

No. 1 worry as park opens: Will it finally now be safe?

Much trepidation at final outreach as premiere nears

By *TOM CARTER*

AFTER A SWEEPING renovation closed Boeddeker Park for two years, the new \$9.3 million version was celebrated Dec. 10 in a grand reopening. Mayor Lee and other dignitaries brimmed with optimism that the park will bring recreational vitality to the city's poorest, most congested community.

But the acre greenpatch in a sea of cement is still pestered by the question haunting it since it opened in 1985: Is it safe now?

Nearly three decades in the dark, fortress-like park, staff and police battled drug dealing, drunkenness and erratic behavior. Families stayed away in droves. Then, in recent years, squeezed by budget cuts that shortened open hours, the park closed frequently. Residents couldn't keep track of when it was open.

Park safety, the No. 1 concern seven years ago that spurred the renovation, dominated questions put to officials Nov. 20 at the police station's community room during the final outreach meeting of the protracted redesign process.

A woman with two children asked how families can be assured the park won't harbor drunks and druggies.

"The layers," responded Jeff Suess, Rec and Park property manager, who fielded the majority of questions during the 90-minute meeting. It wasn't a flip answer. Earlier, Suess had described various ways the park will be closely monitored.

From the new glassy clubhouse, staff can easily view the grounds that are now on one level, not two, as before. Staff, who will be on hand whenever the park is open, will be out there

"I walked through the park ... and almost broke into tears."

Steve Cismowski
REC AND PARK

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PHOTO MARJORIE BEGGS

Round and round — fun at the opening of the renovated Boeddeker Park.

NO. 151

PUBLISHED BY THE
SAN FRANCISCO
STUDY CENTER

DEC. 2014
JAN. 2015

**\$1 MILLION
INFUSION
FOR TL**

Bulk of new funds goes to the park
PAGE 3

**TAX-BREAK
FIRMS GET
NEW BREAK**

People's panel bows to the inevitable
PAGE 5



**GARTH
FERGUSON
TRIBUTE**

A major force in TL activism
PAGE 10

CENTRAL CITY



S A N F R A N C I S C O

TENDERLOIN CENSUS



PHOTO PAUL DUNN

Tenderloin Community School teacher's assistant Alex Tay, 24, helps fourth-grader Jessica Rosquites, 9, make a Halloween-themed arithmetic word problem on a computer pad during the school's weekly Tech Club meeting as other students work independently.

1,100 kids missing

Or are they? City says yes, others say no and maybe

By *TOM CARTER*

ELEVEN HUNDRED kids, most of them poorer than church mice by city standards, went missing from the Tenderloin three years ago. Nobody knows where they scampered or why. To another neighborhood? Another town?

There are theories. One is they upgraded to another neighborhood. Another is they left the exorbitant city for a lot cheaper digs. Yet another is they really aren't missing at all — and never were.

However, from a Human Services Agency report, "Total Children in the Tenderloin 1990-2011," the numbers tell this story:

The population of under-18s in the TL in 1990 was 2,061 and, in 2000, it was 3,026. But in 2011 it plunged to 1,919, an unprecedented loss of 1,107 kids in the past decade.

"The number of children in the Tenderloin has changed a lot," Dan Kelly, Human Services director of planning, said after delivering statistics on neighborhoods at a May meeting of the San Francisco Family Economic Success Forum at the new Federal Building. He explained why the Tenderloin has been so affected: "I think rental subsidies to get people out is significant, and creeping gentrification. The Tenderloin isn't immune."

He cited the Tenderloin rental spiral, a 25% rise from 2011 to 2013. It's not the 41% rise citywide, but significant in the city's

poorest neighborhood.

"There have been shifts," acknowledges Maria Su, director of the S.F. Department of Children, Youth and Their Families. "And we're tracking data to find where the families are. Yes, there has been a decline in Tenderloin children that we have to face. But programs are still needed in the neighborhood."

What defines the Tenderloin are four census tracts: 122-125. The boundaries: Market, Van Ness, Post and Powell.

With an \$80 million budget, DCYF administers grants to nonprofits that partner with public and private schools to provide services, programs and child care. DCYF grants enable each school to have after-school programs, Su says.

Su can't quantify how many programs have dropped away from the one neighborhood public school, Tenderloin Community, or how many have increased in other schools because Tenderloin children and their families moved to greener pastures. The department doesn't have that data.

"We're asking how it affects the social network and its vitality," she says.

"A loss of children in one neighborhood increases school-based, after-school funds elsewhere. There is so much movement and it's hard to track district-to-district. Tracking region to region is easier — from the city to Marin or Contra Costa counties, we see families moving," Su says.

"And for families still here, what does it mean with more adults? Is it hard to be the only family on the block? We don't have the answer for that, or what it can mean to our culture. But we want to give families the support they need."

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Topic A: Will the park be safe?

➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

walking the park, too. So will TL police officers “hand-picked by Capt. (Jason) Cherniss,” Suess said. Even looking in from outside, visibility will be improved with the thinner, more transparent perimeter fencing.

Department of Public Works “ambassadors” also will do periodic walk-throughs. Safe Passage will run safety programs. And three security cameras mounted near the main Eddy Street entrance will be watching 24/7. Three more cameras are inside the clubhouse.

There are no guarantees, Suess said, noting that the police station is literally across the street.

What about the surrounding sidewalks? another woman asked.

DPW street cleanings and beat cops will be keeping sidewalks clear, and there are new no-parking red and white zones on the north side of Eddy Street, where cars used to linger for hours, some occupants suspected of dubious activities while sidewalk domino games often covered drug dealing.

But “is the staff trained” to identify and deal with bad actors? Earl Bates asked from the back of the room.

Monday through Friday, the Boys & Girls Club is the main tenant, overseeing its own programs and those of other nonprofits like the YMCA that have contracts to run programs at the park. On weekends, Rec and Park takes over, completing the year-round, seven-days-a-week, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. hours.

“We have the best players,” Suess said.

What if Rec and Park gets its budget chopped again? Bates asked.

The city has a two-year commitment to this plan, Suess said. “And we can lobby for more later.”

The meeting was the last of the community outreach by Trust for Public Land, which had initiated the redesign after the trust’s Jake Gilchrist, now a Rec and Park employee, attended several Friends of Boeddeker Park

meetings years ago and learned not only of the park’s dire needs, but that it had a committed citizens group led by its steady activist-coordinator, Betty Traynor. The trust then devised a plan in 2009, partnered with Rec and Park and raised the money for the redo.

Traynor also will serve on a new citizens advisory committee of representatives of all the nonprofits offering programs at Boeddeker, plus TL police Sgt. Pete Hamilton that will meet monthly. “Once the park opens,” Suess said, “we’ll discover things we didn’t anticipate,” and the committee will help solve those problems.

Of additional concern at the meeting were the park entryways. Some remembered the garbage and junk that plagued the northern gate of Ellis Street before it was closed permanently. Is another gate there? someone asked.

