

The HAYES VALLEY Voice

Volume 09/Issue 02

A Publication of The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association | HVNA

March-April

A Green Spring Meeting

March 20th is the Spring Equinox and The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association's March meeting (7pm on the 26th) will celebrate spring with a very special evening of presentations, discussions, and appreciation bestowed on some of the most influential individuals and organizations that are making Hayes Valley ever greener.

We'll start the festivities off with light refreshments from some of our great local eateries. Come early to have a drink and a bite before the discussion begins. We are very fortunate that so many volunteers and organizations have been working year round to make Hayes Valley a greener place to live, work, and visit. This night is dedicated to those people and to bring opportunities for involvement to the attention of the community.



Friends of the Urban Forest have been friends to Hayes Valley for a long time. On Arbor Day, which was just this past March 7, FUF helped plant dozens of new trees in the neighborhood. We'll get an update about that planting and all the great work FUF does for us year round.

The San Francisco School District has given a grant to John Muir School to create a green schoolyard. It has hired a consultant who has already begun the community design process. There are many great opportunities for green conversion technologies to be applied to this great site. The staff and PTA of John Muir are very involved as are others in the community. We will learn more about this great project and the possibilities it presents.

The Trust for Public Land, a national non-profit land conservation organization, has

selected Hayes Valley Playground to receive a multi-million dollar renovation as part of its Parks for People – San Francisco initiative. TPL and WRNS Studio, the project architects, have worked with the Hayes Valley community to come up with a stellar design for the playground and clubhouse. You can see the progress of this design at tjp.org.

The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Parks Group will be making some changes in its mission. After over a decade of cultivating our five

neighborhood parks, Barbara Wenger will be focusing the group's efforts to something they have been very successful at: educating, and inspiring at-risk youth to be healthy, non-violent, environmental leaders of their community. We owe Barbara, Nora Brereton, and many others in that organization a big hand

for all that they have done over the years. Come hear what's up with their new direction.

Finally, we will be discussing the new green heart of the community, Patricia's Green. John Thomas, DPW landscape architect and Green designer will join us as will the new Recreation and Park Neighborhood Services director, Jim Wheeler. They will be joined in a discussion of ongoing maintenance issues by Green volunteer coordinator and new HVNA Board member, Henry O.

The spring celebration of HVNA will be March 26, 2009 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the First Baptist Church at the corner of Octavia and Waller Street near Market Street. Please join us and learn how you can make Hayes Valley a greener place to live.

President's Column

By Frances Neagley



It's been raining, spring is almost here and the neighborhood is looking very shiny and green. A couple of weeks ago, on another rainy day, I got distracted by a car with multiple tickets and a broken window and wondered if I should call it in as abandoned. That moment of distraction resulted in my stepping in some dog poop on the sidewalk and I decided then that my next editorial would be about inconsiderate dog walkers.

However, since then I have attended several meetings on open space and greening of neighborhoods and thought instead I would talk about investing in our neighborhood. With the economy and budget crises all over, there is less and less money available for quality of life issues, such as maintenance of parks and sidewalks, not to mention new greening projects.

Here in Hayes Valley, we have a lot of involved neighbors, but we need everyone to buy into the quality of the neighborhood. We have monthly park maintenance programs and an active ACE committee. This is only part of what is necessary to keep Hayes Valley looking good.

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

From page 1

Each and every one of us needs to take ownership of our neighborhood. It starts with sweeping our sidewalks, then the neighbor's and then on down the block. Whether a renter or an owner, picking up garbage or sweeping is something you should do. I know people who carry bags with them while they are out walking and pick up trash on their way. We have a lot of trash cans in the area so no one has to carry the debris very far.

A while ago I got one of those trash pick-up devices from the hardware store and I have worked a section of Octavia near my house every so often. Besides the usual dog leavings and other trash, I was astounded by the number of cigarette butts on the sidewalk and in the tree wells. I know that everyone says that when Armageddon comes, cockroaches will be the only survivors. Well, cigarette butts will be there too; they are absolutely non-biodegradable and they are everywhere.

So, I am urging everyone to think about the neighborhood and help keep it clean and attractive. And just so you won't think otherwise, I love dogs. I don't have a dog; but I never go out walking without dog treats in my pockets, and of course a trash bag or two.



Newest business jumps right in!

Paulette, 437 Hayes Street, is the newest business on the street. Just weeks after opening, they donated dozens of samples for our February HVNA meeting. What does Paulette sell? French macarons – wonderful cookie sandwiches that would make any Parisian salivate. The French presence in the 'hood is growing stronger, and with the addition of this wonderful shop, even more welcome. You owe it to yourself to stop by!



