next meeting

General membership meetings are usually held the fourth Monday of every other month.

MONDAY, NOV 28, 2011

What: ASNA general meeting

Where: Chateau Tivoli
1057 Steiner St.
Enterance between McAllister and Golden Gate

When: Doors open 7 p.m.
Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

save the date

Saturday, October 22
Alamo Square Soiree
7 p.m. - midnight (and beyond!)
DJs, dancing, and divine 80’s inspiration

upcoming events

Every Saturday
Fillmore Farmers Market
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fillmore & O’Farrell

Every Sunday
Divisadero Farmers Market
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Divisadero & Grove

Saturday, November 12
Park Greening
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Meet near the tennis court; coffee provided

Totally 80's Soiree on Saturday Oct 22

ALAMO SQUARE SOIREE -- BE HERE NOW! A friend- & fundraiser for our park!
When: Saturday, October 22, 2011
Time: 7 pm - midnight (and beyond!)
Where: 940 Grove Street at Steiner
Cost: $15, 21 and over, cash bar
- DJ B. Smiley (SupperclubSF) will be spinning a "special" 80's set!
- DJ/Artists Rene Garcia & Robbie Socks

- Live acoustic music by the Divisadero Lounge Lizards
- A John Hughes Movie Room
  Breakfast Club - Ferris Bueller's Day Off - Pretty in Pink & more
- 80's video game room with all your classic 80's arcade games!
- Molly Ringwald Look-A-Like contest
Buy tickets: alamosquare.eventbrite.com

by gus hernandez, alamo square newsletter

Who will be the next mayor of San Francisco? Last month, we put that question to the test. 12 out of the 16 candidates were invited to the District 5 Mayor Candidates Forum on Thursday, September 22. Only Ed Lee and Michela Alioto-Pier were no-shows; both also did not respond to the pre-forum questionnaire. Many thanks to Azalia Merrell, ASNA board member, for representing ASNA in helping to organize this event.

Voters are allowed three choices under Ranked Choice Voting. Make your votes count this election season.

Election day is November 8

Candidates Adachi, Ting, Rees, Chiu, Hall, Herrera, Baum, Avalos, Yee, and Dufty at the District 5 Mayor Candidates Forum on Thursday, September 22 at UCSF Cole Hall

see Events >
Congratulations to this year's winners of the Alamo Square Flea Market Raffle, and thank you to our generous donors:

- **CHATEAU TIVOLI B & B**
  - David Ackers

- **MADRONE ART BAR**
  - Joe Pecora

- **TSUNAMI SUSHI**
  - Tiffanie Turner

- **LITTLE STAR PIZZA**
  - Joe Pecora

- **TOUCHLESS CARWASH**
  - 1) Rob Zides
  - 2) Paul
  - 3) Jen Black
  - 4) Kat & Wilusz
  - 5) Lisa Zahner
  - 6) Gus Hernandez

- **DOORMAN, THE RESIDENTIAL CONCIERGE**
  - Amabile Dyer

- **FALLETTI FOODS**
  - Adriene

- **GREEN EARTH**
  - Kate Wilusz

- **BLUE JAY CAFE**
  - Meredith Buil

- **THE PAGE**
  - Joe Pecora

- **ALAMO SEAFOOD GRILL**
  - Michele Glicken

- **LITTLE CHIHUAHUA**
  - Derek R.

- **THE MINI BAR**
  - Kate Wilusz

- **THE INDEPENDENT**
  - Jennifer

- **NOPA**
  - Katie Corner

- **NOPALITO**
  - Erinne Morse

- **BI-RITE MARKET**
  - John

- **PLANT IT EARTH**
  - Lisa Zahner

- **BLACK NOSE**
  - Theresa
Dear neighbors,

Fall is here, and with it lots of good activity and fun in our neighborhood.

Alamo Square Soiree

Mark your calendar for the First Annual Alamo Square Soiree! Saturday, October 22nd, 7pm – midnight! This is a great night for friends and neighbors to meet, mingle and dance! We’ll have three DJs, munchies and drinks! Come on out and party with the folks you usually see at the dog park, playground, flea market, or Park Days! 940 Grove Street at Steiner. Special thanks to Ted Bartlett for making his property available for the party.

