

**July at HANC:**

# Big Changes Slated for Page Street

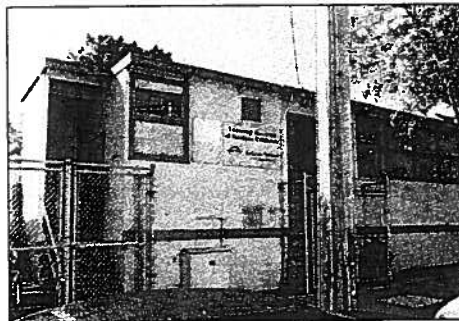
By Calvin Welch, HANC Board

The July 11th HANC meeting will focus on three major projects slated for Page Street, between Stanyan and Broderick: the Boys and Girls Club at 1950 Page (between Stanyan and Shrader), the expansion of the Urban School at 1563 Page (between Ashbury and Masonic) and development of a new branch of the French American International School at 1155 Page (between Baker and Broderick). Two of these developments—the French American International School and the Urban School—involve schools and we have some detail on what they involve. The third—the Boys and Girls Club—the largest site of the three by far, we have no details at all on what, if anything is being proposed for the site.

First, the two we know something about:

## 1155 Page Street: French American International School

French American International School has signed a lease for the old Florence Martin child care center at 1155 Page. The site, vacant for at least the last six years, was the focus of attention of neighbors when the SFUSD listed it as surplus and requested proposals for its development in 2007.

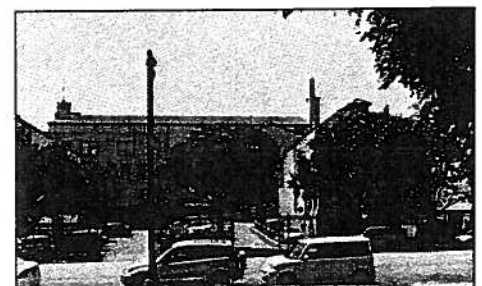


The initial thinking on the part of the SFUSD was to lease or sell the site for market rate housing development which raised the concern of its immediate neighbors. Jim Bracken, one of the neighbors, undertook an organizing effort that eventually led to the site being offered for lease as a school site, much preferred by its neighbors. In July, 2008 HANC supported the neighbors request. Later, the school district agreed and in late 2012 agreed to lease the site as a school.

The French American International School plans to build 9 classrooms for pre- kindergarten and kindergarten classes. Some 180 children, plus staff will be accommodated at the site. The school made a presentation to HANC members earlier this year. A major concern has been identified as student drop-off and pick-up from the site by the neighbors. Jim Bracken will attend our meeting to report on the planning efforts to date. The school has held one community meeting so far.

## 1563 Page: The Urban School

The Urban School proposal is not actually located on Page Street but *continued on page 3*



## Martin Mack's Parklet Implodes

By Calvin Welch, HANC Board

The Haight-Ashbury is the home of another San Francisco first: the first parklet permit revoked. Martin Mack's (web chat says its soon to be renamed "Joplin's") parklet, built to resemble an outsized suburban brick barbecue pit, sprung on an unsuspecting neighborhood in 2011, ended its chequered life in June when DPW revoked its permit.

The closing of the parklet should be a lesson for all who are interested:

the privatization of public space is a risky business, especially when conceived as a mere extension of a business, done with little or no public involvement and failing a clear understanding of the law.

The bar owner thought he could simply extend his bar, smokers and drinkers included, to the street under the banner of being a trendy new "parklet." He simply built the

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# Big Changes for Page Street

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on Oak Street, one block to the north. The school proposes building a 26,000 s/f combined classroom and athletic building in the parking lot behind St. Agnes Church. In addition it proposes to build a 31,000 s/f below grade parking structure for between 70 and 90 cars on the site. The combined 57,000 s/f of new facilities will be in addition to the existing 59,400 s/f school footprint on Page Street. The plans call for retaining the existing St. Agnes Gym on Page Street and converting it into a performance space for school theater and music events. Finally, the plan calls for increasing the allowable maximum enrollment from its current 380 to 420 students. The Urban School will present their ideas for the site in detail at our July meeting. We hope to have a lively discussion and the Board will present a resolution regarding the project for a possible vote by the membership.



