



### AUG 10, 2012 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

After years of neglect residents near Storrie and Ord Streets in San Francisco's Eureka Valley neighborhood teamed together to clean up the blighted area of its used needles, overgrown vegetation and turned the small parcel into a charming garden reflecting a true grassroots effort that turned an eyesore into eye candy.

To celebrate, residents are gathering at the garden located at the junction of 18th Street and Hattie and Storrie Streets on **Saturday, August 18, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.** with area neighbors, dedicated volunteers and invited guests including area **Supervisor Scott Wiener** and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to celebrate the rebirth of the garden officially.

Aid came from a variety of groups including the San Francisco Parks Trust, Gay for Good, SONG (the

Storrie Ord Neighborhood Group), the SF DPW, which donated broken up concrete debris from public works projects to serve as repurposed garden walls; a Community Challenge Grant to create signage indicating that the plants in the garden serve as a waypoint for an endangered species of the Mission Blue Butterfly as well as setting aside garden beds for students at the Harvey Milk Academy to use in their lesson plans.

The bulk of most of the labor and constant upkeep comes from the neighbors themselves including Eddie "Blade" Bannon and Steve Lynch along with a score of volunteers who will be on hand to celebrate their turn around of the area. The garden's success also hinges upon coordination efforts from City officials such as Lanita Henriquez.

The celebration event is being sponsored by area real estate agent and attorney Kevin Ho of Vanguard Properties who learned about the project by walking his new Black Lab puppy there that he got from the Guide Dogs for the Blind organization.

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Event Sponsor:

### Event:

- Ribbon Cutting & Party
- Saturday, August 18, 2012
- 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (appx)
- Storrie St, Hattie St at 18th Street, San Francisco

### Photo Op:

- Ribbon Cutting
- Supervisor Scott Wiener

### Keywords:

- Neighborhood Grassroots Efforts
- SF Parks Trust
- SF DPW
- Repurposing
- Blight
- Green space
- Redevelopment
- Volunteerism
- Local Group Action
- Community Action
- Eureka Valley



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