

# Mayor's office challenges the Central Market benefit district

Blunt letter details CBD shortcomings in revitalization effort

BY TOM CARTER

THE mounting pressure to resurrect Market Street was evident in a critical April memorandum the Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development mailed to the Central Market Community Benefit District, accusing it of foot-dragging and being uncooperative in collaborative efforts to make timely neighborhood improvements.

The OEWD, which oversees all nine CBDs in the city, sent a single-spaced, nine-page memo to the CBD board April 6 that shocked at least one board member at the April 12 meeting at the Whitcomb Hotel. The memo reviewed the office's overview of the CBD and its projects through February. Major areas were found lacking.

OEWD "is very concerned," the memo said, that the inaction jeopardizes a \$50,000 grant for an expansion of the community guides program to north Market Street for a six-month pilot because the CBD didn't raise the \$25,000 necessary for full funding. OEWD worried this would jinx future fundraising

**"The grant obligations ... are not being met."**

Mayor's office memo to CBD

for a permanent expanded guides program.

"The CBD did not meet its contractual reports requirements for 2008 and 2009" and didn't submit its 2010 annual report on time, either, the memo by Lisa Pagan, manager of CBD Technical Assistance, and Amy Cohen, Neighborhood Economic Development director, said. The letter said they had "received periodic complaints and requests for assistance from several OEWD and Art Commission staff working with the CBD on a regular basis."

CBDs are self-drawn districts whose property owners voted to pay an additional tax to support

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NO. 111

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN FRANCISCO STUDY CENTER

MAY 2011

2&  
NOT ALL MERCHANTS ENTHUSIASTIC

Market St. revival gets mixed reactions

PAGE 3

PACS BET BIG BUT LOSE IN DISTRICT 6

Sparks, Walker get 93% of contributions

PAGE 4



SIT/LIE A NONFACTOR IN THE TL

Police have yet to issue citation

PAGE 6

# CENTRAL CITY



SAN FRANCISCO

## 'CREATIVE ENERGY'



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Mona Caron, above, is the artist who painted the mural that has become a community magnet and inspired a colorful film documenting the daily work and the people who became part of it.

# MURAL MANIA

New film shows Zamora legacy a rallying point for community

BY TOM CARTER

WHEN artist Mona Caron got the job from the Tenderloin CBD to paint a mural at the gritty intersection of Golden Gate Avenue and Jones Street, she thought the city's poorest neighborhood didn't need a work of art, assuming it was too snarled in survival struggles.

"Maybe it's the last thing they need," Caron said.

But then-CBD Manager Elaine Zamora, who chose Caron, believed a mural would bring something positive. Zamora was right.

The making of the mural was like a light to moths, drawing hundreds of people throughout the year it was in production, helping to prime the walls and serving as ad hoc technical advisers until finished in March 2010. For TL habitues, it was and is an enduring source of identity and pride, defining the neighborhood as never before.

Videographer and journalist Paige Bierma captured its creation and the lively interaction of its motley supporting cast in a 22-minute film, "A Brush with the Tenderloin," a project that took her nearly

three years to finish.

Bierma spent a year filming on the street, a "heartening" experience, she called it, with what outsiders consider invisible people, "the homeless folks you step over or cross the street to avoid" and poor ones barely keeping it together.

A print journalist for 15 years, five as an Associated Press stringer in Mexico, Bierma turned to video five years ago. In 2010, she came to film Caron's sidewalk work a bit apprehensive because of headlines about crime in the rough and tumble Tenderloin. She worried about being mugged and her \$5,000 Panasonic camera stolen.

But the opposite happened.

"Nobody threatened me or tried to steal my camera," she said. "And I was surprised at how much creative energy there is: street poets, political revolutionaries, artists and musicians. Rappers came and sang to us one day. It's a strong community with a richness and action every day. It was an eye-opener for me, and I hope it is for the viewers."

In the mural's expansive streetscape panels — one a serene scene of the future — are nearly 300 figures. One of them, "Indian Joe" Plamondon, with his cascading, below-the-shoulder black hair and trademark stovepipe hat, shows up twice.

"You see a lot of garbage graffiti around," Plamondon says, standing in front of where the mural shows him lounging under a street sign; elsewhere he is pushing a cart across Golden Gate Avenue. "But this shows what the neighborhood is like and can be — so people can see it and enjoy it. It tells a life story. And it opens up friendships when people see it and start talking to

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

The Furniture Mart, 1355 Market St., future home of Twitter.

