

Native son of the Mission lived in a tent blocks from his old family home

By MARK HEDIN

ROBERT GUERRERO III was born at St. Luke's Hospital in 1971. Much of his childhood was spent blocks away in a house at 19th and Capp streets that his grandfather rebuilt after the 1906 earthquake and fire.

Recently, he was living in a tent about a block away from there.

Now, he's making his home at the city Navigation Center at 1950 Mission St.

"I'm thankful I have somewhere I can eat, do laundry," Guerrero told *The Extra*. "I love it. Just to have someplace to go, come and go as I please, to be able to eat instead of going to soup kitchens."

The 19th and Shotwell campsite where he'd been living became notorious when police fatally shot fellow camper Luis Gongora on April 7. Called by an outreach worker trying to help the homeless, the officers had their gun drawn within seconds of arrival.

"I was right on the corner that morning. I heard it happen. I used to kick the ball with him," Guerrero said. "It was a shame what happened to him. He never did any harm."

Guerrero came to live there after years of bouncing around all over the Bay Area. His family had lived in San Mateo for a while and then Concord while his grandparents were living on Capp Street. "I was always in that house," he recalled of visits there as a child.

After his grands passed, his family lived there from 1980 to 2006. They had to sell for reasons Guerrero said were too difficult to detail. "It was a devastating thing for me," he said. "I never thought that would happen."

A "driver by trade," Guerrero worked at various jobs. One was at Northwest Cheese Distributors in the Bayview until it was sold and he was laid off, he said. For two years, he drove for a furniture warehouse in Citrus Heights, north of Sacramento.

His work history, though, was erratic, interrupted by bouts with alcohol and methamphetamine. "I'd end up getting drunk, not going in to work, and losing a job," he said. "I'm my own worst enemy."

He was living with his mom and stepdad in the East Bay, when one day in 2009, or maybe 2010, they packed up all his stuff after a bender.

"I got in my car and drove to San Francisco," he said. He found work driving a milk truck and rented a room in a house in Pacifica.

He lost that job and soon after the Pacifica home, but Guerrero found a room with an older man and his dog in a house off Ocean Avenue. That lasted a year or more, he said — until he lost his job and got behind on his rent as he awaited unemployment benefits. He couldn't keep up car payments,

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Homegrown homeless



Robert Guerrero III's story is *Central City Extra's* initial contribution to the massive multimedia project that June 29 will blanket the Bay Area with information and insight about homelessness. Scores of outlets in this collaboration, organized by the *Chronicle*, will add to the understanding of this pervasive social challenge.

The *Extra's* focus is on longtime San Franciscans who have become homeless in their hometown.

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boost from Bernie

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Growing demand
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FORGOTTEN LGBT HISTORY

TL street renamed
for transgender
riots

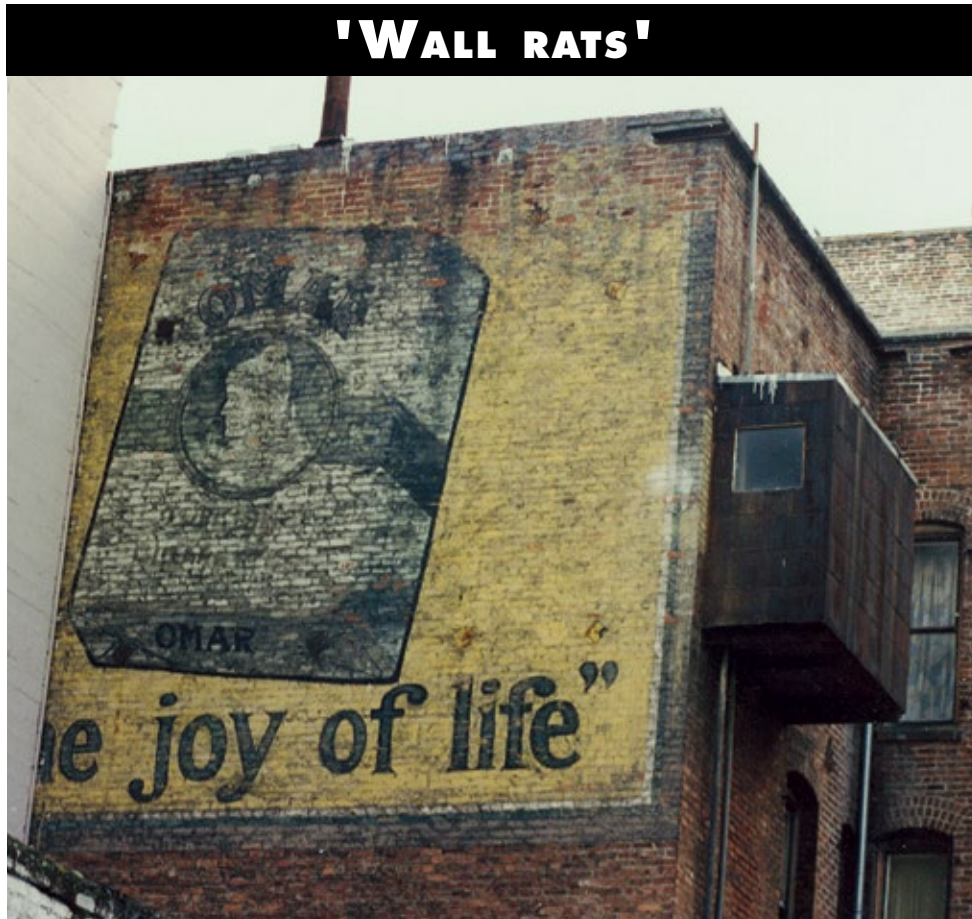
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CENTRAL CITY

EXTRA!

