

State awards \$4.5 million to remake Boeddeker

Park to close in spring, and reopen in mid-2012

BY TOM CARTER

BOEDDEKER Park has won \$4.5 million in state grants to transform the often criticized park into a more open, greener haven and to build a new clubhouse. This will be the biggest change since the park supplanted a bowling alley and opened 32 years ago.

Boeddeker Park will close after the construction bidding process concludes in the next few months. It is expected to reopen in mid-2012.

Highlights of the plan include an 80- by 45-foot lawn, a multipurpose playing court, kids' play area with a performance stage, a one-story clubhouse with one wall all glass and a fitness room and rooftop solar paneling, lighter-gauge fencing so the park doesn't look like a fortress, and a main entrance gate in the middle of the block on Eddy Street.

The state money completes a more than two-year renovation campaign spearheaded by Trust for Public Land working with the S.F. Recreation and Park Department. The \$4 million is for the redo and \$500,000 is for urban greening, which includes a way to capture rainwater, installation of a cistern, and neighborhood education.

"This new park will be a very welcoming showplace for the neighborhood."

Betty Traynor
FRIENDS OF BOEDDEKER

"The renovation of Boeddeker Park is sorely needed in one of the city's most densely populated neighborhoods," said Phil Ginsburg, Rec and Park general manager. "Our partnership with the Trust for Public Land and the valuable community input we received during the design phase has resulted in initial plans that we're all excited about."

TPL won the funds from state Prop 84, the \$5.4 billion water, natural resource and park bond measure passed in 2006. TPL, the nation's

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PHOTO BY TOM CARTER

Boeddeker Park as seen from the top of the police station at Eddy and Jones streets.

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CENTRAL CITY



SAN FRANCISCO

DISTRICT 6



ILLUSTRATION BY LANCE JACKSON

These six candidates for District 6 supervisor received city money for their campaign: James Keys, Debra Walker, Jane Kim, Theresa Sparks, Elaine Zamora and Jim Meko.

MILLION-DOLLAR RACE

6 in the district get \$382,675 from the city

BY MARK HEDIN
AND JONATHAN NEWMAN

IN District 6, where a musty, now long-gone bookstore in the Tenderloin used to advertise its paperbacks "for the price of a politician," voters, at least, are showing they can't be bought so cheaply. Which is not to say that there aren't people out there trying to do just that. Meg Whitman spent \$175 million in her unsuccessful battle with Jerry Brown to be governor, costing her about \$57 per vote.

But in San Francisco, two candidates for the District 6 supervisor's seat — Elaine Zamora and Jim Meko — spent more than \$100 each for every vote they got. (See chart on P.4.)

Overall, in November's contest for the seat, the 14 candidates on the ballot combined to spend at least \$1,063,865 on the campaign — the most expensive District 6 supervisorial campaign ever — chasing an ultimate total of 26,861 votes. That comes to \$39.39 for each vote cast in District 6.

Much of that money came from outside the district, and even outside the city. But the city's general fund disbursed at least \$382,675 — the final figures are still being tabulated — in matching contributions to six qualifying candidates. Thus, each vote cast

in District 6 cost the city \$14.25. Overall, the city handed out \$1.4 million in supervisorial races citywide this year, even though in District 4, incumbent Carmen Chu ran unopposed and didn't take a dime.

To qualify for those matching funds, candidates had to show some fund-raising prowess, and as of mid-October, the most recent deadline for reporting campaign contributions, District 6's 14 rivals had raised \$333,456, mostly from individuals donating up to the \$500 per-person limit.

The other third of District 6's million-dollar-plus race is the \$347,734 chucked in by political action committees, or PACs, on behalf of four of the candidates. Half of that money was spent on Theresa Sparks — \$175,751 — and Debra Walker got more than 40% of it, \$149,819. The winner, Jane Kim, got only \$21,932 from PACs. James Keys, \$232.

Of the PAC money, SEIU, acting on behalf of the United Health Workers, served up the biggest slice of the pie, \$40,000 to third-place finisher Sparks.

"Democracy is expensive," Walker told The Extra. "The amount of time I had to spend fundraising was horrific."

Final spending reports aren't due till the end of January, but, plainly, some well-heeled interests really want their voices heard at City Hall.

Prop O, the city's public financing initiative that was aimed at offsetting the influence of big, special-interest money, passed in 2000 and was first used for the 2002 supervisorial race. In 2002, the city gave \$315,989 to candidates in Districts 4, 6 and 8. In 2004, with candidates running in eight districts, public financing jumped to \$757,678. For the 11 districts, then, the city

➤ CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Glide uses rooftop gardens, promotes healthy eating

GLIDE Memorial Methodist Church is turning its apartment building rooftops into showcases for real food for the residents, a step toward changing bad dietary habits and improving health.

The latest example is a mini vegetable and herb garden on the sixth-floor roof at Cecil Williams Glide Community House, 333 Taylor St. It was dedicated Nov. 4.

The education project for about 110 formerly homeless residents started two years ago with sessions on nutrition and cooking emphasizing that “healthy food was an

option” to junk food at the corner store, said Deborah Whittle, executive director of Glide Housing.

Next came on-site planting, growing and tasting. A \$20,000 Community Challenge Grant bankrolled delivery of 12 wood planters and a truckload of soil in May. The residents handled the rest and developed a work roster. Soon, they’ll taste homegrown potatoes, tomatoes, kale, squash, grapes, basil and apples and figs. But harvests aren’t big enough to offer more than snippets of the good stuff.

“I’ve already sampled the cherry

tomatoes,” said Elmer Ray Knowles, a Thursday volunteer.

Linda Galijan of the Zen Center advised on the project and blessed the garden. It overlooks another roof garden to the west on Glide’s main building at 330 Ellis, started 2½ years ago. It has 14 planters funded by \$10,000 in grants from Clif Bar and Focus the Nation.

Whittle said Glide is considering programs for Glide Economic Development Corp.’s apartment buildings at 125 and 149 Mason St. for families and the formerly homeless, respectively. ■



Resident volunteers Larry Medders, Patty Rose and Elmer Ray Knowles take turns caring for the vegetation on the roof at 333 Taylor St. and have learned a good thing or two about healthy food.

District 6 has dirtiest streets and most graffiti

DISTRICT 6 had four of the five dirtiest corridors in the city, according to the annual Street and Sidewalk Maintenance Standards report from the controller’s office.

Three are in the Inner Mission District and one in the Tenderloin, according to the 54-page 2009-10 report on city cleanliness released Oct. 28. The data were based on 383 inspections by the City Services Auditor’s office and the Department of Public Works.

District 6 had none of the top five cleanest residential and commercial corridors in the city, but its four dirtiest were all commercial: Geary between Jones and Van Ness, Mission between Duboce and 18th Street, 16th Street between Valencia and Folsom, and 15th Street between Guerrero and Capp.

To be considered clean, a corridor must have fewer than five pieces of litter per 100 feet of curb. The dirty corridors had five to 15 pieces per 100 feet of curb.

Overall, according to the report, city streets were 18% cleaner than in 2008-09, and sidewalks were 10% improved in reducing an ugly mix of needles, feces, broken glass, condoms and dumping in general.

But when comparing supervisorial areas, District 6 had more street and sidewalk litter than the others, although the district showed improvement over 2008-09 in both categories.

