

# The HAYES VALLEY Voice

Volume 19/Issue 02

A Publication of The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association | HVNA

April/May 2017

## Nabila's Health Food Market 21 Years & Still Going Strong



March 9, 2017 marked the 21st anniversary of Nabila's, a family owned and operated specialty grocery store in Hayes Valley. Even after twenty-one years, you'll still find Ramiz Yousef and his wife Elena, the original owners of Nabila's, Nidal Yousef (Ramiz's brother) and other members of the family running the store. When asked why they chose Hayes Valley, going back to 1996, Ramiz, with his eyes closed (you can tell he was reminiscing down memory lane) said, "I loved the diversity. Yeah, it wasn't the safest neighborhood, but it was colorful and vibrant. I took a chance." Ramiz worked at his brother's store at Fillmore & Haight before opening Nabila's. He played a role in its success. Ramiz envisioned he could do the same in Hayes Valley. "When I looked around the neighborhood, there wasn't anything like Nabila's. My brother's store was successful by being community focused and customer friendly. I believed that if I applied the same values, I could help shape the community to become a better neighborhood".

Nabila's is not your ordinary mom-n-pop or corner store. They offer a wide selection of goods; including grocery items, dairy products, deli meats & cheeses, fresh produce that are organically grown, specialty teas and coffees, selection of beer, ales, stouts, lagers and choice of wine for all palettes and budgets, for our convenience. To quote Ramiz: "We are proud to refer to ourselves as a convenience store because that's part of the service we provide. We're not a supermarket, we're not just a liquor store or a corner store. We are your neighborhood specialty store and market that carries many different items for your convenience".

*continued on page 2*



### President's Column

*By Gail Baugh, president*

Hayes Valley is electric with vibrancy. In the midst of a national environment of racism, exclusion, and withdrawal, our neighborhood is doing the opposite. See all of what is happening in this edition of the Voice.

Is there something you want to do to express solidarity with your neighbors? We have formed a task force on homelessness. The homeless are our neighbors, and we're attempting to learn how to interact and perhaps ways to come off the streets. Our new Events and Entertainment committee is organizing monthly Hayes Valley events. See the article in our Voice. Get involved to help share the fun. Our Arts and Culture Committee is taking proposals for a new temporary sculpture for Patricia's Green. Know of an artist, especially a local artist, who has an idea for a sculpture?

There was a time in Hayes Valley where residents were told that it was impossible to remove an elevated freeway from our neighborhood. We were told we could never stop the drug trafficking and violence here. We were told that our public schools could never be fully enrolled. HVNA and its membership didn't listen to the naysayers. With an attitude of "We will do this...", we did.

Now we're being told that traffic congestion is impossible to solve, that there is no way to get drivers out of their cars to walk or bike, or even that public transportation can possibly help with the car-clogged streets. Is it possible that affordable housing for families to live in our neighborhood can be built? Can we put an affordably priced grocery store in our midst? We're building coalitions to tackle these big issues for Hayes Valley. Please join us where and when you can. Watch the website for calendar updates and social media for further messages. Sometimes an extra donation to help fund a job training program for our local merchants, donations for a greener neighborhood, or a

*continued on page 2*



HEMMING  
MORSE, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS,  
FORENSIC AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS

Hemming Morse's Forensic Consulting Services Group is built on a foundation of highly experienced and dedicated partners with a broad range of expertise in accounting, economics, valuation and finance and a commitment to providing high quality work product to our clients.

**Scope of Services:**

- Business Valuation
- Complex Economic Damages
- Construction Disputes
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
- Forensic Accounting Investigations
- Intellectual Property Disputes
- Labor and Employment
- White Collar Crime Investigations

For more information, contact  
**Tatyana Shtyrkova, CPA/CFF** at  
[shtyrkovat@hemming.com](mailto:shtyrkovat@hemming.com)  
**(415) 836-4041**  
locally in Hayes Valley

Visit our website at [www.hemming.com](http://www.hemming.com)

**Offices** SAN FRANCISCO  
WALNUT CREEK  
LOS ANGELES  
SANTA ROSA  
SAN MATEO  
FRESNO  
IRVINE  
CHICO

Don't just sit there  
**SIT HERE**

*Free meditation instruction  
Saturdays at 8:40 a.m.*



SAN FRANCISCO ZEN CENTER

300 Page Street  
[ccoffice@sfzc.org](mailto:ccoffice@sfzc.org)  
[www.sfzc.org](http://www.sfzc.org)

President's Column continued from page 1

donation of your time to help organize a fun event in Hayes Valley will move our new goals forward. We can always use photographers, writers, blogger support, and social media support. Contact [voice@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:voice@hayesvalleysf.org) if you can help.

