



# *San Francisco Tomorrow*

*Working to Protect the Urban Environment*

*Issue 340*

*Will you want to live in San Francisco – Tomorrow?*

*December 2010*

*SFT rekindles civic cheer every year*

*at our splendiferous, sumptuous*

## *HOLIDAY PARTY*

*Wednesday, December 8, 2010*

*At the Forest Hill Clubhouse  
381 Magellan Avenue*

*5:30 to 8:30 p.m.*

From Laguna Honda / 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
or Forest Hill Muni Station:  
Go west two blocks on Dewey; then  
Northwest one block NW to Montalvo; then  
turn right to 381 Magellan

*RSVP: Jane 415-564-1482*



### **OUR INVITED GUESTS (and you)**

State Senators Mark Leno and Leland Yee

Assembly members Fiona Ma and Tom Ammiano . Supervisors Eric Mar, Michela Alioto-Pier, David Chiu, Carmen Chu, Ross Mirkarimi, Chris Daly, Sean Elsbernd, Bevan Dufty, David Campos, Sophie Maxwell, John Avalos. Supervisors-Elect Mark Farrell, Jane Kim, Scott Wiener, Malia Cohen. City Attorney Dennis Herrera.

BART: James Fang, Tom Radulovich SF Muni: Nathaniel Ford . PUC: Ed Harrington  
Port: Monique Moyer. SF Environment: Melanie Nutter Recreation and Park: Phil Ginsburg

Sierra Club: John Holtzclaw, Becky Evans . Bicycle Coalition: Leah Shahum .  
League of Conservation Voters: Amandeep Jawa . Clean Water Action: Miriam Gordon .  
Presidio Sustainability Council: Steven Krefting . Treasure Island Wetlands: Ruth Gravanis  
Sustainable Watersheds Alliance: Alex Lantsberg . SF Bay Guardian: Bruce Brugmann, Tim Redmond

## SUSTAINABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND SOCIAL HISTORIC VALUES

Achieving historic preservation, accessibility and environmental sustainability have all been long, uphill battles—facing similar development and economic resistance. But incrementally over time, legal mandates are meshing with societal values for achievement of the greater good.

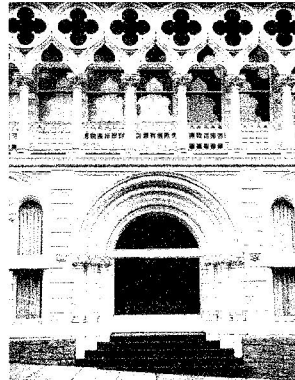
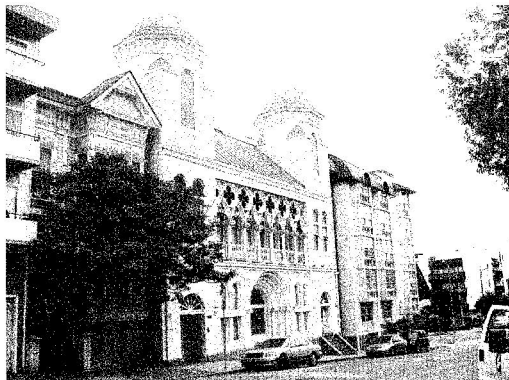
The American with Disabilities Act celebrates its youthful 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, enacted on July 26, 1990. The National Historic Preservation Act was enacted on October 15, 1966 but continues day-to-day battles. The concept of sustainability is in its infancy, and someday will prioritize preservation and rehabilitation of the best historical, cultural and architectural markers from every period of time.

When a project seamlessly blends a number of societal values, it sets a praiseworthy example. Kokoro, a senior assisted-living residence, at 1881 Bush Street in San Francisco, really rocks at many levels: livability, cultural values, social responsibility, sustainability, universal accessibility and historic preservation. Each value reinforces the others.

*By expanding horizontally and connecting vertically, this City Landmark's spatial quality serves seniors and future generations, many with special needs*



Built in 1895 by architect Moses J. Lyon, the Ohabei Shalome synagogue has a rich story of transformation and resiliency for the Jewish community. The eclectic design blended Hebraic, Victorian, Byzantine, Venetian Gothic, Romanesque, Renaissance, American Carpenter and Moorish elements. Surviving the 1906 Earthquake and Fire but damaged by a 1915 storm, two minaret-like spires atop the rounded capped towers had to be removed. Sold in 1934, the building emerged as the Soto Zen church until the 1942 interment of Japanese-Americans and then it was leased as a Baptist Church until 1946 when it became a west coast spiritual center for Buddhism. Abandoned by 1975 and taken over by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, it was declared San Francisco Landmark No. 81 on April 18, 1976—the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1906 Earthquake. Restored in 1978 and 1979, new uses briefly included a performing arts center and a Japanese Go Club. By the early 1980's, the building was abandoned again and thence deteriorated for two decades.



The dilapidated and forlorn temple could easily have been relegated to the scrap heap. But landmark designation provided a legitimized respect. Today, a newer generation of 1950's and 1960's historic resources, now fifty or more years old, are becoming eligible for landmark designations—respected examples of their time. Buildings like the temple and the Appleton-Wolfard Libraries can be rehabilitated to continue their role as social institutions. Incrementally over time, historically, culturally and architecturally significant buildings reflect and cultivate for the future San Francisco's urban texture and character.

