

# Postal Service blamed for census form mail mess-up

Delivered in bulk  
to many SROs,  
not to individuals

BY TOM CARTER

**T**HE U.S. Postal Service, already facing the city's lawsuit over its discriminatory mail deliveries to SROs, made a mess of delivering census forms to Tenderloin SROs, census workers say.

"Our canvassers found stacks of census forms on the ground in SROs, and found them with the managers," said Steve Woo, a TNDC staffer and community organizer with the 2010 Census.

The canvassers went door to door March 17 through April 23, encouraging residents to fill out their census forms.

"That's when we connected the dots and went to the managers and found the problem," Woo told The Extra. "They (residents) just weren't getting their mail. Then we targeted

our outreach to 120 private SROs and apartment buildings. We reached 4,500 households."

In some cases, Woo said, canvassers took the forms from hotel managers and distributed them under residents' doors.

SRO mail deliveries have been a festering issue since 2004 when Central City SRO Collaborative activists and residents began their protests. They decried lost letters and government checks caused by bulk drops and demanded SRO residents be treated as apartment dwellers requiring individual locked box deliveries. Supervisor Chris Daly's ordinance in 2006 called for the city's 501 SROs to treat the tenants as permanent residents when it comes to mail delivery. But progress was slow, then came to a halt December 2008 when the Postal Service announced that it couldn't afford to deliver to thousands more mailboxes and would resume dropping mail at the SROs' front desks.

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demands  
some lasting  
benefits

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Shuttered  
summer was  
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display in  
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# CENTRAL CITY



SAN FRANCISCO

## 'TENACITY AND COURAGE'



PHOTO BY HEIDI SWILLINGER

**Judge Mary C. Morgan's Behavioral Health Court commencement — the first to be held in a Hall of Justice courtroom — fetes citizens' personal triumphs.**

# Graduation Day

## Behavioral Health Court ceremony trumps time in jail

BY JONATHAN NEWMAN

**T**HE Hall of Justice can be a sorrowful place. Windowless hallways and courtrooms deny the sunshine's entry. In dim artificial light, schools of the accused dart in and out of courtrooms hoping to avoid the law's net. Clumps of lawyers trundle papers to and fro. A screech of deals and pleas and punishments underscores the daily court calendar.

Lenny Bruce was once prosecuted for obscenity here. His cryptic comment — "The only justice in the Hall of Justice is in the halls of the Hall of Justice" — still seems apt.

But right can happen, too, as it did at the Behavioral Health Court graduation ceremony May 13, when 17 citizens were honored for successfully completing court-imposed programs necessitated by their prior missteps.

Cheers, applause and some joyful tears of relief swept through a packed Department 15 courtroom on the second floor, where Judge Mary C. Morgan presided over the 14th semiannual graduation proceeding of a system inaugurated seven years ago and designed, in the words of the national Council of State Governments Justice Center, "to improve the response to people with mental illnesses who come into contact

with the criminal justice system." Translation: Treatment instead of jail.

Since 2003, the San Francisco Behavioral Health Court has drawn together social workers, County Jail psychiatric service providers, cops, probation officers, substance abuse counselors, district attorneys and public defenders in a collaborative effort to find solutions, other than incarceration, for those whose mental health problems — sometimes aggravated by drug or alcohol use — have resulted in harmful collisions with law and order.

To date, 241 people have graduated Behavioral Health Court. They've successfully navigated personalized programs developed after clinical screening by jail psychiatric services and benefitted from selection of treatment providers, all of whom are contracted through the Department of Public Health.

For many, the court-mandated mental health and substance abuse programs are coupled with housing placements, and 60% of the participants are partnered with Citywide Case Management workers. A newly devised computer tracking system has yet to identify a success/fail rate with some participants staying two or more years in ongoing treatment and recovery settings.

When Judge Morgan finished a short afternoon court calendar and announced that graduation ceremonies would begin, the packed courtroom rang with applause. She noted that these ceremonies were occurring for the first time in a Hall of Justice courtroom.

In past years the ceremonies had been held at various community rooms, including the Main Library and Salvation Army's Kroc Center.

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PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

**The Elm Hotel** helped distribute census forms that were dumped on the counter.



# How hospital behemoth can help the hood

*TL coalition seeks binding pact with Cal Pacific Med Center*

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

**T**HE Good Neighbor Coalition wants to make it clear: It now neither opposes nor supports California Pacific Medical Center's plans to build a 555-bed hospital and nine-story medical building at Geary and Van Ness. But it will support the project if CPMC signs a private, enforceable contract — a community benefits agreement — ensuring that residents and nearby small businesses won't get the short end of the stick.

That was the message from James Tracy, community organizer at Community Housing Partnership, one of 18 central city organizations and a dozen or so residents who are members of the Good Neighbor Coalition, formed last year to mitigate the effects of the complex on the area. Coalition organizations range from Meals on Wheels, a free food program of Lighthouse Church, to TNDC.

Tracy described the coalition and its work at the April Tenderloin Futures Collaborative meeting, inviting everyone to get involved.