Another dismal result showed District 6 had by far the most graffiti on private property and non-DPW public property than any other district — and 61.5% more than the city average. It was the third consecutive year District 6 led the category. Graffiti throughout the city has increased over four years. ■

— TOM CARTER



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Boeddeker Park gets \$4.5 million for makeover

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only conservation organization focusing on building parks in cities, has operated in San Francisco since 1972.

Neighbors who made suggestions at TPL's several outreach meetings held at the park were "very satisfied" with the final design and will be well served by it, said Betty Traynor, chair of Friends of Boeddeker Park. TPL also raised \$1 million that it spent on planning and design.

The plot's last major transformation was in 1985 when the then-Central City Park underwent a \$3.2 million renovation and was renamed for Father Alfred Boeddeker. The Examiner observed, "An urban oasis in the Tenderloin opens with hope and trepidation," emotions that have followed the park to the present in a rocky history.

Boeddeker was a perfect fit for the state's requirements. It was an underused park in a poor neighborhood with 5,000 children and had a citizens group — the Friends of Boeddeker Park — that meets regularly to nurture the park.

Competition was keen, with 475 applicants statewide requesting \$1.6 billion but only \$184 million available. It "clearly shows the extent of unmet community needs throughout California," the State Parks website says.

Just 62 projects got funding: 50 are to be new parks; a dozen old ones, like Boeddeker, are to be improved or expanded. The average grant amount was \$2.97 million.

"I think the new park will be much more utilized by the diverse groups in the neighborhood including families, kids of all ages, seniors and nonsenior adults," Traynor said.

"There are so many new features such as the multipurpose basketball court where people can also play other games such as volleyball and badminton; larger grassy area for picnics and socializing; greatly improved children's play areas; adult exercise equipment outdoors; fantastic new clubhouse. I could go on and on with all the improvements. This new park will be a very welcoming showplace for the neighborhood and the whole city."

The police are happy, too.

"The new plan has better view corridors in the park," said Tenderloin Capt. Joe Garrity, "better views of the park's areas for

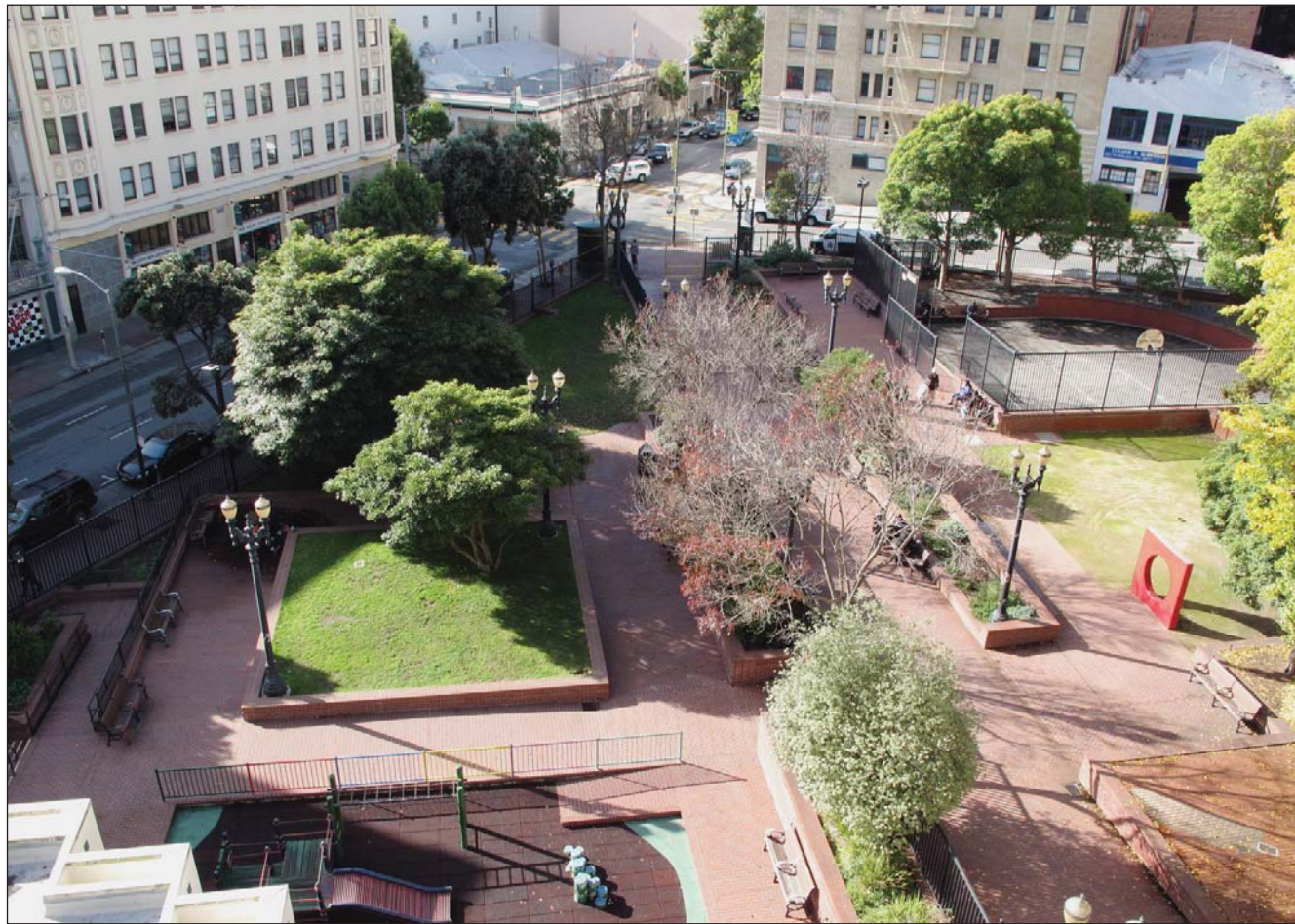


PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

passing radio cars, patrols and foot patrols inside the park. It will elevate the security baseline for people in the park."

The idea of an open park with a big lawn and other changes surfaced three years ago. Pro bono architects under the auspices of TPL drew a Boeddeker redesign plan for the Tenderloin community to contemplate, a fantasy just for brainstorming and with no price tag. Encouraged by the response, TPL soon afterward began a campaign with Rec and Park to seek grants for a makeover. The trust developed a similar plan and took it to community outreach meetings at the park and tweaked it after responses from the public.

The new park 25 years ago was at once a convenient hangout for drunks and a haven for drug-dealing, the Tenderloin's No. 1 crime. The heavy fencing — for safety — made Boeddeker look like a fortress, and its brick walkway up the middle harbored a gantlet of dope dealers.

Police from the district station catty corner from the park at Eddy and Jones struggled to quell drug activity. Beat cops would drop by and dealers would cool it, but when they left, activities resumed. Police couldn't see inside the park, and the director in the park office had no sightlines to see what went on outside.

Crowds loitering on Ellis Street caused the north gate to be closed a decade ago.

Hours of operation for the park have varied, but decreased in recent years because of budget problems. Most weekends this year it was closed.