SAN FRANCISCO

'WALL RATS'



PHOTOS COURTESY © NAN CASTLE

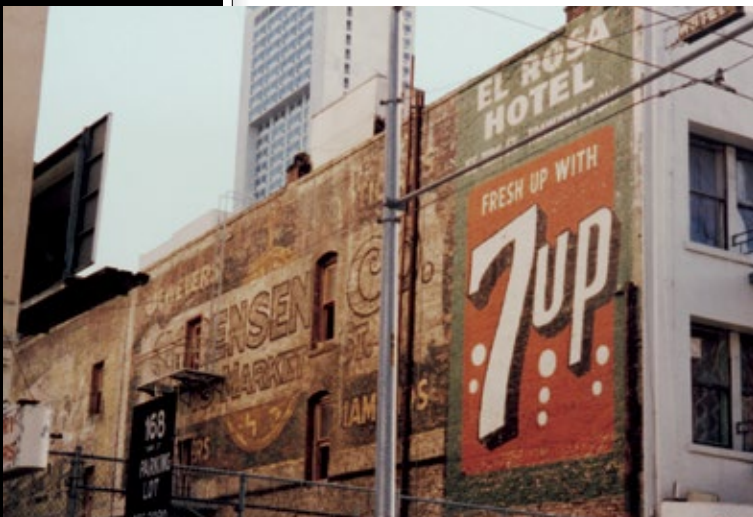
Nan Castle met her first ghost — "the joy of life" fragment of an Omar Cigarette ad, partly covered by an encroaching wall — in the early '90s as she walked down Mason near Eddy. "I had a light bulb moment. I knew then that I had to save this for posterity," she says.

Tenderloin ghosts

Haunting images of old commerce have tales to tell

By LISE STAMPELLI

NAN CASTLE fell under the spell of the fading charm of ghost advertising nearly 30 years ago. She's since carved a niche by tracking down the ghosts and photographing them before they're exorcised by deterioration, removal, painting over or demolition.



Ghosts pile up on Turk between Taylor and Jones.

The Tenderloin Museum honored Castle with a May 6 opening reception for a five-day exhibit of a dozen of her images. Of the 100 ghosts in her collection, 25 are — or were — in the Tenderloin. One, for Zubelda Cigarettes, a popular brand around 1910, was on a Larkin and Geary street building but has vanished.

Castle calls herself an urban archaeologist, saving the ghosts as photo records of how people lived, what they spent money on, what advertising messages appealed to them. Because the ghosts defined a neighborhood's character, film or theater designers and art directors can use the photos for period detail.

Castle learned quickly that every ghost has a story. Her process includes prowling the streets and following up on tips from friends or real estate professionals — she heard about a wall advertisement for White Owl cigars from a friend whose back garden had a view of the vine-covered ghost. Once she photographs the ghosts, she researches the products and services, using her skills as a former real estate attorney to look up ancient business records and licenses and track down out-of-business companies' headquarters.

One, an ad for Omar Cigarettes on Mason Street, cashed in on the Orientalism craze after Chicago's 1893 World's Fair, citing the "joy of life." American companies co-opted legends and created new ones loosely based on Middle Eastern themes. In old magazines, Castle found ads for Omar Cigarettes that quoted 11th century poet and mathematician Omar Khayyam.

While some ghosts promote small luxuries like tobacco products, soft drinks and chewing

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Kim snags Sanders' blessing, shares his spotlight

Senator's endorsement a bonanza for D6 supe's campaign fund

By MARK HEDIN

DISTRICT 6 SUPERVISOR Jane Kim made national news in May when Bernie Sanders endorsed her bid to replace termed-out Mark Leno in the California Senate.

Kim was one of eight state-office candidates nationwide who got the Vermont senator's nod. His press release cited her work as a civil rights attorney and advocate for affordable housing and fair wages in San Francisco.

Sanders, who has Kim's backing in his presidential bid, didn't mention Kim's leading role in the Twitter tax break, or that she made the Citizens Advisory Committee a rubber stamp for city deals with tech companies.

Kim is running to replace Leno, who's being termed out after eight years in Sacramento. Her chief rival is District 8 Supervisor Scott Weiner, who also got a U.S. senator's endorsement, Dianne Feinstein's.

Besides Kim, Sanders spoke up for House of Representative candidates in South Carolina, Justin Bamberg and Terry

Alexander, Clara Hart in South Dakota, Joe Salazar in Colorado, David Bowen in Wisconsin, Carol Ammons in Illinois, and, in his home state of Vermont, Chris Pearson, who, like Kim, is a candidate for the state Senate.

The Chronicle reported that Kim and Sanders met during the latter's campaign rally in Vallejo on May 18, where they discussed the cost of college educations. Kim has called for making CCSF free for San Francisco residents, while Sanders had advocated for free tuition across the board at U.S. public colleges and universities.

Sanders' endorsement gave Kim's campaign a tremendous financial boost. According to political consultant Storefront Media's Julie Edwards, "It was incredible. We've received donations from more than 10,000 individuals since the email (Sanders' endorsement) went out. Each donation averaged about \$5.

"Our opponent is backed by big corporations, but Jane has that strong grassroots support here in San Francisco and from people all over the country who believe we need to do more to help working families, not special interests." ■



INTERNATIONAL MEDIA TV

District 6 Supervisor Jane Kim, actor Danny Glover and presidential candidate Bernie Sanders listen to a question from the audience at Allen Temple Baptist Church in East Oakland on Monday, May 30.

GOOD NEWS

By MARJORIE BEGGS

POP-UP FOR THE PEOPLE A temporary oasis in the Tenderloin's fresh-food desert appeared May 25 when Bi-Rite Market staff brought deeply discounted fruit and vegetables for a two-hour, pilot pop-up sale at Arnett Watson Apartments, 650 Eddy St. More than 30 residents living at this 83-unit Community Housing Partnership property — supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and families — showed up to buy 150 pounds of potatoes, peaches, snap peas, salad mix and more. CHP gave each adult resident \$10 worth of tokens and each kid \$5 to buy the produce — carrots for 25¢ each, strawberry baskets 2 for \$5, for example — that filled two 6-foot tables and sold out. Bi-Rite plans to be back at Arnett Watson for five more pop-ups this year, one a holiday market in November or December. If it continues to be a hit and runs smoothly, the high-end Mission District market will offer pop-ups as part of its community donation program. Elsewhere in the TL, food pantries offer fresh produce from the Food Bank for free to folks in 21 SROs.