## WHAT THE COALITION WANTS

The coalition wants CPMC's commitment to comply with a laundry list of "mitigation measures": replace housing for the tenants in the 27 SRO and low-cost apartment units in four buildings that will be razed for the medical office complex; assist small businesses whose buildings also will be demolished (Fina Estampa restaurant and Car Parts Automotive Service are two); hire residents for the construction work and for permanent jobs at the completed facilities; provide health, education and job development services for neighborhood youth; assure health care for low-income residents citywide and support existing central city health facilities.

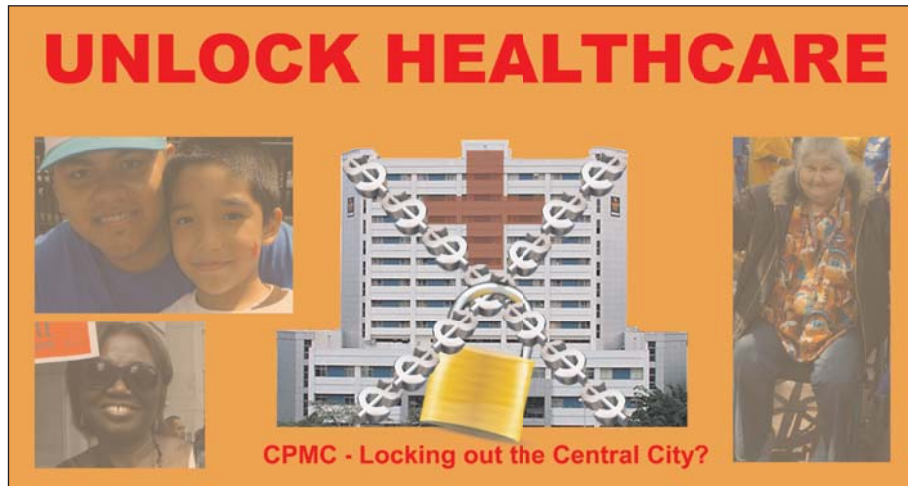
The must-have list came from the people and businesses affected by the \$1.7 billion complex, Tracy said. Last year, staff of the Community Housing Partnership, Central YMCA, TNDC and Tenderloin CBD and residents interviewed 800 neighbors. They asked them to rank the most pressing health concerns in the central city and citywide, as well as the neighborhood's greatest job and economic development needs, then took their answers and fashioned the list.

Since last year, the coalition has met with CPMC a few times, says community organizer Steve Woo, TNDC's coalition rep, and letters have gone back and forth since March.

## 'AGREE TO DISAGREE'

First, the coalition wrote CEO Warren Browner, outlining what it wanted. Mark Farrar, lead spokesman for CPMC's master plan, wrote back that CPMC agreed with many points. For some, however, "we may get close but will likely have to 'agree to disagree' on some of the particulars."

The Extra asked Geoffrey Nelson, CPMC director of enterprise development, what the sticking points might be. Nelson says CPMC is "overjoyed" a neighborhood group is offering guidance on how to "direct our services." Farrar's "agree to disagree" was not specific, Nelson said. "It was a reality check. We'll try like hell to get most people's health needs met in the Tenderloin, but in the real world, not all people's needs will be met. It's that simple."



**Good Neighbor Coalition** is circulating 1,000 of these postcards soliciting residents' signatures as a show of support for a contract with CPMC.

CPMC already has longstanding relationships with five Tenderloin organizations, Nelson said. Its Child Development Center counselors have been meeting with DeMarillac Academy students and families daily since 2005, a pro bono service. It has funded translators for Curry Senior Center's health clinic, also for about five years. St. Anthony Foundation got funds for its primary care and mental health programs. At Glide Memorial, CPMC gives free mammograms and funds taxi vouchers and a mobile dental van, and Tenderloin Health gets CPMC funds for its HIV-positive dental program.

"We're happy CPMC is funding Tenderloin agencies," Tracy told The Extra, "but the Good Neighbor Coalition isn't looking for checks — we want policy and institutional changes that will help the whole neighborhood."

## BAYVIEW PAVES THE WAY

Community benefits agreements, around for more than a decade, assure residents that they will get something good from a major development in their area. According to the Partnership for Working Families, which operates a Community Benefits Law Center, 13 such agreements are in force around the country. One is in our own back yard — Lennar Corp.'s housing project in Bayview-Hunters Point negotiated in 2008 by the San Francisco Labor Council, ACORN and the San Francisco Organizing Project. Among other commitments, Lennar agreed to provide \$8.5 million in job training for residents.

The coalition's last letter to CPMC, May 3, asks for a face-to-face to talk about "obtaining enforceable commitments . . . that go beyond what CPMC must do to meet applica-

ble legal requirements." The meeting was planned for June 1.

Meantime, the coalition has printed 1,000 postcards and is distributing them to people who live and work in the central city. They're asked to sign the card, which says "Unlock health care: CPMC locking out the central city?" on the front and, on the back, calls on the Board of Supervisors to make sure CPMC does right by its new neighbors.

"We've already collected 350 cards and when we get more we'll present them to the supervisors," said Woo.