# GOOD NEWS for...

**ART LOVERS** Painting of the new mural on the Post Office at 101 Hyde St. starts this month, while five more will be unveiled May 13 on Market Street. The Post Office mural is a Tenderloin CBD project by Johanna Poethig. The other five are part of Street SmARTS, funded by the Department of Public Works, and Art in Storefronts, a program of the San Francisco Arts Commission, to reinvigorate the shoddy central Market district. The new city projects, which also include original art installations in six underused storefronts, will be celebrated from 5 to 7 p.m. Mayor Ed Lee will attend the festivities that begin at Gray Area Foundation for the Arts at 998 Market St. with the unveiling of two murals. A Balinese ensemble, Gamelan X, will lead a procession up Market to U.N. Plaza, where other entertainers will perform. The murals will be at 998 Market St. on the Taylor side of the Warfield, the Golden Gate side of Show Dogs restaurant, the Strand Theater, the Merrill's building, and next to it, the Grant Building at Seventh and Market. The Street SmARTS projects and Art in Storefronts and will be on view through Aug. 13. The Post Office mural, which the CBD is funding with a \$50,000 grant, will be permanent. Also showing the CBD's substantial investment in Tenderloin beautification is the \$63,000 Mona Caron mural two blocks away that was funded by another grant to the CBD from the Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Community Challenge Grant Program. ■

— TOM CARTER

## Mayor's office pushes Central Market CBD to be major player in revival

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their own street and sidewalk cleaning, graffiti removal, community guides, beautification, music in public places and other enhancements. The diversity of projects sets the CBDs apart from traditional business improvement districts called BIDs. The Board of Supervisors approves each independent district, which is governed by a board of directors made up of property owners, merchants and residents elected from within the district's boundaries.

The Central Market and Tenderloin CBDs are of particular importance as players now because of the city's Market Street makeover and arts district push. In January 2010, Mayor Newsom and OEWD began the Central Market Partnership initiative in collaboration with the private sector to help the area revive.

### ART IN STOREFRONTS DELAYED

The memo complained that in 2009, OEWD gave the CBD a grant to install 13 art works in vacant storefronts along Market Street. But, because the CBD had gotten only one window installation ready a month before the opening date, OEWD had to push the Art in Storefronts opening back six months. Then, when the CBD wanted approval of window content, the Arts Commission offered it a seat on the artist-selection committee. But the district's first two choices for membership backed out. At the last minute CBD Executive director Daniel Hurtado stepped in.

Another OEWD grant, \$4,000, went unclaimed because the CBD didn't organize six meetings between merchants and landowners from both sides of Market Street. One meeting was held. "The grant obligations ... are not being met," the memo said.

The memo caught the CBD directors unawares.

"Some of these remarks are shocking," said board member Ralph Lee. He turned to

Hurtado: "In the future, any recommendations from OEWD, bring it to the board. I wondered how long this had been going on."

David Fariello, one of three CBD executive committee members who approved Hurtado in his annual performance review in December, said the issues "are making it hard to deal with OEWD. We need to be partnering with OEWD." He wished the memo had come to the board earlier.

"The highlights in the memo reflect my view (that we're) not taking leadership roles in the community," Fariello continued. "We need to see what kind of leadership role we can have."

Hurtado said he was making "improvements," but didn't list them. His salary and benefits for 2010 were \$82,000, according to the CBD's expense report. His pay is comparable to the TL CBD manager's but with half the district's area and a fraction of the property owners.

"This (memo) hasn't come about in a respectful way," Hurtado added. It has "been hurtful to me."

### HURTADO EXPLAINS

"I'm the first to admit the failure in some of these things that were brought up," Hurtado said. "We need to set priorities and I need support from the board. We've had no conflicts in the four years I've been here. I love my board. But I didn't know for a couple of weeks if I had the support of the board."

He said the CBD has "done a lot with a small budget of \$535,000," which is less than half the TL CBD budget.

Word of the memo had spread and more than a dozen visitors attended, a big crowd compared with most Central Market CBD board meetings. No one spoke against Hurtado. Several, who represented arts organizations that get grants from the CBD, spoke favorably of him.

Mary Alice Fry from the Market Street Arts

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## NOTICE: SECTION 8 VOUCHER HOLDERS

### One-bedroom apartments now available in Upper San Mateo County Peninsula

- Excellent weather
- Best neighborhoods
- 20 minutes to San Francisco
- BART station nearby
- Short walk to stores and transportation
- Safe, clean, quiet building
- New wall-to-wall carpet — all-electric kitchen

### We pay your moving costs

Call (415) 786-1760

# Central Market CBD on hot seat

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Festival and Lynne Valente of People in Plazas, CBD grantees, said they enjoyed working with Hurtado.