...

LOCAL ARTISTS San Francisco Arts Commission Galleries in 1986 presented its first Chain Reaction, a group exhibition that mimics a chain letter: A small group of selector-artists chooses other artists to exhibit who then choose other artists and so on. This year's Chain Reaction 12, presented in the Arts Commission's new main gallery in the renovated War Memorial Veterans Building, features the work of 21 emerging and mid-career San Francisco artists. The seven arts luminaries invited to initiate the chains were Oakland Museum of California Curator Rene de Guzman, Laurie Lazar and Darryl Smith from the Luggage Store Gallery, Kevin Krueger and Jorge Garcia from Alter Space, Margaret Tedesco from 2nd Floor Projects, artist Lynn Hershman Leeson, and arts professionals Maysoun Wazwaz and Rhiannon MacFadyen. The free exhibition opens June 10 with a celebration, 6-8 p.m. at 401 Van Ness Ave., and runs through Oct. 8. Gallery hours are Tue.-Fri., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: sfartscommission.org/gallery.

...

SUMMER JOBS AND BEYOND

The city's Youth Jobs+Initiative kicks off its fifth year this summer, helping 16- to 24-year-olds find summer jobs and paid internships and year-round employment. The collaboration among United Way of the Bay Area, city departments and private employers helps about 5,000 young people yearly to get work experience.



COURTESY OF DAVID BAYUS

Still from David Bayus' short film Hermit, part of SFAC's Chain Reaction 12 exhibition. Animated figures navigate a contemporary, surrealist environment.

Among the many jobs posted: The Hyatt Hotel has internships open, Starbucks is looking for baristas, Bi-Rite wants an ice cream scooper, Safeway a cashier and Applebee's a server. Major program

funding comes from JPMorgan Chase, PG&E, Starbucks, Bank of America and Enterprise. Info: sfyouthjobs.com or call 3-1-1 or 2-1-1. ■

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CENTRAL CITY

EXTRA

NEWS IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE

SAN FRANCISCO

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Lots of jobs going to pot — industry on hiring spree

Bud tenders, delivery drivers most in demand — tech workers, too

By TOM CARTER



DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION LISE STAMPELI

SAY YOU WANT to vacation in comfy California lodgings that are marijuana-friendly and might even provide the stuff — if your medical card is in order. Bud and Breakfast, operating worldwide like Airbnb, can hook you up. Just browse its listings and choose.

“Sure, someone in the Tenderloin could rent out a room through us,” said George Ludwig, chief tech officer, manning an exhibit at the GreenRush Cannabis Job Fair April 30 in the nearby Regency Hotel’s fancy ballroom on Van Ness Avenue. “Maybe charge \$100 a night, or more.” Ludwig was looking to hire a Web designer.

His service is one of many new approaches to medical cannabis, reflecting dizzying growth, especially in dispensary-to-doorstep delivery services and technical innovations that are creating thousands of jobs.

The Extra was there to report on the job options for Tenderloin residents.

Ludwig was one of 32 exhibitors each paying \$420 to meet a stream of job-seekers and collect resumes for interviews later. Only a few exhibitors were based in San Francisco, one the 9-year-old Green Cross delivery service. None was from the Tenderloin (see sidebar).

The line waiting to get in for \$4.20 wrapped around the corner. Those who paid \$29 could skip the line. The final head count for the eight-hour event was 2,767.

The mood was upbeat as the throngs threaded along three rows of tables, hoping for new careers in a \$2.7 billion industry in California last year. ArcView Market Research, a cannabis investor group,

predicts it will be \$6.6 billion in 2020. By that time, one industry executive estimates, up to 500,000 new jobs will have been created.

Employee pay in most of the state is moderate, according to salary data from Indeed website. The highest paid, cannabis doctors, average \$116,000 a year, about the same as a tech worker. Dispensary managers make \$55,000, delivery drivers, \$39,000, and bud tenders, those front line retail sales clerks at the counters who know potencies and other details of their dispensary’s inventory, \$24,000. But these are averages. Bud tenders in the Bay Area can make up to \$52,000.

Marketing specialists, accountants, head bakers, executives and lab technicians range from \$60,000 to \$80,000 and higher.

A freelancer who designs music posters, Debray Carpenter of Bayview-Hunters Point, was picking up business cards, looking for a steady paycheck. Stephanie Miller, a Starbucks employee in Sonoma, sought a new career in customer service, having learned of the fair at the 420 celebration at Golden Gate Park.

But some just wanted to get a sense of the expanding industry and its burgeoning services, especially for shut-in patients and hobbled old-timers. Now patients can find relief from among an estimated 25,000 products, including scores of bud strains and a range of edibles from cannabis-infused chocolates to sublingual spray, sometimes helpful for epileptic children.

The turnout was short of GreenRush strategist Eddie Miller’s hopes of up to 4,000 but, still, he says, it’s “the biggest cannabis job fair ever.” Miller said the majori-



TOM CARTER

Jane McKay of Berkeley Patients Group talks with Christopher Hind, an applicant looking for a cannabis-related job at the April 30 GreenRush Cannabis Job Fair.

ty of exhibitors were “technology-related, reflecting the Bay Area environment.” But GreenRush, an online marijuana delivery service for 255 dispensaries statewide, was looking for drivers.

California’s medical marijuana industry is getting a boost from new laws that regulate medical cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, transportation, testing, distribution and sales. The state will issue 17 different licenses.

“In one year the industry has gone insane,” said Brian Reyes, taking a minute away from the crowd bunched at his table. He co-owns Alta Supply with Jessica Lilga. Their 18-month-old delivery business with a staff of seven was looking to add three 40-hour-a-week drivers and two sales reps.

There was a strong sense among the job seekers that California will vote to approve recreational pot in November, and they want to be in the forefront and find job security in an industry set to explode.

