

# PRESIDIO POST

## Revitalizing Thornburgh Road

by Randolph Delehanty, Ph.D.  
Presidio Trust Historian

### Hidden Thornburgh Road

Thornburgh Road is a surprise to many who come across it. It has historic buildings, spectacular views, and great potential to be a key asset of the Letterman district.

The *Presidio Trust Management Plan* envisions the Letterman Complex offering office, residential and service/retail uses. Rehabilitating the Thornburgh/Gorgas buildings will help re-establish an active character to Letterman.

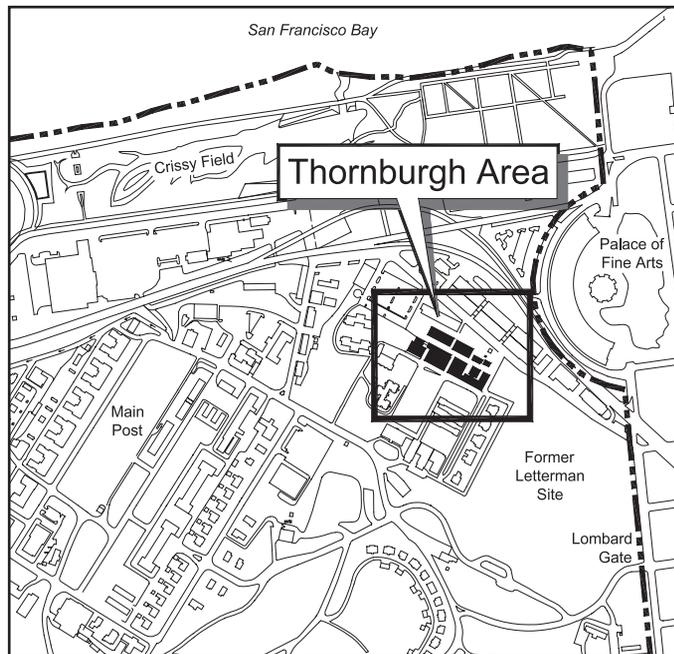
The Thornburgh Road group of eight historic hospital service buildings – including the former power house, laundry, warehouses, and hospital wards – has a fine-grained street pattern and a sheltered, urban feel. There is a dramatic view down Thornburgh Road towards the Golden Gate Bridge. This is an area ripe for reuse and revitalization.

### A Brief History of the Letterman District

Letterman Hospital was established to care for soldiers returning from the Philippines after the Spanish-American War of 1898 and was the nation's first permanent general military hospital. After the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906, the hospital's staff was responsible for sanitation in the city's refugee camps. Primarily a surgical hospital in World War I, Letterman saw advances in orthopaedic appliances including the "Letterman Leg." Care expanded from the physical to the psychological when Letterman cared for shell-shocked soldiers returning from trench warfare in France. An Army School of Nursing was established here in 1918, and a noted intern training program began in 1924. Letterman was the nation's busiest hospital during World War II, with 72,000 patients treated in 1945 alone. It later became a major Army teaching and research institution. Letterman staff cared for soldiers returning from Korea and Vietnam, and for military families and retirees, until its closure in 1994.

### Letterman's Historic Master Plan

The original hospital was designed by San Francisco architect W.H. Wilcox and built between 1899 and 1902. It



had a symmetrical plan with a central courtyard and covered six acres. Ten pavilion-style wards, each housing 40 beds, were arrayed around the courtyard and linked by glassed-in galleries. This pavilion design provided natural light and ventilation, as well as garden views to all patients.

Letterman's administration building was placed in front of the hospital, with service buildings, including those along Edie and Thornburgh roads, located behind it. Landscaping and lawns provided a comforting atmosphere for patients and visitors. After 1930, many of the

wooden hospital wards were replaced with concrete Mission style structures capped by red tile roofs. Over time, additional facilities were added around the hospital, creating a dense, efficient, and visually strong architectural grouping.

Letterman Hospital's historic buildings are now home to the Thoreau Center for Sustainability and house sixty non-profit organizations. Non-historic buildings including the Letterman Hospital building and research facility have been demolished in preparation for the new Letterman Digital Arts Center at the east side of the district. To the west, plans call for the restoration of the Tennessee Hollow riparian corridor to create an ecological corridor leading to Crissy Marsh.