The only public gate is on Eddy next to the clubhouse. A service entrance is there, and another on Ellis. But a public toilet is on the street nearby, said longtime TL resident Ed Evans from the front row, so how vulnerable will the park be to the milling, unpredictable crowds on Ellis, often a haven for homeless encampments? That, too, was a wait-and-see.

But it was obvious people were as happy and proud of the neighborhood’s pre-Christmas present as was Rec and Park regional manager Steve Cismowski, who has been close to the park since its difficult years.

“I can’t thank this community enough,” Cismowski told the crowd “I walked through the park the other day and almost broke into tears. And Betty,” he said, looking at Traynor, “you really made this happen.”

Cismowski explained how Rec and Park will keep the park clean.

Besides daily noontime cleaning, there will be after-hours and early-morning haul-aways of expected dirty needles and other biohazards that might be flung over the fence at night. “Even on holidays,” Cismowski said. And the only park closures he



could imagine, he said, might be for removing big trees.


“If you see something that needs attention, call 311,” Cismowski said. He expects community involvement so “we can address” issues.

Boys & Girls Club Director Esan Looper reviewed the kinds of programs that the club and its nonprofit partners will offer in more than 100 hours of activities weekly. But he said the club’s youth programs at the park are already filled and so are Glide’s. Not so of the YMCA’s, he said, which is moving all its programs to the park —

70 to 80 hours a week of senior, adult and after-school youth programs.

An unexpected clubhouse feature will be availability for birthday parties, free of charge. “You have to have a permit,” said a Rec and Park representative, “but you will not be charged a fee.”

On weekends, Jamie Hopper, who formerly worked at Boeddeker, will be Rec and Park’s overseer when such programs as zumba dancing exercise, tai chi and street hockey will be offered. ■



CENTRAL CITY EXTRA
NEWS IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE
SAN FRANCISCO

CENTRAL CITY EXTRA is published monthly by the nonprofit San Francisco Study Center Inc., serving the community since 1972. The Extra was initiated through grants from the S.F. Hotel Tax Fund and the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund. The contents are copyrighted by the San Francisco Study Center, 1663 Mission Street, Suite 504, San Francisco, CA 94103.

PHONE: (415) 626-1650	DESIGNER: Lise Stampfli
FAX: (415) 626-7276	PHOTOGRAPHERS: Mark Doneza, Paul Dunn
EMAIL: centralcityextra@studycenter.org	CONTRIBUTORS: John Burks, Ed Bowers
EDITOR & PUBLISHER: Geoffrey Link	DESIGN CONSULTANT: Don McCartney
SENIOR WRITER/EDITOR: Marjorie Beggs	DISTRIBUTION: Mark Hedin
COMMUNITY REPORTER: Tom Carter	EDITORIAL ASSISTANT: Sophia Heller
REPORTERS: Brian Rinker, Mark Hedin, Eric Louie, Paul Dunn, Jonathan Newman	COMMUNITY CONSULTANT: Michael Nulty

CENTRAL CITY EXTRA is a member of the
SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION,
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER,
AND SAN FRANCISCO/PENINSULA PRESS CLUB



Wall Street or Main Street?
For Profit or For People?

Big Bank
or
Redwood Credit Union?

Some decisions are *EASY*.
Where you bank should be too.

We love saving our Members money with better rates, fewer fees, and friendly service. Discover a better way to bank today - **where YOU come first, not profit.**

- 30,000 fee-free ATMs (including Walgreens & 7-Eleven stores)
- Free checking, debit card & bill pay
- Free mobile banking & deposit
- Auto, home, credit cards & business loans
- Auto finding and purchasing services
- No Membership fee (enter promo code: SF)

Open an account today & discover a better way to bank!
Visit your neighborhood RCU Branch or website.

 **Redwood Credit Union** | 1 (800) 479-7928
redwoodcu.org/sf

17 locations including two in San Francisco: 1390 Market St. & 241 California St.

Establish your RCU Membership with just a savings deposit, and if you provide the promotion code “SF” when opening your Membership, we’ll waive your one-time \$10 Membership fee! Certain restrictions may apply. Qualify clearance required. We look forward to serving you!

Federally insured by NCUA



Clockwise from top left **De Marillac Academy** students climb and shout happily in their renovated neighborhood park. **Mayor Lee**, after the festivities is importuned to shoot a basket and break in the park's new court. He missed. **Fr. Alfred Boeddeker's family**, of all ages, turned out for the celebration, including the oldest, Fr. Boeddeker's nephew, Joe Boeddeker, and the youngest, great-niece, Joleen.



ELECTION '14

Kim's easy win — not like in November 2010

By MARJORIE BEGGS

Jane Kim eked out a win four years ago for the District 6 supervisor seat, beating Debra Walker by only 1,337 votes. Last month, she won by a margin of 4,263 votes, garnering 67% of all ballots.

On one level, the elections were poles, if not polls, apart.

Kim ran against 13 other candidates in 2010. The ranked-choice voting went to 11 rounds, each pass eliminating one or more of her competitors until only she and Walker were left to split the remaining 16,393 votes.

Kim faced only three challengers in November: Michael Nulty, Jamie Whitaker and David Carlos Salaverry.

In his first bid for public office, Nulty — executive director of Alliance for a Better District 6, founder of a tenants' organization, member of The Extra's Editorial Advisory Committee and longtime community activist — came in a respectable second, drawing 11.21% of the vote. Whitaker was a close third at 11.14% and Salaverry 9.24%. Kim got a majority of the 13,090 ballots cast in District 6 right away, so no ranked-choice rounds were needed.

Despite the differences, Kim's first two elections shared some similarities, including dismal voter turnout. Civic Center/Downtown and SoMa, the bulk of District 6, were scraping the bottom in November, with 45% and 47% of registered voters going to the polls, compared with the citywide turnout of 53%. Four years ago, when 61% voted citywide, the District 6 hoods came in at 48% and 55%.

In the supervisorial race, the two elections also had a surprising bottom line: Kim's total votes were eerily close — 8,865 in 2010 and 8,827 in 2014. ■

Election results 2014 and 2010:

NOVEMBER 2014		
Jane Kim	8,827	67.43%
Michael Nulty	1,467	11.21%
Jamie Whitaker	1,458	11.14%
David Carlos Salaverry	1,209	9.24%
Write-In	118	0.90%
Write-In Rodney Hauge	11	0.08%
Total ballots	13,090	100%

NOVEMBER 2010		
Jane Kim	8,865	54.08%
Debra Walker	7,528	45.92%
Total ballots*	25,057	
Total continuing ballots	16,393	100%

*Ballot numbers change as ranked-choice rounds eliminate other candidates

Park gets big piece of new \$1 million for Tenderloin from health partnership

BOEDDEKER PARK'S splashy reopening was enhanced by the announcement of \$400,000 in grants from a new neighborhood initiative — the Tenderloin Health Improvement Partnership. The TL Boys & Girls Club will start 2015 with \$250,000 more for Boeddeker staff and program supplies, and Safe Passage will get \$150,000 to make sure kids can move safely around their hood, including getting to the park and back home.