*Once an Orthodox Jewish Synagogue and a Zen Buddhist Temple, Later abandoned. Then rehabilitated with a large addition. For decades, this 1895 historic resource was dilapidated. Preservation's cost efficiencies created bigger spaces and a comforting window to the past.*

## THANKS! 2010 HOLIDAY PARTY SPONSORS

Prof. Ray Berard . Lu Blazej . Bruce Brugmann . Sue Cauthen . Arthur Chang . Hon. Eddie Chin. Jennifer Clary  
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## The HANC Recycling Center and the Native Plant Nursery next to Kezar Stadium are valuable resources in the goal of making San Francisco an environmentally sustainable city.

Apparently a local group has been working with Recreation and Park staff behind closed doors in an effort to evict the popular Recycling Center and Native Plant Nursery operated for many years by HANC (the Haight-Ashbury Neighborhood Council) next to Kezar Stadium.

This widely supported neighborhood institution has a 35-year history and in the past decade has expanded its purpose to include growing and distributing native plants that are propagated specifically from seeds collected from San Francisco --- thus truly native plants. The Recycling Center and Native Plant Nursery are located in the southeast corner of Golden Gate Park, near the Park Police Station, the Kezar Parking Lot on Stanyan and a row of commercial buildings along Frederick that includes a bike store, a laundromat, and an automobile body shop. Although it sits amid tall trees and newly re-vegetated planted areas, it is not as if the Recycling Center lies in the center of the Park, away from other similar uses.

The Recycling Center and Native Plant Nursery sponsor the Garden for the Environment, at 7th Avenue and Lawton, giving classes in gardening native plants, giving grants to neighborhood organizations, and serving as a community redemption center for bottles and cans which are recycled off-site.

The following letter has been sent to Mayor Newsom and to San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission to describe for them the history and the community value of the Recycling Center and Native Plant Nursery

The HANC Recycling Center and the Native Plant Nursery are valuable resources in the goal of making San Francisco an environmentally sustainable city.

The Recycling Center is a state-certified buyback facility which allows consumers to redeem California beverage containers for the deposit which was paid when purchasing the container. The state's bottle bill was implemented to reduce waste and litter. Residents and merchants regularly use the center for dropping off paper, cardboard, bottles and cans that do not fit in the Sunset Scavenger's curbside containers. Many residents prefer recycling with a local non-profit that funds community activities over a large corporate monopoly.

Some homeless residents recycle at the HANC Recycling Center as they do at any recycling center, but the vast majority of the customers are property owners, renters and merchants who want to have a hands-on relationship in recycling their solid waste.

The Native Plant Nursery propagates San Francisco native plants which are drought tolerant and create habitat for local wildlife. Plants grown at the nursery are used for important ecological restoration projects including the Green Hairstreak Butterfly Corridor, the Mission Greenbelts, Green Schoolyards, Street Parks Program and the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Natural Areas Program. The Native Plant Nursery has planted over an acre of gardens adjacent to the Recycling Center in Golden Gate Park which creates habitat for birds, butterflies and bees along with generating seeds for propagating more plants. All the soil used for propagating the native plants is made from composting on site.

As a city that prides itself on being part of the "Green Revolution", it would be a public relations disaster for San Francisco to eliminate this facility which is truly Golden Gate Park's EcoCenter. *(Thanks to Greg Gaar)*

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***Denise D'Anne gets it done! Here's another letter to the editor that Denise has had published. Notice how she keeps it short and sweet.***

**"Social Security needs saving.** It is a dumb idea to attack Social Security during a recession. Social Security is probably the only financial instrument that is not subject to ups and downs of capital markets. Most of the money received by recipients is spent keeping the economy buzzing."

# *Time for fun at the SFT HOLIDAY PARTY!* (say YES)

**YES** I/we will join you at the Wednesday, December 8, 2010, SFT Holiday Party at the Forest Hill Clubhouse, 381 Magellan Avenue.

Sorry, I can't be there, but I want to support SFT's work to protect our urban environment.

Here's my check to "SFT" for \$35\_\_\_\_ \$50\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \$60 \_\_\_\_ Patron \$120\_\_\_\_ Sponsors/Patrons may bring a guest.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to join\_\_ SFT\_\_renew my SFT membership

Here's my dues check to "SFT" for \$15, \$25, \$35, \$50 or more.

Please mail to SFT, Jane Morrison, 44 Woodland Ave. SF 94117 RSVP: 564-1482

## ***Your support and membership make possible SFT's day-by-day fight to:***

*Keep our waterfront open to the public with water-related uses.*

*Speed construction of the new downtown Transbay Terminal to bring all*

*Bay Area transit together for immediate transfers with Caltrain and High Speed Rail. Protect San Francisco Bay from unnecessary fill. Give all San Francisco neighborhoods a say in their future,, with environmental justice in City decision-making. Rebuild our water and sewage systems to be environmentally sustainable and cost-effective. Expand public transit to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution. Keep City parks public and preserve as much of the Presidio as possible as a park open to everyone.*

***San Francisco Tomorrow was conceived in 1969:*** "To cultivate in San Francisco a physical environment in harmony with its natural setting and the needs of its inhabitants; to create respect for its priceless natural features, its human population, its flora, and its rich endowment of animal, bird, and marine life; to foster the orderly development of the City as a fit place in which to work and live; and to educate the public and our elected officials as to the urgency of preserving the fragile environment which places San Francisco among the great cities of the world."



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You need a break. And a little cheer! Don't miss

## **SFT's HOLIDAY PARTY**

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

*Will you want to live in San Francisco Tomorrow?*

*Recycled Paper*