*T*he last two community gardening events on Patricia's Green (early November and this past February) had lower than expected turnout. Oddly enough, on both days the weather was perfect for digging in the soil and the small work crews still made a noticeable difference. The Recreation and Park Dept. allocates a gardener to oversee the volunteers' activity and is responsible for trucking in all tools, plants and mulch the morning of the event. On February 28, there were six Rec and Park gardening work days throughout our district even as city staff are being laid off.

As coordinator of Patricia's Green garden days, I need to make a special plea for committed volunteers to attend the upcoming March 28th event. A low turnout in March is likely to result in fewer scheduled events and less opportunity to get down and dirty with your like-minded neighbors.

Contact Henry at 415 626-6906 for information or to confirm attendance in March or at the May 23rd gardening day. We'll go from 10am-1pm both days.

Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi and Mayor Gavin Newsom cut the ribbon during the opening ceremony of the newest San Francisco One-Stop Career Link Center located in the Western Addition.

The new Career Center was welcomed by a crowd of over 200 community members who had an opportunity to meet with staff on-site and tour the open house. This is the sixth One-Stop career center in San Francisco and will be operated by Rubicon Programs, a non-profit that also operates One Stop Centers in Berkeley and Hayward.



LoHaMNa???

We'd like to invite you to the first ever LoHaMNa Meeting.

What's LoHaMNa? It's the Lower Haight Merchant and Neighbor Association.

Why LoHaMNa? To build a safe and thriving Lower Haight.

When is the meeting? Friday, March 20th (first day of Spring), at noon. Bring a bag lunch if it's lunchtime for you.

Who LoHaMNa? Any neighbors or merchants in or by Lower Haight Street, from the 300 block up to Divisadero.

Where is the meeting? 434 Haight Street, between Fillmore and Webster.

- Come meet fellow merchants and neighbors
- Come help create an association for YOU
- Pass this along to other merchants and neighbors you know

The 10th person who enters the meeting



gets a PRIZE!!!! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Thea Selby, 400 block neighbor 415 309 9410

Elizabeth Everhard,
500 block neighbor elizabetheverhard@att.net

Oliver Goss, 400 block merchant,
oliver@recordpressing.com

Vallie Brown, Legislative Aide, D5 & neighbor,
Fillmore, ltvbrown@earthlink.net

Patricia Decker, 400 block neighbor,
patriciasquared@gmail.com

April Meeting Plans

The HVNA meeting on April 23rd will focus on two main topics. The MTA will make a presentation on SF Park – parking meters with demand pricing. Hayes Valley will be part of a pilot project. And following the recent hearing about returning Hayes Street to two-way traffic, we have asked them for an update on progress on that issue.

55 Laguna returns to the spotlight that evening as well. We will receive an update on Historic Preservation measures required at the site. Additionally, the proposed developer recently filed for bankruptcy. We have invited them to give us an update on the project.

Please mark your calendars and join us to learn more about these important topics, and more.

To advertise in this newsletter or submit ideas, articles and comments, please email voice@hayesvalleysf.org

The Hayes Valley Voice extends its gratitude to **Print & Ship** 1586 Market Street (at Franklin) for their generous support of our publication.

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Leo Tolstoy



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Voted for Change? Obama Wants to Recruit You!

By Richard Johnson

How many of you went into the voting booth last November and voted for Barak Obama?

Many, if not all, of you were motivated by his call for change and the hope of a new day. The election of the first black President has created a whole new playing field for our country. We are in an historic economic time, not seen since the great depression, and our society has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reshape our future. President Obama has made it clear he is ready to lead and needs a united community to partner with him so we can realize sweeping change. A key part of his strategy is for individuals to step forward and give their time to community building. Our community is fortunate; HVNA has already done the hard part and established the foundation for community building. All you have to do is get involved.

As an association, HVNA consists of a core group of dedicated and tenacious volunteers who have given countless hours to community building. HVNA's dedication to maintain diversity and facilitate discussion for a more equitable and sustainable community is evident by the many positive changes in our community. Prior to the formation of HVNA in 1994, our neighborhood was divided by the Central Freeway, neglected by city officials, and suffering from despair and a lack of hope due to rampant crime and violence. John Muir Elementary School, through busing and location, no longer assumed its role as a key institution in our community. Our neighborhood parks were neglected and havens for crime and violence. Hayes Valley North and South Apts, through neglect, had become fortresses where residents were held captive by fear, crime and violence.