Saint Francis Foundation is the lead partner of the initiative, which promises to give \$1 million next year to improve Tenderloin residents' health and safety. Foundation President Kevin Causey calls it "the single largest financial commitment for a collective impact project to date in the Tenderloin and is the beginning of a long-term commitment."

Saint Francis Foundation is putting in the lion's share — \$750,000. Other founding partners include Saint Francis Memorial Hospital \$125,000; Wells Fargo \$50,000; and Citi Community Development \$25,000; PG&E \$25,000; and Georgette M. Beany Trust \$30,000. The San Francisco Foundation, Dignity Health and Twitter also are participating, with contributions to be announced. (Twitter has put in an additional \$35,000 into the park but outside the HIP.)

The \$400,000 for Boeddeker will go far in ensuring the park's success. The TL Boys & Girl's Club's annual budget for 2014-15 was a modest \$402,755 before the windfall from the Partnership. Safe Passage has operated

on less than a shoestring since it started in 2006.

"The \$150,000 partnership grant is the first real funding Safe Passage has ever had," says Kate Robinson, program director. The program grew out of concern for the safety of kids making their way through an unsavory gantlet of drug dealing and seedy characters hanging out in the Tenderloin's wild microhood, Leavenworth/Lower Eddy.

The grant will pay for Safe Passage programs at Boeddeker and elsewhere and for a staff of two, Robinson and Dina Hilliard, new executive director.

Distribution of the remaining \$600,000 HIP largesse isn't final yet, Causey says, but some grants have been announced: \$100,000 to Tenderloin Economic Development Project to promote neighborhood stores, restaurants and other businesses, and \$139,000 to Green Mobile Health Education Kitchen Project, which teaches TL residents about the benefits of healthy meals, nontoxic cleaning products and physical activity.

There's no request for proposal process for the grants. HIP's Community Advisory Committee recommends grantees to Saint Francis Foundation based on "community-generated priorities," Causey says. "The \$1 million represents the pool of available resources [now]. Tenderloin HIP continues to attract new funders and anticipates that the funding pool will grow." ■

— Marjorie Beggs



**SAN FRANCISCO
HEALTH PLANSM**



I'm a member

Providing quality, affordable health care
to **1 in 8** San Francisco residents

- 600 Personal Doctors
- 2,000 Specialists
- 200+ Pharmacies
- Emergency Care Nationwide
- 24/7 Nurse Advice Line



sfhp.org
(888) 205-6552

101 weapons turned in at SoMa buyback

School district endorses United Playaz event

By MARK HEDIN

THE GUN BUYBACK United Playaz hosted Dec. 13, the second anniversary of the Sandy Hook School massacre in Connecticut, netted 101 weapons that ultimately will become manhole covers, police said.

While acknowledging that their work is largely symbolic without meaningful antigun legislation, organizers nonetheless celebrated every gun surrendered as a potentially life-saving event.

One unprecedented aspect, however, was the participation of the San Francisco Unified School District. The school board unanimously passed member Matt Haney's resolution in support of gun violence prevention and, in what one of the organizers, in Johnstone, said is the first time a U.S. district has taken such a stand, sent a letter home with every student on Dec. 5 informing parents and guardians of the buyback event and listing an array of risks associated with having a gun in the home: homicide, suicide and accidental death.

"Every 30 minutes a child or teen



PHOTO BY MARK HEDIN

The crew that collected 101 guns on Dec. 13. United Playaz founder Rudy Corpuz Jr. stands at center, arms crossed, in white.

dies or is injured from a gun," the letter read. "Too often the child has obtained the weapon from his/her home."

Police cordoned off the right lane of Howard Street on either side of Sixth and directed people turning in weapons to drive up to the United Playaz center. There they were met by staff, volunteers and police on hand to ensure that the weapons were disabled and give United Playaz founder Rudy Corpuz Jr. the green light to hand over the requisite cash payment. The reward was \$100 for handguns, shotguns and rifles and \$200 for assault weapons.

Corpuz said that people showed up two hours early to turn in weapons at the 9 a.m. event. A Civic Center rally was canceled, Johnstone said, because of the ongoing protests against police killings of civilians.

Sgt. Angela Rodriguez told The Extra that the haul included two assault weapons, 25 semiautomatic pistols, 22

revolvers, 30 shotguns and 20 rifles. Also a BB gun and a pellet gun. One man got \$20 for what he said was a starting pistol for use at sporting events.

"It looked real," Corpuz said. "Anything that potentially could get someone hurt, we're gonna take it."

Other weapons turned in included a .357 Taurus, a Smith & Wesson 9mm semiautomatic handgun, a Sterling .25-caliber semiautomatic pistol, a .32-caliber Beretta and a number of .22 rifles, Rodriguez told The Extra.

"All it takes is a home burglary and those guns are on the street," she said.

Among the sponsors were a trio of cannabis clubs organized by the Hallinan & Hallinan law firm, which collectively contributed \$35,000. The nonprofit gunxgun, organized by Johnstone, whose father was killed on California Street between Larkin and Hyde in 1992 by a teenager using a stolen pistol, raised \$12,000 through a crowd-sourcing Website and \$10,000

more via matching funds granted by tech investor Ron Conway. The mayor's office, through the efforts of Supervisor Jane Kim, chipped in another \$1,000, Corpuz said, for a total of \$57,000.

Some funds paid for United Playaz's outreach to publicize the event, and to feed the volunteers. Corpuz and Johnstone said that how the leftover funds would be disbursed hadn't been decided, but said they could do another buyback. Or, the money could be folded into United Playaz programming. But at \$100 per weapon for most of the guns turned in, there should still be plenty to go around.

Separately, gun buybacks were held in San Jose and Oakland also that day.

"I'm tired of going to funerals," said volunteer Mattie Scott, who lost her son in a shooting. "I want to go to some graduations!" ■

Big 3 tax-break companies get new break

CAC bows to city, locks in pacts for 3-4 years

By MARK HEDIN

THE BIGGEST COMPANIES enjoying the Twitter tax break also got a break from the Citizen's Advisory Committee that represents the neighborhood's interests in the agreements meant to mitigate the gentrification those firms have brought.

On Dec. 4, the CAC gave its blessing to five CBAs, three of them multi-year for the first time.

Instead of revisiting the agreements to make them more "robust" each year, as the companies pledged in the previous agreements, the biggest firms' benefits are now locked in for three and four years. The people's panel members seemed to bow to the inevitable.

Rather than vote against the CBAs and see them signed by the city anyway, as happened this year, the panel opted to make a good-faith gesture and endorsed the deals between the city administrator's office and five tech firms — Twitter, Microsoft, Zendesk, Spotify and Zoosk.

The CBAs for the first three of those companies will carry them through their remaining years of eligibility for the six-year exclusion from the city's payroll tax.

Spotify and Zoosk, the smallest players in the game, presumably will be back at the table next year, as will One Kings Lane, which had largely

boycotted the CAC's monthly meetings all year and was the only company whose CBA was voted down this time, although City Administrator Naomi Kelly is expected to sign its CBA anyway.