Along Gorgas Avenue, towards the bay north of the Thornburgh Road group, is a row of seven one-story, wood-frame warehouses with loading docks. Most of these were built in 1919 when this corner of the post became a major supply depot with rail connections to the piers at Fort Mason and the Embarcadero.

### Street Names

Street names at the Presidio read like a history of the old post. Edie Road was named for Col. Guy L. Edie who served as the commanding officer of Letterman Hospital during World War I. Kendall Road was named for Maj. William P. Kendall, the commanding officer of Letterman Hospital from 1901 to 1904. During his administration the original hospital was built. Thornburgh Road was named for Col. Robert M. Thornburgh, the commanding officer of Letterman in 1919. He served in the Philippines, Mexico, and France. Gorgas Avenue was named for Col. William Gorgas, the chief sanitary officer of the Panama Canal Commission from 1904 to 1913. Through mosquito control, he suppressed yellow fever and made the canal's completion possible.

The Thornburgh area is rich with history and tradition. The stage is now set for creating a bright future for this district of the Presidio. Join in this process by attending the planning workshop on July 27!

### A Panel Discussion and Public Workshop

Regarding the Historic  
Thornburgh Area

Saturday, July 27, 2002  
9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Presidio of San Francisco  
Registration Required

#### Tour of Area

9 a.m.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a self-guided tour of the Thornburgh area. Buildings will be partially opened for viewing, and information will be provided about the 15 buildings included in the area. Coffee and snacks will be available.

#### Discussion and Public Workshop

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Building 1062, Thornburgh Avenue**  
The Thornburgh panel discussion workshop and symposium will be a forum for discussion regarding future revitalization and reuse of the Thornburgh area. The Thornburgh area has been vacant since the Army left in 1994. It possesses a distinct urban character created by the close knit collection of attractive warehouse and institutional buildings.

The goal of this event is to facilitate an exchange between expert panel members about future development and reuse opportunities. As the final section of the Letterman Complex to be offered for lease, the Thornburgh area offers great potential and poses many real estate and urban design challenges. The symposium will investigate these issues and make recommendations for future planning and real estate actions.

After introductory and background comments, the panel of experts will discuss issues and opportunities. Following the panel discussion, staff and members of the panel will engage the audience in discussion.

The panelists include:

- Karen Alschuler, planner with Simon Martin-Vegue Winkelstein Moris
- Monica Finegan, real estate broker, Newmark and Co.
- Chris Glennon, Lucasfilm/LDA
- Tom Sargent, Equity Community Builders
- John Stewart, John Stewart Company
- Lynn Sedway, The Sedway Group
- Jay Turnbull, Page and Turnbull
- Marsha Maytum, Leddy, Maytum, Stacy Architects

#### Registration and Information Packets

Those interested in attending must call to reserve a space. Please RSVP to this event by July 18, 2002, by calling 561-5414 or by email to [planning@presidiotrust.gov](mailto:planning@presidiotrust.gov). A packet of informational material will be mailed to program participants in advance of the event. This will include a map, building photos and floor plans, as well as parking and transit stop information.



Photo by Amy Wolff



# News Briefs

## "Wild" Times At Open Park Day



On May 11, approximately 1,000 visitors and volunteers explored the shoreline park and the rest of the "wild" Presidio at Open Park Day. Sponsored by the Presidio Trust, the National Park Service, and the Golden Gate National Parks Association, the event featured dozens of family-oriented activities for people of all ages. Visitors trekked through wildflowers at Baker Beach, witnessed tree-pruning acrobatics, spotted rare birds, planted seeds at the Native Plant Nursery, and got their hands dirty at volunteer projects throughout the park. Many of the tours and events held that day can also be enjoyed throughout the year. Check the Presidio Post calendar or [www.presidiotrust.gov](http://www.presidiotrust.gov) for walking tours, volunteer opportunities, and other ways to experience the natural areas of the Presidio.