Since the Friends of Boeddeker Park organized in 2002, the park has been kept in good shape by Rec and Park gardeners and green-thumb volunteers who last year won an award for their monthly cleanup and gardening sessions. This year, however, the park's vitality slipped. The City Services Auditor's 2009-10 Parks Maintenance Standards report, which weighs cleanliness, foliage and equipment condition, gave Boeddeker an 85.5% grade, nearly a 9-point drop from its 2008-09 score, its lowest in three years, and four points below the city average, but still considered "well maintained" and in "good condition."

"But since we will have a completely new park in about 1.5 years," Traynor said, "we should be at 100% in 2012."

The Friends will continue meeting monthly, she said, likely in the Tenderloin Station's Community Room. ■

Looking down on Boeddeker Park from the fifth floor of the Windsor Hotel on Eddy Street. This view takes in the vast majority of the .97-acre oasis. Less than three years from now, it will look very different. The TL Police Station is the low-rise building catty corner from the park's open Eddy and Jones front gate.

See you next year

Central City Extra is a double issue this month, wrapping December and January together as a holiday package. Regular monthly issues will commence in February 2011.

CORRECTION

The South East Asian Senior Meal Program does not accept applications for the Clipper Card as reported in November in The Extra.



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PHONE: (415) 626-1650
FAX: (415) 626-7276
EMAIL: centralcityextra@studycenter.org

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Geoffrey Link
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Heidi Swillinger
SENIOR WRITER/EDITOR: Marjorie Beggs
COMMUNITY REPORTER: Tom Carter
REPORTERS: Ed Bowers, Jonathan Newman, Mark Hedin, Anne Marie Jordan
DESIGNER: Lenny Limjoco
PHOTOGRAPHER: Lenny Limjoco
CONTRIBUTORS: John Burks, Diamond Dave, Charlie Wormhoudt
DESIGN CONSULTANT: Don McCartney
DISTRIBUTION: Mark Hedin
EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE: David Baker, Michael Nulty, Debbie Larkin, Nicholas Rosenberg, Brad Paul, Tariq Alazraie

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Christmas Caroling through the Tenderloin



When: Sunday, December 19, 4:30 pm

Where: Gather at 559 Ellis (near Hyde)

Who: Everyone!

Afterwards we share snacks and hot drinks in our community room. Dress warmly and bring any food you'd like to share.



Interfaith Memorial Service for All our Homeless Dead

When: Tuesday, December 21, 5:30 pm

Where: Civic Center across from City Hall (Polk St.)

Who: Everyone

What else: Bring a Candle.

NOTE: If you have names to add to the list, please call the number below or bring them to the memorial.

Co-sponsored by The Coalition on Homelessness and San Francisco Network Ministries

San Francisco Network Ministries, (415) 928-6209

City kicks in over 1/3 of District 6 campaign costs

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spent \$1,073,667, hundreds of thousands of dollars less than what it cost this year in the five districts where candidates took public money.

As candidates have become savvier about making the most of public financing, and the size of the field has grown in some races, the impact of public financing on the city's general fund has grown apace. In this year's five supervisorial races, half of the 44 candidates on the ballots qualified for matching funds.

Rob Arnow, campaign coordinator for Voter

Owned Elections, which led the 2005 drive to expand public financing to the mayoral campaign, said not to worry, even though it might appear that the inflationary nature of public campaign funding is cause for alarm.

"It's a very small price to pay for vastly improved government," he said, "to ensure that all candidates have enough money to get their messages out without owing favors to special interests. Contributors get a payback," he concluded.

"I am impressed," said Rich DeLeon, a retired professor of political science at San Francisco State, "that the winner (Kim) received the most public

financing and the least PAC money. In general, and on principle, I support public financing of campaigns because it lowers the entry barriers that would otherwise discourage many worthy potential candidates from running, widens the voter's field of choice and dilutes the influence of PAC money and other private funding.

"I think the city's limited and conditional public financing law does a lot to strengthen citizen participation and local 'small-d' democracy. In the old days under at-large elections, a nonincumbent candidate for the Board of Supervisors had virtually no chance of winning a seat without raising a minimum of \$250,000 and attracting a minimum 100,000 votes."

Although Prop O had called for a \$143,000 overall spending limit for any supervisorial candidate to qualify for matching funds – which by formula would have included \$89,000 of taxpayer money – the Ethics Commission has the discretion to raise that ceiling in \$10,000 increments in attempting to keep the playing field level. Were a candidate, for instance, to find himself or herself battling a free-spending Whitman-type rival, the commissioners would be likely to approve a request to loosen the restraints.

For instance, in District 6 this year, the money raised by PACs supporting Sparks was a game changer. The executive director of the Human Rights Commission ultimately raised \$175,751 through PACs.

"I don't know where it all came from," Sparks told The Extra, pointing out that PACs are required to be operated separately from the campaigns they support.

In response to the PAC funding, the Ethics Commission raised the spending limit for Kim and Walker.

"Sparks raised the limit for Jane and me," said Walker, who nonetheless came in under the original limit, with \$72,346 of public funds as of Oct. 16. Kim, however, was at \$90,817 in public funding at that point, already almost \$2,000 more than the original cap.

Sparks and Walker each got almost \$10,000 in PAC money from the California Nurses Association, which Walker said may ultimately have worked to Kim's advantage, by splitting the labor vote. ■

DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES' CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND COSTS

The 14 candidates spent a total of \$1,058,318 on their combined campaigns through Oct. 16, according to their disclosures filed at the S.F. Ethics Commission. Final disclosure does not have to be filed until Jan. 31, 2011, so the cost per vote could increase.

Candidate	Raised	City contribution	PAC Exp	Total	Total votes	Cost per vote
Jane Kim	\$95,876	\$90,817	\$21,932	\$208,625	8,865	\$24
Debra Walker	\$62,023	\$72,346	\$149,819	\$284,188	7,528	\$38
Theresa Sparks	\$75,185	\$75,777	\$175,751	\$326,713	4,334	\$75
Matt Drake	\$13,673	0	0	\$13,673	1,200	\$11
James Keys	\$15,482	\$40,025	\$232	\$55,739	1,148	\$49
Glendon Hyde	\$17,803	0	0	\$17,803	839	\$21
Elaine Zamora	\$25,055	\$50,999	0	\$76,054	746	\$102
Dean Clark	\$5,596	0	0	\$5,596	713	\$8
Jim Meko	\$16,380	\$44,164	0	\$60,544	498	\$122
George Vazhappally	\$2,747	0	0	\$2,747	284	\$10
h. brown	<\$1,000*	0	0	<\$1,000	205	NA
Matt Ashe	<\$1,000*	0	0	<\$1,000	191	NA
George Davis	<\$1,000*	0	0	<\$1,000	160	NA
Nate Payne	\$3,636	0	0	\$3,636	150	\$24
Total	\$333,456	\$382,675	\$347,734	\$1,058,318		

* Candidates filed a one-page disclosure that they raised and spent less than \$1,000 on their campaigns.
Source: San Francisco Ethics Commission

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How candidates get city money

PROP O passed in 2000 to level the playing field for supervisorial candidates — so anyone with support to run has the chance to do so.

Here's the formula for public financing: Candidates who raise \$5,000 in amounts from \$10 to \$100 from at least 75 different San Francisco residents get double their money — \$10,000 — from the city. (Loans, candidate's own funds, PAC money and nonmonetary gifts don't count toward the \$5,000.)