As for the bigger fish, "We won't be renegotiating per se about the terms," CAO representative Bill Barnes told The Extra. "I don't think we have to reinvent the wheel every year."

"We're just there so they can act like the CBAs have some community input," CAC Chair Peter Masiak told The Extra. "A token advisory body. The CAO is going through these processes without consultation from the CAC."

"I feel like we weren't going to get better agreements this year," he said. Addressing his CAC colleagues just prior to the vote, he'd said, "It comes down to faith. As we saw last year, these are going to be signed whether it's yea or nay."

CAC member Robert Marquez questioned the advisability of entering into long-term deals when key information that would inform the process won't be available for months.

The CBAs were originally expected to return about a third of the value of each company's Twitter tax break savings to the community, but this year, as Marquez pointed out to Barnes, with Twitter having gone public in November 2013 and its workers subsequently being eligible to begin cashing in stock options, which are normally subject to the city's payroll tax, the value to Twitter of its tax break will be much greater than in previous years. Although the city tax collector will eventually report on the forgone

"We're just there so they (city officials) can act like the CBAs have some community input. A token advisory body."

Peter Masiak

CHAIR, CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

revenue, that report is almost a year away.

Barnes, speaking in his customary rapid-fire manner, replied by pointing out a separate piece of legislation courtesy of then-Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi passed, as was the Twitter tax break, in the spring of 2011 that also could shield Twitter or Zendesk — which went public in May — from stock option-related payroll tax obligations. In other words, he implied, one way or another, the community will never see a benefit deriving from that particular gold mine, as impacted companies could simply opt out of the Twitter tax break that mandates the CBAs, and leave the community high and dry.

"There's nothing in place to tell us how these things will change," Marquez told The Extra. "My understanding is they will go back to the table if the CAO and Twitter feel it's in Twitter's interest to give more. Otherwise, what triggers it?"

"I think the city's position on this is clear," said CAC member Steven Suzuki. "They've gotten what they needed, they don't need anything more."

Asked to elaborate, he said, "The city's original intent was to provide a way for Twitter to stay, which I think they got."

Suzuki was the only CAC member this time around to vote for all six CBAs, even One Kings Lane's.

"The agreements are still worse than they are good, they still get a failing grade," Masiak said in the aftermath. But "the expiration of these tax breaks is on the horizon. Twitter's not going to pick up and move. So you've got to start at some point thinking about what's the game plan trying to affect long-term plans and relationships."

Microsoft's CBA, despite being a four-year agreement, doesn't even discuss what the company proposes to do beyond 2015 to fulfill its commitments.

"Displacement is where we should be going. The No. 1 issue isn't being dealt with," CAC member Steven Tennis told The Extra. "I think it's a shame we went with a four-year plan."

Tennis and Marquez cast the only dissenting votes on Twitter and Microsoft's CBAs.

"What we did was just to appease people who think this is a process that includes the residents. I don't feel that it does it in the way that it could or should. There's gotta be a better way of doing it than it's done now. I'm very frustrated and I don't think my sentiments are any different from the others," Tennis said.

Despite a multitude of efforts to elicit comment from Supervisor Jane Kim on the CBAs or the work of the hamstrung committee her legislation created, the supe was silent. ■

Missing persons report: 1,107 Tenderloin

Neighborhood stability at stake as views of a mobile population clash over provisions



Fourth- and fifth-grade students visiting the Janice Mirikitani Family, (Above) Youth and Childcare Center gather outside the center in November on their way to the Tenderloin Children's Playground a short walk away. **Tigotae Mills, 9,** (Below) San Francisco City Impact Academy fourth-grader, participates in a science project.

People of the Tenderloin

With this issue, Central City Extra launches a photojournalistic series to put the Tenderloin's people on display. It taps the talents of Paul Dunn, whose "Farmers on the Roof" feature in The Extra won first place in the S.F. Peninsula Press Club's recent annual awards. People make a neighborhood and the Tenderloin is San Francisco's most diverse. This series will show them in action.



► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It's possible that some children were adrift in the city with no neighborhood connection. The homeless children count has risen disturbingly, according to Jennifer Friedenbach, Coalition on Homelessness executive director: Nearly 2,100 in San Francisco now, some with parents, some without, a surge from the 844 in 2005. Moreover, it's unlikely any of the TL kids will return.

But to one highly respected child-and-family authority in the Tenderloin, the loss is way off the beam.

Midge Wilson, founder and executive director of Bay Area Women's and Children's Center — a neighborhood safety net since 1981 — says not so. BAWCC, which serves 600 neighborhood women and children each week, is based at Tenderloin Community, keeping her especially close to the population. Wilson counts 3,500 kids in the Tenderloin.

"We call it our Tenderloin Kids Count. I've sent out teams of college kids, interns, building to residential building, who ask building managers and owners for the numbers, ages and races of kids living here.

"We've done it four times over 34 years, and the numbers are always about the same, around 3,500. And that's what we go with. We share that information with others who work with families and children in the Tenderloin. It's a compelling figure in an area so small."

What makes her count credible, she says, is the teams' ability to get a

more accurate count than the census. Her teams aren't counting for the government; they're counting for Wilson's center and for money and grants it might land to help neighborhood kids and their moms, great selling points. More kids means more leverage.

By contrast, HSA is the city's leader in using the census figures to guide program development for services. It also shares the information with community groups seeking grants.

The U.S. Census supplements its data annually based on results of the American Community Survey, a mandatory calculation that invites 1 in 38 households to answer survey questions online or by mail. The Census Bureau compiles the numbers for civic and academic institutions and businesses to use. The data also help the feds and states determine how to distribute more than \$400 billion each year.

Wilson counts Tenderloin kids, using the same boundaries as HSA, but HSA does it with census tracts, 122 through 125.

"With the census," Wilson says, "it's always an undercount. Large families are typical here. Let's say there's a family of six. But they will only report two kids because they're afraid they might not be able to stay there if they say more. We talk to the families and neighbors. Once we found as many as 10 people living in one small room on Leavenworth."

Wilson's first count was in 1984, the last in March 2007. Since then, she says, something unusual has occurred. "People were cooperative then,

but the mood in the Tenderloin has changed in recent years. People have grown more suspicious and protective of their privacy. They're more reserved about specifics about children."

The last crew she sent out in the summer of 2012 were three college students and a high school senior. They were armed with IDs and brochures about BAWCC. They came back almost empty-handed, rebuffed because people wouldn't talk to them.

"I thought we'd get information like we did before," Wilson says. "But I'm really comfortable using that 3,500 number. If anything, I err on the conservative side."

A decline in neighborhood children surely would show up in the Tenderloin Community Elementary School's records. The school district's 2013-14 data show enrollment was 364. A school spokesman said this year it is 373 and was 388 in 2012. For nine years before that, the K-5 school's enrollments never dropped below 351.

