

The HAYES VALLEY Voice

Volume 06/Issue 01

A Publication of The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association | HVNA

Jan-Feb 2006

Black History Month is Almost Here!

For the last several years, Hayes Valley community members have joined together to celebrate Black History Month each February, with last year's program both entertaining and educational. Over a hundred friends and neighbors came to the event, which featured several different re-enactments from history. This year's event will be on Sunday, February 26th, from 3-6pm, and will include entertainment and refreshments. Plans so far call for soul food, so be sure to mark your calendar!

We are looking for people to join in entertaining. Our emphasis is on youth, from 4-18, but all are invited to participate.

One group featured will be the new Western Addition Girls and Boys Junior and Youth Choir. Parts and positions include Martin Luther King, Jr; Rosa Parks, Police Officer, Bus Driver; Harriet Tubman, Slaves; WB Dubois, Frederick Douglass; Queen of Sheba, Gift Givers. More information is available from Ms Ruby Johnson at 552-4964.

Last year's event proved that history can be fun, and that its lesson isn't lost on the young. We all stand to learn something from the efforts of the youth in our community. Whether you are a performer or not, plan to come and experience a great event.

President's Column

By Paul Olsen



Photo: Frances Nengley

By now you have hopefully put the holiday madness behind you and are back to normal. We are at this end, with normal being lots of hard working, over-extended people working to improve the neighborhood. Please read each of the articles in *The Voice* to get info on happenings in the 'hood. Issues include school closures, proposed developments, past and future community events, and more.

There is also a short note regarding Board elections for the next year, which will happen at our February meeting. While several

Continued on Page 2

Working Together



Photo by Barbara Wenger

Neighbors of all ages participated in wreath making at Hayes Valley South in early December. The wreaths were then delivered to each of the housing complexes

in the area as neighbors shared the spirit of the season. See story on page 2.

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**Visit our redesigned Web site at:
www.hayesvalleysf.org**

Upcoming HVNA Meetings

7-8:30pm

Jan 26 • Feb 23 • Mar 23

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current members of the Board have expressed a desire to serve another term, including myself, there are seats available. It is my hope that the Nominating committee will be able to field a slate that is as diverse as our neighborhood and balanced by interests as well as geography. If you are interested in helping the neighborhood, please consider joining a committee, taking on more responsibilities on a committee upon which you already sit, or joining the Board.

Also in the Voice is an article thanking many of our hardworking volunteers. I want to take a minute to thank someone else. These past several months there have been many positive events in our neighborhood as well as the negative situation we all faced with the issue of school closures. With us, both in spirit and in person as these events unfolded was District 5 Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi. One of the strengths of this neighborhood has always been its ability to build coalitions, internally and externally. Ross has not only become part of our coalition for positive change, he expresses that same philosophy of coalition building and support. On behalf of HVNA, thanks to Supervisor Mirkarimi for all his help and support. We look forward to working together toward more positive outcomes in 2006!

Support the HVNA

Become an HVNA Business or Organization Member! See the membership form on page 6 or contact Frances Neagly for further information at membership@hayesvalleysf.org

Have any neighborhood news, know of a new business or organization in the neighborhood, or have a story to tell? Want to write for Hayes Valley Voice? Have photos of a neighborhood event? Email us at: voice@hayesvalleysf.org.



Photo by Barbara Winger

Friends and neighbors hard at work assembling wreaths

Hayes Valley Community Partners Celebrates its Fourth Season of Goodwill

By Richard Johnson

Wow, how time flies. It seems like yesterday when Judy Edmond, of Safety Network, and I were in the midst of planning a pedestrian safety fair for Hayes Valley. The year was 2002 and from there we went on to form the Hayes Valley Community Partners (HVCP). Since then the HVCP has added new partners and expanded to put on community events throughout the year.

The HVCP celebrated its 4th holiday season in December of 2005. The HVCP, of which HVNA is a partner, is a collaboration of community members, city departments, and non-profits. Our mission is to provide community events that bring neighbors together to foster a more safe and caring community. HVNA committee members from Beautification, Public Safety and Families & Children are an integral part of these efforts. All through 2005 we held events ranging from a Black History event, several park cleanups, safety march, safe Halloween, a Thanksgiving dinner and talent event. We concluded in

December with a month full of seasonal events. To achieve our mission we strive to both add new partners and to our yearly calendar of community events that lead to a better quality of life for all. Last year we added the Neighborhood Parks Council and the Western Addition Beacon Center as new partners and expanded our event calendar to include a Safe Halloween in Hayes Valley. For me the highlight of the year was our Giving Voice to the Season Thanksgiving Dinner and Talent show. We partnered with neighborhood faith-based groups to provide food and entertainment to over 200 people that caused quite a positive buzz in the community.