HVNA defines "living well" as living lives that connect with one another, getting to know our neighbors, and supporting each other. Get involved in something that matters to you, however you can. And say hello as we pass each other on the street!

For more information, contact Gail at [president@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:president@hayesvalleysf.org)

Merchant feature continued from page 1

There are several milestones accredited to Hayes Valley's status as one of San Francisco's sought after neighborhood today. First, the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake that destroyed the freeway, indeed the catalyst that changed the character of Hayes Valley. Second, the removal of the freeway, the milestone that surged Hayes Valley's growth, making way for haute fashion boutiques, high-end restaurants and novelty shops. Third, the inauguration of Patricia's Green, attributed as the park that revitalized a neighborhood. But let's not forget the 10-yr gap between 1989 when the freeway was destroyed and 1999 the year it was removed. Let's acknowledge the merchants, Nabila's being one, that took a chance and opened shop in that forgotten period; if not for their resolve and endurance, that spurred growth in Hayes Valley, while the city decided what to do with the freeway.



Next time you're at Nabila's, thank them for their ongoing service to our community and unwavering commitment for 21 years.

Visit Nabila's Health Food Market for your grocery needs at 559 Hayes St - (415) 864-6514



## THE PARSONAGE

A Bed and Breakfast Inn

*An elegant architectural treasure in the heart of Hayes Valley*

Welcomes your family and friends

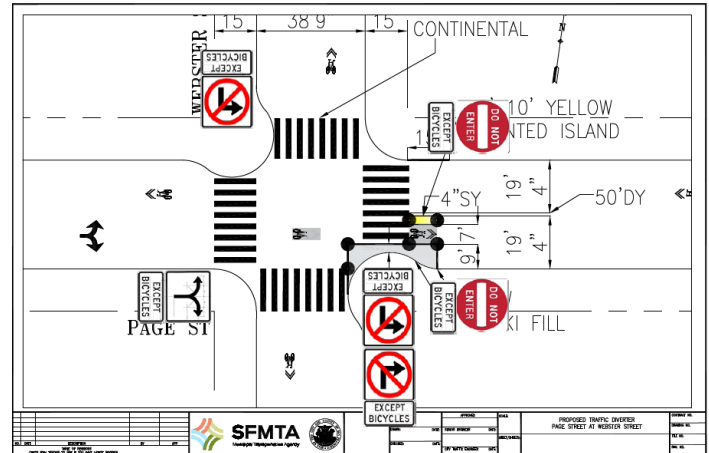
198 Haight Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

415.863.3699 | theparsonage@hotmail.com

## Page Street “Neighborway”

By Jason Henderson, chair, HVNA Transportation & Planning Committee

Since the opening of Octavia Boulevard, the Transportation & Planning Committee has worked closely with the City to address recurring congestion on Haight and Page Streets. We enthusiastically pushed for the red carpet transit lane so that the Haight buses can bypass car traffic. We pushed to make transit even better by supporting the upcoming “Haight Rapid Bus” project.



TEMPORARY PILOT DIVERTER PROPOSAL

On Page Street, HVNA cautiously endorsed the bike improvements between Laguna and Octavia. But we’ve always seen this as the start, not finish. As a residential street, what the City calls “neighborways,” Page should carry about 1,500 cars per day, not the 5,500 cars that cram onto the street daily. To bring the volumes back down to human-scale, SFMTA is proposing a traffic diverter on Page at Webster. Cars traveling from Fillmore would have to turn right or left at Webster. Bicycles could continue eastbound. Westbound cars could still travel across Webster.

HVNA is open to this approach, which, if approved, might be installed in early 2019. Additionally, SFMTA proposes building special raised crosswalks at Buchanan and Page, to make walking to Koshland Park safer and to slow down speeding motorists. The center-running bike lane between Laguna and Octavia would also be extended one block west, to Buchanan.

