offered in five languages: English, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Vietnamese. For more information call the Department of Aging and Adult Services at 355-3555 or visit www.sfconnected.org

Castro CBD Spring Social

Thursday, May 16th

6:00pm-8:00pm

LGBT Center

1800 Market Street

The Castro CBD's Annual Social is a great opportunity to talk with your friends, neighbors and colleagues about all the changes happening in the Castro! Meet your CBD's Board of Directors, learn about improvements to the neighborhood and meet community leaders. For more information, contact Andrea Aiello at execdirector@castrocdb.org or (415) 500-1181.

Harvey Milk Day Celebration

Sunday, May 19th

1:00pm-2:00pm

Jane Warner Plaza (Corner of Castro and Market)

Come celebrate the 4th Annual Harvey Milk Day. Hear speeches, music and a reenactment of Harvey's "You've Got to Have Hope" speech performed by local artists, followed by a walk to Harvey's old camera store where there will be a blessing by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. The event is co-sponsored by my office, the Castro Community Benefit District and the Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association.

Come Out to Jane Warner Plaza for speeches, music, memories, and a reenactment of Milk's stirring 1977 "You've Got To Have Hope" speech, followed by a walk to Harvey's old camera store with a blessing by the Sister's of Perpetual Indulgence.

The Castro Celebrates & Honors Harvey Milk Day

**Sunday May 19,
2013 1:00 p.m.**

**Jane Warner Plaza
(corner Castro & Market)**



co-sponsored by :
Office of Supervisor Scott Wiener, Castro/Upper Market Community
Benefit District, Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association
Merchants of Upper Market and Castro



Friends Party for the Castro Country Club

Sunday, May 19th

5:00pm-8:00pm

830 Minnesota Street

I am co-hosting the Friends Party for the Castro Country Club. Please join us for an evening of art and inspiration to celebrate the Castro Country Club, a clean and sober gathering space for all people and a home for the queer recovery community. Please RSVP to FriendsCCCSF@gmail.com

BLISS: Maitri's Signature Gala and Fundraiser

Sunday, May 19th

6:00pm

Mission Bay Conference Center at UCSF

1675 Owens Street

BLISS will feature both a live and silent auction, entertainment that includes Mary Wilson of the Supremes, Spencer Day, and the dance company Na-Lei Hulu I Ka Wekiu. The funds from this event directly support Maitri Compassionate Care programs. Maitri provides compassionate residential care to men and women in need of hospice or 24-hour care and cultivates the deepest respect and love for life among its residents and caregivers

For more information, click [here](#).

Free Admission to the GLBT Museum

Wednesday, May 22nd

4127 18th Street

In honor of Harvey Milk's birthday, the GLBT History Museum will be offering free admission to all visitors and providing special Milk-related productions and materials. Docent tours of the museum highlighting the life and times of Milk will be offered every hour on the hour. Teachers, professionals, and student groups can schedule tours for students by contacting info@glbthistory.org.

Celebrate Harvey Milk: "An Archive of Hope" at Books, Inc

Wednesday, May 22nd

7:30pm

2275 Market Street

Books Inc. is hosting a special reading event at their Market Street location. "An Archive of Hope" assembles in one volume a substantial collection of Harvey Milk's speeches, columns, editorials, political campaign materials, open letters and press releases. In attendance will be the editors of the book Jason Edward Black and Charles E. Morris III, Milk's former speechwriter Frank Robinson, and his photographer and friend Danny Nicoletta.



Scott riding down Market Street on Bike to Work Day

City Hall Office Art Show and Reception

Thursday, May 23rd

5:00pm-7:00pm

City Hall, Room 274

Come to my City Hall office for a reception where you can view the wonderful art that has been hanging on our walls and to meet the local artists Martine Jardel and Anne Subercaseaux. See Martine's work [here](#) and Anne's work [here](#).

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, May 23rd

7:00pm

Castro Community Meeting Room

501 Castro Street

At EVNA's public meeting, there will be a panel discussion on crime in the Castro, a presentation by DTNA President Pat Tura on the new Formula Retail guidelines, and presentation by representatives of Chipotle on their plan to move into the former Home Restaurant space, as well as from opponents of the project.

San Francisco's 145th Memorial Day Observance

Monday, May 27th

10:30am

San Francisco National Cemetery in the Presidio

Come join me for a march and program that honors the more than one million Americans killed while serving in the United States Armed Forces, and commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Korean War. The ceremony will be hosted by the Presidio Trust and the Veteran of Foreign Wars.

Valencia Gardens Community Meeting

Thursday, May 30th

6:00pm-8:00pm

Baha'i Faith Center Auditorium

170 Valencia Street

Neighbors to Valencia Gardens have voiced concerns about violence and safety issues on the surrounding streets, including Guerrero Street. To discuss these concerns and strategies being employed to combat them, please join me, neighbors and representatives from the Police Department, the District Attorney's Office, the Housing Authority, Mission Housing and the property managers of Valencia Gardens at the Baha'i Faith Center on May 30th.



Betsie Miller-Kusz removing the graffiti on murals on Market Street. Betsie is the original artist of these beautiful murals.

Dyke March Fundraiser at Hi Tops

Saturday, June 1st

5:00pm-7:00pm

Hi Tops

2247 Market Street

Come join me for a fundraiser at Hi Tops to benefit the Dyke March. There will be a suggested minimum donation of \$20 at the door which will include drinks and food for two hours. For more information contact Dana Gleim at dana@hitopsf.com.