Mother Nature in the past year taught us a valuable lesson that survival depends on the combination of food, water, shelter and knowing your neighbor. So check the Voice calendar throughout the year for upcoming HVCP events that provide venues for meeting new neighbors. Attend one, and who knows, the neighbor you meet at one of the events may be your hero in an emergency.

UC Extension Resolution

For 2 years discussions have been ongoing regarding the proposed development of the former UC Extension site – six acres of prime real estate central to our neighborhood and to our City. HVNA has sponsored community meetings designed to increase awareness of the site and to solicit input from the neighborhood regarding its future use. Many people from our area have participated and provided feedback.

The developers have revised their proposal, but there has been no consensus that it meets

the needs or desires of the neighborhood.

Reflecting concerns about the proposal, a resolution in opposition to the planned development was introduced and will be considered by the membership at our meeting on January 26th. Please be sure to come and let your voice be heard. As a reminder, in order to be eligible to vote, dues must be current and members must live, or own a business, within the association boundaries.

Food Baskets for the Holidays

As part of the Hayes Valley Community Partners efforts this season, food baskets were delivered to over 200 households in the area. A hand-made holiday card accompanied each food basket! Here we see youth from the neighborhood, with help from HVNA Treasurer Frances Neagley, hard at work on this project.



Right: Hayes Valley Youth
Create Holiday Cards

Photo by Barbara Wenger

January's Meeting!

We kick off the year with our first meeting on January 26th! Please join us. Business items include a recap of the year by our committees and a discussion of the proposed development of the UC Campus, including an update on the status of efforts to list the campus on the National Register of Historic Places by the Friends of 1800.

We will also consider a resolution stating HVNA's opposition to the proposed plan for the UC Campus.

We look forward to seeing you there. (Remember, your dues must be current and you must live in the neighborhood in order to vote.)

Extra! Read All About It!

Every other month, the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association prints 3,800 copies of the newsletter *The Hayes Valley Voice*. Only about 150 copies are mailed to members. A dedicated team of volunteers hand delivers the remaining copies to every home and business in Hayes Valley. On alternate months, a letter from the president is mailed to members and a meeting announcement is distributed to the neighborhood.

In 2005, the following special people participated in these deliveries:

Ed Bedard
Nick Bell
Guy Berryessa
Ana Canillas
Ben Collins
Lynne Creighton
Lynn Friedman
Ed Goehring
Peter Gudd
Stefan Hastrup
Jason Henderson
Lee Jewel
Richard Johnson
Robin Levitt
Clarence Mayers
Sirena McCart
Frances Neagley
Paul Olsen
Chris Pederson
John Phillips
Doug Prudden
Barbara Raab
Tom Runge
Bill Rusconi
Jim Warshell
Mike Willemssen
Kendall Willets
Sarah Young

While these hardy individuals are very reliable, HVNA is always looking for more volunteers to provide vacation coverage or to take over some routes. This is a great way to see your neighborhood and meet your neighbors while providing a service to your neighborhood organization. Each route generally takes less than an hour, one day a month, in the week before the general meeting.

Contact Richard Johnson or Frances Neagley if you'd like to help.

visit

www.hayesvalleysf.org

School Closures

Toward the end of December, what was a theoretical possibility turned into an alarming reality in our neighborhood. Seven months after three of our schools were closed, out of five city-wide, every school in the neighborhood was put on the closure list! Parents, students, educators, HVNA Board members and Families & Children committee co-chair Gail Baugh immediately joined together in protest. Despite a schedule set by the School District seemingly to restrict our efforts to influence the process, we were able to provide the nucleus of a large group of District 5 concerned citizens. Working aggressively with District 5 Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi and his dedicated staff, people from throughout District 5 joined together to publicize the inequities in the process. For months, the School District talked internally about what to do to resolve their financial crisis. At no time were parents, schools or neighborhoods consulted for ideas on alternate funding or on criteria to be used in determining potential closures.

Of concern to the leaders in HVNA, and throughout District 5, is the signal that closure of neighborhood schools sends to the children in our area. These kids are our future, and we need to be there for them.

In an area where concerns over lack of support services are prominent, to have the agency responsible for preparing our kids for the future prepare to close schools instead shows the short-sightedness of their thinking. The schools in District 5 serve a population comprised

largely of working class families, with a large proportion of African American households. Schools are supposed to prepare all kids to succeed. Closing our neighborhood schools forces kids to travel farther from home every day, hampers efforts to strengthen neighborhoods, eliminates available support services, and reduces their safety.

Get Involved in
Our Neighborhood Schools!
Contact our Families and
Children Committee to help.

As we go to press, the School Board has postponed their decision, largely because of the leadership of people in this area. Supervisor Mirkarimi, working with other members of the Board of Supervisors, is attempting to identify City money that can be used to resolve the immediate crisis. There is talk of lawsuits and injunctions. And there is hope. Regardless of the outcome, community members are to be commended for their inclusive efforts for all the kids in District 5, and their desire to continue working together to prevent any similar situations from arising in the future.