HVNA welcomes these improvements, recognizing that while a decent start, it is still not enough. Last year we were excited about a proposal to convert Page to a one-way westbound between Octavia and Laguna, which would have included a wide, comfortable “contra-flow” bike lane (such as the one on Polk near Market) that could be fully-separated from traffic by tree-plantings or reorganized curbside parking. We’re disappointed in the lack of political will to pursue that. We also urged SFMTA to better manage inbound traffic on Oak. Using digital technology the city could “meter” car traffic on Oak Street between Stanyan/Kezar and Octavia. Too many single-occupant cars overwhelm Oak and Octavia leading to cars spilling over to Page and Haight Streets. By metering upstream, you avoid the jamming-up in Hayes Valley, and make it easier to keep the cars from spilling over to Page and Haight. But until there is political courage in this city, the proposed diverter will have to do.

For more information on this project, visit [goo.gl/rrrWpB](http://goo.gl/rrrWpB)

# THROUGH the HAYES OPTOMETRY



Dr. Thérèse C. Langille and Dr. Angela Tam, Optometrists

529 Hayes Street, between Laguna and Octavia  
www.throughthehayes.com

415.553.6166 Phone  
415.553.6168 Fax

Expert Eye Exams,  
Unique eyewear from around the world,  
Comfortable contact lenses,  
all in your neighborhood.

Open: Tues, Wed, Thurs 11-7, Fri & Sat 10-6, Sunday 12-5



facebook.com/throughthehayesoptometry



@throughthehayes



@throughthehayesoptometry



## Spring Membership Renewal Campaign Kicks Off

By Bob Barnwell, chair, Membership Committee

April 1<sup>st</sup> starts the Spring membership renewal campaign for HVNA members. The three months from April 1 thru June 30 is the biggest membership renewal time of the year for HVNA. Keep a look out - if it is time to renew your membership, you should receive a renewal letter in the mail with a membership application and a stamped return envelope. You can mail your renewal -or- visit [hayesvalleysf.org](http://hayesvalleysf.org) to renew online.

On Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, Hayes Valley welcomes Urban Air Market. HVNA will have a table at the event. Stop by our table and say "HELLO!" You can renew your membership -or- begin a membership in-person at this event..

The membership dues we collect help finance the many programs HVNA supports in the community. The renewal letter lists some of the many ways we help our community. We hope you can renew your HVNA membership in the next few months to help us continue our fine work for our area.



## HVNA Task Force on Homelessness

By Paul Allick, member, HVNA Board of Directors

The Task Force on Homelessness was generated from the HVNA Board Retreat in January. We are a group of neighbors who want to learn how to better serve and interact with our neighbors who are homeless. At our first meeting we found that while we were not all coming from the same place, we all had a desire to address the crisis of homelessness with compassion and clear thinking. We want to learn more about what is being done and how we can join those efforts. We want to learn how to communicate with our homeless neighbors in more helpful ways. .

At our second meeting, Rann Parker and Randy Quezada from the San Francisco Department of Homelessness joined us. They described the work currently being done. The Department is currently creating a One System Database that will streamline services and keep in better contact with those who are in need of services. We also learned about the Navigation Centers.

Our next step is to offer an Outreach 101 session with Rann Parker from the city's Homeless Outreach Team. Date and time are to be determined. Please stay tuned.

For more information, contact Paul at [allickpd@aol.com](mailto:allickpd@aol.com)

## Public Safety Update

By Bob Barnwell, chair, HVNA Public Safety Committee

*Getting warmer means needing to become more aware.*

It is now Spring and with change of season brings warmer weather and more daylight. It also brings a need to become more aware of your surroundings. It is important to be aware about how to protect yourself and your property. Different from the winter month filled with rain (which typically keeps a lot of the criminal activity away), the warmer weather tends to bring an increase of activity, including instances of property crimes.

Specific to car break-ins, it is important to never leave personal belongings, especially packages, bags, or luggage visible. Be sure to look out for people casing the cars on your street and the homes or apartments where you live. Maintain awareness as you are walking and do not concentrate on your phone. If you stop to take pictures make sure you look around to get a sense of your surroundings first. Cameras and smart phones are a frequent item for grab-and-run theft. Businesses also should maintain awareness. The change in weather tends to bring more foot traffic and more incidences of shoplifting.