Flash to 2009 and we see what a community inspired by a vision can achieve by coming together as partners to make sure it becomes reality. Thanks to Patricia Walkup and Richard Johnson, we have a safer neighborhood. Thanks to Barbara Wenger, we have parks that have all gone from neglect to praise. Thanks to

Cecelia Shepard, Charles Amerson and Hasinah Rahim, we have a rebuilt and safer Hayes Valley North and South Apts. Thanks to Patricia Walkup, Robin Levitt and Stefan Hastrup we have Octavia Blvd instead of a freeway dividing our community. Thanks to John Muir Principal Wheaton, her teachers and staff, test scores at John Muir are up due to their willingness to partner with community groups "To let the light shine on John Muir". Thanks to Russell Pritchard and Madeline Behrens-Brigham, we have a vibrant Hayes Street business district. Thanks to Jason Henderson, Paul Olsen and all the community members who attended numerous meetings since 2000, we have the Market Octavia Plan to guide future development. The change continues today due to the dedication of countless unnamed individuals, whose top priority is to give back to our community.

Our community is a diverse one. We all need to participate to assure this diversity continues in the future. If you are one of the many who voted for change, now is your chance to get involved. Come partner with HVNA as we continue to advocate for our parks, public safety, John Muir's principal, teachers, staff and students, the fulfillment of the Market and Octavia Plan, social justice, and equal opportunity for all. We can assure all resources needed for a quality education are provided to every student, and all future transportation and planning results in a dense, transit first and sustainable community.

It's easy to get involved! Just read the committee reports and look at the calendar on back of this newsletter for ways to get involved and help make change happen. The next and most important step is to take the time and join the growing movement to put meaning into the phrase "YES WE CAN". The election of Barak Obama as President has shown us what an individual with a vision and tenacity can achieve. He has combined a philosophy of community building and active civic involvement to make positive and equitable change a reality. He has asked that we do no less. Will you help?

Graffiti Watch

A small group of neighbors, led by "Bicycle Bob" Barnwell, initiated a Patricia's Green area Graffiti Watch program. The city's Department of Public Works provided the training and all paints, tools, and supplies to assist in removing graffiti when it is spotted on public property. Right now we've committed to Octavia Blvd between Hayes and Oak and the immediate environs on Fell and Linden Streets. If you are interested in joining us to learn more or to adopt an area around your own home, feel free to contact Bob at 621-1505, or for general information about Graffiti Watch e-mail merle.goldstone@sfdpw.org. If there are other Hayes Valley neighbors already participating in Graffiti Watch, please let Bob know.

Koshland Park to Offer Weekly QiGong class

Koshland Park, located on the corner of Page and Buchanan Streets, will once again offer QiGong classes on Tuesday mornings from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM in the basketball court.

Qigong, widely known for its healing effects and spiritual empowerment, combines movement, meditation, and breathing to regulate and enhance the flow of the body's vital energy or qi, improve blood circulation, and strengthen the immune system. The Qi Dragon Healing Center has started offering a free community Qigong practice class every Tuesday from 8:30 AM-9:30 AM in Koshland Park in Hayes Valley. Please come to experience Qigong that is brought to your doorsteps!