Certainly, there's been a shift in children in the Tenderloin, and Wilson marvels at the diversity it has brought to the school on Eddy near Van Ness she helped found 18 years ago.

Thirty years ago, Wilson says, two-thirds of the children were Asian and Pacific Islander. Ten years ago an influx of Arabic and Latino children began with a "wonderfully diverse" result.

The district Website shows the school's makeup last fall: Hispanic 34%, Asian 26%, other white 14%, African American 13%, Filipino 3%, American Indian 1%, Pacific Islander 1%, multiple

Tenderloin kids

g who really lives here

rates 3% and decline to state 4%.

“The classes are all full,” Wilson says. “If the school is under capacity, it’s by very few. We’re well beyond the original numbers. We’re packed.”

Where a decline does show up during the past decade is at Tenderloin Children’s Playground a few blocks away on Ellis Street.

“As far as playground participation goes, yes, I did see the difference,” says Rec and Park’s Kay Rodriguez, who worked at the park from 1995 to 2009. “But I’m not sure why (it happened). There were a number of factors.”

At first, she said, Tenderloin Playground was the only facility around with an after-school program. Then Glide created one. Soon all the schools had them. “I don’t remember when,” Rodriguez said. “But the kids would go directly into them. It happened really fast. DCYF was funding them.”

And summers from 1995 to 2002 would see maybe 300 kids on the playground. “It’s still the only safe place in the neighborhood to run around — it’s still the sanctuary.” But those numbers plummeted by 2009 to 100, sometimes down to 20, she said.

“It fluctuates in the Tenderloin. No one really stays there permanently. They (families) get a Section 8 and go to another part of the city. And the city is working faster to get them out. The numbers dropped drastically.”

The park had an after-school tutoring program with 25 kids until 2009 when the department said to stop helping with homework because the job at the park was recreation. “We lost all those kids,” Rodriguez said.

The park had seven employees in 2002; now it has two.

HSA’s Kelly is pretty sure subsidized housing played a role by relocating the missing children, as Rodriguez suggests. But again, quantifying the egress is problematic. “We only have partial program numbers,” Kelly said after consulting HSA’s Housing and Homeless program about its effort to get families out of SROs and to rent-subsidized apartments.

The Tenderloin Housing Clinic ran the HSA program under contract from 2007 to 2012. The last two years, the rent subsidy program has focused more on families in homeless shelters and their wait lists while the SRO families program went to an organization called First Avenues. But the data show only former SRO residents who “transition successfully” off their rental subsidy, not those who get the subsidy. During THC’s five years it was 59 families. With First Avenues it’s been 20.

“The Tenderloin has the perception of being temporary, but it’s a huge achievement if they (families) can move out,” says Su of DCYF. “They work very, very hard to get into permanent housing. My concern is if they are doubling up” elsewhere, maybe “in the Sunset or Bayside. Others — low- to middle-income families — may have said, ‘We can’t live like this.’ They weren’t rich enough to live here. The \$55,000-\$80,000-a-year families don’t qualify and are left out of other subsidies. So they go somewhere affordable.”

Even so, the majority of the 1,100 children lost from the Tenderloin were

➤ CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



(Top) **De Marillac Academy** sixth-grader Richard Espinoza, 11, left, shoots a basketball in the school’s courtyard playground in November with sixth-grader Juan Herrera, 11, right. (Center) **Esteban Capulin**, left, jokes with Andres Arguijo during a poetry-writing lesson at the Vietnamese Youth Development Center. Capulin, 14, attends KIPP San Francisco College preparatory; Arguijo, 13, attends Galileo Academy of Science and Technology. (Bottom) **De Marillac Academy** sixth-grader Citlaly Angeles, 11, left, draws in the school’s new art room. At right is sixth-grader Sean Hale, 11.

SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS TAXES ARE CHANGING

BE IN THE KNOW

www.sfbiztax.org or call 311

Los impuestos a los negocios de SF
están cambiando. Entérese!

三藩市商業稅正在改變。了解變化！

Nagbabago ang mga Buwis ng Negosyo sa SF.
Alamin Ang Pagbabago!



City and County of San Francisco
December 2014 Monthly

Stay Connected To the City through SF311

The SF311 Customer Service Center is the single stop for residents to get information on government services and report problems to the City and County of San Francisco. And now, we have even more ways for you to stay connected to the City with our SF311 App and SF311 Explorer website. The SF311 App lets you get information on City services and submit service requests on-the-go right from your smartphone. You can track your service requests through the app or through our new website, SF311 Explorer. SF311 Explorer not only lets you check the status of your own requests, it enables you to see what issues are being reported throughout all of San Francisco and what the City is doing to resolve them. Download the SF311 App from your smartphone's app store and visit the SF311 Explorer at explore311.sfgov.org today!

Department of Elections

Coming in 2015: San Francisco Election Materials in Four Languages. Choose to vote in English, Chinese, Spanish, or Filipino!

Beginning with the November 3, 2015, Municipal Election, San Francisco ballots, the Voter Information Pamphlet, and other elections materials will be available in Filipino, in addition to English, Chinese, and Spanish. The City has recently certified Filipino (Tagalog) as the third language required under the San Francisco Language Access Ordinance, in addition to Chinese and Spanish. If you are a San Francisco voter and want election materials in a language in addition to English, please update your language preference at sfelections.org/language.

Healthy Foods and WIC Nutrition Services at No Cost To You

Eating well during pregnancy is important. The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program can help. WIC serves pregnant women, new mothers, infants and young children under five years old who meet 185% or below of the federal poverty income level. WIC benefits include nutrition and breastfeeding education and support, checks to buy healthy foods (such as fresh fruits and vegetables) and referrals to low cost or free health care and other community services. Enrolling in WIC early in your pregnancy will give your baby a healthy start. Also, WIC staff can show you how you and your family can eat healthier meals and snacks. Migrants are welcome to apply as well.

San Francisco WIC has six offices throughout the City. For more information, call (415) 575-5788.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Board of Supervisors Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings January and February 2015

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Come see your San Francisco government in action.
Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m., City Hall Chamber, Room 250.

- January 8 (43rd Inaugural Meeting)
- January 13
- January 27
- February 3
- February 10
- February 24

The City and County of San Francisco encourage public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions

CNS#2699565

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

San Francisco Mental Health Clients' Rights

Advocates informs, supports and helps individuals receiving mental health services or who need help or advice about your rights by listening to your concerns and needs and advocating for your legal rights.

If you're being treated for a mental disorder, voluntarily or involuntarily, you have the same legal rights and responsibilities that the U.S. Constitution and California laws guarantee to all other persons:

- Dignity, privacy and humane care
- Freedom from harm, including unnecessary or excessive physical restraint, isolation, medication, abuse or neglect
- Prompt medical care and treatment
- Information about your treatment and participation in planning your treatment
- Give or withhold informed consent for medical and psychiatric treatment, including the right to refuse antipsychotic medication unless there is a legally defined emergency or a legal determination of incapacity
- Services and information provided in a language you can understand and with sensitivity to your culture and special needs.