A good source of safety tips is SF SAFE 415-553-1984. They are on contract with the city and provide a lot of free services. They have a residential specialist as well as a business specialist to help.

Do enjoy the good weather, but also keep in mind that it is important to be aware of your surroundings!

For more information, contact Bob at [safety@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:safety@hayesvalleysf.org)

Salon de Bar

SAN FRANCISCO

Blowouts, Haircuts, Barber Services,  
Color/Highlights, Keratin treatments, and Extensions

MENTION THIS AD FOR 10% OFF YOUR NEXT SERVICE\*

322 Hayes Street  
[www.salondebar.com](http://www.salondebar.com)  
(415)255-3036

\*Only applies to certain stylists

## Welcome Spring! Soon to be Summer!

by Devi Zinzuvadia, Chair, HVNA Children & Families Committee



Devi Zinzuvadia, with Mo'MAGIC colleagues Lori Gannon and Carlo Jovel, table at the DCYF Summer Resource Fair on March 11, 2017.

The HVNA Children & Families Committee held our first Family Meet-Up on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at Hayes Valley Playground. We were delighted at the super-spirited response! More than 50 little ones and their caregivers came out to join in the fun. We are heartened at the growing momentum of this monthly event (to be held every 2nd Saturday of the month from 10am-12pm).

Summer is coming! With summer vacation there will be some incredible options for children, teens, and youth in San Francisco - across a wide range of camps, programs, and activities. Check out the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association blog at [hayesvalleysf.org](http://hayesvalleysf.org) for programs available to youth aged 0-24.

In other youth development news, Collective Impact will hold its 7th annual More Than Magic fundraiser on Thursday, May 4, to benefit summer programming for Western Addition children and youth. The website for More Than Magic at [collectiveimpact.org](http://collectiveimpact.org) has additional information regarding sponsorship opportunities and ways to support. Please save the date for this fun and festive celebration of community!

We are also working to bring a Garden Spring Clean-up Event to the Hayes Valley Playground. The public garden space is due for some much-needed love and attention; please keep a look out for updates if you would like to be involved in this effort (contact [greening@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:greening@hayesvalleysf.org) for details).

For more information, contact Devi at [devi@collectiveimpact.org](mailto:devi@collectiveimpact.org)

## A Haiku

Submitted by Rachel Itwaru

Smattered poo on Fell,  
Disgruntled pedestrians.  
Damn! I stepped in it.

## HVNA Board of Directors

Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association  
400 Grove Street Suite #3  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Gail Baugh, *President*  
president@hayesvalleysf.org

Craig Hamburg, *Vice President*  
vicepresident@hayesvalleysf.org

Bob Anderson, *Treasurer*

Russell Esmus, *Recording Secretary*  
voice@hayesvalleysf.org

Jason Henderson, *Corresponding Secretary*  
info@hayesvalleysf.org

Bob Barnwell, *Membership Secretary*  
membership@hayesvalleysf.org

*Members at Large:*  
Brian Goldstein  
Daniel Watson-Weller  
Angel Davis  
Pk Cummings  
Devi Zinzuadia

*Associate Members:*  
Paul Allick  
Russell Allen Esmus  
Michelle H.  
Earl Speas  
Barbara Ann Thompson  
Judson True  
Sherri Young  
Ben Zotto

*Ex-Officio Member:*  
William Bulkley  
Karen Mauney-Brodek  
Jay Rosenberg

## HVNA Committees

### Arts & Culture

Earl Spies &  
Pk Cummings *Co-Chairs*  
art@hayesvalleysf.org

### Events & Entertainment

Patricia Megowan, *Chair*

### Editor *The Voice*

Russell Allen Esmus  
voice@hayesvalleysf.org

### Public Safety

Bob Barnwell, *Chair*  
safety@hayesvalleysf.org

### Transportation and Planning

Jason Henderson, *Chair*  
planning@hayesvalleysf.org

### Greening

Jim Warshell  
greening@hayesvalleysf.org

## RECAP: Silent Disco St. Patrick's Celebration

*Presented by HVNA and ZERO dB Global*

We delivered the second Silent Disco Block Party, in celebration of St Paddy's Day. Based on the turnout, dancing, and fun - this was another hit! The event's reach and appeal grew from our first installment in February. There were also many familiar faces, a good indication people are enjoying themselves.