John Muir Students Create a Recycled Garden

By Rebecca Bozzelli and Suzi Palladino

Students involved with the Koshland Park Community Learning Garden Program at John Muir Elementary School collaborated with the art teachers of the school to create an environmentally conscious art project. This project not only explored the creative minds of each student, but also introduced alternative ways we can reuse and recycle materials that typically end up in the landfill. For this special project, each student re-used materials gathered from a variety of sources to create a garden-themed recycled masterpiece. The students were asked to sketch an image of the school garden that they actively participate in on a weekly basis. Once the design was completed the students were challenged to depict that image using only recycled or re-used materials. All students and teachers were fascinated by the uniqueness and resourcefulness of each individual's piece. Individually, each work of art is that student's memory and inspiration of Koshland Garden as well as their awareness of the global environment and the need to protect and preserve all green space. Collectively, the artwork represents one garden and this school's dedication to building community through collaborative and creative thinking in order to manifest the dream of equality for ALL!



Photo by Barbara Wenger

Suzi, Rebecca, Candy, Jameisha, Suzi were among those involved in the project.

Board Elections

February is the annual meeting and election of Board members for HVNA. If you are a current member living, or owning a business, within our boundaries, you are eligible to be on the Board. A nominating committee has been appointed, consisting of Chris Pederson, Ed Bedard, Gail Baugh and Ruby Johnson. If you are interested in joining the Board and working to improve the neighborhood, please contact one of the above before the end of January. We are looking for a balance of interests and areas within the neighborhood so that the diversity of this wonderful neighborhood is fully reflected on the Board. Nominating committee members will be at the January meeting, and contact information for them is included in the newsletter. If you haven't been active long, or haven't gotten around to joining HVNA, you can still be involved in our work by participating on a committee, at whatever level your time and expertise allows. Keeping your membership current will allow you to be considered for the Board next year, as well as helping support our efforts.

Reprinted with permission.

The following was written as a letter to the editor of one of our local newspapers during the holidays. It is reprinted here at the suggestion of several neighbors:

It was good to see the picture of Marlena and the Santa display on the front of the BAR last week. The bar is certainly festive and a worthwhile destination for those seeking holiday cheer. But there is another side to the story as well. Marlena's is located in an area that has seen much change since the earthquake and the removal of the freeway through the neighborhood. While the public face of Hayes Valley seems to be upscale shops and increasingly more expensive Victorian homes, the neighborhood also contains many rental units and large-scale housing developments. To her credit, Marlena continues the sense of community that has long been so much a part of Hayes Valley.

During holiday festivities, Marlena's has enabled patrons and passers-by to have their picture taken with Santa. From these pictures in the last 2 years alone, Marlena has donated almost \$1000 to programs assisting youth in the neighborhood! Joining with the merchant's association, Marlena's has also been a key player in raising funds for a variety of programs in Hayes Valley and the Western Addition. These programs range from sponsoring a Black History Month celebration to providing hundreds of food baskets to those in need. Marlena's public display during the holidays is worth seeing. Her private display of affection for those in the neighborhood is worth celebrating.

Graffiti Watch

By Ana Canillas

While HVNA members are working hard to bring more public art installations to the neighborhood, there is already more interactive art than we expected in Hayes Valley - tagging is now almost everywhere. Let's put a stop to this as quickly as possible. Here's a blurb from "Recycle Today," the newsletter insert from Sunset Scavenger has a solution. In order to help DPW address their over 1000 complaints a month, DPW is seeking volunteers to join GRAFFITI WATCH, a citywide effort to prevent and remove graffiti from public property. DPW supplies the training and the tools and the community takes charge from there.

Graffiti Watch members commit to helping keep heavily "tagged" areas graffiti free for two years.

Removing graffiti quickly - ideally within 24 hours - is key to Graffiti Watch's long-term success. It is well documented that the faster graffiti is painted over, the less likely it is that the vandals will return.

Call 28-CLEAN (282-5326) or e-mail 28clean@sfdpw.org to obtain an application for membership in Graffiti Watch or to report graffiti whenever you see it.



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HVNA Membership Form

Join Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association. Just return your completed form with a personal check made payable to Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association.

■ Your information:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email (for HVNA use only): _____

■ Membership Levels:

☐ Renewing Membership ☐ New Membership

Please make checks payable to:

Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association

☐ Limited Income \$15 ☐ Individual \$25
☐ Families & Couples \$35 ☐ Business \$100
☐ Sponsor \$100 ☐ Benefactor \$250

■ Areas of Interest:

Volunteers are welcome! Please indicate your areas of interest.