## Skeet Range Clean-Up Activities

The Presidio Trust continues to move forward on remediation activities throughout the park. A current focus is the Skeet Range located on the shore at Crissy Field. The Skeet Range, one of the Army's remaining firing ranges, was partially cleaned up in 1998. The Trust, in conjunction with the National Park Service, is completing the Army's work and hopes to have the remaining clay skeet target fragments excavated from the beach sand by Summer 2002. The Trust will also be removing petroleum-contaminated soil

# From the Executive Director

On July 9, it will have been five years since the Presidio Trust held the first public meeting of its Board of Directors, and four years since it assumed jurisdiction over the Presidio. I am pleased by the progress that has been made in these four years and am eager, now that the Presidio Trust Board of Directors is poised to adopt a final management plan for the Presidio, to make further progress in transforming this historic military post into a park for the American public.

Already, we have updated and leased 80 percent of the park's conventional housing units, creating a community of park residents that also contributes substantially to the park's sustenance through their rents. We have begun to reverse the decades-old decline in the health of the Presidio's magnificent forest and are developing a plan that will guide reforestation efforts next year and in the decades that follow. We have repaired park infrastructure, restored and leased historic buildings, and opened up vistas such as the stunning view at Inspiration Point.



**Craig Middleton**  
Acting Executive Director

In coming months, we will begin actively seeking partners that can breathe new life into our historic buildings by restoring them and inhabiting them, and by providing public programs. We will work with the National Park Service and the public to define keys to understanding the Presidio's history, landscape, and transformation – and we will work with educators to make these stories accessible to wider audiences. We will improve our campground, our trails, and our tour program –

and will provide facilities that will enable a diverse group of visitors to spend time in this unique park. We will implement advanced technologies that will reduce our need for water and energy and will demonstrate to others how a sustainable community can operate effectively.

I am grateful for the outpouring of community interest that helped us to craft a good general plan for the Presidio and I urge you now to join us in our on-the-ground efforts to protect and enhance the park.

previously discovered on the shore. If you have any further questions regarding the Skeet Range cleanup, please contact Anna Fenton-Hathaway, by email at [afenton-hathaway@presidiotrust.gov](mailto:afenton-hathaway@presidiotrust.gov), or at (415) 561-2767.

## Mission Dolores Seeks Volunteer Docents

Mission Dolores, the oldest building in San Francisco and part of California's historic mission chain, is seeking volunteer docents to provide tours and information to visitors, especially Tuesdays through Fridays. Every year, the mission gives tours to about 12,000 people, including more than 9,600 school children. Training is fun, free, and informative. For information, contact Br. Guire Cleary at (415) 621-8203.

## Smithsonian Teachers' Night at the Presidio



On Friday, May 17, the Presidio Trust welcomed more than 100 Bay Area

teachers to the Officers' Club for Smithsonian Teachers' Night, an event that showcases the valuable role that museums and parks can play in supporting teachers and enhancing learning. For a decade, the Smithsonian Institution has hosted this event in Washington, D.C. This year, Smithsonian Teachers' Night expanded to include cities across America. The Presidio was one of five sites selected to participate.

Guided Presidio shuttle tours highlighted sites such as the Archaeology Lab, The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, Crissy Field Center, the Recycling Center, and the Native Plant Nursery. Inside the Officers' Club, representatives from a dozen Bay Area museums, the National Park Service, and several Presidio-based organizations provided resource materials and hands-on demonstrations and activities for teachers.

The event, which also included entertainment and a reception, was sponsored by TIAA-CREF, a pension system for people employed in education and research.

Guest of honor Dr. Herma Hightower, director of national programs for the Smithsonian Institution and a former teacher, gave inspiring remarks to the educators.

## Presidio Golf Course Named an Environmental Leader

The Presidio Golf Course has received the 2001 Environmental Leader in Golf Award for a public course from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. "This is a great honor that we worked hard to achieve, and it is very rewarding in light of what we have gone through over the past four years," said course superintendent Kevin Hutchins.