Property owner Stan Herzstein said that when the CBD was formed he had been “skeptical” it would work out. But it’s “much better than it was,” he said, especially street security and cleanliness. Hurtado does a “fabulous job,” he said. “You should pat yourself on the back.”

The memo asked the CBD to step up and play a bigger role in resurrecting Market Street and suggested it start with expanding its Website to become the “on-line destination for Central Market.” Add a local events calendar, create a video tour of the neighborhood and start promoting the Central Market Arts District. It urged the CBD to consider merging with the Tenderloin CBD and consider managing a Sixth Street CBD, if one forms.

The \$50,000 grant for community guides to pacify the north side of Market from Fifth to Ninth streets was the meeting’s most complex issue. The CBD district runs that distance on Market on the south side with jogs north only on Mason for a block and between Eighth and Ninth, and jogs south on Fifth and Eighth to Mission.

In September, OEWD told the CBD it had a \$50,000 grant for a six-month program to start in January, but it was for outside the CBD’s district. In November, OEWD, Central Market CBD and MJM Management Group — which trains and furnishes the guides — met to discuss details. The envisioned \$75,000 budget included \$25,000 that Central Market was expected to raise from North of Market property owners. Pagan said Hurtado agreed to “update the CMCBD board and solicit \$25,000” and report progress to OEWD by Dec. 15.

OEWD heard nothing in December or January from Hurtado, according to the memo. Pagan met with him in February to review all CBD contracts and found that property owners hadn’t “been asked directly” for donations. Instead, Hurtado said he had asked the Tenderloin CBD, whose budget is twice the Central Market’s, if it would contribute the money on behalf of

its Market Street property owners.

“It is unclear,” the letter said, whether Central Market ever got an answer from the Tenderloin CBD in that strategy, which was “not agreed upon” at the November meeting. In any case, OEWD said, the TL CBD was prohibited by its own rules from limiting a service to just one street instead of districtwide, and also hadn’t provided for community guides in its management plan.

The soliciting of north Market Street property owners took Dina Hilliard, acting manager of the Tenderloin CBD, by surprise. “This is the first I’ve heard of it,” she said from the front row. “I’m concerned about the way this came down. We weren’t involved.”

Hurtado said he called four North of Market property owners and they all said: Why should we kick in extra when we’re already paying? He said MJM had told him a six-month pilot lacked “momentum,” but a yearlong program, which Hurtado said he favored, would work.

The board asked Pagan, who was sitting in the back of the room, to come up front to comment. She said her notes from her February meeting with Hurtado differed from his recollections.

“OEWD is not requiring the CBD to do anything,” she said. “We bring initiatives to the table. All you have to do is say no. I’d appreciate a committee working with the OEWD. We go to the staff of every (benefit) district; we don’t go to the boards. The CM/CBD is a major player. We don’t want to force you to do anything you don’t have the capacity for.”

O’Brien said she would turn the projects listed in Pagan and Cohen’s memo into action items for the board at the next CBD meeting, May 10.

The last agenda item before adjournment was retaining legal counsel to represent the CBD. The board voted to hire Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP at \$600 an hour.

Two days after the meeting, O’Brien resigned as president, and from the board, citing in a letter “professional and personal obligations.” In a special, open meeting April 19, the board elected Secretary David Fariello, a property-owner representative, as president. ■



## Is Market Street on the way up?

Asked of Market Street merchants between 5th and 9th streets.



**Naomi Lucente, Marinello School of Beauty**

Without question. We have a better quality of businesses coming into the neighborhood. An art museum just opened up, which is bringing more culture into the neighborhood. If Twitter and Burning Man move in as well, it will be a much-needed face-lift to this amazing area. We just moved here from Mission Street, and as the flagship campus of our company, we’re very happy to be on Market Street.

**Al Choi, Piper’s Jewelers**

That’s a tough question. It seems like a lot has been going on here lately, like renovating buildings. It would help if they’d make sure the street is cleaner, and a night patrol would be good, too. But the main problem is the condition of Market Street: There’s no place to park. If they had diagonal parking on Market, I’m sure it would bring the neighborhood up. It would bring people in from other parts of the Bay Area — they would know they had a nice safe place to park.