Raise an additional \$10,000 and city funds pour in at a 4-1 ratio — the \$10,000 gets the candidate \$40,000. Also, individual contributions can increase to \$500. When such donations reach \$50,000, the city matches donors' dollars 1-1. The match ceiling depends on how much is in the set-aside fund.

Two months before this election, city coffers held \$6.4 million for public financing of the 22 qualifying candidates, or \$293,288 each.

The city wound up spending \$1.4 million for candidates in District 2, 6, 8 and 10. (In District 4, incumbent Carmen Chu took no public money.)

Ultimately, an average of \$63,636 per qualifying candidate was disbursed, an amount swollen by District 10 candidates, whose city take exceeded half a million dollars. ■

— MARJORIE BEGGS

CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES FOR TOP THREE VOTE-GETTERS

	JANE KIM	DEBRA WALKER	THERESA SPARKS
July-Sept.			
Political consultants	\$33,384	\$8,145	\$17,000
Campaign staff	\$10,604	\$13,200	\$10,636
Office expenses	\$7,742	\$6,750	\$4,000
Print and promotion	\$4,479	\$2,000	\$18,321
Legal/Accounting	-0-	-0-	\$15,391
Oct. 1-16			
Political consultants	\$54,813	\$2,500	-0-
Campaign staff	\$17,710	-0-	-0-
Office expenses	\$3,263	-0-	-0-
Print and promotion	-0-	\$2,500	\$38,548
Legal/Accounting	-0-	-0-	-0-

*Final financial disclosures are to be filed by each candidate Jan. 31, 2011, info that will change these numbers
Source: San Francisco Ethics Commission

How trio at top spent what they got

FINAL disclosure of how and where campaign funds were expended is not due from the candidates until Jan. 31, but filings with the Ethics Commission through Oct. 16 reflect that as election day approached, money flowed copiously, especially for the top three vote-getters.

Naturally, political consultants, the Merlins of electioneering, got the biggest chunks of dough.

Winner Jane Kim paid her team of consultants, Left Coast Communications — home-based in the Embarcadero Center — \$88,197 in the final 4½ months before voting day; runner-up Debra Walker paid her consultant, Jim Stearns, the go-to guy for city Democrats, \$10,645, and Theresa Sparks paid several consultants, principally Christopher Lee and Colleen Crowley, a total of \$17,000.

No campaign can function without staff, from eager volunteers who willingly serve the political cause without pay to fully paid savvy managers and political veterans who run the candidate's headquarters, monitor neighborhood group meetings, and

walk the district's streets. Kim's staff received \$28,314; Walker and Sparks paid their workers \$13,200 and \$10,636, respectively.

As annoying as campaign brochures could be in flooding voters' mailboxes as Nov. 2 approached, candidates continued to pump money into the design, printing and distribution of self-promoting pieces. These commercial expenses for Kim — \$4,479 — and for Walker — \$4,500 — were restrained compared with Sparks' \$56,869. Kim's cablevision and print ads directed to Asian voters seems to have reaped the highest return.

Interestingly, only Sparks seems to have paid legal and accounting fees in the run-up to election day — a combined \$15,391 to the Sutton Law Firm and to Warren and Associates.

Offices and all the expenses they generate, from rent payments and postage fees to bottled water bills, took their toll with Kim paying \$11,005 in overhead, Walker \$6,750 and Sparks \$4,000. ■

— JONATHAN NEWMAN

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World Series parade: A grand slam for mid

BY TOM CARTER

THE joyous, free-spending multitudes that lined the Giants' World Series victory parade route Nov. 3 were a blessing to convenience-food stores but a \$100,000 curse to the farmers' market at U.N. Plaza, where authorities aborted the working day and shut down scores of vendors, costing them their income that Wednesday.

Businesses around Seventh and Market streets told *The Extra* that sales spiked three or four times normal from an extra tens of thousands of people. But the Heart of the City Certified Farmers Market in U.N. Plaza, overseen by the Rec and Park Department, was belatedly closed, the city losing \$3,300 in vendor stall rentals.

A communication snafu led to Park Rangers and SFPD cops sending the market vendors packing at mid-morning, not quite two full days after the Giants clinched the Series over the Texas Rangers.

"Parks called and left a message for us Monday night after the (Series-clinching) game to close on Wednesday but we never got it," said John Hernandez, the market's assistant manager. "Then they called at 7, 8 and 9 on

Wednesday morning. But we were at the market, and not in the office."

Meanwhile, 67 vendors — one date farmer came from Death Valley — had arrived unaware, and struggled to set up their stalls amid the growing swarm of baseball fans.

"They (the authorities) came at 10:30 a.m. and kicked everybody out," Hernandez said. "It was a terrible day. The farmers lost \$100,000 — it's their livelihood — and the city lost \$3,300 in rental fees. I don't start collecting them until noon."

Four vendors remained at 1:30 p.m., Hernandez said. They were stranded, awaiting their vehicles that had been parked several blocks away. It took up to five hours, he said, for the trucks to inch back through the crowd while fans pounded victoriously on them. Trucks parked on Hyde Street suffered a different fate. Hernandez said 20 to 30 people climbed atop them to jump up and down in celebration. Angry farmers complained of dents they left.

Echoing a common reaction, Hernandez said the city should have staged the parade on Saturday.

Nearby, store managers, many unprepared for the onslaught, scrambled to meet a demand

they later equated to the annual business surge from the Pride Parade. But the rush from the World Series Parade started much earlier.

"We noticed it at 3 a.m.," said Teary Sang, behind the glass counter at the 24-hour Donut World at Seventh and Market, a short half-block off the parade route. "We didn't really plan ahead."

The shop ran out of doughnuts and ordered another delivery at 1:30 p.m. They sold out of sandwiches, too. The line was out the door. It took 20 minutes to get served. Sang and her brother and co-worker, Bunny Sang, said the crowd was pleasant and patient.

"We ran out of hot dogs and bread, and then people didn't mind sandwiches on hot dog buns. They took anything. It was all day, nonstop. It didn't let up until 4 p.m."

Other store managers, all with long lines far outside the door, agreed on the crowd's deportment. At vulnerable stores, shoplifting was light. Ming Tsan, who owns the California Bakery on McAllister and Charles J. Brenham Street, said he was helpless to stop people from grabbing Red Bulls out of the standup cooler next to the door and fading back into the crowd. He lost a case of drinks, he said. Another downside to the biggest day of his

Below: *The Celtic Coffee Company's Joe Dunphy was bought out and worn out, and closed early.*

Center: *Ming Tsan's pastry sales more than made up for his sodas getting ripped off.*



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO





Market Street was a surging sea of people when the motorized cable car carrying Giants stars Pat Burrell and Aubrey Huff turned onto McAllister Street, heading for the victory stand in front of City Hall.

PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

l-Market businesses — farmers get shut out

one-year ownership, he said, were people "with no place to go," peeing outside on the sidewalk. Up the street at 136 McAllister, Tony, the mom and pop deli and liquor store's employee, said he lost a few bottles of champagne and rum.

"Certain people take advantage of situations," Tony said. "You try your best but some things are beyond your reach. The cops didn't have time for us. But it was a good crowd, families and kids wanting candy and sandwiches. Everybody was happy."

Most of the nine establishments The Extra visited reported business up at least triple normal. More than half of them said it was a bigger payday than the Pride Parade.