Enjoyed by young and old alike - an adorable 6-year-old joined the party, dancing among the big people, undeterred. The father commented that, "she just loves to dance." The attendees were from all over the Bay Area, as far as Sacramento to the North East and Santa Cruz to the South 0-even a few from out of state. And, as expected, many attendees were from right here in Hayes Valley.

We had an awesome line-up of DJs, even taking requests from the crowd. Partygoers with their brightly lit headphones, were bouncing on the street, triangulating between Patricia's Green and this month's bar sponsors: Sugar Lounge and Dobbs Bar. Once again, we had Hayes Street buzzing with energy.



## Support HVNA Business Members

Please patronize the following business and institutional members of our community!!

### Benefactor

Absinthe Brasserie & Bar  
Arlequin Café  
Arlequin Wine Merchants  
Biergarten  
Boxing Room  
DDG  
DM Development Partners LLC  
First Baptist Church of SF  
McRoskey Mattress Co.  
New Seasons Market  
Coming to 555 Fulton  
Nick's Market  
The Parsonage Bed & Breakfast Inn  
Red Bridge Internet  
Suppenküche  
Trumark Urban  
Urban Air Market

### Member

470 Grove St Homeowners Assoc.  
1700 Market Street, LLC  
Acoté  
African - American Art & Culture Complex  
African - American Shakespeare Co.  
AfroSolo Theatre Company  
AgeSong Senior Communities  
Azalea Boutique  
Baiano Pizzeria  
Birba Food, Wine Shop  
Blue Bottle Coffee  
Don Fisher Boys & Girls Club  
Brass Tacks  
Brilliant Corners (West Bay Housing / Octavia Court)  
BUILD Inc.  
BUILD Public  
Café La Vie  
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assoc.  
Chez Maman West  
Church of the Advent of Christ the King  
Compass Family Services  
Domport Auto Body, LLC  
Electric Bike Superstore LLC  
Fig and Thistle  
FrenchAmerican International School  
Golden Gate Urgent Care  
The Green Arcade  
Hayes Valley Art Works  
Hayes Valley Medical & Esthetics  
Headlights Hair Studio  
Jews for Jesus  
LGBT Community Center  
Life Chiropractic  
Linden Hayes Owners Assoc.  
Linus Bike San Francisco  
Lucid Beauty  
Lux SF  
Magic Zone  
Mary Mar Clay  
Miette Confiserie  
Nabila's Health Foods  
National Center for International Schools  
Nearlist  
Neighborhood Baptist Church  
Nurun  
O'Grady Plumbing  
Oak + Fort  
One Medical Group  
Openhouse  
Pearl Investment Company  
Progress Foundation  
Proxy  
PUBLIC Bikes  
Raxakoul SF Wine & Cheese  
Charles W. Roth, CPA  
SFJAZZ  
Sagan Piechota Architecture  
Salon de Bar  
San Francisco Ballet  
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
San Francisco Opera  
San Francisco Public Press  
San Francisco Symphony  
San Francisco Zen Center  
Success Center SF  
Tatyana Shtyrkova CPA/CFE  
Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP  
Souvla  
Sara C. Stephens, RN  
Consult & Advocacy  
Stacks  
Streets of San Francisco  
Bike Tours and Rentals  
Sugar Lounge  
Taylor Commercial Interiors  
Through the Hayes Optometry  
Christine Tour-Sarkissian, Esq.  
Two Sisters Bar and Books  
Underglass Custom Framing  
Law Office of Doron Weinberg  
Warby Parker  
Western Addition Beacon Center  
ZERODB Global  
Zen Hospice Project

## Help Us Hire Locals: Creating an Inclusive Vision for Development

By Rachel Itwaru, member, HVNA

I moved to San Francisco in 2013 to work in technology. I was immediately enamored with the lush residential streets of Hayes Valley, the aroma of artisan coffee shops on weekend mornings, and the clusters of local shops with perfect pastel facades. I was also acutely aware that my neighbors lived in Section 8 housing, and their realities were significantly different than mine despite our adjacent homes.