Contact us: 552-8100 (800) 729-7727 Fax: 552-8109

San Francisco Mental Health Clients' Rights Advocates
1663 Mission Street, Suite 310, San Francisco, CA 94103



Missing kids

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

from families below the drastically low federal poverty line (FPL), which applies in the lower 48 states. The FPL for a single parent with two children is \$19,760, or \$1,647 a month.

HSA's figures show 1,146 "poor children" in the TL in 2000 and just 527 in the neighborhood in 2011, a loss of 619.

"100% (of the FPL) is very poor given the city's high standard of living, utter destitution," said Tiffany Torrevillas, HSA planning analyst and census wonk, in an email to The Extra. "It might be more realistic to run these numbers at a higher threshold (it would yield a higher number of 'poor children'). Many SF departments define poverty at 200% or 300% FPL because even at these higher levels families are struggling to survive." She said that for a family of three, 200% is about \$39,600; 300% is \$59,400.

"The self-sufficiency standard from the Insight Center is \$61,100 for a single parent with two children," she added. "This is about 309% FPL."

The Oakland-based Insight Center calculates the income needed by working families to meet their basic needs in every California county.

"The census data just isn't there

to understand where the families that left the Tenderloin ended up moving to," Torrevillas added. "We can look at movement between cities, but not at the neighborhood level."

The city itself has been bleeding children for some time. Census figures show there were 116,749 kids under 18 in San Francisco in 1990, or 16% of the population. By 2010, it was 107,524, or 13%. Possibly, the squeeze on the Tenderloin is part of the trend, only more pronounced.

HSA reported that 8,200 households with incomes of over \$75,000 moved into the city in 2007. Five years later, 12,200 with \$75,000 incomes moved here. Another HSA report shows that from 1990 to 2012 San Francisco's upper class grew by 2%, the middle class shrank by 9% and the lower class grew by 4%. What this means to the 3,421 families in the Tenderloin, as of 2012, is anybody's guess. "But in schools all over the city we see enrollment trends going up," says Su.

Yet another census figure HSA uses — an American Community Survey update on the population of Tenderloin children — showed 2,087 of them living in the Tenderloin in 2012 with 535, or 26%, below FPL.

What can the gain of 168 kids mean?

"I wouldn't dare to guess," Su said.

Clockwise from top **Kimberly Romero**, 10, front right, Bessie Carmichael Elementary School fifth-grader, shoots baskets at the Tenderloin Children's Playground. With her are Jobana Guzman, 9, center, a fourth-grader at Bessie Carmichael, and Ashley Razo, 9, back, also a fourth-grader at Bessie Carmichael. The three visited the playground during a field trip with the Janice Mirikitani Family, Youth and Childcare Center. **Silas Moberg**, 8, a third-grader at San Francisco City Impact Academy, reads during a science lecture. **Jaeya Bayani**, 12, an eighth-grader at San Francisco City Impact Academy, etches an image of a Thanksgiving turkey during class.

This is a double issue of The Extra, for December and January. We will be back to our regular monthly publishing in February.

Meantime, Central City Extra and San Francisco Study Center wish our readers happy holidays and a joyful new Year.



GARTH FERGUSON Rock-solid activist

Two dozen activists and nonprofit leaders gathered Dec. 3 to memorialize a fellow social justice warrior who waged the good fight for five decades, helped them form their organizations and left them an inspiring legacy to keep the struggle going.

The craggy Garth Ferguson, gruff-looking and well-known in public demonstrations and for behind-the-scenes planning, cast a “long shadow,” his friends said. He was hard-driving, cantankerous, yet impish if not humorous. They talked reverently of his clarity of purpose, vision, steadfastness and the fact he was “doing it for us.” He was rooted in the notion that poor people should represent themselves.

Mr. Ferguson was a founder of the Coalition on Homelessness in 1987.

“He spent a lot of time (with us) in the early days,” said Jennifer Friedenbach, executive director. “He was the moral compass for the Coalition, and he always came back at the times we needed him. He was essential in keeping us on track and staying true to what we were fighting for.”

“He did the work for decades. Here’s to a beautiful man.”

Two other neighborhood nonprofit fixtures that Mr. Ferguson helped create were Hospitality House in 1967 and later, as an early advocate of peer-to-peer counseling, the Self Help Center.

“Garth was the face of what we were fighting for,” said Joe Wilson, a 30-year veteran of Hospitality House who now manages its Community Building Program. Wilson met Mr. Ferguson years ago at a demonstration. “He was a kind of poet and warrior with an impish quality. He cast quite a shadow. He made you think maybe this can work — that something good can happen here. And I want to thank him for continuing to remind us.”

Community Housing Partnership organizer James Tracy said when he once invited Mr. Ferguson to speak at a weeks-long training for organizers, he almost seemed miffed. “It was like how dare you ask me just to speak when I should be running the whole program,” which got a knowing laugh.

“Garth,” added Rev. Glenda Hope, who came out of retirement to lead the memorial, “always showed up. And we should do more of these things for people when they are still alive.”

Cantankerous sometimes, yes, acknowledged Jackie Jenks, Hospitality House executive director. But it was easy to take because “you knew where it was coming from.”

Mr. Ferguson also co-founded People Organized to Win Employment Rights, POWER, in 1997 to advocate for low-income tenants, workers and transit riders. Co-founder and former Exec-

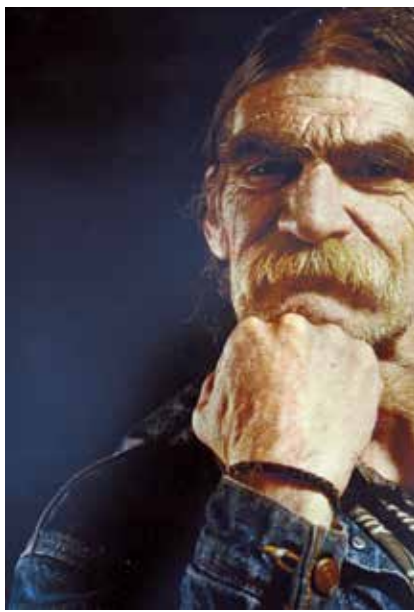


PHOTO COURTESY OF POWER

utive Director Steve Williams who had worked with him — “he could be a pain in the ass” — gave an unexpected version of Mr. Ferguson’s “vision.”

“He got hit by more cars and Muni buses than anyone I know,” Williams said. “Muni drivers didn’t have a vendetta against him — his vision was bad.”

But Mr. Ferguson’s insight was evident, Williams said, recalling once when POWER members were nervous and tentative. It was under a threat from unions Williams didn’t name, and Mr. Ferguson settled them down. POWER had been demonstrating against the unions for not including General Assistance recipients they represented at the table. The unions threatened to diss POWER in public and never work with them again unless they stopped, Williams said. Mr. Ferguson said POWER had nothing to lose, everything to gain.

“Garth scrunched up his face and said this wasn’t a new thing,” Williams said, “and that they (the unions) never had worked with us. It was his clear vision. And we kept on demonstrating. Garth represented the idea that poor people should stand up for themselves.”