Joe Dunphy, owner of Celtic Coffee Company next door to the mom and pop, who the week before had celebrated 1,000 days in his new business at 138 McAllister, got hit so hard by the World Series windfall that he ran out of everything and closed 3½ hours early.

"I wasn't prepared for this," Dunphy said at his coffeehouse haunt frequented by Hastings Law School students who had the day off. He had stocked more than double the normal supplies. "We ran out of everything and I closed at 2:30, exhausted."

He and another employee had opened at 6 a.m., serving a few regulars. But by 7 a.m., 15 people were waiting. Fifteen minutes later it was nearly 50. "I hadn't anticipated this. I didn't have two more employees coming in until 9."

He sold all 150 bagels by 10 a.m., sandwiches by 11. At one point, Dunphy said, he had had 16 bagels lined up and nobody could remember what was to go on them. The line was well out the door and the wait for orders was up to 20 minutes.

"We made three times our usual number of omelettes by 11, then we closed the doors — it was getting out of control."

They made more sandwiches between 11 and 12, reopened, but closed for good 2½ hours later, out of just about everything.

Dunphy said it makes up for the typically slow November and December, when Hastings students, who make up 30% of his business, are mostly out of town.

The sales at Carl's Jr. on U.N. Plaza also did three times usual business and needed a special delivery of burgers to serve a line that stretched out the door and across the plaza to the underground BART entrance. Carl's sold 1,100 of the 2-for-\$5 special Western Bacon Cheeseburgers, according to

Manager Mohammed Safdar.

His crowds started around 7 a.m. and ended at 5 p.m. It "was almost my biggest day" in 10 years of managing Carl's, Safdar said, topped only by the Pride Parade. "And it was almost too much work."

But what business the crush delivered with one hand, it took away with the other. There was no way Galaxy Pizza, a block away on Golden Gate Avenue, could deliver.

"We opened at 11 a.m. and had no deliveries," said owner Abbas Alshadud. "Our driver couldn't get out of here." The gridlock caused by the thick crowd, reportedly 50 people deep at some parade points, knocked out what is usually 30% of his business. Even so, business was "two to three times" a regular day's receipts by the time Alshadud closed four hours early at 8 p.m. because the restaurant had run out of cheese. He hadn't had time to break away and buy more.

Exuberant Eric Man, the 20-year owner-manager of EM's Place at 154 McAllister, said it best. Speaking for his store-managing colleagues about Giants fans on their historic parade day:

"I love them all because they give me the green stuff, the money," Man said, smiling. "I wish every day was like this." ■

Below: Teary Sang's doughnuts sold like hotcakes starting at 3 a.m. and she had to order more.



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO



PHOTO BY TOM CARTER

**FRIAR KELLY CULLEN
Made TNDC what it is**

More than 400 mourners jammed the St. Boniface sanctuary Dec. 3 to pay homage to the late charismatic Franciscan friar, Kelly Cullen, whose work to improve the lives of the Tenderloin poor reminded some of the order's founder, St. Francis of Assisi.

Brother Kelly's leadership, despite no administrative training, turned around TNDC, the then-stagnant affordable housing nonprofit, after he became executive director in 1992, a position he held until 2005 when he resigned and Housing Director Don Falk, whom Brother Kelly hired in 1994, took over.

In Brother Kelly's 13 years at the helm, Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corp. increased the number of its low-cost units from 574 to 1,600. Now TNDC owns or operates 30 SROs and apartment buildings that house up to 3,000 low-income and formerly homeless residents in 2,500 units.

Brother Kelly also created the Celebrity Pool Toss in 1992, an annual fundraiser for TNDC's kids' programs that raised \$200,000 this year. He was influential, too, in starting the tuition-free De Marillac Academy next to St. Boniface for poor neighborhood kids.

He won donations from the socially conscious well-to-do who live outside of the Tenderloin after bringing them into the skid row neighborhood to see dire conditions that their generosity could alleviate. He served on the St. Anthony Foundation board in the 1990s.

"He wasn't Francis, but Francis was him," said Lou Girardo at the lectern.

Brother Kelly died Nov. 13 while on a pilgrimage in Rome. He was 57. Cause of death is pending.

A native of Washington, Brother Kelly came to San Francisco in 1979, having professed his Franciscan vows

the year before. The handsome friar had an effervescent personality that was infectious and an asset to TNDC.

"He combined community activism with the Franciscan style to make life better (in the Tenderloin)," said Clio Tarazi, a Berkeley architect, former TNDC board president and now the St. Anthony board president. "He said people want to be generous and kind, and he convinced me. He brought people into the Tenderloin where they were afraid to go.

"Justice and generosity," she said, were his motivation.

As if to illustrate the impact of Brother Kelly's outreach, wealthy financier Warren Hellman said he and Brother Kelly had become friends over the years "and always stayed in touch." They once studied the Torah together. "He was a tower of community unity," Hellman said. He then announced a \$7,500 donation to be divided equally among TNDC, the Mission San Luis Rey Retreat where Brother Kelly had been living, and retired Franciscan friars.

The mourners said Brother Kelly was a very spiritual person who found God everywhere in life. They sometimes were amused and often inspired by his actions. He picked up pennies on the street because he "couldn't disregard the small gifts" in life; he found spiritual messages in musicals (he saw "Les Miz" four times) and movies ("he didn't just watch movies, he crawled inside them"); and he traveled to Italy, France and Thailand for renewed inspiration.

"But he was a friar, not a monk!" said Father Tom West, referring to the Chronicle obituary that identified him as a monk. "Monks go off to be by themselves. Friars go into the world. And Kelly took that to the hilt."

State Sen. Mark Leno, who had also been a friend, said Brother Kelly



PHOTO COURTESY TNDC

Celebrities dress in costume for TNDC's pool toss fundraiser and Brother Kelly, donning wings in 1995, liked the idea that everyone has it in them to be an angel.

was surprised to hear that Leno once wanted to be a rabbi. Then he became very protective when Mayor Willie Brown appointed Leno a supervisor in 1998. "You don't know what the other side is like," Leno said Brother Kelly warned, citing the corrupting pitfalls of sex, power and money — the opposites, he said, of the Franciscan vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

Brother's Kelly's standards and "deep sense of community inspire me today," Leno said.

Ellen Cullen Harris, Brother Kelly's niece, said she always adored her uncle and told an anecdote that showed his love of freedom and flair for living. Once when babysitting her as a 3-year-old, he woke her from a nap, telling her to remove her shoes and they'd go outside and play on the lawn. She said she still remembers the squishy mud and freshly mowed grass and what a joy it was, but then timidly asked, "Won't we get into trouble?" "Who cares!" he thundered, she

recalled. "Aren't we having fun?"

She paused and sobbed, "He was a bright light when he walked into a room."

His friends also alluded to his "dark side." His methamphetamine use to fuel his fast-paced life, reported elsewhere, led to an addiction that caused him to resign from TNDC and seek treatment. He later became director of the Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center in Oceanside, visiting here annually for the pool toss, and sometimes got tossed in, and for TNDC's birthday celebration.

"He was vivacious and never afraid to jump off a cliff for those in need," said Girardo. "And it was my privilege to bail him out of jail" and help with his "recovery."