## 1950 Page: The Boys and Girls Club

A representative of the Boys and Girls Club (BGC) has requested time at our meeting to "make an announcement" concerning the future of their site. HANC has no idea what the announcement will be although we suspect that it might address the sale or development of the site. We do know that the BGC has announced its plans to close the existing club house after they acquired a new location on Laguna Street late last year. The site is the largest parcel under single ownership on the block bounded by Page, Shrader, Stanyan and Oak and

is zoned for residential development. A web search indicates that the BGC asked a Berkeley design firm to do a study of the site "to examine a residential development strategy aimed at maximizing the property within the context of a potential market-rate development transaction aimed at

benefitting the boys and girls club." The plans shown on the website (<http://www.brick-llp.com/#/what-we-do/strategy/1950-page-street>) appear to be a four storey development with from 40 to 60 units of market rate housing mainly in studio and one bedroom units. HANC has no official information if this is, in fact, the subject of the announcement. Come on Thursday, July 11th to Park Branch Library (1833 Page Street) at 7 PM and find out.

## GARDEN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT JULY WORKSHOPS

**GFE Membership!**

Join now at  
[www.gardenfortheenvironment.org](http://www.gardenfortheenvironment.org)

Register for the classes below at **Eventbrite**, telephone (415) 731-5267, or e-mail [info@gardenfortheenvironment.org](mailto:info@gardenfortheenvironment.org), or register in the garden on day of class. All classes will be offered at Garden for the Environment, a half-acre organic demonstration garden in San Francisco on 7th Avenue at Lawton Street. Since its founding in 1990, the Garden has operated as a demonstration site for small-scale urban ecological food production, organic gardening; compost education and low water-use landscaping.

### URBAN COMPOSTING

Saturday, July 13, 10 AM – Noon;

GFE, 7th Ave at Lawton St., SF

FREE; Sponsored by the SF

Department of the Environment

Join GFE for this fun, hands-on workshop to discover how to improve your garden with kitchen or garden leftovers, and prevent organic waste from ending up in the landfill

### GROW YOUR OWN FOOD:

*Organic Vegetable Gardening In July*

Saturday, July 13, 10 AM – Noon;

GFE, 7th Ave at Lawton St., SF

Instructor: Nate Perry, Organic

Gardening Instructor

Cost: \$25 or \$15 for GFE Members

Yes we can . . . garden year-round in the Bay Area! Join us for this class which we offer every month for

seasonal-specific instruction for year-round vegetable gardening.

### PICKLING 101 ESSENTIALS:

*Make Pickles Happen at Home!*

Saturday, July 20th, 10 AM – Noon;

GFE, 7th Ave at Lawton St., SF

Instructor: Karen Solomon, Local Pickle Expert, Author of *Jam It, Pickle It, Cure It* and three other cookbooks

Cost: \$25 or \$15 for GFE Members

### GROWING EDIBLES IN CONTAINERS

Saturday, July 20th, 10 AM – Noon;

GFE, 7th Ave at Lawton St., SF

Instructor: Johanna Silver, *Sunset Magazine* Test Garden Coordinator

Cost: \$25 or \$15 for GFE Members

### GARDEN SUCCESS STARTS AT THE NURSERY!

Saturday, July 27th, 10 AM – Noon;

GFE, 7th Ave at Lawton St., SF

Instructor: Ellyn Shea, Owner  
Garden Guidance

Cost: \$25 or \$15 for GFE Members

Join us in the Garden on  
Wednesdays & Saturdays  
We are in the Office on Tuesdays,  
Thursdays, and Fridays  
The GFE is not wheelchair accessible.