District 8 FREE Skin Cancer Screening

Saturday, June 1st

8:30am-4:00pm

Castro - Mission Health Center

3850 17th Street (at Noe)

My office and the UCSF Department of Dermatology are hosting a free skin cancer screening day at the Castro Mission Health Center. Insurance and appointments are not required. UCSF fully ascribes to the Americans with Disabilities Acts, so if you require accommodations please contact the Community and Government Relations Office at (415) 476-3206 or at community@cgr.ucsf.edu.

Million Dog March

Sunday, June 2nd

10:00am-2:00pm

McClaren Park

Come join me and San Francisco dog owners as we break the Guinness World Record for the largest dog walk and raise money for Friends of Animal Care and Control. This great even will show the passion of the Bay Area dog community as we take a three mile walk through McClaren Park. For more information, including directions and how to register, click [here](#).

Diamond Heights Community Association (DHCA) Community Meeting

Thursday, June 6

7:00 pm

SF Police Academy, 350 Amber Dr.

The public is invited to learn about the Diamond Heights Disaster Plan with particular attention on what is needed to resolve water pipe breakages. According to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Diamond Heights has more incidents of broken water pipes than any other other neighborhood in San Francisco. What will happen to our water supply in a major earthquake? We would like to receive comments on the water pipe issue at the meeting. I will be in attendance along with Capt. David Lazar, Director SF Police Academy, and Capt. Tim Falvey, Ingleside Station. For information email - DHCASF@gmail.com.



Scott with SF Eagle owners Mike Leon and Alex Montiel at the SF Eagle Grand Opening.

Love Your Parks Day

Thursday, June 13th

6:00pm-8:00pm

Mission Creek Park (Berry and 5th Street)

The San Francisco Parks Alliance is hosting this celebration in honor of San Francisco's parks and all of the people who make them beautiful. The Parks Alliance will be announcing grant recipients from SFPA's Park Action Grants and the Volunteer of the Year. The Parks Alliance Action Grants fund volunteer engagement and community actions that will improve and encourage usage of San Francisco parks, recreation centers, and open spaces (including Street Parks, community gardens, and other publicly owned properties). For more information, click [here](#).

Castro Farmers' Market

Weekly on Wednesdays

4:00pm-8:00pm

Noe Street at Market Street

The Castro Farmers' Market runs every Wednesday from March 31st to December 18th. Click [here](#).

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 31st to November 24th.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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.



Scott at a Giant Sweep event with City staff

Family and Adult Bicycling Classes

Ongoing

Locations TBD

Learn how to ride a bike, practice road safety, develop good traffic skills, bike while pregnant, bike with your child/toddler and much more. Workshops fill up quickly and are offered throughout the year. [Click here for more information](#)

LGBT Drop-In Club Weekly Workgroup at The Center

Weekly on Tuesdays

10:00-11:30am

The SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street

The Center's Workforce Development Program is pleased to provide a free workgroup open to all job seekers. Come network and get support with your job search. The Job Club is a peer-to-peer discussion group where you can share experiences / best practices and receive ongoing direction and advice from a career coach to help manage a productive job search. One-On-One drop-in is the best first step before attending the workgroup. If you have question regarding the group please contact Clair Farley, clairf@sfcenter.org. If you are interested in One-on-One job search and coaching please contact christinar@sfcenter.org or (415) 865-5614. Please note the building does not open to the public until noon. Job Club attendees please wait at

the Center's main door and someone will let you in by 10:00am. [Click here for more information](#)

ADA Merchant Committee

1st and 3rd Thursdays

9:30am

Sally Brunn Library (Noe Valley Branch), 451 Jersey Street

For merchants who are struggling with ADA compliance issues, please attend a meeting hosted by the ADA Merchant Committee. They are seeking the active participation of all merchants and all agencies city-wide to assist small businesses in coping with this very complex situation. The library is closed at that time, so please knock on the door to enter. Any questions, please contact Gwen Sanderson, Video Wave, nvgwen@gmail.com, 415-509-6261 or Susan Walia, Castro Computer Services, susan@modcore.com, 415-826-6678.

Open Gyms

Every Sunday

5:00-8:00pm

Eureka Valley Recreation Center (100 Collingwood at 18th Street)

Basketball players of all skill-levels and ages are invited to Open Gyms every Sunday. For \$5, the San Francisco Gay Basketball Association hosts these open-court style games. All are welcome. Bring a dark t-shirt and a white t-shirt to signify which team you are on. [Click here for more information](#)

Free Rapid HIV Testing for Youth

Weekly on Tuesdays

5:00-7:00pm

The SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street

Free Rapid HIV testing for youth 24 and under offered by Larkin Street Youth Services. [Click here for more information](#)

Upcoming Office Hours

My upcoming office hours are listed below:

Friday, June 7th

10:00am-12:00pm

City Hall, Room 274

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102

Saturday, June 8th

10:00am-12:00pm

Cafe XO

1799 Church Street

San Francisco, CA 94131

***Please check with my office before attending office hours, since they occasionally need to be rescheduled.**

Paid for by Scott Wiener for Supervisor 2010, FPPC # 1319353.