Hutchins refers to the challenge of providing top-quality playing conditions while honoring the environmental responsibility that is required in a national park. Rising to this challenge, the Presidio Golf Course has become one of the leaders in environmentally sensitive golf course management. Hutchins is working with the Trust's Christa Conforti to design an Integrated Pest

Management Program that is intended to reduce use of pesticides through non-chemical pest prevention methods. He also earned acclaim for his integration of the Presidio Trust Compost Program, which reclaims grass cuttings and creates compost that keeps course soil healthy.

## Notice of Second Public Meeting Regarding the Cleanup of Two Landfills at the Presidio of San Francisco

The Presidio Trust (Trust) and the State of California Department of Substance Control (DTSC) are seeking public comment on the draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and draft Negative Declaration document for the proposed cleanup of Landfill 4 and Fill Site 5. The Trust and the DTSC have extended the public comment period on both documents to July 24, 2002. A second public meeting will be held on July 16 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue, Presidio of San Francisco. For more information, call Craig Cooper at (415) 561-4259.



# Calendar

## Every WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

### Habitat Restoration Programs

Help restore the native habitats of the park! Habitat restoration programs take place throughout the park from 9 a.m. to noon every Wednesday and Saturday. Presidio Native Plant Nursery programs run from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday. These volunteer programs are a partnership of the Presidio Trust, National Park Service, and the Golden Gate National Parks Association. For more information, call (415) 561-4755 or email [volunteer@ggnpa.org](mailto:volunteer@ggnpa.org).



## Every THURSDAY

3 p.m.

### Tours of Historic Arion Press Printing Facility

Tours of the historic typefoundry and printing facility of Arion Press are conducted by the Grabhorn Institute every Thursday at 3 p.m. Fee: \$7. Arion Press is located at 1802 Hays Street in the Presidio. Tour size is limited; please reserve in advance by email at [grabhorn@arionpress.com](mailto:grabhorn@arionpress.com), or by calling (415) 561-2542.

## JULY

### Golf Course Events

The Presidio Golf Course holds clinics every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. For more information, call the Pro Shop at (415) 561-4661 X4. The Presidio Golf Course will be holding junior golf camps throughout the summer. For more information, contact Scott Steele at (415) 561-4661 X209 or by email at [ssteele@palmergolf.com](mailto:ssteele@palmergolf.com).

Other summer events at the Presidio Golf Course:

- July 4: BBQ and Par 3 Contest
- July 8 – 14: Take Your Daughter to the Course Week including special events and promotions
- July 14: Bastille Day Brunch featuring special menu at the Golf Course's Presidio Café
- July 15: League Sign-ups: call (415) 561-4661, X326

For Golf Course event information call (415) 561-4661.

## 16 JULY – 18 AUGUST



### Passages: Exhibit and Symposium on Inscribed Armenian Rugs

More than 80 inscribed rugs made by Armenian weavers will be on display at the Herbst International Exhibition Hall, located at 385 Moraga Avenue in the Presidio, through August 18. A symposium featuring noted authorities on oriental rugs will take place from July 19 to 21. For symposium reservations, call (800) 622-0855. For information on the exhibition, call (415) 921-7854.



## NOW THROUGH 12 JULY

### "Uncommon Works of Magic and Light" Show at 39th Exposure Photography Gallery

The photographic works of Carol Drobek will be on display at the 39th Exposure gallery through July 12. The gallery is open weekdays except Wednesday, from 12 noon to 6 p.m. and is located in the San Francisco Film Centre at 39 Mesa Street, Studio 4, in the Presidio. For information, call (415) 561-3123.

## JULY – AUGUST

### Hamlin Summer Camps on the Presidio

Children in grades 1 through 8 are now being enrolled for summer sessions at Hamlin Camps in the Presidio. Session dates are: Session B, July 15 – August 2, and Session C, August 5 – August 23. Morning and extended care are available. Activities include field trips, outdoor living skills, arts and crafts, and more. For information or to register, call (415) 561-3085.

## NOW THROUGH 31 JULY

### Exhibition of Work by Artist Bruce Conner at Arion Press

Intaglio prints by San Francisco artist Bruce Conner will be on exhibit in the Arion Press gallery through July 31. The images illustrate a new book published in a limited edition. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1802 Hays Street near Lake Street and 15th Avenue. For information, contact [arionpress@arionpress.com](mailto:arionpress@arionpress.com) or call (415) 561-2542.