They have time. The supes have the final vote on approving — or not — CPMC's master plan, of which the Cathedral Hill campus is one part. But that vote probably won't come until late this year, Woo says. First, the Planning Department has to approve a massive EIR. It was expected to be ready for review by the end of May, but Planning staffer Devyani Jain told The Extra that it's still months away. ■



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## St. Anthony gets good news, bad

*Will save \$8 million on building costs; delay will add 2 years to the opening*

BY TOM CARTER

CONSTRUCTION on St. Anthony's new dining room and senior housing at 121 Golden Gate Ave. that was to start this year has been delayed at least two years, but the cost to build it has dropped by \$8 million.

The bad economy and fierce competition among builders cut the cost, said Sharon Christen, Mercy Housing developer.

Two years ago, with Mercy Housing as a new partner, St. Anthony's plan blossomed from three stories with just a few units of senior housing to a 90-unit, 10-story building. Estimated cost then, in 2008, was \$66 million.

But HUD rejected their financing request, insisting on more historical review. They reapplied in 2009 and expect to hear back in June or July.

HUD's grant, if approved, will bankroll construction. In return, St. Anthony and Mercy must house low-income residents for 40 years and cap

their rent at one-third of their income. Construction would start in 2012.

Christen gave a project update at the May 11 ABD 6 meeting and later talked to The Extra.

Christen expects City Planning to waive the area's 40-foot height limit and offstreet parking rule and to get Planning Commission approval by fall.

The housing part will cost \$41 million and the rest of the building \$17 million, Christen said.

The main floor dining room would accommodate 300 guests at a time, 75 more than now on Jones Street, where it serves 600 hot meals daily except Sunday. The second floor will be devoted to social services.

Senior housing will be on Floors 3 to 10. Seniors 62 and older are eligible if they make no more than \$39,600 if single, \$45,000 for a couple.

There is no accommodation for parking.

During construction, the dining room will move across the street to St. Anthony's administrative digs at 150 Golden Gate Ave. ■

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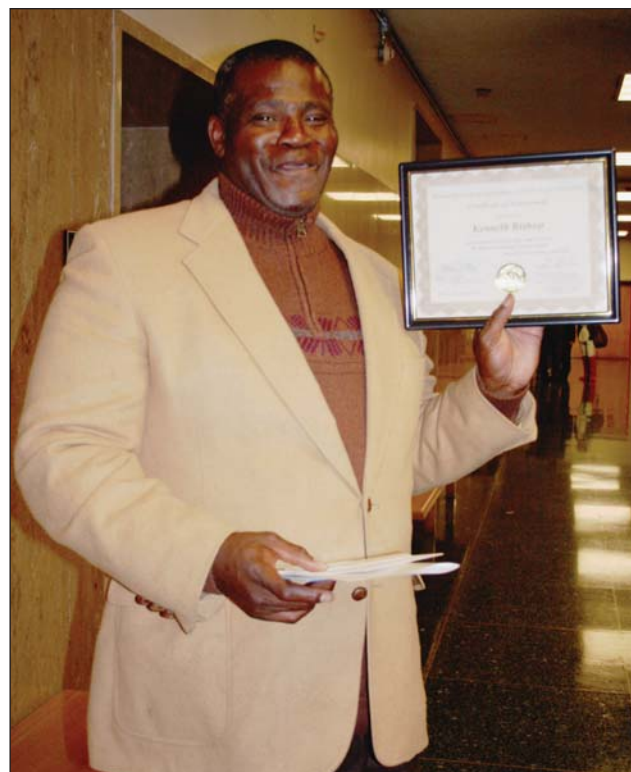
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**Christopher Kuykendall** — with his attorney, Betsy Wolkin — got praise from the judge.



**A proud Kenneth Bishop** displays his diploma.

PHOTOS BY HEIDI SWILLINGER

## Court where defendants get treatment instead of jail

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Then Morgan praised the assembled graduates, the families and friends who supported their efforts, and the mental health recovery teams and volunteers for their “incredibly outstanding work.”

“By your actions you have demonstrated your commitment to treatment, to becoming whole different persons. You’ve shown more tenacity, more courage than maybe at any other time in your lives. And you know what? You’ve become great teachers by your example,” Morgan said.

Kenneth Bishop, 52, was the first of the May graduating class, called to the front of the courtroom by his case worker, Mary Anne Cabansagan, to receive his diploma.

One evening a few years ago, Bishop was smoking a cigarette outside his Bayview residence. He wasn’t taking his mental health meds and, by his own admission, was “just drifting through life.” A stranger approached and asked Bishop if he knew where he could get drugs. Sure, Bishop told him.

“Everybody in the neighborhood knows where it’s sold,” Bishop said. So, he led the way around the

corner, took the stranger’s money and returned with the drugs. Mission accomplished — only the stranger was an undercover cop and Bishop went to jail on a sales charge.

Enter Behavioral Health Court. Bishop got back on his medication, found a group home and enrolled in City College. He’s proud of himself and feels closer to his family, particularly a nephew who is in college.

“I’m more positive now. I have more respect for others. I want to be a leader, not a follower. Set an example,” Bishop said.