Christopher Hind of Martinez, dressed in suit and tie, for the last six months has been a part-time bud tender and driver in Marin County. He was in line with a dozen others to speak with two representatives from the Berkeley Patients Group, one of the oldest dispensaries in Northern California. The 2,500-square-foot cooperative on San Pablo Avenue with 50 employees recently added delivery.

“I’ve always admired your operation,” he said to Jane McKay, the dispensary’s office manager. She had seven positions to fill, bud tenders and dispatchers. “These are 40-hour-a-week jobs with all the benefits, including overtime, paid vacations

and sick days,” she said.

“Yes,” Hind agreed, handing her his resume, “the benefits are quite good.”

Among the tech innovators, Cannabis IQ has developed point-of-sale software to track and graph sales, show product trends and who sold what, and keep patient records, among other features. Debbie Cote, who manned the exhibit of the new cloud-based company in San Mateo, was looking for an account manager, marketing ambassador, programmer and sales rep.

In the next aisle, Brian Wansolich, a cofounder of Seattle startup Headset, had a laptop showing color graphs of a hypothetical dispensary’s sales. Farmers and dispensaries need technology to streamline operations, he says. “If you want to know what products work best, here it is. It’s the way grocery stores operate and order.”

Typical of fairs, there were deals. GreenRush, for example, was offering 20% off four deliveries and, just for attending the fair, an \$80 credit. Bud and Breakfast was giving a year’s free listing, afterward a 3% charge for rentals. Upstairs in a balcony alcove you could fill out a form, see a doctor and get a cannabis card if qualified for \$19, instead of the usual \$39.

“But we’ve only had about a half-dozen” after three hours, said Dr. Perry Solomon, one of two RushMD doctors on hand, “and most were (annual) renewals.”

GreenRush is planning a job fair sequel in 2017 and looking for a bigger venue, Miller said. ■

Why Tenderloin has no pot clubs — and when it might get one

The Tenderloin has no medical marijuana dispensary. The neighborhood had two, but lost them in unsettling ways when Cafe.com at 120-24 Mason St. closed in 2007 and Sanctuary at 669 O’Farrell St. got shuttered in 2012.

Cafe.com’s landlord, CitiApartments, told the Planning Commission in a May 2007 letter that the pot club was unauthorized and, moreover, claimed it hadn’t known the pot club was even there, though previously CitiApartments had signed off on it with the city. The small, discreet club in back of the Internet cafe had 800 clients, 80% of them from the TL, owner Tariq Alazarie said. The nearby Hilton Hotel, wary of such things, had “leaned on” the landlord to shut it down, Alazarie said, though a hotel official denied that.

Northern California U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag put Sanctuary and its eight employees out of business with a letter to the landlord saying his building could be seized because he was harboring a federally illegal operation.

Sanctuary, which had a lease until 2020, had taken compassion to a high level. It had fewer than 1,000 patients and gave away medical pot to the poorest of them, subsidized rents of 10 of the neighborhood’s neediest up to \$600 a month, and each week made and distributed free sandwiches.

Such caring was lost on Haag. She forced Sanctuary to close in January 2012 and the storefront became a pet store.

There’s a good chance the Tenderloin will get a new pot club. Currently, 23 applications for new dispensaries are pending, one at 1276 Market St. at Ninth by FMSF Inc. Another application is Delta Health Center’s bid for 110 Sixth St. SoMa now has nine dispensaries.

Approval takes five months to a year, but there’s no limit to the number of dispensaries the city can have, according to the Health Department. In January, San Francisco had 28. ■

— Tom Carter



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3	09/15/2017	09/15/2019
4	09/15/2018	09/15/2020

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Every ghost has a story to tell

Fading images on old buildings hint at TL's character



LISE STAMPFLI

At home. Nan Castle checks contact sheets of some of the 100 images she's taken over the last three decades. She also day trips out of the city to Peninsula and North Bay sites, and is organizing her photos and research into a book project.

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gum, or services like blacksmithing or career schools, others like the YMCA at 220 Golden Gate Ave. and the Shawmut Hotel at O'Farrell and Jones call attention to place. Castle follows all promising leads camera-in-hand to capture and save the images before they disappear forever.

She likes to shoot after a rain. The ghosts, usually found on brick, stucco or wooden buildings, are most visible when they're wet and lighted by even

cloud cover. The colors pop more, helping the ghosts — the lowest form of long-lasting outdoor advertising involving no framework, hardware, neon tubing or attachments — to compete once more for peoples' attention.

"They were painted directly on specially primed walls by 'wall rats,'" Castle says, "who used a combination of grid line transfer from scaled artwork and freehand painting."

Many of the ghosts featured in Castle's exhibit can still be seen on TL walls, and a few are represented here. ■



PHOTOS COURTESY © NAN CASTLE

The Hotel Toronto, on the 900 block of Geary, and the advertisement for the Turkish blend tobacco cigarettes — 2 packages for 15¢ — both are gone. The P. Lorillard Co. introduced its Zubelda smokes in 1912, named in honor of the Khedive of Egypt's wife. The late Edwardian-style hand lettering is typical of this kind of product at the turn of the 20th century.



Clockwise from top: The safety of "steel frame" reinforcing the Herald Hotel at 308 Eddy, built in 1910 and the largest tourist hotel in the Tenderloin at the time, would have been a plus for potential residents since so many buildings had to be razed after the '06 earthquake and fire. This location marker has been repainted recently, but the date is unknown. Nan Castle shot this original ghost promoting the United Railways Telegraph Schools on the building at 136 Taylor St. before an aggressive restoration in 2011. Castle says, "The train in the original was so much more detailed and dynamic, and the aged texture of the original ghost was what made it special." The profile of a Native American still graces the side of the Hotel Shawmut at 516 O'Farrell St., built in 1912. Photographer and historian Mark Ellinger (see sidebar) says that the hotel's name, Anglicized to mean spring, referred to its private baths, unusual at the time the Shawmut was built.