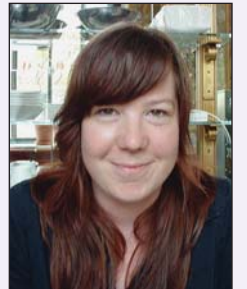


**Muklis Marta, World of Stereo**

I think it will improve the neighborhood. It can only get better.

**Erin Sherwood, Dolce and Salato**

I think this area is overlooked and underappreciated. A company the size (of Twitter) moving in is a great jump-start. Places like the Mission and the Haight have so much foot traffic, which we don’t have here. I think that’s why small businesses have been hesitant to move in. Bigger companies moving in is exactly what the neighborhood needs — it will make people notice this area more.



**Javier Lopez, Bay 1 Fitness**

I think it would be absolutely great to have a large-volume company like Twitter. Local businesses would appreciate and want to serve that type of clientele. That’s what we want as our member base — we want to cater to the executives and work force of the area.

**Rami Keishk, Kicks**

I hope it’s a start of being good. We need more traffic here. It could be good for all the stores in the area — not just for me. But this could raise our rents. That would be bad. Hope they don’t do that.



**Anonymous retailer, Market Street clothing store**

Depends on how you look at it. From the city’s point of view, it’s probably good. But from the retailers’ point of view, it could be bad because it will bring in a different type of clientele than shops here now. They’re trying to get new people in and existing people out. On this street, you can only get certain types of businesses now. They want green businesses, and they want to get rid of the check-cashing spots. They want to get rid of businesses that serve low-income people.



The Knox and Bayanihan House SROs provided by the Tenants and Owners Development Corporation (TODCO), has an open wait list for low-income affordable housing.

If you are looking for a safe and comfortable place to call HOME surrounded by compassionate residents and a caring staff, The Knox and Bayanihan House are designed with you in mind.

All of our rooms have a two-burner stove, refrigerator, single or full sized bed with a closet, along with outstanding amenities in each building. The income limits for these affordable properties are as follows:

	Maximum / Minimum Income Limit
Knox:	1 person - \$33,360 per year (maximum income) \$760 per month (minimum income)
	2 person - \$38,160 per year (maximum income) \$760 per month (minimum income)
Bayanihan:	1 person - \$29,190 per year (maximum income) \$760 per month (minimum income)
	2 person - \$33,390 per year (maximum income) \$760 per month (minimum income)

For more information or to pick up an application for The Knox and Bayanihan House, please stop by the lobby of the TODCO Marketing Office located at 241 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street in San Francisco.

If you have a disability that prevents you from fully participating in this process please call (415) 957-0227.



TDD: (415) 345-4470



# Political action committees spend more than \$425,000 on Sparks' and Walker's campaigns, yet lose

BY MARK HEDIN AND JONATHAN NEWMAN

**R**EAL estate interests and labor organizations, using political action committees, a loosely regulated mechanism, were the biggest spenders in the most recent election.

PACs contributed more to four campaigns for supervisor in District 6 than the district's 14 candidates combined received from any other sources, \$439,773 or more than 35% of the \$1,243,882 total candidate spending in the November election.

Citywide in the four supervisorial races, PAC funding, one of three funding mechanisms available to campaigns, totaled \$1.5 million, meaning District 6 candidates got more than their share, nearly 30% of PAC money spent citywide in the 2010 races.

PACs operate under a different set of rules than individual contributors, and sometimes feature extravagant and loosely regulated spending. Record-keeping and filing requirements are such that tracking PACs requires a lot of time and tenacity. The Extra's numbers come from Ethics Commission campaign filings through Jan. 31, 2011, the candidates' and PACs' final report deadline.

### WHY SPECIAL INTERESTS LIKE PACS

A key aspect of PAC campaign financing is that there is no limit to how much individuals, corporations and special interests can spend trying to influence voters through a committee. Candidates are allowed to take no more than \$500 from an individual, but that same person contributing to a PAC is free to spend \$5,000 — or even \$45,000 — to boost a candidate or tear down a rival. In District 6's supervisorial campaign, two individuals spent exactly those sums.

Former Mayor Willie Brown donated \$5,000 to New Day for SF, a PAC that raised \$30,200 to support Jane Kim, the winner. And real estate mogul Thomas J. Coates, the city's top PAC contributor who also chucked in six figures in District 2, gave \$45,000 to support Theresa Sparks. Neither Brown

nor Coates returned The Extra's calls to ask why they care so much about District 6 and why they backed their respective candidates.