Christopher Kuykendall was praised by Judge Morgan as well. “You are doing a very good job,” she said, but Kuykendall didn’t receive his diploma. He was in court for a progress report. If he continues on course, he’ll graduate in six months.

“It’s been a hard struggle with addiction,” the 39-year-old said. “I’ve been out of County Jail about a year now. I used to do marijuana, crack and alcohol. I’ve completed three drug programs — Grove Street, Baker Place and Sober Living — and I’m back at my mom’s place in Oakland. I got a case manager at Citywide and I’m going to school, learning to be a librarian. I used to live on Sixth, the Seneca

Hotel, until my selling and using just got out of control,” he recalled.

Behavioral Health Court gave Kuykendall some options besides selling and using drugs and jail. “I got a chance to better my life, you know? Hey, where I go to school some guys smoke weed or drink before class. They offer, but I ain’t interested. I made sacrifices, big decisions,” he said.

As Kuykendall walked away from the courtroom, his attorney, Betsy Wolkin, took his arm and announced to bystanders, “He’s a good man.”

Antonio Riley graduated, despite his failure at Behavioral Health Court once before. Riley lived in the Tenderloin lost in a fog of marijuana and alcohol when he was busted for robbery and petty theft. From County Jail he called Kathleen Connelly at Citywide Case Management and “begged for one more chance,” Riley said. He got it. Now, he lives on his own in the Ingleside.

“I’m stabilized,” he said, and happy to be back in touch with his mother and sister in San Mateo.

At the end of graduation ceremonies the crowd gathered at the front of the courtroom for cookies, cake and assorted treats.

Somewhere, Lenny Bruce is smiling. ■

## Boeddeker dodges a shutdown summer — but zero camps

BY TOM CARTER

**B**OEDDEKER Park escaped closure this summer when the mayor reached an agreement with unions representing city employees.

The mayor’s budget-slashing plan to lay off 1,000 city employees — Boeddeker Director Rob McDaniels along with scores of other Rec and Park employees — was averted by the May 12 deal that capped layoffs at 425.

“Otherwise, we would have shuttered Boeddeker Park at the end of May,” said Steve Cismowski, Rec and Park Neighborhood Services area manager.

### BOEDDEKER GETS ZIP

Even so, the park faces a bleak summer. It will host none of the 57 summer camps in the enhanced program the mayor created after the school district eliminated summer school. Tenderloin Recreation Center and SoMa Recreation Center, however, were awarded several programs.

“It’s our busiest time of the year,” Cismowski said. “Kids have to have somewhere to go.”

Boeddeker Park is open to adults 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays and kids with adults can be in the children’s playground from 2-5 p.m. The park on weekends resembles a lifeless monument; it’s closed.

McDaniels offers a free adult and senior exercise class 10 to 11 a.m. weekdays. After-

noons, he is assigned to the Tenderloin Recreation Center.

Gone now, after the layoffs, are Co-Director Melvina Hill’s programs such as senior bingo, with prizes, run by her and her volunteer husband Kenneth Pratt on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hill’s other popular programs were outdoor tea time in the upper picnic area, indoor movies and parent and kid art explorations. They ended, as planned, in mid-May and afterward, unexpectedly, Hill was transferred to another park to help run its summer programs.

More bad news for Boeddeker: It wasn’t on the People in Plazas summer concert performance schedule for the second year. Eight years of funding the park’s summer music with a Koret Foundation grant arranged by a Market Street Association member ended in 2009 when the member retired.

The Tenderloin CBD stepped in last year and gave the park \$1,500, and Betty Traynor, Friends of Boeddeker chair, scheduled three bands. Traynor said at the Friends’ May 13 meeting she would ask the CBD for another grant.

The four summer camps at Tenderloin Recreation Center two blocks from Boeddeker, full since May 17, have waiting lists. So the closest camps for Tenderloin kids are at the SoMa Recreation Center at Sixth and Folsom streets. It is offering quite a few activities for kids and adults; some are free. As of May 17, all were wide open and begging for signups.

Cismowski was quick to add at the Friends

meeting that parents needn’t sweat the fees. “Don’t let the dollar sign stop you,” he said. “Contact us.” Children in public housing attend the camps free. There is no public housing in the Tenderloin.

### SOMA SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Here is the SoMa Rec Center’s summer schedule:

Sports camps in the gym for 7- to 14-year-olds. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eight weekly sessions mid-June through August; cost for residents is \$122 a session, nonresidents, \$175. Extended care available, 8:30 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m. Each 1½-hour period costs \$45.

Boys and girls 6 to 13 can learn soccer fundamentals on nine Sundays, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$36.

Teen Social Hours, 18 of them beginning June 15 through Aug. 12 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m. for ages 13 to 17. Workshops, social activities and field trips. They’re free. As are Teens on the Town, which meets nine times from noon to 4 p.m. to explore the city on Wednesdays.

Adult badminton on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., costs \$18. Adult workout sessions and table tennis are free on Sundays. Seniors 55 and up can join the social club that meets Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., for bingo, games and field trips.