Tenderloin love affair runs deep

Many are drawn to the visual beauty of the Tenderloin, none more so than photographer and neighborhood historian Mark Ellinger. His *Up From the Deep*, an online documentation of the TL, has been a comprehensive resource and graphic delight for almost a decade. "I have indulged in a passionate love affair with midtown San Francisco ever since it became my home turf in February 2001," Ellinger writes in the introduction to his site. "The long-neglected central city embraced me as one of its own."

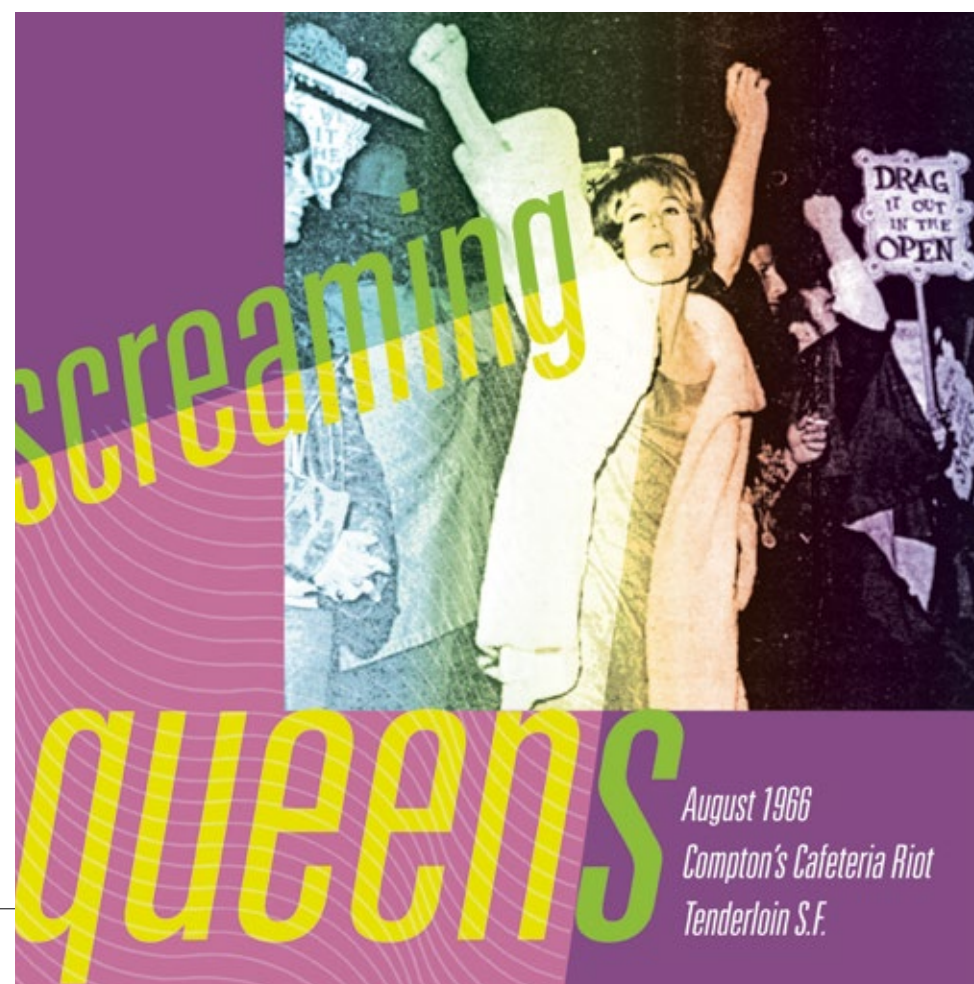
He called his first photo works, shot starting in 2002, the Hotel Project. A City Hall exhibition three years later led to a blog of the same name, and that morphed in 2008 to *Up From the Deep*. Ellinger is part of the tradition of helping us celebrate our surroundings. "I have found that, as a general rule, people rarely look upward past eye level," he says. "They are most often surprised when their attention is directed above to something they have passed



"Down over Taylor Street" by Mark Ellinger

by without seeing, perhaps for years." View Ellinger's work at upfromthedeep.com.

— Marjorie Beggs



Honoring ground zero

City pays tribute to transgender riot on tough Turk & Taylor block

By MARK HEDIN

FOR GROUND ZERO in the gay civil rights movement, look not to New York City's Stonewall riots of 1969 but to San Francisco's own hot corner, Turk and Taylor. There, in an almost identical resistance to S.F. police harassment, drag queens beat New Yorkers to the punch by three full years.

That was 50 years ago, 1966, when the "weirdniks," as Chronicle columnist Herb Caen described the late-night denizens of Gene Compton's Cafeteria at 101 Turk St., got fed up with police picking on them and, in a barrage of dishware, hot coffee and window-breaking, resisted a wee-hour raid.

"It's hard to imagine, but people were arrested all the time just on the

basis of what you were wearing," Felicia Flames Elizondo said at the fifth annual Howard Grayson LGBT Elder Life Conference, May 21 at the Cadillac Hotel. "There were laws against cross-dressing, even in San Francisco at the time. If the police caught you wearing long hair they would take you to jail."

Compton's, a chain of all-night diners, was one of the few places to get away from the "constant violence in the neighborhood," the late Amanda St. Jaymes said in "Screaming Queens," a short documentary about the riots made in 2005. "We went there to gossip about what we did and to let people know that we're alive. We survived the night."

"It was the center of the universe for us. It was our community," Elizondo,

a 29-year AIDS survivor and Vietnam War veteran, said.

But police harassment was a fact of life for that community, and St. Jaymes and Elizondo both spoke of how, finally, the constant hassle grew to be too much. When police came in that August evening and started, as Elizondo put it, "meeting their quota" at Compton's, the first person they accosted splashed her cup of coffee at the officer. And then it was on. Sugar shakers went through the restaurant's plate-glass windows, plates and saucers and such went flying and officers were hit with heavy handbags until they withdrew to the street awaiting backup, according to the only published report of the incident.

As the nighthawks fled the diner, out on the street a newspaper shack was set afire and a police car's windows were smashed.

The night after that melee, when barred from returning to Compton's, protests began again, and just-replaced windows were rebroken.