## 9 JULY

Tuesday, 7 p.m.

### Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

The public is welcome to attend monthly meetings of the Presidio Restoration Advisory Board. The meetings are held at the Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue. The RAB monitors environmental clean-up projects throughout the Presidio. For information, call (415) 561-2767.

## 11 JULY

Thursday, 12:50 p.m. to 2 p.m.

### Shuttle Through Time

Take the PresidiGo Shuttle and travel through time as you hear stories spanning the centuries. Meet at the Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue at Arguello. For information, call (415) 561-4323.



## 19 JULY

Friday, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

### Roots & Rid'em

Enjoy an easy one-mile walk on the Ecology Trail and learn about the significance and ecological challenges of invasive plants on the Presidio. Meet at the William Penn Mott Jr. Visitor Center, Building 102, Montgomery Street on the Presidio Main Post. For information or registration call (415) 561-4323.



## 20 JULY

Saturday, 1 to 2 p.m.

### "Noticing" Tour of Crissy Field

This special "noticing" tour of Crissy Field will explore the concepts introduced in the Exploratorium's "Seeing" Exhibition. The tour combines the expertise of Golden Gate National Park rangers and Exploratorium staff with Crissy Field's spectacular natural landscape. A free Crissy Field Center program co-sponsored by the Exploratorium, open to all ages. Registration is required by calling (415) 561-7752.

## 20 JULY

Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

### Physics of Toys at the Exploratorium

The Physics of Toys interactive laboratory, with a focus on seeing, invites visitors to make toys and do experiments that demonstrate there is more to seeing than meets the eye. Participants will make and take home their own seeing-related toy. Included with price of Exploratorium admission. For information visit [www.exploratorium.edu](http://www.exploratorium.edu).

## 27 JULY

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

### Documentary Film Screening

"Songs on the Wind: The Arlecho Creek Story" will be screened at the Main Post Chapel on the Presidio. The film portrays the efforts of the Lummi Indians and their partners to preserve this spiritual and ecological sanctuary. The event is sponsored by Northwest Indian College. For information call (415) 441-2343.

## 27 JULY

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### Revitalizing Thornburgh Road: A Public Workshop

Thornburgh Road includes a group of historic hospital service buildings. The area is ripe for reuse and revitalization. Expert panelists will discuss the area's possible future uses and other issues. The workshop will be held in Building 1062 on Thornburgh Road in the Presidio. Advance registration is required by July 18. For information, call (415) 561-5414.

## 27 JULY – 28 JULY

Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.

### The Seeing Film Series at the Exploratorium

The Seeing Film Series examines the way that perception colors what we see, including how assumptions affect seeing. The series is included in Exploratorium admission. For information, visit [www.exploratorium.edu](http://www.exploratorium.edu).

## 28 JULY

Sunday, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

### Farewell to Manzanar, Hello to the Presidio

Join Jean Wakatsuki Houston, author of *Farewell to Manzanar*, for a reading from her memoir about coming of age in a California internment camp. The program will be followed by a book signing. A free Crissy Field Center program co-sponsored by the National Japanese American Historical Society. Registration is required by calling (415) 561-7752.

## 4 AUGUST

Sunday, 1 to 3 p.m.

### Walk on the Wild Side

The Presidio has many wonderful natural areas to explore. Learn about plants, animals and geology on this moderate two-mile hike with docent Holly Mitten. A free Crissy Field Center program. For information or registration call (415) 561-7752.





