



April 2022 Newsletter

CAYUGA NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY MEETING Agenda

Saturday, April 16 11am – 1:00pm

ZOOM - Members will receive their ZOOM link by email. *Please feel free to invite your neighbors! Send us their e-address and we will send them the link.*

Exciting changes for our community!

We have an array of speakers & topics scheduled for our April meeting:

Meet Captain Derrick Lew, SFPD

Ingliside Police Precinct's new captain

CalTrans: An upcoming major project

Presenter: David Hafner: Public Information Officer, Caltrans District 4-Bay Area

The rather grim and intimidating 280 pedestrian overpass adjacent to Cayuga Park is to be replaced!

The CNIA board has previewed the evolving CalTans presentation of potential options. These options will be presented at our general meeting and CalTrans will be seeking to learn from your insights, ideas, concerns.

The CNIA learned how important community engagement is when collaborating with SF Park and Recreation and DPW on the Cayuga Park refurb. CNIA team members were respectfully included in all aspects of that remarkable process

& our magical park/community sanctuary is the result. Recently RPD reached out to us again regarding our park...respectful collaboration is an ongoing commitment.

Now, CalTrans is inviting us to participate in their project. Already, their team has done strong preliminary work, including a proposal that Demi's art work in our park be echoed in their designs for the overpass!!! They will also be inquiring as to possible titles for the new structure. Board member **Barbara Fugate** suggested that it be christened the "Demetrios Braceros bridge"! **You don't want to miss this presentation!!!**

Clinic by the Bay (postponed til July mtg.)

Presenter: Sarah Gordon; Executive Director,

Clinic By the Bay Mission: To understand and serve, with dignity and respect, the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved in the San Francisco Bay Area

Sarah will provide an overview of the services offered to our community by this amazing clinic.

Thanks to the visionary and energetic community members and New Mission Terrace Improvement Association, Clinic by the Bay will soon be moving to the historic & beautiful old Alemany Emergency Hospital site, corner of Alemany and Onondaga, which is currently being refurbished. (This is an example of someone doing something right, etc.!) Sarah will provide an update on this exciting move, including an expansion of services.

Supervisor Safai's office

A member of Supervisor Safai's team will present legislative updates and community programs in process. There will be an open Q & A after the presentation. This is an opportunity to interact with your elected representative's team.

Your CNIA Board hopes to see all of you at our next community meeting!!!

From President Chris' Desk:

'Find someone doing something right, recognize, and reward it'

In past columns, I've stressed the pivotal value of recognizing each person's contribution to our community. Living this value is a 'simple pleasure'. Our tendency as a society to negatively critique everyone's actions mires us in a bleak paralysis of discontent. Finding 'someone doing something right' is the perfect antidote! Recognizing 'someone doing something right' injects the sparkling energy of hope and gratitude into our lives and our community.

I challenge each of you to find one person contributing to a better future for all. Thank that person! The act may be a simple act of kindness affecting a community member's quality of life. The act might be the embracing of a significant project which will improve the quality of life for our entire community. Simply say 'THANK YOU'!! I encourage you to share your observations with the CNIA. Send a brief description, perhaps with a photo, of who you thanked and why to cayugaimprovement@gmail.com

I would like to do two things:

1. *Start a newsletter column focused on "finding someone doing something right, recognizing, and rewarding it"!*
2. *Send out news blasts focused on the same premise.*

We are blessed to live in a very good community!!! Let's celebrate our strong community by sharing our joyful stories of 'finding someone doing something right'!!!

Anne LaMott captures the spirit best in her wise pondering:

'If we believe in chaos theory, and the butterfly effect, that the flapping of a Monarch's wings near my home can lead to a weather change in Tokyo, then maybe noticing beauty—flapping our wings with amazement—changes things in ways we cannot begin to imagine. It means goodness is quantum. Even to help the small world helps ... Everything is connected.'

CNIA member Steve Indig was concerned about trash marring our community. He contacted Refuse Refuse & created the monthly 'Cayuga Clean' program. He also 'adopted a block' and keeps it clean! ***Thank you, Steve!***



CNIA member **Carmelita** celebrated her **97th b-day** during omicron. CNIA joined the Cayuga Community Connectors in celebration!