The memorial was in the community room of 555 Ellis St., the low-cost family apartments whose creation the now-retired Glenda Hope, as head of Network Ministries, spearheaded in 1995.

Mr. Ferguson, homeless off and on, had been involved with Network Ministries since it was formed in 1972, Hope said. Mr. Ferguson once was a longtime Tenderloin resident, but the past 14 years he lived in low-cost housing in South Park where he was a force as a low-cost housing advocate before he went entering hospice. Hope had visited him several times in his final days, she said, much of the time spent in silence. Mr. Ferguson was ravaged by cancer he had fought for some time

and died Sept. 24. He was 68.

On a table inside the door was a stack of Mr. Ferguson’s biographies with his domineering, poster-quality likeness filling the cover showing his large fist beneath his bearded chin and solemn, lived-in face. Penetrating eyes and thick, dark eyebrows made him a symbol of toughness, an image looming larger than his thin, 5-foot-9 frame would suggest. At the bottom, above his name and sunrise-sunset dates, was the phrase: “Keep in the struggle because we will win.” The image was also for the taking on 50 buttons on the table.

At the front of the room, slides showing Mr. Ferguson interacting at meetings and demonstrations flashed continuously on a small screen.

Little was known about his early life. Born Russell Allen Galena, the first of 12 children and apparently abused by a parent, the biography said, he left home early, kicking around the lower 48 before settling in San Francisco and changing his name. Active as soon as his feet hit the ground, in 1967, according to his biography, he became a member of “the first known gay youth organization,” Vanguard, a group at Glide.

As riveting as homelessness and all twists of social injustice were to Mr. Ferguson, though, AIDS awareness was likely his major calling.

“Of all Garth’s activism, his proudest was with the San Francisco AIDS vigil from 1985-1994,” the biography said. “At the height of official intransigence, public bigotry, misinformation and hysteria, the vigil maintained a presence in the United Nations Plaza

24 hours a day and became one of the longest acts of continuous civil disobedience in American history. Garth held vigil and provided compassionate and open peer education, grief counseling and advocacy.”

Plaza demonstrators demanded that the federal government condemn AIDS-related discrimination and put up \$500 million to search for its cure. As people died all around them — at least 20 perished at the vigil site — the activists in the plaza’s tent town became an important hub to disseminate news of new developments, collect names of deceased AIDS victims and gather international AIDS news from concerned foreign tourists who stopped by.

A relentless storm finally ended the vigil.

“I was there the whole time,” Mr. Ferguson told the Bay Area Reporter about living in a tent for nine years. “There was a five-day rainstorm and the wind just took all of our stuff and blew it away. There was no place for us to stay.”

A 2011 resolution by Supervisor David Campos to recognize the vigils’ importance with a commemorative plaque passed but never was implemented. Resolutions, explained Campos aide Nathan Albee, do not have the force of law.

Still, Mr. Ferguson’s commitment to the demonstration and a lifetime of activism stands him tall in the memory of his friends, but he’s otherwise anonymous in the historic vigil alongside his fellow fallen activists. ■

— Tom Carter

“I was looking for a college... but I found a home.”

College is more than just a place to get a degree. It’s a place to meet people... express myself... celebrate my heritage and culture.

City College of San Francisco is proud to provide more resources, and more opportunities for Filipino-American students like me:

- Tulay F.A.S.S. (Filipino-American Student Success Program)
- Asian Pacific American Student Success Program (APASS)
- Pacific Islander Club (PIC)/Pacific Islander Athletics (PIA)
- Plenty More!

Standing Strong, Moving Forward.



The Spring 2015 term starts **January 12**. Just head over to **CCSF.edu** to get started.

DID YOU OR A LOVED ONE SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES?

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO BENEFITS

We assist veterans, their dependents and survivors in obtaining federal and state benefits, such as disability compensation and/or pension, Aid and Attendance, educational benefits, home loans, burial benefits, and more.

Our accredited claims representatives will provide respectful advocacy for you and your loved ones. No appointments are necessary at our office, and please remember to bring your DD-214.

San Francisco County Veterans Services Office
(415) 503-2000
27B Van Ness Ave, San Francisco 94102
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9AM-12PM and 1PM-4PM



SEE OUR PROGRESS in San Francisco

Jesse Cottonham Human Performance Senior Specialist

“ I grew up in San Francisco and am proud to still call this city my home. I like being able to put a personal face on the company to help my neighbors understand all the work we’re doing to provide safe, affordable and reliable service. ”

At PG&E, our customers are our neighbors. The communities we serve as PG&E employees are where we live and work too.

That’s why we’re investing \$4.5 billion every year to enhance pipeline safety and strengthen our gas and electric infrastructure across northern and central California. It’s why we’re helping people and businesses gain energy efficiencies to help reduce their bills. It’s why we’re focused on developing the next generation of clean, renewable energy systems.

Together, we are working to enhance pipeline safety and strengthen our gas and electric infrastructure—for your family and ours.

SEE THE FACTS IN SAN FRANCISCO



Replaced approximately 28 miles of gas distribution pipeline



Invested more than \$167.5 million into electrical improvements



Connected more than 4,500 rooftop solar installations



Together, Building
a Better California

pge.com/SeeOurProgress

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Christmas at St. Anthony's Curbside collection of hams, pantry items and clothing, Dec. 20-24; Christmas dinner and gift bags, Dec. 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Foster Farms Bowl Game meals, Dec. 28, 9:15 a.m.-2 p.m. — with Big Ten football team (tba) serving. Info: stanthonysf.org

Kwanzaa, Dec. 28, 1:30-3 p.m., Main Library, Koret Auditorium, free celebration and feast, presented by the SFPL's African American Center.

16th Annual Meeting, Alliance for a Better District 6, Jan. 26, 6 p.m., 201 Turk Street Community Room, guest speakers, election of officers, awards ceremony, door prizes, refreshments and more. Info: 820-1560.

ARTS EVENTS

"Strangers With Xxmas Candy," through Dec. 20, EXIT Studio, 156 Eddy St. Production by Dreams on the Rocks tells the story of a 46-year-old loser who finds the reasons for the seasons. Info: theexit.org/strangers/#more-1194.

Free days at museums and other venues: Chinese Historical Society, 965 Clay St., first Thursdays, Jan. 1, Feb. 5; Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin, first Sundays, Jan. 4, Feb. 1. Many first Tuesdays, Jan. 6 and Feb. 3; Cartoon Art Museum, 655 Mission St.; Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third St.; Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission St.; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St.; Conservatory of Flowers, Golden Gate Park. See venues for hours.

Glamorgeddon: The Spectacle, Jan. 8-Feb. 4, SOMArts, 934 Brannan. Group exhibition of visual and performing artists explores glamour "on the satirical edge of excess." Free opening night celebration Jan. 8, 6-9 p.m. features live music, performances and a POP! shop with limited-edition, artist-created swag. Ticketed (\$20) lectures in a hot pink limousine. Info: somarts.org/glamorgeddon

REGULAR SCHEDULE

HOUSING

Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco, 1st Wednesday of each month, noon, 201 Turk St., Community Room. Contact Michael Nulty, 339-8327. Resident unity, leadership training.