UPCOMING
HVNA MEETINGS

Thursdays, 7pm
March 26 • April 23
May 28



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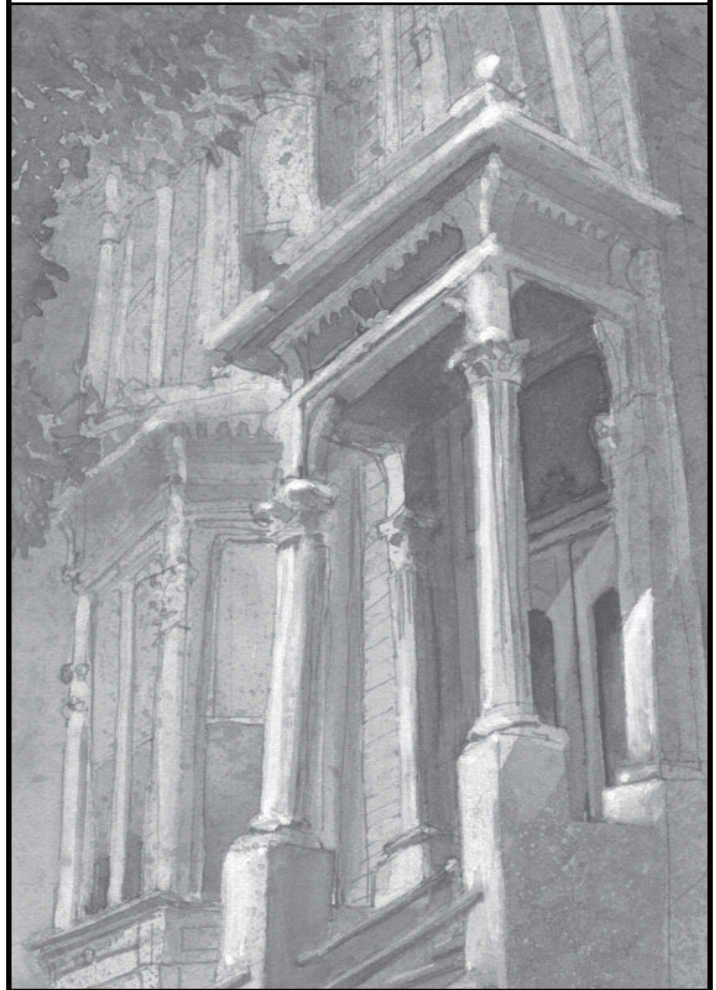


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HVNA Membership Form

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

Your information:

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile/Fax: _____

Email (for HVNA mailing use only): _____

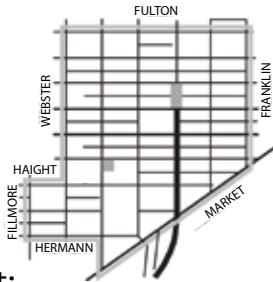
Membership Levels:

Please check the appropriate membership category:

- Voting Member: Must reside within the association's boundaries**, or own property or a business within the association's boundaries (*see map*)
- Associate Member: Members residing outside the association's boundaries**

I am a: Returning Member New Member

- Limited Income \$15
- Individual \$25
- Families/Dual Members \$35
- Sponsor \$100
- Benefactor \$250
- Business \$100



Areas of Interest:

Volunteers are welcome! Please indicate your areas of interest.

- Arts, Culture and Environment (ACE)
- Business Relations
- Communications (Newsletter & Web site)
- Families and Children
- Neighborhood Safety
- Support (flyer distribution, mailings, etc.)
- Transportation and Planning
- Other: _____

Return to:

Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association
1800 Market Street, PMB #104
San Francisco, CA 94102

HVNA Board of Directors

Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association
1800 Market Street, PMB #104
San Francisco, CA 94102

Frances Neagley, *President*
president@hayesvalleysf.org

Karen Mauney-Brodek, *Vice President*
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Jim Warshell, *Treasurer*

Richard Johnson, *Membership Secretary*
membership@hayesvalleysf.org

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

Jamie Lopez, *Recording Secretary*

Bill Bulkley

Nathan Lozier

Henry Osten

Sharon Reaves

Kassim Visram

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Bill Bulkley
art@hayesvalleysf.org

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Families and Children

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Layout: William Ulrich
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Public Safety

Bob Barnwell
safety@hayesvalleysf.org

Transportation and Planning

Jason Henderson
planning@hayesvalleysf.org

Support HVNA Business Members

Please patronize the following business and institutional members of our community, and thank them for their involvement in the neighborhood:

Absinthe

Arlequin Wine Merchant and Food to Go

Gimme Shoes

Gruber and Gruber Properties

LGBT Community Center

Nancy Boy

National Center for International Schools

The Parsonage Bed and Breakfast

Pearl Investment Company

Rossmann and Moore, LLP

Charles W Roth, CPA

Samovar Tea Lounge

San Francisco Community Recyclers

San Francisco Opera

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP

Tax Matters, LLC

Through the Hayes Optometry

West Bay Housing

Western Addition Beacon Center

Zen Hospice Project

The above is a partial listing as we continue to process renewals. Our businesses and institutions are valued members of the community, and we very much appreciate their support. We will update the listing in each issue.

Bold type signifies those businesses supporting HVNA at the Benefactor Level. We thank them for that additional support.

To advertise in this newsletter or submit ideas, articles and comments, please email voice@hayesvalleysf.org

The Hayes Valley Voice extends its gratitude to **Print & Ship** 1586 Market Street (at Franklin) for their generous support of our publication.

Hayes Valley NERT: Back from Limbo!

That's right kids, Hayes Valley NERT is being revived and restored and we need all NERTs (and those of you who NEED to get trained... ahem...) to come to our next meeting on March 26th, 2009, 6pm at the First Baptist Church. Your participation is critical to our revival.