The O'Brien family caring for one of the Cayuga Park statues which they have adopted!



From President Chris' Desk:

“ Remember that good communication is essential between all stakeholders in order to achieve success.”

My winter column explored the challenges of homelessness in our community through the empathetic lens of the “5 Simple Pleasures” exercise.

Our January quarterly community meeting was dedicated to gaining a deeper understanding of the root causes contributing to our housing crisis and the evolving ‘best practices’ related to addressing it. We learned about the challenges of, and potential interventions for, homelessness from the leadership of Homelessness and Supportive Housing & TogetherSF

It is a fact that our community includes homeless residents. We must not forget that they are valid District 11 stakeholders, with rights and responsibilities. In February, **CNIA members Barbara Fugate, Jane Merschen, Bruce Neuberger, & Mary Gayle Thomas** helped distribute flyers announcing Supervisor Safai’s community meeting. This meeting was called to explain our community’s next pro-active housing program, the conversion of the Mission Inn to permanent supportive housing managed under the umbrella of SF HSH.

In my professional life, our employee owned company honored and ‘lived’ a company value: ‘good communication is essential between all stakeholders in order to achieve success’.. Our company earned many prestigious awards in our field. As CNIA members distributed the meeting flyers, community members asked us questions about the Mission Inn process. Several expressed significant concerns. Listening respectfully, we learned that there was widespread misunderstanding about the

program. Good communication allowed these concerns to be explored and addressed. This can only happen when everyone realizes that ‘silence is consent’ and that you cannot attain success without respectful communication!. We learned a great deal during that action! Concerns which we could not address were forwarded to Supervisor Safai’s team for inclusion in future community meetings. Our experience validates the vital importance of respectful communication!!! **When you have a concern or observation, please do not remain silent!** Speaking out is the first step in proactive, collaborative problem solving focused on achieving success..

The Mission Inn meeting has been postponed, of necessity, but we have been assured that it will occur. CNIA leadership will keep our community informed of upcoming informational meetings. We will engage in alerting all stakeholders through direct e-mail, snail mail, social media, and house to house notice delivery. When we are notified of the next meeting date, the CNIA board will be asking members to help publicize it by distributing flyers on their block. **Consider delivering flyers an opportunity to encourage ‘good communication between all community stakeholders’ while ‘doing something right’ for our community!**



CNIA members Barbara Fugate & MaryGayle Thomas delivered flyers announcing Sup. Safai’s Mission Inn conversion community meeting. This

is another example of “doing something right”!



Find someone doing something right



If you were to think of a stubbornly persistent daily gripe, I suspect it might be dangerously distracted drivers. One symptom of the ‘distracted driver’ malaise is a car blasting along our residential streets completely unaware of the rights, or even the existence, of others. Whether a pedestrian or a driver, all of us are impacted daily by this alarming phenomena. I had to pull over on Ottawa at Delano recently when someone veered around that corner so fast that they were driving down the middle of the street. I was thankful there were no pedestrians crossing, as they would not have survived intact.

Lisa Lee lives adjacent to that intersection. She was very aware that it was becoming extremely dangerous. Lisa didn’t gripe and grumble. She committed to ‘doing something right’. Lisa entered the daunting SFMTA labyrinth in search of a solution. Engaging with SFMTA requires fortitude, focus, and a substantial time commitment. Lisa persevered!

10 days ago, Lisa left her house for a walk & discovered a miracle: Wayne of MTA was installing a stop sign at Ottawa and Delano!!! Lisa had learned to work effectively within the bureaucracy to find a solution to the problem she had identified.

The CNIA board would like to thank Lisa for ‘doing something right’! Lisa is a life safety hero, a role model, and a valued community member!!!!

A Tiny Treasure: Lirios de los Balles



When I was very small, my grandmother taught me that ‘good things come in small packages’. Great thanks to **Glenda Hope** for introducing the CNIA to her favorite florist, which is very small!