## Planning Update What Comes Next?

By Hillary Gitelman

Deputy Director for Planning, Presidio Trust

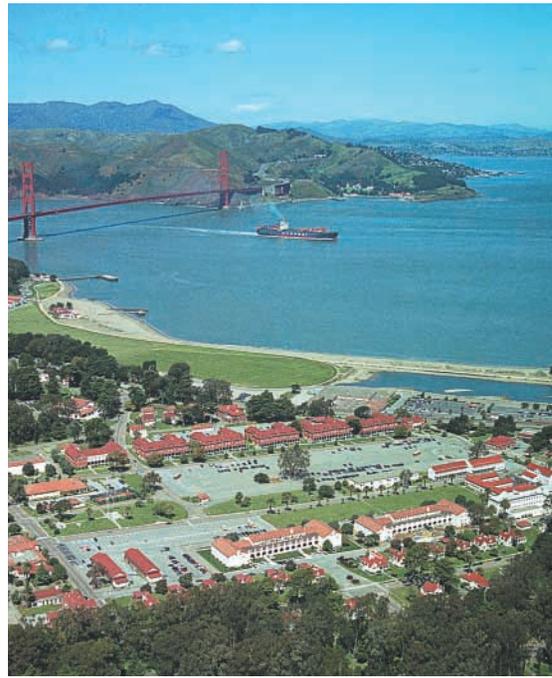
After a two-year planning process, the Presidio Trust Board of Directors is expected to adopt a management plan for Area B of the Presidio at their July meeting. The Board's action, which will take the form of a resolution, will be explained in a document called a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will be completed and made available to the public within a few weeks of the Board's action, and will outline any changes or corrections the Board makes to the proposed *Presidio Trust Management Plan*, as well as the mitigation measures that will be implemented by the Trust.

Once a plan is adopted, the Trust's self-imposed moratorium on long-term leasing (i.e. longer than five years) will end, and the Trust will begin to enter into such leases for Presidio buildings. Many of the Presidio's historic buildings are going to be expensive to rehabilitate, and tenants will require long-term leases if they are to amortize the cost of building improvements.

Leasing activities will continue to focus on buildings at the Main Post and in other areas well served by infrastructure. The public will be notified of new lease offerings; interested parties should watch the Trust website or contact the Trust's Real Estate Department to be placed on a contact list.

Adoption of a management plan will also mean that the Trust's Planning Department can again focus its attentions on natural resources projects such as the Tennessee Hollow restoration project, Mountain Lake, and the historic forest. Other planning efforts will address historic preservation of the Thornburgh Road area behind the Thoreau Center, park-wide recreation, parking management, and Main Post landscaping.

In the fall, a proposed Trails and Bikeways Master Plan, prepared in collaboration with the National Park Service, will be circulated for public review. Also this fall, buildings at the west end of Crissy Field (Area B) will be the focus of a study to identify opportunities and constraints associated with reuse of the old hangars and barracks. The Trust will hold public meetings on many of these projects, beginning with the Thornburgh Road workshop on July 27, 2002. (See article on page 1, and calendar listing page 3).



Main Post

## Interpretative Signs Installed at Presidio Golf Course

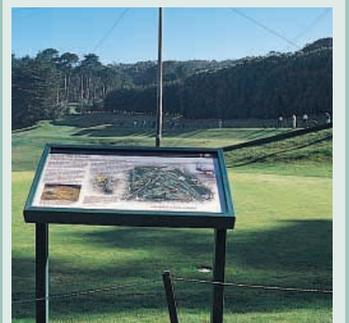
By Mark Numainville  
Presidio Golf Course

Visitors to the Presidio Golf Course will find themselves much better informed when they leave the facility thanks to the installation of nine way-side signs on the course and four interpretive panels in the clubhouse. The new panels discuss the cultural history, natural history, and sustainable practices at the golf course.

Over a century of golfing and military history is merged at the scenic golf course, including visits from Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Dwight Eisenhower, as well as from sports legends such as Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and Arnold Palmer. The course has also been used for military training and as a refugee camp after the 1906 earthquake and fire.

The panels include information on the dramatic changes in the natural landscape that have occurred in the past 200 years, and describe the steps that are being taken to protect the native plant and animal species that inhabit the golf course.

The signs were completed through the joint efforts of the Presidio Golf Course, the Presidio Trust, and the National Park Service.



## Presidio Composting Program A Natural Answer for Park Restoration

By Marney Blair

Presidio Trust Organic Debris Specialist

A broad effort is underway at the Presidio to restore areas of natural habitat, as well as diverse historic and cultural resources.

Restoration of the Presidio's many resources poses particular challenges, because the Trust must use environmentally sustainable methods and technologies.

The Presidio's restoration projects include revitalizing

an aging historic forest, re-establishing native plant and animal populations, and revitalizing the former post's once-majestic historic lawns and "victory gardens."