☐ Families and Children
☐ Neighborhood Beautification
☐ Neighborhood Safety
☐ Planning and Transportation
☐ Communications (Newsletter & Web site)
☐ Other: _____

■ Return to:

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 San Francisco, CA 94142-3978

HVNA Board of Directors

Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association
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 San Francisco, CA 94142-3978

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Richard Johnson, *Vice President*
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Sirena McCart, *Membership*
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Patricia Walkup, *Corresponding Secretary*
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Jason Henderson, *Recording Secretary*

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Robin Levitt

Christopher Pederson

Leigh Stackpole

Jim Warshell

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Support HVNA Business Members

Advent Music Foundation

Alano Club

Babies

Domus Development

First Baptist Church of San Francisco

Gimme Shoes

Gruber & Gruber Properties

Charles Hemminger Associates

Horus School of Music

Ko-Ri Inc

Mad Wills Food Company

Kim Makoi, Chiropractor

Neighborhood Parks Council

New College of San Francisco

Octavia Lounge

open house

Otovo, Inc

The Parsonage Bed & Breakfast

Paul K Restaurant

Pearl Investment Company

Progress Foundation

Rossmann and Moore, LLP

Charles W. Roth, CPA

Rs-UNIX.com

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Through the Hayes Optometry

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Zen Hospice Project

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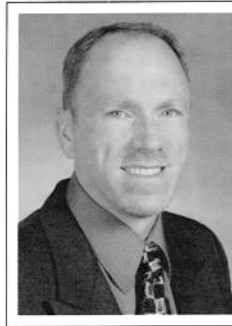


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Upcoming HVNA Meetings

7-8:30pm

Jan 26 • Feb 23 • Mar 23

jan
january 2006

01.26, Thursday 7-8:30 pm

H.V.N.A. General Meeting
First Baptist Church located
7 Octavia (at Waller)
Meeting Info: www.hayesvalleysf.org

01.28, Saturday 9am-Noon

Hayes Valley Playground Cleanup
691 Hayes St @ Buchanan
Volunteers needed to help clean, weed and
beautify our local park.
Contact Info: Gail at 626-6120

feb
february 2006

02.01, Wednesday 7-9pm

District 5 Together
1st Wednesday of each month
Northern Police Community Room
1125 Fillmore (at Turk), parking
Contact Info: www.sf5together.org

02.06, Monday 7-8:30pm

H.V.N.A. Public Safety Committee
1st Monday of each Month
Korean American Community Center
745 Buchanan (at Grove)
Contact info: safety@hayesvalleysf.org

02.09, Thursday 6-8:30pm

**Northern District Police/Community
Relations Forum**
2nd Thursday of each month
Northern Police station, 1125 Fillmore
(at Turk) Parking is available
Contact info: Captain Dillon at 614-3400

02.11, Saturday Noon-4pm

Monthly Koshland Park Workday
Meet at Koshland Park basketball court
Corner of Page and Buchanan
Help make your park a clean, green and safe
space. Contact: Rebecca at 987-0433

02.23, Thursday 7-8:30pm

H.V.N.A. General Meeting
Every Fourth Thursday
First Baptist Church 7 Octavia (at Waller)
Contact info: www.hayesvalleysf.org
We will have our annual board election.

02.26, Sunday 3-6pm

**Third Annual Black History Celebration
"Gathering Our Youth Through Positive
Beginnings"** at John Muir School located at
the corner of Webster and Oak
Contact information Ruby 552-4964

mar
march 2006

03.01, Wednesday 7-9pm

District 5 Together
1st Wednesday of each month
Northern Police Community Room
1125 Fillmore (at Turk), parking
Contact Info: www.sf5together.org

3.06, Monday 7-8:30pm

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kevin_dillon@ci.sf.ca.us

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First Baptist Church, at 7 Octavia (at Waller)
Meeting info: www.hayesvalleysf.org



NEIGHBORHOOD NUMBERS

Animal Control	554 6364
Bike Commute Hotline	585 BIKE
Cars – Abandoned	781 JUNK
Cars – Blocking Sidewalk	553 1200
Cars – Parking Citations	553 9888
Cars – Towed Vehicles	553 1235
City Trees	695 2162
Curb Painting Requests	554 2336
DPW	554 6219
Dumping (Illegal)	695 2017
Friends of the Urban Forest	543 5000
Graffiti Removal	241 WASH
Mayor's Office	554 6141
Noise Abatement	554 5815
Octavia Boulevard Public Info	554 5440
Police – Anonymous Tip Line	614 3451
Police – Emergency (anon.)	553 8090
Police – Non-Emergency	553 0123
Police – Northern Police Station	614 3400
SF Tool Lending Library	467 8665
Street Cleaning	695 2017
Street Light Repair	554 0730
Supervisor (D-5) Ross Mirkarimi	554 7630
Supervisor (D-6) Chris Daly	554 7970
Supervisor (D-8) Bevan Dufty	554 6968