For more details, see [sfreconline.org](http://sfreconline.org) and click on Summer camps guide. ■



# Multimedia festival taking Tenderloin digital

*Dozen new ways participants can experience the neighborhood*

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

If you want to understand the Tenderloin's services and amenities in the most modern way possible — digitally — mark your calendar for June 13 and plan to drop in at the Tenderloin Technology Lab, 150 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd floor, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

There, on the lab's computers, you can play a new game called TenderVoice, the creation of digitally savvy media designers and lab staff aimed at residents who are both experienced computer users and newbies.

Here's how one part of the game works: You sit down at a computer and open the TenderVoice Website. Click on any one of five boxes at the bottom of the screen and you'll hear a 10-second sound clip — the real voice of someone from a real Tenderloin agency describing its core mission, but the voice and agency are anonymous. The upper part of the screen is a neighborhood map with names of a couple dozen organizations at their exact location (think Google maps). The fun part is trying to make the connection, dragging the box and its clip to the correct organization.

Other elements of TenderVoice include full interviews with organization reps, some 10 minutes, some up to 40 minutes. In the longer ones, the game-player can click around "chapters" to hear different aspects of the organization's work and see photos of staff and clients.

## TENDERVOICE INTERVIEWS

The TenderVoice team is still collecting interviews — for the record, San Francisco Study Center with its 2009 HELP directory of neighborhood resources will be one of the featured organizations.

Jake Levitas, co-leader of the TenderVoice project, says they have seven hours of raw audio interviews from 15 organizations so far and may go after another five. Each long interview has to be edited down to 10 minutes, then 10 seconds.

"What we're trying to do is give people a first-hand look at community work, to educate and maybe inspire them," said Levitas. "This can be a new tool for making community activism more compelling."

When TenderVoice launches June 13, it will be one of 12 projects in Gray Area Foundation for the Arts' four-day blowout digital event, "City Centered: A Festival of Locative Media and Urban Community."

Levitas defines locative media as "art that connects to its environment," though it's not a term he uses often, he says. Neither does freelance computer educator Kari Gray, a festival organizer whose surname is a coincidence: "I understand it as people expressing their sense of place through media."

Gray says planning for the festival, free and open to the public, began more than a year ago. "TenderVoice is perhaps the best example of what the festival is about," she said. "It's community-based, includes a variety of agencies, is a good demonstration of how people work together in a neighborhood and uses an innovative media platform."

Besides TenderVoice, the festival will feature

Every Step: Participants don an armband that has a camera — pointing up — and a pedometer mounted on it. As they walk around, every step triggers a shot of whatever is above them at that moment. Afterward, the images are loaded into a software program that creates a frame-by-frame animation with a soundtrack that the walker takes home on a DVD.

In The Wireless Landscape project, a GPS collects and maps wireless access points in the neighborhood. Residents can use the information to become aware of what's hot and what's not around them, and artists can use it for media projects that need specific information about wireless access locations.

## O'FARRELL ST. TIME CAPSULE

Block of Time: O'Farrell Street is based on the writings of Harriet Lane Levy, who lived at 920 O'Farrell (just off Van Ness) from 1867 to the 1880s. Levy wrote about her childhood neighborhood when she returned from Paris, where her artistic circle included Gertrude Stein, Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse. The project, say its creators, "will make the walls talk, literally, as well as the alley ways, storefronts and apartment buildings."

Other festival projects are Tender Secrets, Urban Remix, [no where now here], Tomorrow's Time Capsule, The Transborder Immigrant Tool, Beyond Boundaries, Sensors/Uncensored Exhibition and Insights/The Tenderloin. (See [citycentered.org](http://citycentered.org) for details.)

The festival is sponsored by Gray Area Foundation — whose mission, it says, is to build social consciousness through digital culture — and Access Now, KQED Digital Media Center, the Center

for Locative Media, Conceptual Information Arts Department at S.F. State University and the Berkeley Center for New Media.

The festival kicks off June 11 with "Whither Data Visualization," a symposium at KQED. June 12, media practitioners and others interested in hearing about the latest in digital culture gather for a day of speeches and panel discussions, also at KQED.