Of the four District 6 candidates with PAC money, Sparks and Debra Walker combined took in more than \$425,000 in funds from a dozen PACs. winner Kim got 7% as much from a single PAC. Contrast this, too, with what all 14 District 6 candidates received in direct contributions — \$401,230 — and in city matching funds — \$403,163 — that just six candidates qualified for: James Keys, Kim, Jim Meko, Sparks, Walker and Elaine Zamora.

State election law insists PACs operate independently of the candidates they support — or oppose. If the candidate or candidate's staff participates in "making any decision about the content, timing, location, mode, intended audience, distribution, or placement of the communication" — a hit piece, for instance — it is deemed a campaign contribution, and thus can't exceed \$500.

But a PAC — which can be, and sometimes is an individual — is allowed to interview the candidate on issues affecting the PAC, obtain campaign material from the candidate or candidate's "agents," or invite the candidate to make a presentation to them or their "employees, shareholders or family," provided there's no discussion about the expenditures to be made on the candidate's behalf.

### WILLIE BROWN NO. 2 CONTRIBUTOR

New Day for SF, to which former Mayor Brown chipped in \$5,000 — making him the second-largest individual contributor in District 6 — ran afoul of those rules early on, when its treasurer listed a phone number for Left Coast Communications as the PAC's contact number in Ethics Commission filings. Left Coast was Kim's campaign consultant, thus prohibited from PAC activity on her behalf.

The fourth and final District 6 supervisorial candidate to get PAC support was Keys, on whose behalf the Coleman Action Fund for Children Committee spent \$284. Coleman sent the same amount to Walker and Kim in District 6, to four

Board of Education candidates and to supervisorial candidates in Districts 8 and 10 as well.

PAC money flowed freely in District 2. In mid-October, Coates coughed up \$141,000 for a PAC called "Common Sense Voters San Francisco 2010, Vote for Mark Farrell for District 2 Supervisor." This is the same Coates who in 2008 gave \$1 million to state Prop. 98, a losing bid to repeal rent control.

Another big Common Sense PAC benefactor was socialite fundraiser Dede Wilsey, who, city Ethics Commission records show, shelled out \$50,000 to help beat Farrell's rival Janet Reilly.

Final Common Sense filings show numerous five-figure expenditures for campaign materials opposing Reilly, as well as a \$5,000 contribution that was funneled to the "San Francisco Republican County Central Committee Political Party Committee."

Reilly got the most first-place votes, but Farrell won his seat on second- and third-choice voting.

### REAL ESTATE INTERESTS WENT FOR SPARKS

In District 6, real estate interests went for Sparks. Coates' \$45,000 contribution to her cause was made through the Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth PAC, which raised an additional \$45,000 for Sparks from the Building Owners and Managers Association of San Francisco. The Alliance ultimately spent \$176,800 in a fruitless attempt to persuade District 6 voters to support the Human Rights Commission executive director. This PAC also spent \$193,199 on District 8 winner Scott Wiener and \$184,303 on District 10 also-ran Steve Moss, publisher of the Potrero View. Coates gave \$10,000 to the PAC for Wiener and \$45,000 for Moss.

Another PAC that went to bat for Sparks was the Coalition for Sensible Government, funded by the San Francisco Association of Realtors, which shelled out more than \$30,000 for Sparks — and nearly \$60,000 for Wiener.

PACs supporting Walker tended to be labor-oriented. The Friends Supporting Debra Walker PAC

➤ CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

coordinated care  
support groups

happiness

access to services  
well-being

## A Medi-Cal Health Plan

- 400 Personal Doctors
- 1,800 Specialists
- 185 Pharmacies
- Emergency Care Nationwide
- 24/7 Nurse Advice Line

Call (888) 626-6563 [www.sfhp.org](http://www.sfhp.org)

QUALITY AWARD WINNER  
SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH PLAN  
Here for you

© 2011 San Francisco Health Plan. CCE SB RR IL 6701QZ 041

## CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

### SUMMER SESSION IS BACK!

The following **FREE** noncredit courses are being offered by the City College of San Francisco **Civic Center Campus, 750 Eddy St., and other location. FREE Noncredit classes begin June 1 and July 1. APPLY NOW! GO TO WWW.CCSF.EDU**