But the transgender community and drag queens were so marginalized that the riot was not reported in either of the city's daily papers. Police records, too, gave no clues of what happened. But for a mention in the alternative newspaper, *Gay Pride*, all word of it might have been lost to history.

"Screaming Queens" filmmaker Susan Stryker, director of LGBT Studies at the University of Arizona, first learned of the riots in the mid-'90s, when she stumbled across that obscure reference. "I tried every way I could to verify that story," she says. "I searched the archives looking for clues and I searched the streets of the Tenderloin for people who might remember what happened that night."

For all that, no one's even sure exactly which night it was. Police records of the era, Stryker learned from San Francisco Public Library City Archivist Susan Goldstein, "have been disappeared" since the early '70s.

"Had I not come across the written description and started making inquiries, it most likely would still be lost to history," Stryker said. "I think ultimately it would've been recovered; it was there

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Remembering TL's all-but-forgotten riot

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waiting to be publicized. When we were out in the neighborhood doing research and shooting, people started coming forward and telling us their stories and saying, "Thank you for confirming the memory I had!"

That written description was by Raymond Broshears, a cofounder of Gay Pride events. The publication, Gay Pride, was the program for the initial Gay Freedom Day Parade. With its next edition, Gay Pride became Gay Pride Quarterly, making the premiere publication more obscure until Stryker came across a copy at the GLBT Historical Society.

"By the scale of the day," Stryker concedes, as riots go, what happened at Compton's was nothing compared with what had gone down in Watts a year before or would follow the next year in cities across the country, such as Newark and Detroit. But the tenor of the times played a part in encouraging resistance.

"It was bigger than a bar fight, smaller than a military invasion," Stryker said. "Compton's was completely trashed, a police car was demolished, a newsstand was set afire and general havoc was caused that night in the Tenderloin."

Stryker's film won an Emmy for Best Cultural or Historical Special and aired repeatedly on PBS. She was just in time, though. Two key sources in her film, community artist St. Jaymes, also known as Amanda Taylor or Mandy Taylor, and former SFPD Community Relations Officer Elliott Blackstone, for instance, have since died.

"I think all of the people who had firsthand knowledge aren't with us anymore," Stryker said. "I don't know of anyone who was a living witness and can speak of it."

"It's so vague," Elizondo said. "I try to remember, but at that time we were all trying to survive, on drugs, prostitution. We didn't know we were making a statement. We were tired of being harassed."

"We were called the Gutter Girls because we had no education, no skills," she said at the Cadillac event. "Prostitution and selling drugs is the only career we had because they would not hire us. We had to do something to survive!"

"The kids of today don't know how easy they have it. We didn't know if we were gonna come home, who was gonna pick us up. But we had to survive. We had the balls to be who we were. Nobody could take that away from us."

In a year when transgender issues have moved into the national spotlight, San Francisco is honoring a barely known ground zero in the long campaign for safety, respect and fair treatment.

On June 24, Vicki Mar Lane, aka the 100 block of Turk Street, will meet Gene Compton's Cafeteria Way, when the 100 block of Taylor takes on a new identity, per the Board of Supervisors' May 17 unanimous vote approving Supe Jane Kim's proposal to honorarily rename that block.

"Today, the tide is changing, but there's also pushback — North Carolina comes to mind," former Assemblyman and S.F. Supervisor Tom Ammiano said outside the Cadillac after speaking at the LGBT Elder Life Conference. "Those people in North Carolina have to understand that their words cause violence. They have blood on their hands."

Nowadays, there's a halfway house in the building above where Gene Compton's Cafeteria once operated. Its corner entrance is boarded up in favor

of a doorway at 111 Taylor. Across Taylor sits the Warfield Hotel, recently cited by the city for numerous health code violations, and the plywood boards concealing the renovation of the recently closed dive bar, the 21 Club. Across Turk from there is a parking lot abutting the Warfield Theatre. On the southwest corner is another refurbishing site, where the much-ballyhooed but long-delayed restaurant Local is expected to open this year, reportedly bringing healthy fast food at affordable prices.

The corner of Vicki Mar Lane and the soon-to-become Gene Compton's Cafeteria Way has a long and enduring history as a hot spot, usually in the worst of ways. It's the roughest intersection in the city's toughest neighborhood.

"In the mid-'80s, that became the crack cocaine corner," said Del Seymour, who worked it as a dealer, pimp and drug user and visits it still as he leads techies on neighborhood tours. "That became the place to go," he says, explaining that he and other dealers found safety in numbers from law enforcement. "If you're selling by yourself," he said, "you're vulnerable." But if you're just one in a group of 25, "they can't arrest everybody."

Nonetheless, "I got 14 felony arrests for drug sales on that corner, in front of the 21 Club."

"Turk and Taylor is ground zero for the Tenderloin," Gary Jimenez, then captain of the TL police, told the Chronicle in 2009. "It is, it always has been and it continues to be." This was the day after Leticia Hunter, 33, died in a hail of gunfire that injured five others standing outside Grand Liquors one February evening that year. The silver Mercedes SUV from which the shots were fired evaded



MARK HEDIN

Felicia Flames Elizondo holds a framed copy of Gay Pride's account of the Compton's Cafeteria riot at the Howard Grayson LGBT Elder Life Conference at the Cadillac Hotel on May 21.

police going 110 mph on the Bay Bridge. It was found "abandoned and aflame" on an Oakland street a few hours later, Tom Carter reported in The Extra and the book "Death in the Tenderloin."

Two years later, on March 23, 2014, eight people were hit by semiautomatic gunfire when one of a group reportedly playing dice on the street got upset, went to his car, pulled out a weapon and opened fire before speeding off, police said. Writing in BeyondChron a week af-

➤ CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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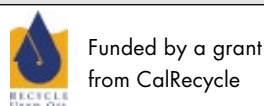
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Compton's riot

➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

ter the shooting, Randy Shaw said that more than 1,500 residents had signed petitions asking then-Chief of Police Greg Suhr to boost police staffing in the hood, to no avail.