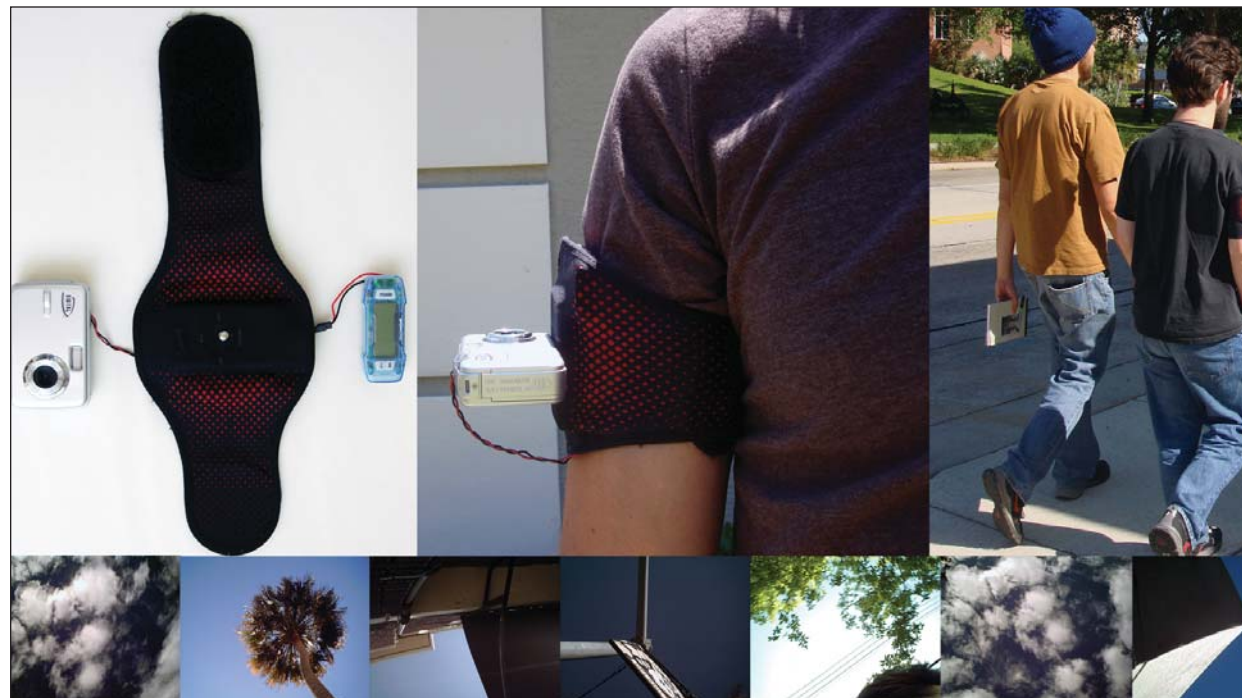
## DIGITAL DAY IN TL

Sunday June 13 features more interactive events at the Tech Lab, Gray Area gallery at 55 Taylor St., Luggage Store at 1007 Market, Central YMCA at its temporary location at 387 Golden Gate Ave. (outside in the garden), and the 900 block of O'Farrell. Gray Area's Website says festivalgoers will be able to "experience the Tenderloin community through wireless technology, the Internet and walks led by artists and community members."

The festival ends the following weekend, June 19, when KQED hosts six three-hour free workshops: Community Journalism: Hands-on Interviewing and Editing; Media Making in the Field Using Mobile Technologies; Community Mapping Using Online Tools; Digital Storytelling in Haiku Form; Exploring Wireless Community Networks; and The Basics of Data Visualization.

The workshops are limited to 15 people, says Leslie Rule, producer at KQED Digital Media Center and co-director of the Center for Locative Media; sign up at [citycenteredworkshops.eventbrite.com](http://citycenteredworkshops.eventbrite.com).

"Events like City Centered happen more in Europe," said Rule, one of the festival's organizers, "but in the U.S. it's unique — the idea of putting artists and community organizations and community people together to create art." ■



PHOTOS BY MATT ROBERTS

Don an armband mounted with a camera and pedometer and every step you take becomes part of an animated journey in Matt Roberts' *Every Step*, one of 12 City Centered Festival projects.

## Bulk SRO mail delivery may hurt census form return rate

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

City Attorney Dennis Herrera said the move was "immoral" and "illegal," and violated the agency's own code. He sued the Postal Service last May.

Woo said his canvassers reported that the dumped stacks of census forms became burdens to hotel managers.

"One manager had a stack of forms and didn't know what to do with them," he said. "She was going to throw them away. At the Elm Hotel, we met with the manager who had the forms and we worked with him to distribute them. When it was possible we did that."

Hotel managers may share the blame for lost forms. Last summer 300 census workers canvassed the city to find how many people lived where. In SROs, they asked for resident totals to determine the number of census forms to mail. If they could, they got managers' commitments to distribute the forms after they arrived.

"In most cases managers cooperated," says

Sonny Le, census spokesman. "But some were more helpful than others."

The 2010 census chose the Tenderloin as one of several neighborhoods for special outreach. It formed partnerships with local organizations and nonprofits such as Glide and TNDC to enhance efforts to contact the poor, multicultural population suspicious of government intrusions and challenged by language.

Chinatown, another targeted neighborhood, also experienced delivery problems. In a March 26 sidewalk press conference outside a Chinatown SRO, Herrera stressed the importance of the city's suit against the U.S. Postal Service in view of census-taking complications. At the 91-unit hotel at 866 Commercial Alley where Herrera stood, mail was being delivered in a pile on the reception desk counter.

USPS spokesman James Wigde said he could not comment because of the lawsuit.

Census forms were mailed mid-March. In an effort to catch up with people who hadn't filled them

out and returned them, an April 17 rally sponsored by TNDC and Glide was held at Boeddeker Park to put forms under uncounted noses. Woo said 200 residents filled out the 10-question census forms.

But two days later, at a sidewalk census rally at 230 Eddy St., Woo was worried. The neighborhood's participation rate was low and canvassers said stacks of the mailed forms were being strewn on SRO floors and others were lost. About 20 SROs had problems, he estimated.

"The Tenderloin has a 52% (form) return rate now," Woo said, "way below our goal of 70%."