Since Brother Kelly loved celebrations and demonstrations of support, Girardo said, he asked everyone at the St. Boniface memorial to stand and applaud. They did, with big smiles, for nearly a minute. ■

— TOM CARTER

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JOHN MCHALE
Excelled at kindness

John McHale lived Aesop's famous proverb, "No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted," and the huge turnout at his Sept. 17 memorial proved it.

"This is the most I've ever seen at a memorial," said Rev. Glenda Hope, who has been conducting the services in the Tenderloin since 1977. Usually, just a handful of mourners attend memorials.

More than 30 attended the memorial in the Ambassador Hotel where Mr. McHale lived for 16 years. They sat in chairs in a



large circle in the second-floor community room to bid farewell and recall the life and times of the flamboyant, artistic man who had touched their hearts in countless ways. Many were tearful.

Mr. McHale was found dead in his room Sept. 15. He was 46. The medical examiner's office said it would be months before a cause of death is determined.

In a harsh neighborhood where residents often have no family and keep to themselves, or isolate themselves in their rooms, Mr. McHale was the opposite. With shoulder-length hair and mustache, at times favoring wild clothes, he could have been a 1960s hippie. He was open and caring and treated people like dear old friends. He was "compassionate," his friends said, and "accepted everyone for who they were."

An elderly Asian woman, dabbling her eyes, said when she moved in "he was the first tenant to be nice to me. He was so cheerful, a wonderful person."

Mike, using a walker but unable to stand, said Mr. McHale would sit and talk at length with him about his debilitating neuropathy "when I first came down with it."

"He was my neighbor," said a man named John. "He said hello every day, and every day he was so nice."

"We were tight," said Theresa. "When I couldn't walk he got me a wheelchair from Shorty. Every night he gave me a kiss on my forehead."

"He always gave me his arm," said a blind woman. "And when I was locked out of my room and sitting on the floor, he sat down to wait with me. He was a very kind person."

"He would always lend me a helping hand," said a tiny woman.

"He was just so cool," said a short black man.

"I didn't even know his name until now," said a woman from the Bristol

Hotel across the street, "but I saw him all the time and felt he was my friend." But Ron Williams, also from the Bristol, was a good friend. He brought two dozen donuts to the memorial. "He was real," Williams said, fighting back tears, "and the Ambassador was his family."

The Ambassador's Gerry Kirby thought that growing up in the school of hard knocks made Mr. McHale the man he was. According to Kirby, Mr. McHale was from Natchez, Miss., and at age 10 was on his own, forced to survive any way he could.

Mr. McHale was addicted to heroin for more than 20 years, Kirby said. Then three years ago, he "had had enough" and kicked.

"He had the courage and nerve to turn his life around — to do what he wanted, and to dress the way he did," Kirby said. "You know, scarves flying, boots clicking. On a cold day he might wear short shorts, and maybe a touch of makeup."

Everyone knew Mr. McHale was crazy about decorating cardboard stars. Kirby passed one around the circle. It was a five-point, 7-inch star that Mr. McHale had painted red and gray and doused with silver sparkles. The flip side had a bunch of little arrows on a gray background.

Scores of these stars, along with necklaces, hung by strings from the ceiling of his room. "It was like Christmas in there," said one mourner. "And he'd leave the door wide open so people could see. And others started really decorating their rooms, too."

"He'll be a permanent part of my heart," said another mourner. And everyone knew why. ■

— TOM CARTER

SAMUEL ROBERT PIKE
Loved his cats

Cats filled Sam Pike's life, and he and his fuzzy, playful pets were an entertaining feature of life in the Coronado Hotel.

About a year ago, when both of his 14-year old cats died, Mr. Pike became companionless and terribly depressed. He went through grief counseling. But soon, a staff member of CATS — ironically the name of the service provider next to the hotel — found a friend who had two kittens to give away.

So, Mr. Pike took them and introduced his new loves, Crystal and Andrea, to the Coronado's residents. It became his habit to bring them into the hallway and play with them, much to the amusement of the residents.

"He loved those cats so much," said CATS Program Coordinator Kumiko Kawasaki at Mr. Pike's memorial Sept. 17. She had trouble finding words through her tears, but managed. "And I loved seeing him play with them."

CATS (Community Awareness & Treatment Services, Inc.), a nonprofit started in 1978 to serve the poor and homeless, has nine programs, including the Mobile Assistance Patrol. The Coronado Hotel program has about 70 clients; most are residents of the 67-room SRO.

Cuteness aside, there were hotel rules to follow. And the new property manager, Carmel Dula, gave Mr. Pike a tough time until he completed the required paperwork for his prancing kitties. To have cats, a resident must provide their shot record and a "request for accommodation" form signed by a doctor stating the resident will benefit from having a pet.

"I had a rough time with him until

he got the documents," Dula said. "But then I saw the change in him. He was very proud of them. You could just see it."

Almost all of the dozen mourners who spoke of Mr. Pike said he was a good, caring man, and that they had all been affected by the touching image of him with his pets. They were the only cats in the Coronado.

A new CATS staffer, Sherri Drake, began talking to Mr. Pike about her love of cats. She discovered he had a bad heart and emphysema, the conditions that had caused her mother to die of congestive heart failure.

"I became close to him," she said, "and we talked every day."

Mr. Pike walked with a cane then and appeared to be losing strength. In recent weeks, Drake noticed his breathing had become "very, very difficult." She went to his room to check on him Friday, Sept. 10, and found him weak and leaning against his window.

"His color had changed and he was clammy," Drake said. "I told him he had to go to the hospital and I was going to call 911. He said he didn't want to go. He said he didn't have the money to get back home. I gave him a bus token and then called 911."

An ambulance picked Mr. Pike up and took him to St. Francis Hospital. He died there two days later, Sept. 12, four days after his 54th birthday. The quickness shocked "a lot of people," a staffer said.

Mr. Pike was from Oklahoma and had been around animals during his childhood. But he hadn't stayed in touch with relatives, the staff member said.

Desk clerk Linda Carr, who knew Mr. Pike four years, took the 7-month-old Crystal and Andrea. She said they were a little "standoffish" now but that she felt Mr. Pike's spirit was with her and the kittens would adjust.

The mourners afterward were treated to chicken salad that Drake brought, cookies from Dula and sodas from CATS. ■

— TOM CARTER

REGINA PARKER
Native San Franciscan

Regina Parker had a presence about her, commanding everyone's attention when she entered a room, said her close friend Jakkee Bryson.

"Regina reveled in her freedom and in not being harassed into doing anything she was innately opposed to," Bryson recalled. "And you always knew what she felt about things. I will miss my friend."

Ms. Parker died at San Francisco General Hospital Oct. 28. She was 61, a native San Franciscan survived by a son and a daughter.

Her memorial was held Nov. 11 in the community room at the Folsom Dore Apartments, 75 Dore St. Ms. Parker and Bryson were two of the first residents at Lutheran Social Services' 98-unit building when it opened in SoMa five years ago.

Ms. Parker's case manager, Jeffrey Herzenberg, was with her when she died and was still grieving.

"I only knew Regina for nine months," he said. "She could be very guarded, but she did come to some social gatherings and we all saw that as positive. She was an avid reader and a hardy person — that's how she survived as long as she did."