With accelerating development of new buildings and the opening of new businesses, I've thought increasingly about this quiet group of residents that live both literally and metaphorically on the periphery of our local economy.

As residents, we welcome the presence of artists, wanderers and radical reformists in our commercial centers and are unequivocally thoughtful toward the many diverse populations and ideas that pass through our neighborhood. The support of local business and small entrepreneurs has played an enormous role in the revitalization of the neighborhood, and the benefits should be equitable across the many different groups that have woven the fabric of this special place.

It is important that Hayes Valley develop an inclusive vision for the development of our commercial centers. I implore readers to ask how you can help local businesses help locals. If you have conviction that incumbent residents should benefit from the economic and social changes that accompany gentrification, please join me and members of the Business Relations Committee in exploring the feasibility of an employment program that trains and develops local, often lower-income, transitional youth to be competitive applicants for local jobs.

For more information, contact Rachel at [rachel.itwaru@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.itwaru@gmail.com) or [business@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:business@hayesvalleysf.org)



# GET IN BED WITH US

SAN FRANCISCO • 415.861.4532  
PALO ALTO • 650.327.1966  
FACTORY TOURS • 415.874.7521  
**McROSKEY.COM**



## Next Silent Disco Block Party

April 15 from 8 pm - 1 am

by Patricia Megowan, Chair, HVNA Events & Entertainment Committee

New this year, the Events & Entertainment Committee has been chartered to plan fun, engaging events & activities throughout the year to increase community involvement and attract more visitors to the neighborhood.

We support the 100 Days Action (100daysaction.net), a forum for resistance, an artistic coming together, an exercise in endurance, a call to all bodies that stand against bigotry, xenophobia, racism, sexism, and the destruction of our environment, to act together.

The Theme of Our Event: Celebrating One's Individuality & Embracing Diversity to counter the negative forces of racism & sexism with Artistic Expressions of Love, in Music & Dance.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a Silent Event not a Protest to Voice Out Loud One's Political Views & Beliefs

### APRIL

#### Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:00pm: Public Safety Meeting  
"Reporting bias, discrimination, and hate crimes"  
Korean American Center  
745 Buchanan

#### Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

1:00pm: SFMTA Octavia Boulevard Walk n' Talk  
meet @ proxy

#### Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

10:00am - 12:00pm: Family Meet-Up  
Hayes Valley Playground Clubhouse  
Hayes & Buchanan

#### Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

8:00pm - 12:00am: Silent Disco  
Patricia's Green  
Hayes & Octavia

#### Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

Easter Sunday

#### Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm - 8:30pm: Membership/Community meeting  
Hayes Valley Playground Clubhouse  
Hayes & Buchanan

### MAY

#### Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

7:00pm: Public Safety Meeting  
Update on Property Crimes  
Korean American Center  
745 Buchanan

#### Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

11:00am - 6:00pm: Urban Air Market  
Outdoor shopping event  
Hayes & Octavia

#### Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

10:00am - 12:00pm  
Family Meet-Up  
Hayes Valley Playground Clubhouse  
Hayes & Buchanan

#### Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00pm - 12:00am  
Silent Disco  
Bay to Breakers pre-party  
Patricia's Green  
Hayes & Octavia

#### Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

Bay to Breakers  
Basically all morning & all day too  
Hayes Street

### NEIGHBORHOOD NUMBERS

Emergency . . . . .	911
Police: Non-Emergency . . . . .	415-553-0123
Police: Anonymous Tip Line . . . . .	415-614-3451
Police: Northern Station . . . . .	415-614-3400
Homeless Outreach Team 24/7 . . . . .	415-734-4233
Report Short-term Rental Violations . . . . .	415-575-9179
All City Departments . . . . .	311

## Help Needed with HVNA Voice Newsletters

Take a moment to get out, meet your neighbors and distribute one of the more popular papers to be left on a doorstep—the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association Voice Newsletter.

Want to write about your neighborhood? We're looking for neighbors who have a story to tell or knows a neighbor with a story. Our neighborhood is filled with interesting people, businesses, and just cool stories. Can you write about it? 300-400 words, 12 pt New Times Roman font, and due on 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. A photo is really helpful.

Interested in volunteering? Please send an e-mail to [voice@hayesvalleysf.org](mailto:voice@hayesvalleysf.org)