Watch for tour buses

Tour bus season is in full swing, and the ASNA Board has been in regular contact with the SFMTA to push for a comprehensive Tour Bus, Pedestrian and Cyclist safety and traffic plan. (As I write this, two tour buses are lined up in front of my house, waiting at the light at Scott and Oak Streets, one with a very loud speaker.) Many neighbors along Alamo Square, and some in Hayes Valley want a full ban on tour buses. Others want reduced hours, limits on bus sizes, parking restrictions, and loudspeaker prohibitions.

As a board, we have discussed the challenges of the increas-

Letter from the president

Halloween around Alamo Square

WESTERN ADDITION HAUNTED HOUSE EXTRAVAGANZA
The African American Art and Culture Complex, Mo’ Magic, SF Juneteenth and Up from Darkness are partnering to present their Annual Haunted House.
When: Monday, October 31, 2011
Time: 5-8 pm
Where: AAACC, 762 Fulton Street
Information: www.aaacc.org

NOPNA HALLOWEEN BLOCK PARTY
Join your neighbors for fun and frivolity on Halloween for a block party sponsored by the North of Panhandle Neighborhood Association.
When: Monday, October 31, 2011
Time: 5-10 pm
Where: Grove Street, Baker to Central and Lyon Street, Fulton to Hayes.
ing number of tour buses in our neighborhood, especially blocked streets and bus stops, noise and idling. We have brought this to Supervisor Mirkarimi’s office, as well as to the MTA, SFPD and Mayor’s Office. Tourism is San Francisco’s number one industry, and with America’s Cup coming in 2013, we need a comprehensive traffic and safety plan for our much-visited park. The challenge: How do we welcome visitors and tourists to San Francisco, and especially our neighborhood, without causing undue burden on the residents? One Steiner Street resident described ten tour buses an hour (or more!) going past her house, and very much degrading the quality of life on the park.

In September, prior to the MTA’s Oak/Fell Bike Lane meeting, the Board sent a letter to the MTA, SFPD, Mayor’s Office, and the CHP. We stated that as a board, we could not support changes to the bike lane unless the traffic issues around our neighborhood were concurrently addressed. We raised concerns about excessive cut-through traffic on Steiner and Scott Streets, cyclists ignoring the left-turn light at Scott and Fell, oversized tour buses and frequent employee shuttle buses on our streets. We are especially concerned that changes to Oak and Fell may cause over-flow traffic on smaller streets such as Page and Hayes.

The MTA has been receptive to our request for a comprehensive traffic calming plan for Alamo Square that would incorporate better safety for residents, pedestrians and cyclists, and which would deter cut-through commuters and better manage the tour buses.

The MTA will start an official tour bus study and count, which is the first step to any regulations or restrictions on the buses. During the week of October 19, the MTA will be at Alamo Square several different days and times to observe the buses, and see how they obstruct traffic, turn dangerously, use loudspeakers, etc. as well as track which streets they use most frequently.

We have emphasized that there are significantly more buses on weekends and summer months.

After we have the data from the MTA, the next step would be a public hearing for any proposed changes for tour buses and other large vehicles on the streets around the Square. Stay tuned! We will keep you updated as things progress. Additionally, Hayes Street resident Sue Valentine and McAllister Street resident Gillian Etherington are organizing a group to advocate for a tour bus ban. Contact Sue at valentine.js@gmail.com or 552-0673.

**ThinkBike**

Did you know that San Francisco’s population is estimated to grow by 150,000 people by 2030? Given our current traffic and parking gridlock and MUNI “crunch,” how is everybody going to get around? The MTA has the goal that by 2020, 20% of all trips within the City will be by bike.

Enter ThinkBike. A few weeks ago I was invited as a community participant in ThinkBike, a 2-day workshop jointly sponsored by the Dutch Consulate General, the SF MTA, and the SF Bicycle Coalition.

It was exciting to work alongside Dutch bikeway design experts, traffic engineers and urban planners from the MTA, and CalTrans engineers to make specific recommendations as to how San Francisco could improve the safety and comfort of our bike route network.