It was, however, a lot better than the 46% in 2000.

The problems the census canvassers found "are issues we've been seeing for a long time," said Jeff Buckley, collaborative executive director. The collaborative, the Tenants Union and the Housing Rights Committee are co-plaintiffs in the city's suit.

"We'd like to present the U.S. Postal Service with a bill for all the money that the city's lost because of the forms lost in mail deliveries," Buckley said. ■

Celebrating 22 years of customer service in the Tenderloin

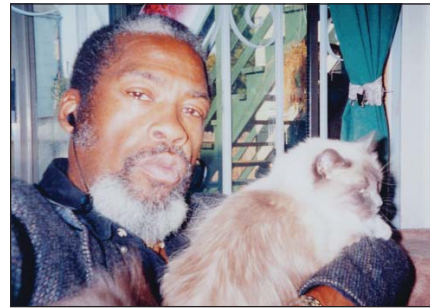
## TIP-TOP Market

90 Turk St.

Offering a 10% senior discount with the purchase of \$25 in food items, produce, fried chicken, hot dogs & nachos

Our prices fit the budgets of the neighborhood

No cash value; expires 6/30/10



*Dear friends and loved ones,*

*We lost our brother Sam in March and we miss him dearly. We yearn to see him just one more time, but hope that one day we will get to join him in Heaven. Until then, we will cherish our memories of him as brother, friend, mentor, and lover of life. We are humbled and grateful for your outpouring of love and kindness and will treasure it always.*

Many thanks,  
Siblings Thelmare, Gertrude, Vashti, Teddy, Debra, and Lavell Varnado  
and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins

# BALANCE



## Yvonne Miller.

Senior Clerk,  
San Francisco Unified School District  
Member, SEIU Local 1021.

**MY JOB:** balancing the books for public schools

**MY CONCERN:** how about a **balanced** approach for a balanced city budget?

“ I’ve worked for the schools since 1979 and I’ve lived in San Francisco all my life. I love being able to make a difference in the education of our children, but I’m concerned about our future because these huge budget deficits keep taking a toll.

City employees are helping out by taking pay cuts, contributing over \$115 million in this year alone. And I’m not one of those city employees who makes a lot—in fact, I earn less than \$50,000 a year.

But these budget cuts don’t just hurt workers—they hurt our schools, MUNI, health care—all of us. That’s why I’m supporting a balanced approach to balancing the budget. That means not just cuts, but increasing revenue by closing corporate loopholes and asking banks, insurance companies, city visitors and downtown corporations to pay a fair share.

Please join the broad range of community and neighborhood groups and city labor unions that have come together to Stand Up for San Francisco, by funding positive solutions to keep our neighborhoods and city vibrant. Join us at [www.standupSF.org](http://www.standupSF.org). Join us in saying enough is enough. Together we can make a difference. ”

Yvonne Miller,  
Senior Clerk, San Francisco Unified School District





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE SPECIAL EVENTS

**District Six Cleanup**, June 19, 9 a.m.–noon, Showplace Square (8th and 16th streets). Sponsored by the Community Clean Team, led by DPW. Volunteers needed to paint out graffiti, pick up litter, weed, generally clean up neighborhoods, merchant corridors, parks and district hotspots. Coffee and pastry in the morning and a thank-you lunch after the clean up. To volunteer or for information: [volunteer@sfdpw.org](mailto:volunteer@sfdpw.org) or 641-2600.

**Gigantic 3 program for District Six residents**, June 19, 8 a.m.–noon, Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling, 900 Seventh St. Coordinated by Clean City with Norcal Waste Systems. Drop off bulky items. Call for appointment, 330-1300. Residency proof required. Info: [sfcleancity.com/resources/gigantic3.html](http://sfcleancity.com/resources/gigantic3.html)

## ARTS EVENTS

**LOCAL WONDER 2: Art by Tenderloin Artists**, reception June 12, noon-3 p.m., 134A Golden Gate Ave. Exhibition, sponsored by TL Community Benefit District, features the diversity of the neighborhood captured by its artists. Runs June 4-Aug. 31. Info: 756-2325.

## NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

**Alliance for a Better District 6**, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or [sf\\_district6@yahoo.com](mailto:sf_district6@yahoo.com), a districtwide improvement association.

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

**Community Leadership Alliance**. Last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Infusion Lounge, 124 Ellis St. Information: David Villa-Lobos, 559-6627, [admin@communityleadershipalliance.net](mailto:admin@communityleadershipalliance.net).

**Friends of Boeddeker Park**, 2nd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., Boeddeker Rec Center, 240 Eddy St. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact Betty Traynor, 931-1126.

**Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board**, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5 p.m. Board works to protect SoMa resources for children, youth, families and adults. Gene Friend Recreation Center, 270 Sixth St. Information: 538-8100 x202.

**Mid-Market Project Area Committee**, next meeting June 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Art Institute of California, 10 United Nations Plaza (1130 Market St.), Room 410. Info: Lisa Zayas-Chien, 749-2504, [Lisa.Zayas-Chien@sfgov.org](mailto:Lisa.Zayas-Chien@sfgov.org). Planning to improve mid-Market.