Composting is important to these projects and highlights the Presidio's commitment to sustainability.

Organic matter is no longer viewed as waste, but as a valuable resource. Finished compost is used to heal and restore the soil, and to sustain the plants and organisms that are critical to

soil health. Through regular maintenance activities and restoration efforts, the Presidio generates thousands of cubic yards of green debris each year. The Presidio Trust's composting program captures and converts all organic debris generated in the park into a valuable resource, while reducing the waste stream and cutting costs. The compost produced is of the highest quality, and is extremely valuable to the restoration work throughout the park.

Implementing a compost program in a national park presents an opportunity to educate the public about compost and composting operations. Through the Presidio's educational and volunteer programs, children and adults get a hands-on education and

help with field research projects. Every aspect of making and using compost presents an opportunity for education and involvement. Bay area school children participate each week in sifting, turning, and making compost piles through a program called "Here's the Dirt" organized by the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Association. Compost explorers sifting through the rich debris also observe the wonders of ecosystems, diversity, and the cycles of death and rebirth.

Studies of the properties of compost have led to new applications for this material. For example, 150 gallons of compost "tea" are brewed every week to restore balance to the Presidio Golf Course soil ecosystem. Weekly applications of the



Weekly school year programs help turn the Presidio's green waste into nutrient-rich compost.

See COMPOSTING PROGRAM, 6



“We Pause to Remember”

# Memorial Day Observance at the Presidio May 27, 2002 – San Francisco National Cemetery

Photos by Amy Wolff, Alec Michels

**T**homas Cope, Sergeant 1st Class formerly with the 199th Light Infantry, has 21 years of service with the United States Air Forces to his credit. “I’ve come out to mark Memorial Day, and to remember the colleagues I lost in Vietnam,” he said.

Cope was joined by hundreds of fellow veterans, many in full dress uniform, each of whom had their own reasons for joining the Memorial Day parade and formal ceremony at the Presidio’s National Cemetery.

The observance included a parade, band concert by the 91st Division USAR Band, fly-overs by the Army National Guard Helicopters and the 194th Fighter Squadron of the California National Guard, and a 21-gun salute performed by the 91st Division Salute Battery. Remarks were offered by San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Supervisor Leland Yee, Major General Rodney M. Kobayashi, Presidio Trust Executive Director Craig Middleton, and Consul General of Korea Jong-Hoon Kim.



Each grave site at the National Cemetery was honored with a flag, creating a beautiful field of color.



A number of Veterans’ groups led the parade from the Main Post to the National Cemetery.



Honor guard presents the colors.



Young patriots hold signs bearing the words “United We Stand.”



The Presidio flag flew at half-mast in honor of fallen veterans.



Major General Rodney M. Kobayashi, center, was one event official.

## Transportation Update

### City CarShare Comes to the Presidio

The Presidio Trust has reached an agreement with City CarShare to station one of its shared vehicles in the park. The agreement is another component of the Presidio’s Transportation Systems Management Program designed to provide travel options in, to and from the Presidio.



One of the program’s signature green VW Beetles will be parked on Ruger Street near the Presidio’s Lombard Gate and PresidiGo Shuttle Stop #1. Electric cars are scheduled to be added at other Presidio locations later in the summer. “It is our hope that tenants and residents of the Presidio and surrounding neighborhoods will take advantage of car sharing for their occasional driving needs,” said Annie Bourdon of City CarShare, “and rely on transit, walking, or biking for everyday travel in the city. This will improve traffic, air quality, and the overall quality of life in Bay Area cities.”

City CarShare is a non-profit organization that offers shared cars to its members at 20 locations in San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley. Members pay a one-time deposit, and then pay only for the time and miles they drive. For information on membership, call (415) 995-8588 or go on-line at [www.citycarshare.org](http://www.citycarshare.org).

### 82x MUNI Commuter Service to the Presidio Will Continue

The Trust has successfully worked with Caltrain and MUNI to preserve most of the existing 82x MUNI Service which provides service between the Presidio and BART/Ferry Building,

Caltrain, and Transbay Bus Terminal regional transit services.