Most exciting for me was the opportunity, while re-thinking the Wiggle on Scott Street, to emphasize to the MTA traffic engineers (and MTA chief Ed Reskein) that we have a serious problem with tour buses, employee shuttles, and cut-through traffic around our neighborhood, which needs to be managed in coordination with proposed bike route changes. You can learn more about ThinkBike and see the presentations at sfbike.org/?thinkbike2011.

See you at the Soiree!

Lisa Zahner, ASNA President
Weigh in on Fell and Oak Street separated bikeways

BY NEAL PATEL, SF BICYCLE COALITION

On September 13, over 100 people came out to help shape the SFMTA’s plans for a separated bikeway on Fell and Oak Streets between Scott and Baker Streets. These three blocks represent a crucial link for safe and comfortable biking across town on the popular Bay to Beach route, and neighbors have been working for decades for calmer streets.

Members from the North of Panhandle, Alamo Square, and Lower Haight Neighborhood Associations, the Wigg Party, local business representatives, and many neighbors and SF Bicycle Coalition members came out and the discussion was lively. After a break-out session, those in attendance stressed that the main goal of this project should be to prioritize safety of all road users. You can read our live-tweet account of the evening on our website.

The SFMTA presented 5 options for a separated bikeway on these three Fell and Oak Streets. The three options here were most supported by community members, with options D and E involving a two-way separated bikeway on one street.

The SF Bicycle Coalition wants to hear from you – do you have a preference on a design option? Contact neal@sfbike.org (or 415.431.2453 x312) and let us know if you have any preference or questions about this project.

You can also direct questions or support to the SFMTA project Manager Luis Montoya – Luis.Montoya@sfmta.com, 415.701.4376.

Alamo Square Seafood Grill
Stimulus Package

We are now offering 1/2 off wine on Monday night in addition to our Wednesday no corkage fee!
Thank you for a successful 28th Annual Flea Market!

ASNA Flea Market Committee
Erinne Morse, Chair, Production
Lisa Zahner, Food Vendors
Carolyn Hanrahan, Flea Market Vendors
LaVonne Hickerson, Volunteer Staffing
Margot Frey, Marketing
Joseph Pecora, Donations Booth
Christian Nguyen, Raffle
Gus Hernandez, Art, Technology, Newsletter
Ben Allison

And much appreciation to our neighbors who donated fantastic items for the ASNA Donations Booth: Kathy Furniss, Ted Bartlett, Ginette Geer, Terri Olle, James Heigh, Ben Allison, Joe Pecora, Anita Denz, Vince Schmidt, Craig Jackson, Rich Schaffer, Bob Spjut & Sue Valentine, Linda of Scott Street, and Paul Vestal.

Thank you to all of our ASNA Volunteers for their hard work on the day:

Azalia Merrell  Lisa Zahner
Ben Allison  Margot Frey
Bob Lipscomb  Mary Bosworth
Carol Polk  Michael Smithwick
Carolyn Hanrahan  Mike Hammond
Christian Nguyen  Paul Vestal
Eric Thomas  Peggy Nelson
Erinne Morse  Pete Calaway
Freddie Mitchell  Pete Wilson
Gus Hernandez  Richard Zillman
Joe Pecora  Rob Vrabel
John Morse  Susan Van Kuiken
LaVonne Hickerson  Winston Montgomery

A Special Thank You to Kelly Malone of Indie Mart and Workshop for hand-picking some awesome vendors, for fantastic publicity & for helping to secure artwork compliments of Amos Goldbaum.

Thank you volunteers working in Donations Booth or helping to transport: Paul Vestal, Mike Hammond, Winston Montgomery, Ben Allison, George Ciobanu, Angelo Pagano, Hollis Hardin, Joe Pecora, Susan Van Kuiken, Peggy Nelson.

Many thanks to
Danielle Satinover and the parents from the Creative Arts Charter School who hosted our Kids Craft tables and Tommy Gallegos who managed our Bike Parking.

Ted Bartlett for the generous donation of storage space for our Donations Booth.

Betty Granoff and Sarosh Kumana for the generous donation of storage space for our Flea Market supplies.

The Ruiz Family for the generous donation of storage of donated items.

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Kid’s Meals (Each Item 4.50)
Fried Chicken, a leg & Mac ‘n Cheese
Hangar Steak, Just Plain Rice & Mixed Veggies & Smokey BBQ & French Fries
Kids eat free from 5:30pm-7:30pm every night. Limited to 1 kid’s meal per entree purchased.