Ms. Parker was a client in S.F. General's Emergency Department Case Management Program, which assists people with complex physical and emotional problems.

"We were all happy that she was getting the services she needed," Herzenberg said.

He shared with mourners a short

Interfaith memorial for homeless dead

The 21st annual memorial will be held Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 5:30 p.m. in Civic Center plaza across from City Hall.

Singing, chanting, readings, prayers and laments for the homeless who died in San Francisco in 2010 will be led by representatives of several faiths.

As each name is read, a gong will sound. San Francisco Network Ministries and the Coalition on Homelessness co-sponsor the memorial. Information: 928-6209. ■

remembrance that he had written to express his feelings about her death:

"Regina Parker — a dark-skinned sista with a strong exterior 'n' a sweet inner personality she showed whenever her laugh was heard!

"We'll miss: that frequent book reader, nice member of our community and most of all that good ol' smile!

"Rest in Peace, Regina. We love you." ■

— MARJORIE BEGGS

MIKE TURNER
Union man, father of 5

Four of Mike Turner's neighbors at the West Hotel came to his Nov. 9 memorial and remembered him as a man who didn't let on much about his past.

"He was just a nice guy," said Carlos Torres. "He didn't bother people, but always said hello. In fact, the day he died, I'd said 'hi' to him in the hall, then found out he was gone a few hours later.

"It made me realize how fast things can happen. How mortal we all are."

Mr. Turner lived at the Civic Center Residence for several years, then moved into the West, at 141 Eddy, three years ago. Declining general health and diabetes that required dialysis three times a week took their toll. He died at the West Oct. 27. He was 62.

"I would've guessed he was in his 50s," said a resident. "He wasn't especially private — he was friendly, but he really never talked about himself. He had children, but that's all I knew about him."

Mr. Turner's wife, Ming Toi, told The Extra later that he had five children, all living in the Bay Area.

"Mike was born in Texas and came to San Francisco with his parents — he was the baby in the family — and he lived here most of his life," said Ms. Toi, who was separated from Mr. Turner. He worked for many years through Local 510, the Trade Show and Convention Installers and Exhibit Builders Union.

"He was a very outgoing person," she said. "He made people laugh and people were drawn to him."

Illness, perhaps, made him grumpy sometimes. A resident at the memorial recalled how he wasn't too cheerful when they happened to be doing their laundry at the same time.

"He had this rolling walker and complained a lot," he said. "I think the dialysis was hard on him."

William Leary, the West's social work supervisor, said that despite Mr. Turner's problems, his friendliness persisted.

"I'd see him out in front of the hotel often, talking to people who came by," Leary said. "He seemed to have a lot of relationships with people in the neighborhood, and I'm sure he'll be missed." ■

— MARJORIE BEGGS



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City tells TL CBD to hand over documents

Ex-board member with complaint prevails at Sunshine Task Force

BY TOM CARTER

THE city's Sunshine Ordinance Task Force voted unanimously November 30 that the Tenderloin Community Benefits District had improperly withheld records from a former disgruntled board member and the district has until Jan. 11 to deliver them.

The task force said the CBD's General Manager Elaine Zamora and Assistant Manager Dina Hilliard had failed to provide records that Kai Wilson requested, thus violating five areas of Section 67 of the Sunshine Ordinance and one section of the California Public Records Act. Wilson, angered over what she considered the board's mistreatment of her before her res-

ignation, had brought two accusations to the task force: the withholding of emails she requested and discussing her in a closed session.

Under the Sunshine Ordinance of 1999, ensuring easier access to public records and enhancing public meeting laws, the task force offers a procedure to obtain records if someone is denied.

The 6-0 decision was referred to the task force's Compliance and Amendments Committee where it is to be vetted for its merits. The committee will meet Jan. 11. If the CBD has delivered copies of the requested emails to Wilson by then, the case will be dropped. The task force did not decide on the closed session issue.

If the CBD hasn't furnished Wilson all the correspondence she asked for by Jan. 11, the committee sends the case back to the task force with or without a recommendation. Enforcement is the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors, the district attorney, the Ethics Commission or the state attorney general.

To act on the case, the task

force first had to decide that community benefit districts come under the Sunshine law. Zamora and Hilliard said they had been advised by the city attorney's office that the CBD was not under the sunshine's purview. The task force disagreed.

Under questioning, Hilliard admitted that the CBD had not furnished documents that Wilson requested under the California Public Records Act after she resigned, nor had the CBD even replied to Wilson. When asked to explain the "reasoning," Hilliard replied that the CBD board had decided that "(a) response wouldn't help."

Wilson had been voted onto the board July 2009. After the executive committee asked her to resign a year later, she did so in July 2010. Zamora told the task force that Wilson "wasn't a good fit" for the CBD board. Wilson then objected to the way she was treated and sought the documents.

At the hearing's conclusion, Zamora and Hilliard tried to give Wilson the documents but she refused them saying they were incomplete.

Wilson said she may hire a lawyer to pursue additional issues she has with the CBD. ■



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Roy Crew, director



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Edgar Mercado, Warm Line coordinator



"I know a lot of our clients from when I was out ripping and running around the streets, dealing with my own HIV and hep C, drugs, alcohol, jail. I was a lost cause, but our clients see that I turned it around and that gives them hope." Speaks Spanish.

OFFICE OF SELF-HELP

This 17-year-old center serves mental health and substance abuse clients in a program that practices harm reduction and encourages recovery. It promotes empowerment through its self-help drop-in center; one-on-one peer counseling; Warm Line; seven different support groups; computer lab; on-site nurse and acupuncturist; meditation and Reiki practice; van trips for family members to out-of-county facilities.

Alex Macdonald, IT/Computer Lab



"The value of learning to use a computer for people with a history of disabilities is that it's completely neutral. It may have its weaknesses, but it doesn't lie to you — it's honest and gives true feedback and that's an empowering experience."

Edward Fong, self-help specialist



"I really enjoy what I'm doing, communicating and helping other people. The Warm Line is important. Some people are lost and lonely and I try to use humor — after I talk to them, I want to hear them be more upbeat, maybe even laugh." Speaks Cantonese.

Myrda Monasterial, administrative assistant



"I bring open-mindedness. I accept the clients for what they are, and I come to them unbiased, not analyzing them. My main work is to stay on top of things so they run smoothly." Speaks Tagalog.

Dr. Yuan Wang, acupuncturist



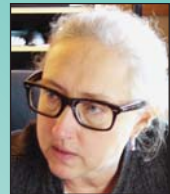
"My work promotes good health by harmonizing and balancing the internal functions, and regulating and promoting life energy or chi (qi)." Speaks Mandarin, Cantonese.

Terri James-Day, art instructor



"We do all kinds of art forms in our two-hour class, and clients can do anything they want — even nothing, if they just want to sit down and have cookies. There's pride in what they do, but also interest in what others are doing."

Dana Lyn Wedel, psychiatric nurse practitioner



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J. Paul Chaisson, Drop-In Center coordinator



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ARTS EVENTS

Concerts at the Cadillac, Dec. 17, 380 Eddy St., 12:30-1:30. Jazz with the Jeffrey Chin Quartet. Info: 673-7223.

The Oddman Family Christwanzaakuh Spectacular! presented by Guerrilla Rep and Beards Beards. A new, twisted holiday farce with music. Dec. 16, 17, 18, EXIT Stage Left, 156 Eddy St., 8 p.m. Tix: BrownPaperTickets.com (1-800-838-3006).