Seymour says the dice-game tale is a myth, that the fight was in fact about a drug deal gone bad due to phony dope.

A 2012 Tenderloin Housing Clinic study found Turk's first block had eight times more violent crime than the average in the rest of the neighborhood and 35 times as much as the rest of the city.

In one city attempt to calm things, it's now illegal to park on the first block of Turk, approaching the intersection. ■



SCREENGRAB FROM "SCREAMING QUEENS"

Rare image of the Gene Compton's Cafeteria that was at 101 Turk St. Others were on Powell and Van Ness streets.

3rd-generation man from the Mission goes homeless

➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

either, so he had to let his car go, too.

He stayed with a friend of a friend in a flat on Shotwell at 18th for "six or seven months," helping with maintenance in lieu of paying rent. But a roommate, he said, a bipolar, meth-using, domineering sex worker, was tough to deal with and he had to move on.

"I decided to go to Walden House" in the Fillmore, he said, and "almost made it six months to graduation." Losing his job doing battery service for a tow truck company didn't help.

He went back to Shotwell. "I was partying here and there," he said, and his roommate got mad at him, "started taking control of the living situation there. There was a lot of abuse. I wouldn't put up with that shit, wouldn't put up one bit," he said.

"Finally I ended up getting a tent." It

was March 2014. "I was permanently on the streets then."

While speaking with The Extra, on a sunny afternoon at a picnic table under a canopy in the middle of the Navigation Center, he remembered that he had an appointment the next day to deal with a situation that he said could lead to his driver's license being suspended, despite his "clean, spotless record."

Guerrero is getting food stamps, he said, plus \$68 per month allocated to him after the city's "Care Not Cash" program gets its cut of his General Assistance check. "I definitely do need to get back in the workforce," he said. "I'm not getting any younger."

For the future, his ambition is "to not let myself fall down again. I don't drink nearly the way I used to. Don't get drunk anymore. I'm very thankful about that." ■

OBITUARIES



Would you like a friend or relative who has passed away to be remembered in the Central City Extra?

We have written and published hundreds of obituaries for central city residents after attending their memorials at the invitation of officiants. Usually held at the SROs where the deceased lived, the memorials are where our reporters talk with neighbors, friends and relatives, and, until recently, with SRO staff.

From what's shared there and from followup interviews, we write the obituaries that honor the lives of Tenderloin and South of Market residents. Photos from some of those obituaries are pictured above.

But because of federal privacy laws and the city's more stringent interpretation of them, The Extra is being invited to fewer and fewer memorials. Without the focus of those gatherings, it's becoming increasingly difficult to continue to write the obituaries.

If you would like to share information about someone who has passed, contact Marjorie Beggs, senior writer and editor, at marjorie@studycenter.org or 415-626-1650. A reporter will contact you to set up an interview time. Please: no anonymous interviews. We always appreciate photos to accompany the obituaries.

Below Market Rate (BMR) Rental Units Available

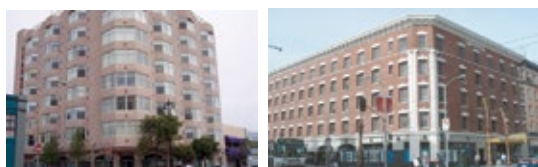
'Alchemy by Alta' at 200 Buchanan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102
 12 Studio at \$991 a month; 23 one-bedroom at \$1133 a month; 15 two-bedroom at \$1264 a month. (Income requirements and rental rates are subject to change based on the BMR Rental Program).
Twenty nine (29) BMR parking spaces additional \$100 a month based on lottery ranking and renter choice. Applicants must not own a housing unit, meet the "Resident Selection Criteria" and be income eligible. Household monthly income must equal at least 2.5 x rent; Studio = \$2477.50, 1 bedroom = \$2832.50, 2 bedroom = \$3160.00. Households must earn no more than the maximum income levels outlined below:

Household Size	1 persons	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons
Max. Annual Income	\$41,450	\$47,400	\$53,300	\$59,250	\$63,950

Application due by 5pm on Wednesday June 29th, 2016 to Caritas Management Corporation at 1358 Valencia Street, San Francisco, Ca 94110. For more information contact Garbo Chang (415) 647-7191 ext. 112. and garbo.chang@caritasmanagement.com. Or download an application at www.caritasmgmtcorp.com Units available through the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development and subject to monitoring and other restrictions.

Visit www.sfmohcd.org for an application and further program information

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/Min Household Income Limits	Rent as of Feb. 1, 2015
The Knox SRO located at 241- 6th St. & Tehama is accepting applications and has an OPEN WAITLIST	SRO – 1 Person or Couple Room size: 10 ½ x 18 (Semi-Private) bathroom 7 x 7 Unit amenities: sink, microwave, 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/year 2 person \$39,520/year Minimum income of \$1,374/month	Move-in deposit \$687 Monthly rent \$687 plus utilities
Hotel Isabel located at 1095 Mission CLOSED WAITLIST	SRO – 1 Person Shared bathroom Unit amenities: sink, microwave, refrigerator, 2- burner stove, closet and single bed	1 person \$34,600/year No minimum income Closed	30% OF INCOME Requires a Certificate of Homelessness
Bayanihan House (Non-assisted units) located at 88 – 6th St. & Mission. OPEN WAITLIST	SRO – 1 Person or Couple Room single: 10½ x 12, shared bathroom Double occupancy: 12x12, shared bathroom Unit amenities: sink, microwave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed Building amenities: community kitchen, 24 hour staff & surveillance, laundry facility	1 person \$30,275/year Couple \$34,580/year Minimum income of \$889.40/month	As of Jan. 1, 2015 Move-in deposit \$607 Monthly rent \$607 Utilities included

TDD: (415) 345-4470



The Openhouse Community at 55 Laguna

Applications Available June 8, 2016

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL and TRANSGENDER FRIENDLY HOUSING



Application Distribution and Return Location:

Francis of Assisi Community
145 Guerrero Street
San Francisco, CA

415.813.3710

TTY: 800.855.2880

leasing office hours

monday - friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

www.mercyhousing.org/california/55-Laguna
www.openhouse.org

Applications will be available and accepted from June 8, 2016 - June 16, 2016

Applications **MUST** be returned to 145 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 in person or postmarked by 5:00 p.m. June 16, 2016. (APPLICATION DEADLINE - NO EXCEPTIONS)

Application order will be conducted through a random drawing lottery on July 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Location of lottery is 145 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, CA. Random drawing lottery is open to the public. Applicants are not required to attend. Random lottery drawing results will be posted on MOHCD and Mercy Housing websites by July 28, 2016.