Thank you for a successful 28th Annual Flea Market!

- Mondays: 1/2 off beer, wine and cocktails
- Tuesdays: $1 Pabst Blue Ribbon
- Saturday brunches: 2 mimosas for the price of one
- Saturday nights: shrimp broil and Red Stripe for $14.95
- Daily 5:30pm to 7pm: 1/2 off beer, wine and cocktails

The GROVE INN
A bed & breakfast place 890 Grove Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
415 929-0780 / 800 829-0780
Perish Trust is an Art & Antiques Shoppe at 728 Divisadero. Their dark yet fun style makes them one of the more interesting and unexpected places in our neighborhood.

The Alamo Square Newsletter’s man on the street Nico Lizarraga stood with proprietress Kelly Ishikawa and artist Mariele Ivy for an Alamo Square-centric question and answer session.

N: So what is the question you get asked the most here?
Kelly: What is this place?
N: What is the most sought after item at Perish Trust?
K: Definitely typewriters.
N: Do you ever get any celebrity shoppers?
K: Alice Waters!
N: Nice. Ever see any bands from the Independent stroll in here?
K: Yes, a band named Duke Spirit came in and invited us to their show. They were really good.
N: Of our area’s many wonderful corner stores, which would you say is your favorite?
K: The one right here on the corner of Fulton and Divis (Food 24 Convenience Market).
Mariele: Green Earth! I think I spend $100 in that store every week!
N: What’s your guilty pleasure from there?
K: Ben & Jerry’s Heath Bar Crunch.
M: Jameson!
N: What is the best show you’ve seen here at the Independent?
K: I saw Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros there! It was epic, religious.
M: I saw Thee Oh Sees from the balcony.
N: What’s your favorite local spot for dinner?
K & M: It’s a toss-up between Little Star and Nopa.
N: Do you have a favorite local cocktail?
M: The Manzanita at Nopa.
N: What type of business would you like to see open on Divis?
M: A Bakery!
N: What’s your favorite lunch joint?
K: King Foot Subs over by the Page.
M: The peanut milk (at KK Café) is a good hangover cure.
N: You are both locals. How long have you lived in the ‘hood?
K: Seven years. I remember when this was not an area you would want to live in.
M: I’ve been in the area for over three years.
N: What’s the most awesome item for sale in Perish Trust?
K: The Fort Worthy bags.
M: The arrowhead rings.
N: What’s the second best store in Alamo Square, after Perish Trust of course?
K: I’m a fan of Prairie Collective (at 262 Divisadero).

Go to: www.theperishtrust.com
See Mariele’s work at: www.mariele-ivy.com
Community Groups File Lawsuit over AT&T Utility Box Installation

BY JONATHAN GOLDBERG, SF BEAUTIFUL

On August 24, our coalition of community groups filed a lawsuit to stop AT&T’s installation of 726 U-Verse utility boxes on San Francisco’s sidewalks. The lawsuit for an adequate environmental review of AT&T’s project was filed by San Francisco Beautiful and co-litigants: San Francisco Tomorrow, Dogpatch Neighborhood Association, Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association, and Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association.

The coalition filed a petition for writ of mandamus to require the City to conduct environmental review for the AT&T project as required by California State Law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The suit also asks for preliminary injunctive relief to prevent the installation of any utility boxes while the case is pending in court.

“We really don’t want to sue, but we are left no choice when the City refuses to uphold its own environmental codes and is about to give away our sidewalks for the benefit of a private company without any objective review. We are confident that an Environmental Impact Report will advance commonsense mitigation methods, such as placing the equipment on private property,” said Milo Hanke, past President of San Francisco Beautiful.

In July, the Board of Supervisors narrowly voted to grant AT&T a categorical exemption to install 726 boxes without an EIR. AT&T aggressively lobbied members of the Board to bypass the requirement to conduct an EIR. Despite several attempts to reach out to AT&T, the coalition of community groups was shut out of the process.
U-Verse and Your Rights

What is it?
U-Verse is a television, internet, entertainment and phone service, housed in a private utility box. AT&T plans to install 726, 5’ wide, 4’ tall, and 2’ deep boxes in neighborhoods all over the city.