‘**Lirios de los Balles**’, which translates as ‘Lillies of the Valley’, is a treasure! **Ericelda Hernandez**, the proprietor, is originally from Guatemala and is bilingual. Brilliant colors, like splashes of sunlight throughout the shop, expand her space & hint at her artistic heritage! ‘Lirios de los Balles’ is tucked into a small space just east of the Mission/Geneva intersection. Walking into this florist shop feels like a trip into a warmer climate. The flower arrangements are a delight, whimsical and artistic. Ericelda stocks a fine array of orchids, which make great hostess gifts! Amazingly, tucked among the flowers and dangling high above the visitor, are brilliant woven purses, jewel tone shirts, home decor items, & small gifts. Ericelda’s daughter serves as her on site fashion buyer in Guatemala and she has impeccable taste.



Small independent businesses are simply the best! Please take a moment to explore ‘Lirios de los Balles’! Adopt an orchid or choose a beautiful flower

arrangement while there. You might find the perfect shirt or purse to lift your spirits! You will be thankful that you lingered there!



CNIA member Glenda Hope stopped into Ericelda’s florist and went home with flowers!

CNIA Board Meeting - Summary

Feb 16th 2022

Secretary M. G. Thomas

Board meeting minutes were approved for Feb 8th
January General Meeting minutes were approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance is \$3,587.76. There were no new or renewal membership dues received. Zoom offered significant savings for paying a year at a time and the CNIA took advantage of the deal.

Pit Stop toilets – Renee reported nothing new from the Supervisor's office. Resilience: Chris reported funding may be available for cooling stations in our district. We have part of a grant available.

Redistricting: Barbara reported redistricting meetings continue. What had originally looked like an easy solution for DII to add approx. 4,000 residents, now many more groups and individuals are unhappy with the maps drawn. Updates to follow.

Cayuga Park community celebration – Erica will work with the board to schedule a date.

Friends of Cayuga Park – Chris will start organizing park paintings including an "adopt a statue project. She met the new park supervisor a few weeks prior and he is encouraging the return of park volunteers.

Newsletter: Articles due by April 4th. It was discussed and decided that local and new businesses will be featured in the upcoming newsletters.

The Cayuga Neighborhood Improvement Board

President: Chris Dillon

415-722-4887cayugaimprovement@gmail.com

Vice President –position open

Secretary: MG Thomas - sanfransec@gmail.com

Treasurer: R.Anderson reneesf2020@gmail.com

Technology Chair: Renee Anderson

Pit Stop Project: Glenda Hope / R. Anderson

Sunshine Committee: open

Member at Large: Barbara Fugate

Cayuga Clean Steve Indig

415-577-3656steveindig1@gmail.com

Redistricting – Barbara Fugate 415-585-7021

Resilient Cayuga – open position

NERT Liaison- J. Merschen,

nanieadult@comcast.net

Cayuga Park Volunteers – Chris Dillon

415-722-4887

Community Outreach/Membership: Jane

Merschen 415-794-5426

nanieadult@comcast.net.

Editor: Barbara Fugate –

mousecollector@msn.com.415-585-7021

Useful Phone Numbers

911 – All Emergencies – police/fire/medical

415-553-0123 – All non-emergency police calls

415-554-1200 – Parking complaints, blocked sidewalks, blocked driveways, illegal parking, etc.

311 – (phone app SF311) use to report graffiti, trash, dumping furniture or large items, abandoned vehicles etc. 311 is a good place to start, they can take a report or refer you to the correct City department for just about any problem.

Supervisor Safai's Office – 415-554-6975

Recology – garbage problems, free pickups415-875-1300

Animal Care and Control – injured animalsemergency situation for animals 415 554-6364

BART 510-464-6000

PGE – 1-800-743-5000

And last but not least:

It is the policy of this neighborhood association that your silence on an issue will be considered consent.

Join us;

The Cayuga Neighborhood Improvement Association is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all who live in our community.

Your contribution today helps us make a difference. Your household can become a member for \$10/year.

Learn more about the CNIA by visiting our website:

<https://cayugaimprovementassociation.org/>

You can pay dues through the PayPal link on our website or mail/drop off a check (made out to Cayuga Neighborhood Improvement Association) to our Treasurer:

Renee Anderson
322 Rome Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

Please complete this form, or provide the following information, if you are mailing or delivering a check to our treasurer:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

PHONE:

Your information will not be shared beyond the CNIA. It is used only to keep members informed of association activities.