Why participate? An earthquake or other disaster could happen at any time. We all like to believe it won't happen soon, but the truth is it could happen any day, five minutes from now, or five years from now. Will you be ready to take care of yourself and your family?

Government resources can't be there for you. Our Police Officers and Fire Fighters would like to be there for each and every one of us any time we need them; but a major disaster will stretch already strained resources beyond capacity. Do you know how to be of service in your community? NERT is a great way to participate in National Service on a local level. NERT Training empowers us to take responsibility for ourselves and our community!

From medical triage and light search and

rescue to management of resources and supplies, NERT empowers each of us to be a valuable resource instead of a liability. From Block Captains to Incident Command, NERT trains us to organize and respond to the needs of friends and neighbors while training us to stay away from dangerous situations. Meeting and practicing with neighbors increases our ability to respond!

NERT skills and training are useful for organizing responses to a multitude of situations, not just for earthquakes. NERT training and skills assisted during the Cosco Busan oil spill. And NERT volunteers have been there for neighbors and friends during their own 'personal emergencies' such as fires or storms or other emergency situations. Why not get trained NOW instead of after the need arises? Knowing how to help others is knowing how to help yourself.

Questions? Jamie at picogram36@hotmail.com. Save the Date: NERT City Wide Drill April 18th: 8:30am - 1:30pm. See calendar.

"The Easter Basket"

The Dawn of a New Life (Luke 24:5,6), themes the Bethel AME Sunday School's Easter Pageant. This theatrical production will consist of recitation, spoken word and presentations in celebration of resurrection Sunday. Rehearsal dates are March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4 all at 1:00pm and April 10 at 5:00pm. Should you require additional information, please contact Sis. Cynthia Scott.

Also Bethel's Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Carnival will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 11:00am until 3:00pm, at Margaret Haywood Park. Michael Norris, Vida Blue, Jason Hill and the Cowboy Association will make appearances. This year's event is a collaboration with SFPD's Operation Dream, San Francisco Park and Recreation, Bethel Housing, Freedom West Homes, Officers for Justice and San Francisco Unified School District RBI League. Volunteers are needed for two available shifts, which are 8:30am-12:30pm (setup) or 12:30pm-4:30pm (clean-up). Additionally, the congregation is asked to donate Easter Baskets on or before April 10. Donations can be dropped off in the church office.

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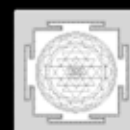
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03.21, Saturday 11-2pm
Koshland Garden Community Workday • At the corner of Page and Buchanan AND Urban Composting Workshop from 2-4pm pre-register with Garden for the Environment at info@gardenfortheenvironment.org, 731-5627 • Koshland workday info contact: Nora at 424-5770 or noraborealis@juno.com.

03.26, Thursday 6-7 pm
Hayes Valley NERT – Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team
 First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller). Emergency/ Disaster Preparedness Meeting. Contact info: mail@hayesvalleynert.org

03.26, Thursday 7-9 pm
H.V.N.A. General Meeting
 First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller) • Greening in HVNA • Contact and topic info: www.hayesvalleysf.org

03.28, Saturday 10am-1 pm
Patricia's Green Gardening Day
 Friends and neighbors meet at Hayes & Octavia for a day of gardening. Tools, gloves and supplies provided. Contact Henry at 626-6906 to confirm date & details



04.02, Thursday 11am-1pm
Mo' Magic Community Meeting
 Mo'Magic is a collaboration of organizations, city agencies and community members working together to make a difference in the lives of children, youth and their families in the Western Addition. Topic & location Contact: Robin Jackson at 563-5207 or momagicadmin@gmail.com

04.06, Monday 7-8:00pm
H.V.N.A. Public Safety Committee
 1st Monday of each Month Hayes Valley Playground Trailer 699 Hayes (at Buchanan). Contact info: safety@hayesvalleysf.org

04.09, Thursday 9am & 6:00 pm
John Muir PTA Meeting.
 John Muir Elementary 380 Webster (at Oak). Join faculty, students, parents and concerned community members as we partner to assure quality education for every student. Contact info: Sandra Estrada at 241-6335 ext 3129 or plsestrada@yahoo.com

04.09, Thursday 6-7 pm
Northern District Police/ Community Relations Forum.
 Work with police, city attorney & district attorney's offices to find permanent solutions to ongoing safety issues. Northern Police station, 1125 Fillmore (at Turk) Parking is available • Contact info: Captain Sgt Griffin 614-3404 or Bill.Griffin@sfgov.org