SPECIAL EVENTS

Be a Santa to a Senior: Dec. 16 and 17, community gift wrap party and delivery of gifts to lonely and needy seniors. Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care partnering with Curry Senior Center, San Francisco Towers, Walgreens and Citibank to get gifts to 300 Tenderloin seniors. Details at beasantatoasenior.com.

Glide public holiday events: Dec. 17, grocery bag giveaway, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Dec. 21, toy giveaway, 9-10 a.m.; Dec. 24, prime rib luncheon, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Dec. 25, Christmas breakfast, 7-8:30 a.m.; Christmas celebrations, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Christmas dinner, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Alliance for A Better District 6, 12th Annual Meeting, Wed., Jan. 19, 6 p.m. 201 Turk St. community room. Awards to community members who've made significant contributions to District 6, door prizes, guest speakers, refreshments, election of officers and more. Co-sponsored by La Parrilla Grill, Lefty O'Doul's, Tip Top Market, 201 Turk Street Family Apartments, Northeast Community Federal Credit Union, Susan Bryan, Michael Nulty, Garland Public & Community Relations.

Tenderloin Walk on the Wild Side, Jan. 11, 2 p.m., meet in front of 134 Golden Gate Ave. for a reception and free 90-minute preview tour with TL historian Deleano Seymour. Preview includes walk past 101 Taylor, the former site of Compton's Cafeteria and "the birth of the national LGBT movement," Seymour says. He's planning a series of perhaps weekly low-cost or donation-only tours. Info: 574-1641.

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE HOUSING

Supportive Housing Network, 3rd Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., Dorothy Day Community, 54 McAllister. Call: 421-2926 x304.

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

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

CBHS Consumer Council, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5-7 p.m., CBHS, 1380 Howard St., room 537. Call: 255-3695. Advisory group of consumers from self-help organizations and other mental health consumer advocates. Open to the public.

Health & Wellness Action Advocates, 1st Tuesday of the month, 5-7 p.m., Mental Health Association, 870 Market St., Suite 928. 421-2926 x306.

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

Mental Health Board, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., City Hall, room 278. CBHS advisory committee, open to the public. Call: 255-3474.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Gough St., 5th Fl. Call: 905-6264. Family member group, open to the public.

SAFETY

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team Training (NERT).

Central city residents can take the S.F. Fire Department's free disaster preparedness and response training at neighborhood locations. www.sfgov.org/sffdnert, or Lt. Arteseros, 970-2022.

SoMa Police Community Relations Forum, 4th Monday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies. To receive monthly email info: Meital Amitai, 538-8100 x202 or mamitai@iisf.org.

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.

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, 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>.

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: Tim Figueras, 554-9532.

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.

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, noon. 487-2166 or www.sompac.com.

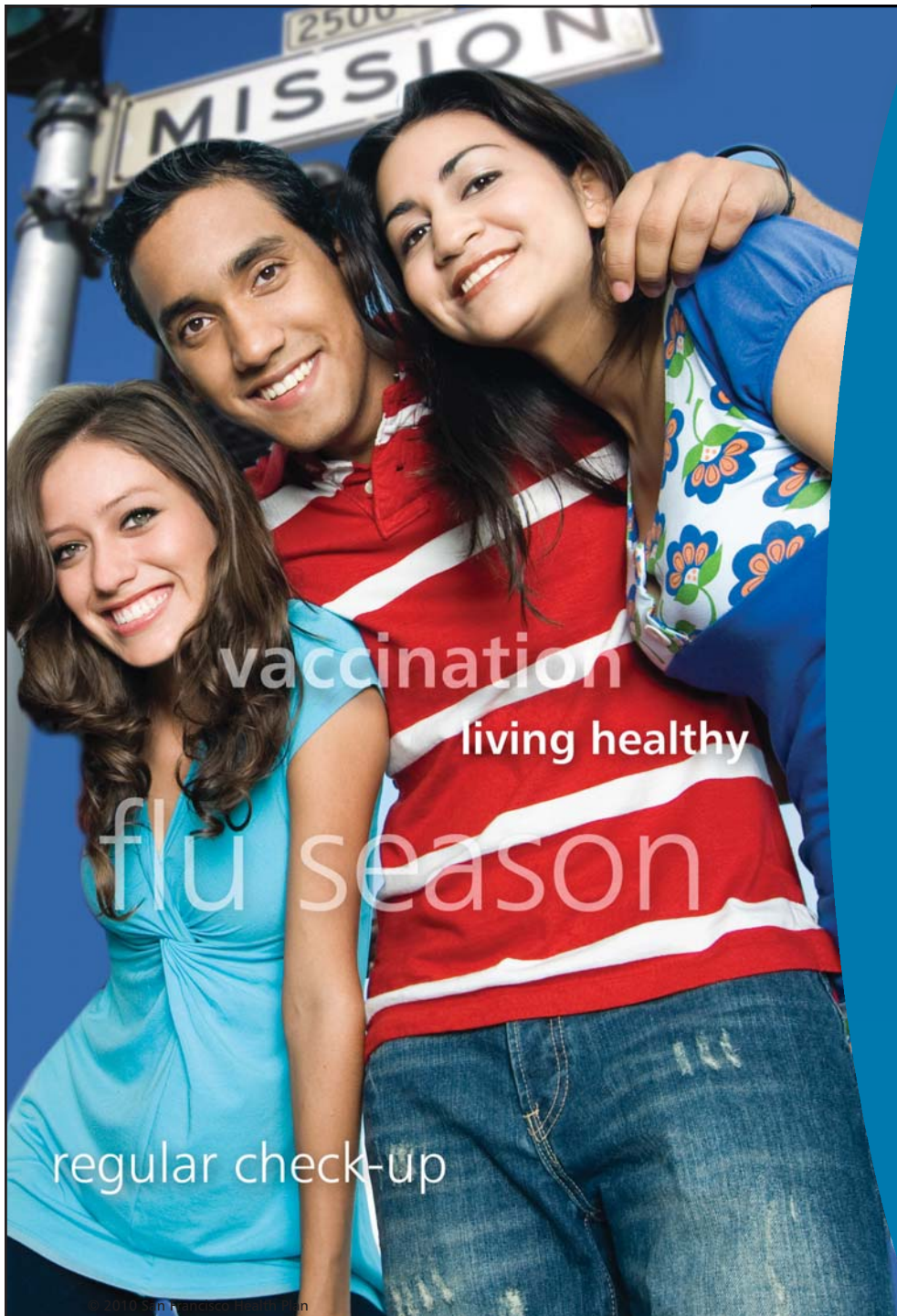
Tenderloin Futures Collaborative, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police Community Room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on issues of interest to neighborhood residents, nonprofits and businesses. Information: tifutures.org, 820-3989.

Tenderloin Neighborhood Association, 2nd Friday of the month, 842 Geary St., 5 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Info: tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com.

SENIORS AND DISABLED

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

Senior Action Network, general meeting, 2nd Thursday of the month, 9 a.m.-noon, Universal Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. Monthly programs. 965 Mission St. #700: Senior Housing Action Committee, 3rd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Call for health program and Senior University: 546-1333 and www.sfsan.org.



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