What are my options?
* Protest the box on public sidewalks
* Permit AT&T to use your property
* Accept the box as a permanent part of our public realm.

How you can protest:
Contact the City using the sample protest letter below at smf@sfdpw.org and CC: jonathan@sfbbeautiful.org, by mail at the Bureau of Street-Use and Mapping, Room 460, SF, CA 94102, OR fax to 415.554.6161.

Permit AT&T to use your property:
AT&T is required to attempt to contact 3 property owners before placing their cabinets in the public right of way. If you are interested in housing a cabinet, contact Tedi Vriheas at 415.778.1221 or tedi@att.com

Sample Protest Letter

(Date)

I/we oppose the installation of an AT&T cabinet in at (PROPOSED ADDRESS). This cabinet should be located on private property or underground, according to Department of Public Works Order 175,566.

Please do not issue a permit to install this AT&T cabinet. Please hold a hearing to review alternative solutions for my neighborhood.

Thank you,
(YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS)

Send your protest before the last date to file an objection. Include your contact information.

About San Francisco Beautiful

San Francisco Beautiful is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization that creates, enhances, and protects the unique beauty and livability of San Francisco.

For more information, contact us at jonathan@sfbbeautiful.org or 415.421.2608

Get Involved

- Join SF Beautiful and our coalition
- Contact your Supervisor
- Host a block party
- Notify your neighbors
“As Bonnie walked through my home for the very first time, I was completely blown away by her seemingly limitless knowledge of the property’s renovation history. I know they call her the “Victorian Specialist” — I had no idea she would turn out to be my very own ‘House Whisperer’ too!”

— Kristin Slye, San Francisco Home Buyer

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properties@bonniespindler.com
www.bonniespindler.com
Events, cont’d

Saturday, October 22
Creative Arts Fall Fair
12-3:30 p.m.
Win a sweet prize at the cake walk, listen to music by the talented students, let the 7th and 8th graders scare you in the haunted house, and enjoy the Scarecrow contest. There will be games, prizes, food and drinks. For more information email catcacs@yahoo.com

Monday, November 28
ASNA General Meeting
Chateau Tivoli
1057 Steiner Street, entrance between Golden Gate and McAllister

ParkScan: Report park issues at ParkScan.org or call 311

Important Contacts
Tom O’Connor, Manager
Rec and Parks Department
tom.o’connor@sfgov.org
(415) 218-0259

Denis O’Leary, Police Captain
SFPD Park Station
(415) 242-3000
SFPDParkStation@sfgov.org

Ann Mannix, Police Captain
SFPD Northern Station
(415) 614-3400
SFPDNorthernStation@sfgov.org

Privacy policy
Alamo Square Neighborhood Association (ASNA) will not share your information with anyone, nor will your information be given out for political purposes.

2011 ASNA Membership Form

Personal Contact Information  (2 contacts per membership, will only be used for ASNA purposes)

Primary Contact - Please print legibly
First Name __________________________ Last Name __________________________
Email __________________________ Phone __________________________

Secondary Contact
First Name __________________________ Last Name __________________________
Email __________________________ Phone __________________________

Address Information
Street __________________________
City __________________________ State __________________________ Zip __________________________

Membership Rates
☐ $15 - Low Income / Senior / Student Membership
☐ $30 - Basic / Family Membership
☐ $50 - Contributing Membership
☐ $100 - Supporting Membership
☐ Other contribution __________________________
☐ Check this box if you are renewing your membership
☐ I would like to receive the Alamo Square Newsletter (bi-monthly)

Indicate areas of interest:
☐ Park Greening, Volunteer Days
☐ Alamo Square Flea Market Volunteer
☐ Transportation & Pedestrian Safety
☐ Neighborhood Socials and Events
☐ Other __________________________

Make checks payable to: ASNA, Box 15372, San Francisco, CA 94115
Alamo Square Newsletter
October – November 2011

In this Issue
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Weigh in on Fell and Oak Street separated bikeways
Q&A with The Perish Trust

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ASNA Board Meeting Monday, October 24

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Entrance between McAllister and Golden Gate
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Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Alamo Square Online: www.alamosq.org