**North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District**. Full board meets 3rd Monday of every other month, 5:30 p.m., 134 Golden Gate Ave., 292-4812.

**SOMA Community Stabilization Fund Community Advisory Committee** meets 3rd Thursday of the month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor atrium. Info: Claudine del Rosario 749-2519.

**SoMa Leadership Council**, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., The Arc, 1500 Howard St. at 11th. Emphasizes good planning and good government to maintain a diverse, vibrant, complete neighborhood. Contact: Jim Meko, 624-4309 or [jim.meko@comcast.net](mailto:jim.meko@comcast.net).

**South of Market Project Area Committee**, 3rd Monday of the month, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom St. Health, Safety and Human Services Committee meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday, 1035 Folsom St., noon. Information: 487-2166 or [www.sompac.com](http://www.sompac.com).

**Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco**, 1st Wednesday of the month, noon, 201 Turk St.,

## Ground Zero Poetry Reading

at 21 Club,  
Taylor & Turk

8 p.m., Wed. June 9  
Ed Bowers, emcee

Community Room. Contact Michael Nulty, 339-8327. Resident unity, leadership training.

**Tenderloin Futures Collaborative**, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police community room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on issues of interest to neighborhood residents, nonprofits and businesses. Information: [tlfutures.org](http://tlfutures.org), 820-3989.

**Tenderloin Neighborhood Association**, 2nd Friday of the month beginning in June, 631 O'Farrell St., 4:30 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Info: [tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com](mailto:tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com).

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

*For space considerations, the calendar is shorter than usual this month. We hope to restore it to its regular size in July.*

## Authentic Burmese Food



452 Larkin Street  
(Between Golden Gate & Turk St.)  
San Francisco, CA 94102

415.474.5569  
FREE DELIVERY

Mon 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Tue – Sat 10:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

*"A texturally exciting dining experience."*

— San Francisco Examiner, September 2009

*"Dishes are interesting and unique...the number of ingredients and the amount of prep work that goes into these dishes are awe-inspiring."*

— SF Weekly, September 2009

*"Whoever has the wherewithal to hunt it down will be rewarded with food not easily found in San Francisco."*

— 7 x 7, April 2010

*"For the most flavors on a plate, order a lunch special (\$5.95-\$8.95)."*

— San Francisco Chronicle, May 2010

## Celebrate Juneteenth with us!

**Saturday  
June 19th, 2010  
10:00am-4:00pm  
Civic Center Plaza  
San Francisco  
(At Grove and Hyde)**

Bring your  
San Francisco  
Health Plan  
ID card and  
get a gift bag.

*Apply today!*

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CENTRAL CITY 6523 0510



Help save our neighborhood firehouse,  
Station #36 on Oak Street.



# SAVE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FIREHOUSE

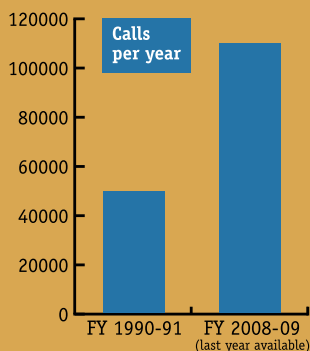
## CHECK THE FACTS:

While other parts of government have grown substantially in the last 20 years, the Fire Department has been getting more efficient. Firefighters and medics responded to more than twice as many calls in 2009 than in 1990.

That's why the last thing we should cut are vital services handled at our neighborhood firehouses.

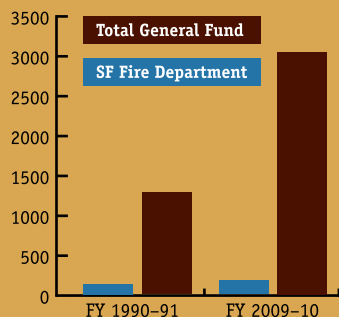
### EMERGENCY CALL VOLUME

(total fire, medical & rescue incidents per year)



### GENERAL FUND SUPPORT FOR SF FIRE DEPARTMENT

(amounts in millions of dollars)



Dear San Francisco Neighbors,

San Francisco's firefighters are working side-by-side with their fellow San Franciscans to meet the challenge of today's economic crisis.

We're cutting our budget at the Fire Department, improving efficiency and even digging into our own pockets and taking less pay to help close our city's half-billion dollar budget gap.

We're doing all this so we can preserve our neighborhood firehouses — your first line of defense in the event of fires, medical emergencies or any major disaster.

Please join the Save Our Neighborhood Firehouses coalition by signing up at [www.SaveOurFirehouses.com](http://www.SaveOurFirehouses.com) or joining us on Facebook.

We're cutting the fat — but we shouldn't cut neighborhood firehouses that are your first line of defense against fires, medical emergencies and major disasters.

Thank you,  
*Tom O'Connor*

TOM O'CONNOR  
President, San Francisco Firefighters Local 798

Paid for by your San Francisco Firefighters Local 798.



JOIN OUR COALITION AT [www.SaveOurFirehouses.com](http://www.SaveOurFirehouses.com) 