Preferences will be given in the following order: (1) Certificate of Preference holders from San Francisco's Former Redevelopment Agency (SFRA); (2) Displaced Tenant Housing Preference; (3) Neighborhood Resident Housing Preference; (4) Live or Work in San Francisco Preference.

Certificate of Preference and Displaced Tenants Housing preference holders contact 415-701-5613 for more information.

INCOME QUALIFICATION AND RENTS

Unit Size	AMI	# of Units	Rent
Studio @	50%	2	\$943
1 Bdrm @	40%	2	\$922
1 Bdrm @	45%	7	\$1037
1 Bdrm @	50%	17	\$1078
2 Bdrm @	40%	1	\$1107
2 Bdrm @	50%	2	\$1213

NOTE: MINIMUM HOUSEHOLD INCOME MUST BE AT LEAST TWO TIMES THE RENT. INCOME WILL BE REVIEWED DURING INTERVIEW. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO APPLY.

Section 8, HOPWA or Other Rental Assistance Are Welcome!

INCOME - MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE*

Unit Size	AMI	1 Person	2 Person	3 person	4 Person	5 Person
Studio @	50%	\$37,700	\$43,100			
1 Bdrm @	40%	\$38,400	\$39,360	\$44,280		
1 Bdrm @	45%	\$38,745	\$44,280	\$49,815		
1 Bdrm @	50%	\$37,700	\$43,100	\$48,500		
2 Bdrm @	40%	\$38,400	\$39,360	\$44,280	\$49,200	\$53,100
2 Bdrm @	50%	\$37,700	\$43,100	\$48,500	\$53,850	\$58,150

Maximum income levels are gross before taxes and deductions. Maximum allowable Income and Rents will not exceed 50% of SF MOHCD.

*Eligibility Criteria Include:

At least one household member on the lease must be 55 years of age or older.

We will consider qualified applicants with arrest or conviction record in accordance with San Francisco Police Code Article 49 - Fair Chance Ordinance.

Rents and income guidelines are subject to change per regulatory schedule for 2016 and annual recertification. Other restrictions may apply.

Community Information Meeting

Location: Francis of Assisi Community
Address: 145 Guerrero Street, San Francisco
Date: June 9, 2016
Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.



*Income and verified qualification restrictions apply. Inquire for details. Reasonable accommodations will be made available for persons who make a request.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Final planning meeting for July 10 Sunday Streets in the Tenderloin, June 20, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis St. Get info on programs, local access, small-business support, and organization, business and neighbor participation. Info: sundaystreetsf.org.

ARTS EVENTS

Thursdays@Noon films, Main Library, Koret Auditorium. Theme: books into pix. June 9, "Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961); June 16, "Rebecca" (1940); June 23, "Fried Green Tomatoes" (1991); June 30, "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" (1948). Info: sfpl.org.

Concerts at the Cadillac, 380 Eddy St., June 10, 12:30 p.m. Jazz and blues vocalist Lavay Smith and the Jules Broussard Trio featuring trombonist Danny Armstrong play the free monthly concert. Info: cadillacahotel.org.

#SFPublicCanvas, June 16-19, Hastings Demonstration Gardens, 333 Golden Gate Ave., 9 p.m. Free outdoor, multimedia collaboration between vertical dance group BANDALOO, media artist Jonathan Rowe of The Village Impacts, producing partner Illuminate, TL residents, and guest performers Campo Santo, Tassiana Willis and Youth Speaks artists. Info: sfpubliccanvas.org.

"Confessions of a Catholic Child," June 17-July 9, EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy St., written by Elizabeth Appell, directed by Ariel Craft, featuring Christina Augello. Info: theexit.org.

Hand Bookbinders of California's Annual Members' Exhibition, June 18-Sept. 3, Main Library Skylight Gallery, sixth floor. Works, from miniscule to mammoth, of more than 40 of the organization's members. Info: sfpl.org.

"UNITY," a documentary exploring humanity's transformation from living-by-killing into living-by-loving. June 25, 2-5 p.m., Main Library, Koret Auditorium, free. RSVP: <http://tinyurl.com/jn6m3s>.

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 Ligia Montano, 546-1333 x315.

Hoarding and Cluttering Support Groups, weekly meetings at various times, 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: pwdf.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, 3 p.m., Kelly Cullen Community Building, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor auditorium or 5th floor gym. Public invited to discuss legislation that encourages corner stores to sell fresh food and reduce tobacco and alcohol sales. Info: Jessica Estrada, jessica.healthytetail@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 IMPROVEMENT

Alliance for a Better District 6, 2nd Tuesday of 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., park clubhouse, Eddy and Jones. 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.

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 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 Thursday of month (note new day as of Feb. 2016), 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police Community Room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on issues 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



PHOTO: STEPHEN TEXEIRA

Vertical dancers from BANDALOO and other artists perform every evening at 9 p.m., June 16-19, at Hastings Demonstration Gardens, 333 Golden Gate Ave.

schedules: 546-1333, www.sdaction.org.

DISTRICT 6 SUPERVISOR

Jane Kim, chair, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, Transbay Joint Powers Authority Finance Committee and S.F. County Transportation Authority Vision Zero Committee; temporary member, Budget and Finance Committee; member, Association of Bay Area Government (ABAG). Legislative aides: April Veneracion, Barbara Lopez and Ivy Lee. Jane.Kim@sfgov.org 554-7970

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