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

CBHS Client Council, 3rd Tuesday of month, 3-5 p.m., 1380 Howard, Room 515. Consumer advisers from self-help groups and mental health consumer advocates. Public welcome. Info: 255-3695. Call ahead as meeting location may change.

Healthcare Action Team, 2nd Wednesday of month, 1010 Mission St., Bayanihan Community Center, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Focus on increasing supportive home services, expanded eligibility for home care, improved discharge planning. Light lunch. Call James Chionsini, 703-0188 x304.

Hoarding and Cluttering Support Groups, weekly meetings conducted by Mental Health Association of San Francisco, 870 Market St., Suite 928. Info: 421-2926 or mentalhealthsf.org/group-search.

Legal clinic, 4th Thursday of the month, 507 Polk St., 10 a.m.-noon. Legal help for people with psychiatric or developmental disabilities who need help with an SSA work review, sponsored by People with Disabilities Foundation. Sliding-scale fee. By appointment only: 931-3070. Info: pwndf.org.

Mental Health Board, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., City Hall, room 278. CBHS advisory committee, open to the public. Call: 255-3474.

Tenderloin Healthy Corner Store Coalition, 4th Thursday of the month, 3 p.m., Kelly Cullen Community Building, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor auditorium or 5th floor gym. Public meetings to discuss legislation that encourages corner stores to sell fresh food and reduce tobacco and alcohol sales. Info: Jessica Estrada, jessica.healthylretail@gmail.com, 581-2483.

SAFETY

SoMa Police Community Relations Forum, 4th Monday of each month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies. To receive monthly email info: 538-8100 x202.

Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting, last Tuesday of month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

Alliance for a Better District 6, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m., 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or sf_district6@yahoo.com, a districtwide improvement association.

Central Market Community Benefit District, board meets 2nd Tuesday of month, Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market St., 3 p.m. Info: 882-3088, http://central-market.org.

Friends of Boeddeker Park, 3rd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., at the Clubhouse, 335 Jones St. Info: Betty Traynor, 931-1126.

Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board, 3rd Thursday of month, 5 p.m. Works to protect SoMa resources for all residents. Gene Friend Rec Center, 270 Sixth St. Info: Tim Figueras, 554-9532.

North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District. Full board meets 3rd Monday at 5 p.m., 55 Taylor St. Info: 292-4812.

Safe Haven Project, 4th Tuesday of each month, 3 p.m., 519 Ellis St. (Senator Hotel). Contact: 563-3205, x115, or centralcitysafehaven@gmail.com.

SoMa Community Stabilization Fund Advisory Committee, 3rd Thursday of month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor. Info: Claudine del Rosario, 701-5580.

Tenderloin Futures Collaborative, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police Community Room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on is-



PHOTO: COURTESY WOFFLES AND HERB

Woffles and Herb perform Jan. 30. at SOMArts' *Glamorgeddon*.

sues of interest to neighborhood residents, nonprofits and businesses. Info: 820-1412.

SENIORS AND DISABLED

Mayor's Disability Council, 3rd Friday of month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, room 400. Call: 554-6789. Open to the public.

Senior & Disability Action (formerly Planning for Elders/Senior Action Network), general meeting, 2nd Thursday of month, 9 a.m.-noon, Universal Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. SDA Housing Collaborative meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 1 p.m. HealthCare Action Team meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 1010 Mission St., (Bayanihan Community Center). For info about SDA's Survival School, University and computer class schedules: 546-1333, www.sdaction.org.

DISTRICT 6 SUPERVISOR

Jane Kim, member, Land Use Committee, School District, Transportation Authority; chair, Transbay Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors; vice-chair Transportation Authority Plans & Programs Committee.

Legislative aides: Sunny Angulo, Ivy Lee and April Veneracion.

Jane Kim@sfgov.org 554-7970

Office of Self Help

1663 Mission St.
Suite 310
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 575-1400
www.sfosh.org



Location is just off South Van Ness and is accessible by public transportation.

Through the collaboration of consumers and other community activists, the Office of Self Help was developed 23 years ago. We are here providing state-of-the-art Self Help Service Techniques and other Culturally Oriented Services.

All of our services have decades of background deeply rooted in our self-help model. If you are a mental health client having issues and want a nonjudgmental team to work with, call us.

(415) 575-1400



HOUSING APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE KNOX AND BAYANIHAN HOUSE



The Knox



Bayanihan House

Please go to 241 6th Street, San Francisco, CA for applications

The TODCO Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Housing Waiting List is open for the Knox and the Bayanihan House. If your name is currently on any TODCO Housing Waiting List and you would like information on your current status please call the TODCO Marketing Office at 415-957-0227 on Fridays' only.

Building	Size & Amenities	Max. Household Income Limits	Rent as of September 01
The Knox SRO located at 241- 6th St. & Tehama is accepting applications and has an WAITLIST OPEN	SRO – 1 Person, or Couple Room size: 10 ½ x 18 (Semi-Private) bathroom 7 x 7 Unit amenities: sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed. Building amenities: small gym, library, private lounge, roof top garden, community kitchen, laundry facility & 24 hour staff & surveillance	1 person \$34,600.00/Year 2 person-Income \$39,520.00/Year Minimum income of \$1,730.00/Month	Move in Deposit \$865.00 Monthly Rent \$865.00 plus utilities
Hotel Isabel located at 1095 Mission WAITLIST CLOSED	SRO – 1 Person Shared bathroom Unit amenities sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2- burner stove, closet and single bed.	1 person \$34,600.00/Year No Minimum Income	30% OF INCOME Requires a Certificate of Homelessness
Bayanihan House (Non Assisted Units) located at 88 – 6th St. & Mission. WAITLIST OPEN	SRO – 1 Person, or Couple Room single: 10 ½ x 12, shared bathroom Double occupancy: 12x12, shared bathroom Unit amenities: sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed Building amenities: community kitchen, 24 hour staff & surveillance, laundry facility	1 person \$30,275.00/Year Couple \$34,580.00/Year Minimum income of \$877.40/Month	Move in Deposit \$572.00 Monthly Rent \$572.00 Utilities included

TDD: (415) 345-4470



**Visit us at our
new location ...**

**Office of Self Help
and
Mental Health Clients'
Rights Advocates**



New location:
1663 Mission St.
just off South Van Ness.
Accessible by public
transportation.

**Our new address is
1663 Mission Street, Suite 310**

Self Help

Self help specialists will help you reach your own goals.

- Warm Line
- Self help groups
- Computer Lab
- Nurse, acupuncture, Reiki
- Transgender groups
- Fitness training

575-1400

Clients' Rights If you are receiving mental health services, you can bring your grievances, concerns, complaints and other issues to us. We will help you resolve them.

552-8100