

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Michael Murphy's Tim Lincecum cover feature in the May issue was tremendous. I enjoyed it so much I read it twice. My son loved it, too. Your paper is in the habit of printing fun and interesting sports stories and I thank you for another one.

Tim Walsh

Dear Editor:

I loved Michael Murphy's cover story on Tim Lincecum! He's my favorite Giant and he is such the cutie. Thanks for putting together an interesting story and for the great photos. I am going to start reading your paper more often.

Heather Reilly

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed Michael Murphy's outstanding Tim Lincecum story, but really wanted to say how much I like to read his "Sports in the City" each month in your other newspaper, *The Marina Times*. He picks out an eclectic variety of subjects and gives them a nice twist. And, you never fail to mention the next event for

the Golden Gate Sport and Social Club, which I am a member of and also enjoy greatly. When *The Marina Times* comes out, your column gives me one of my best breakfasts of the month. Thanks.

Chris Desprece

Dear Editor:

A big BOO-YA to you for the funny and oh-so-true "Editor's Note" about "rogue bicyclists." I nearly fell off my chair laughing. I know those of us who drive cars are nowhere near perfect either, but it's about time someone called out the smug, save-the-planet-while-two-wheeling-like-a-maniac crowd.

Justin Tsai

Dear Editor:

Thanks for a really fun "Jasmine Blue's Tails of the Dog Park" about her DNA test. The picture that accompanied it was hysterical! I guess I'd be shocked too if I discovered I had some Glen of Imaal terrier in me!

Beth Rapini

LETTERS, CONT'D ON PG. 4

## What You Can Do

By Lynette Majer

### Have fun with Fun Raisers

Want to meet some new people, have fun and volunteer for charity, all at the same time? Then check out SF Fun Raisers, a Northside nonprofit that raises money for local charities by planning and hosting social events.

SF Fun Raisers was formed by a group of close friends living in the Bay Area who thought that combining socializing with charity sounded like a great way to have fun, raise money for important causes, increase public awareness, and encourage community involvement. They do this by organizing events like happy hours, parties, sporting events, and other activities to provide an opportunity for the community to learn about and support local charities in a fun environment where participants can also network and socialize. The organization received their nonprofit status in 2005 and is entirely volunteer-run.

Local nonprofits that have benefited from Fun Raisers include Bay Kids, Larkin Street Youth Services, and ROCK (Real Options for City Kids). ROCK, which provides development programs for disadvantaged youths in Visitacion Valley, will benefit from SF Fun Raisers' second annual charity Kickball Tournament

and barbeque on June 28, themed "A Blast from the Past." Last year's tournament raised \$6,000 with over 170 participants, and organizers expect larger numbers this year. Join them at noon in Speedway Meadow in Golden Gate Park, and have fun playing some kickball and raising money for kids in need, but be sure to preregister to ensure your spot on a team. Not into kickball? Other activities are planned, or you can just go watch and reminisce about how much fun you had playing kickball at recess all those years ago! Whatever you choose, you'll meet new friends, enjoy a great barbeque and support a good cause.

If you can't help out with the Kickball Tournament, SF Fun Raisers needs volunteers to organize and plan other fund-raising events, and they are in need of a Web developer sponsorship coordinator. In addition, they are looking for event sponsors, as well as donations of products and services that they can raffle at their events.

To find out how you can have fun, make friends, and give back to our community, e-mail [info@sffunraisers.org](mailto:info@sffunraisers.org) or call 415-449-0779.

E-mail: [lynette@northsidesf.com](mailto:lynette@northsidesf.com)

## Plan emerging for helping older adults stay in their homes

By Mary Beth Starzel

San Francisco Village – Northside, a start-up program that seeks to help older adults stay in their own homes as they age through provision of paid and volunteer services, is pointing toward a launch this fall in northernmost San Francisco.

Modeled after community groups now up and working in such disparate places as the Beacon Hill neighborhood in Boston, Mass, and in Palo Alto, Calif., the program connects older adults registered as paid members with vetted services

through their local organizations.

Rev. Mary Moore Gaines, rector of St. James Episcopal Church (4620 California Street), said she found herself "being the champion of those older adults who wanted to stay in their homes despite pressures to leave." She and others with a range of related professional expertise at the church started the Community Learning Center. A talented steering committee was formed, spent a year and a half 'talking,' and finally incorporated San Francisco Village – Northside, she said. They are now

awaiting response to their 501(c)(3) nonprofit status request.

Hoping for a program launch this fall, Susan Poor, a health care consultant and longtime Village volunteer, has been hired as the first executive director, and funds are being raised for the start-up.

San Francisco Village – Northside envisions annual fees of \$750 for individuals and \$1,000 for a household of two, with additional fees of \$250 a person beyond that. As the program evolves, they hope

SAN FRANCISCO VILLAGE, CONT'D ON PG. 22

54th Annual **PRECIOUS** **Cheese** 2008

**NORTH BEACH**  
**FESTIVAL**

Saturday & Sunday  
**JUNE 14-15**  
10am - 6pm

**FREE**

Upper Grant Ave.  
Washington Square  
and adjacent streets

Featuring Juried  
**Arts & Crafts**  
on Grant & Green

Live Music Stages  
Showcasing: **Classical, Rock, Salsa, Swing, Alternative Pop & more**

**Beer & Wine Gardens**

**Al Fresco Foods**

**Arte di Gesso**  
Italian Street  
Chalk Art with  
**Destination Art**  
Interactive Art for  
Children on Vallejo St.  
in front of The Shrine

**Animal Blessings**  
2 pm, both days  
**National Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi**  
Vallejo St. & Columbus Ave.  
**All Pets Welcome!**  
Plus Special  
Memorial Blessing  
for Pets Lost & Gone  
Bring Photos

**Tony Gemignani**  
World Champion Pizza Tossing  
Sunday, 1:45 & 4 pm  
Green St. Stage

Validated Parking Info: 415/989-2220 · [www.sfnorthbeach.org](http://www.sfnorthbeach.org)

Presented by: **The North Beach Chamber of Commerce**  
Garland PR and Team Pro Event