04.16, Thursday 11am-1pm
Mo' Magic Community Meeting
 (See 04.02 listing)
 For topic & location Contact: Robin Jackson at 563-5207 or momagicadmin@gmail.com

04.18, Saturday 8:30am-1:30pm
NERT Citywide Drill
 Everette Middle School 450 Church (Btwn 16th & 17th Sts) Additional info contact: Lt. Erica Arteseros at 970-2022 or sffdnert@sfgov.org or pigogram36@hotmail.com

04.18, Saturday 11-2 pm
Koshland Garden Community Workday • Corner of Page and Buchanan • Come celebrate Earth Day with us by getting your hands in the dirt and helping out in your community garden! Contact info: Nora at 424-5770 or noraborealis@juno.com

04.23, Thursday 6-7 pm
Hayes Valley NERT – Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team
 First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller). Emergency/ Disaster Preparedness Meeting. Contact info: mail@hayesvalleynert.org

04.23, Thursday 7-8:30pm
H.V.N.A. General Meeting
 First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller). Parking, traffic and historic preservation. Additional info at: www.hayesvalleysf.org

04.25, Saturday 9am-4pm
Annual Lily Street Block Sale
 Lily Street from Franklin to Buchanan Streets and side streets. Yard sales, BBQ and fundraiser for John Muir PTA. Interested in selling contact safety@hayesvalleysf.org or lilystreet@hotmail.com

04.30, Thursday 11am-1pm
Mo' Magic Community Meeting
 (See 04.02 listing)
 For topic & location Contact: Robin Jackson at 563-5207 or momagicadmin@gmail.com



05.04, Monday 7-8:00pm
H.V.N.A. Public Safety Committee
 Hayes Valley Playground Trailer 699 Hayes (at Buchanan). 1st Monday of each month. Contact info: safety@hayesvalleysf.org

05.14, Thursday 9am & 6:00 pm
John Muir PTA Meeting.
 John Muir Elementary 380 Webster (at Oak). Join faculty, students, parents and concerned community members as we partner to assure quality education for every student. Contact info: Sandra Estrada at 241-6335 ext 3129 or plsestrada@yahoo.com

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 Work with police, city attorney & district attorney's offices to find permanent solutions to ongoing safety issues. Northern Police station, 1125 Fillmore (at Turk) Parking is available Contact info: Sgt Griffin at 614-3404 or Bill.Griffin@sfgov.org

05.16, Saturday 11-3 pm
Koshland Park Annual Spring Festival • Koshland Park @ Buchanan & Page • Come out and give TLC to the garden/park from 11-1 pm. Community celebration with food, music, arts & crafts from 1-3 pm. Contact info: Nora at noraborealis@juno.com or 424-5770.

05.23, Saturday 10am-1 pm
Patricia's Green Gardening Day
 Friends and neighbors meet at Hayes & Octavia for a day of gardening. Tools, gloves and supplies provided. Contact Henry at 626-6906 to confirm date & details.

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 First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller). Topic and additional info at: www.hayesvalleysf.org

05.30, Thursday 11am-1pm
Mo' Magic Community Meeting
 (See 04.02 listing)
 For topic & location Contact: Robin Jackson at 563-5207 or momagicadmin@gmail.com

What's Missing?

This issue of the Voice is chock full of information, but is there more going on in the neighborhood? The simple answer is yes! Please go to our website, www.hayesvalleysf.org for further information on:

Transportation and Planning issues, including re-installation of the crosswalk at Hayes and Gough, the 76 gas station at Buchanan and Market, the proposed Whole Foods store, 55 Laguna, returning Hayes St to 2-way traffic and more.

Big changes are afoot at Hayes Valley Neighborhood Parks Group. The name is changing, as is the focus of this neighborhood stalwart. You can weigh in on next steps.

Reverend Arnold Townsend and friends celebrated the opening of the One-Stop center in the Western Addition. Learn more.

John Muir Elementary School and its PTA have been hard at work. They've been working on literacy, greening the schoolyard, recycling and other projects. Check on-line to see what's up.

**UPCOMING
 HVNA MEETINGS**

Thursdays, 7pm
 March 26 • April 23
 May 28

NEIGHBORHOOD NUMBERS

Emergency: 911
 Police: Anonymous Tip Line . . . 614 3451
 Police: Emergency (anon.) . . . 553 8090
 Police: Northern Station 614 3400
 All City Departments: 311