Starting in September, MUNI will no longer operate the morning run that previously left the Caltrain Station at 8:20 a.m., arriving at the Presidio at 8:55, as well as the 3:38 p.m. and 3:58 p.m. departures from the Main Post.

Trust staff will continue to work with all parties to improve transit options to the Presidio. Information and schedules for the 82x are posted on the Trust website ([www.presidiotrust.gov/directions](http://www.presidiotrust.gov/directions)).

### Notice

The Presidio Golf Course Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Environmental Assessment (EA) will be available on July 8, 2002 on the Trust’s website ([www.presidiotrust.gov](http://www.presidiotrust.gov)), in the Trust Library at 34 Graham Street in the Presidio, at local libraries, and by request from the Trust. For a copy call (415) 561-5414, or write to the Presidio Trust c/o Allison Stone, 34 Graham Street, San Francisco, CA 94129. The public comment period extends until August 7, 2002.



## Tenant Profile

# Rough House Editorial



Staff at Rough House pride themselves on providing outstanding creative and technical customer support.

The wall behind Ken Lebre's desk holds a detailed schedule for each of Rough House Editorial's seven editing studios. The boxes on the schedule, color-coded to match the bold colors of the edit rooms, overflow with client names including Macy's, Taco Bell, Ploughshares Fund, and the San Francisco Giants.

Down the hall, clients are enjoying lunch in a bright kitchen with a view of the Golden Gate Bridge. Techs are uploading work in progress to the internet for distant screenings. And in a

darkened machine room crammed with computers, tape machines, cables and monitors, digital signals and images flow to the edit rooms.

Rough House is a post-production film editing facility located in the San Francisco Film Centre (Building 39) on the Presidio. Here, directors, producers, and film editors work on the "rough cut," the creative first pass at putting video or film footage together, and continue to the "finish editing," the last cuts and addition of any special effects needed to create the

edited master tape. The final product may be anything from a TV commercial or rock video, to a corporate video used at a sales conference, to a feature, documentary, or short film.

"Rough House was started 15 years ago by our two senior editors, Roger Krakow and Michael Pickman-Thoon. They built a reputation doing offline editing for corporate clients such as Apple, Sun, Cisco and Microsoft," says Lebre, who has served as executive producer for the company for five years. "But we've expanded our capabilities. We can handle projects of any size, and take them from concept to completion. We have five Avid suites, which are digital editing systems, and a Discreet Smoke and Flame, the most

advanced special effects equipment in the industry."

Lebre, who worked in Los Angeles for many years, admits that the San Francisco film market is completely different. Besides high tech, San Francisco is known for its creative agency work. "We're building reputations with local agencies, and have become much more involved in commercial work," Lebre said. "We can finish projects for broadcast, DVD, and for the internet. It's exciting to see our work on prime time national television these days."

In addition to its suites and equipment, which are rented by the hour or day, Rough House has four staff editors, three artists who work on effects and graphics, and a tech staff to provide any needed support. "The

secret of our success has definitely been our service," says Lebre. "We're open as long as we need to be, up to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Our clients have come to expect the best in creative work, support, and equipment."

According to Lebre, Rough House's move to the Presidio, and its location in the San Francisco Film Centre building (Building 39), have also proven an enormous advantage for the company. "We're in the middle of a very rich film community, and we have seen many benefits from this affiliation," says Lebre. "We love being here in the park, and so do our clients. Where else can you edit in a National Park?"

For further information, please visit [roughhouse.com](http://roughhouse.com).

## Composting Program continued from P. 4

tea reduce fungicide use by up to 95 percent compared to other private San Francisco golf courses.

Presidio specialists also work closely with staff at the Native Plant Nursery to ensure that soil amendments maintain the integrity of native species, and benefit the park's restoration efforts.

Compost is also being used to supplement dune soils within the historic forests for the Presidio's extensive reforestation projects scheduled to begin this fall. The fungi contained in the compost help the new trees sequester nutrients from the soil.

For more information about composting, or to arrange a group visit or program, please call (415) 561-4279.



Compost is used to grow coast live oaks and over 150 other native plant species at the Presidio Native Plant Nursery.

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