FREE NONCREDIT COURSES						
CRN	Course Title	Days	Beg. Time	End Time	Start Date	Location
60161	ESL Beginning High 3	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60162	ESL Beginning High 3	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61707	ESL Beginning High 3	M-F	10:00 a.m.	12 noon	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
60082	ESL Beginning High 4	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60083	ESL Beginning High 4	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61552	ESL Beginning High 4	M-Th	18:30 a.m.	8:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60020	ESL Beginning Low 1	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60022	ESL Beginning Low 1	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60024	ESL Beginning Low 1	M-Th	6:30 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
62298	ESL Beginning Low 1	M-F	10:00 a.m.	12 noon	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
60044	ESL Beginning Low 2	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60046	ESL Beginning Low 2	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
60408	ESL Beginning Low 2	M-Th	6:30 a.m.	9:00 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61706	ESL Beginning Low 2	M-F	10:00 a.m.	12 noon	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
62472	ESL Comm Skills for Work.	M-F	9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
62464	ESL Comm Skills for Work.	M-F	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	4-Jul	1850 Mission St.
61908	ESL Comp. Assisted-Beg H	M-F	1:30 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
61418	ESL Intermediate Low 6	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61172	ESL Intermediate Low 6	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61464	ESL Intermediate Low 6	M-Th	6:30 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
61866	ESL Literacy A	M-Th	11:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
62009	ESL Literacy A	M-Th	8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1-Jun	750 Eddy St.
62466	VES Beginning-Low L	M-F	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
62467	VESL Beginning-Low	M-F	9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
62465	VESL Beginning-Low	M-F	9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	1-Jun	1850 Mission St.
62473	VESL Communication	M-F	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	5-Jul	1850 Mission St.
62474	VESL Communication	M-F	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	5-Jul	1850 Mission St.
62475	VESL Communication	M-F	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	5-Jul	1850 Mission St.

For more information call 561.1875 or go to [www.ccsf.edu](http://www.ccsf.edu)

# Willie Brown gives \$5,000 to Kim; Sparks gets \$45,000 from rent control foe

➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

got \$55,000 from the San Francisco Labor Council, \$26,628 from the California Nurses Association and \$50,660 from another PAC, Standing Up to Save SF, whose executive director, Tim Paulson, is also executive director of the S.F. Labor Council. At press time, Paulson had not returned The Extra's calls.

The world of PAC financing, however, is a murky one. Ethics Commission staff say they need a more powerful computer system, which they can't afford, to effectively parse the massive electronic files and pounds of paper that constitute campaign funding reports. There are various filing deadline dates throughout the campaign, so a sizable PAC might have to file 300 or more pieces of paper packed with names and numbers.

As an example, The Extra set out to determine what the smallest PAC that contributed to District 6 candidates — the Coleman Action Fund for Children Committee — did with the \$852 it reported spending in District 6.

The Extra called the nonprofit Coleman Advocates for Youth, which had formed this PAC. A staff member said all the candidates had been sent a questionnaire about how they stood on various ballot issues, and from those results the PAC printed a postcard listing the candidates who supported its stand on those issues. Then the PAC apportioned an equal share of the cost of that postcard to each candidate listed on it. Coleman didn't endorse any of those candidates, the staffer said. To have learned this from Ethics Commission documents, however, would have required sorting through nearly 100 separate Coleman filings.

## ETHICS STOPS KEEPING TRACK

Ethics Commission oversight of the PAC filings diminishes greatly once the election is over. Ethics' final reports on the election document only spending reported through early November, though many PACs continue to settle accounts and file reports on those transactions through the end of the year. In the cases of PACs that will live on to fight in future elections, the book-balancing continues even now.

Various PACs also transfer money between themselves. For instance, Friends Supporting Debra Walker listed a \$7,000 contribution to a PAC called

"Teachers, Nurses, Muni Riders, Neighbors and Working Families supporting Mandelman for Supervisor 2010 sponsored by labor organizations" that was primarily concerned with the District 8 race. But, in turn, filings show that this PAC made a nonmonetary contribution of consulting and \$1,000 worth of election-week "field organizing," a total value of \$3,634.07 to Friends Supporting Debra Walker and the Walker campaign itself.

Similarly, the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club shows up in Ethics Commission filings as both a PAC, funding Sparks to the tune of \$15,000, and as the recipient of funds from other PACs: \$1,000 from the Building Owners and Managers Association and \$5,000 from the Alliance For Jobs and Sustainable Growth's Sparks account.

Much campaign money isn't spent in San Francisco. The Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth, for instance, reported paying almost \$26,000 to Stanford Campaigns, an Austin, Texas, company, for polling and survey research. New York's Benenson Strategy Group is still owed \$4,600 of the \$27,600 of work it did for the Alliance, according to filings of Jan. 31. The PAC did, however, send \$10,000 to San Francisco UA Local 38 Plumbers and Pipefitters, apparently for office expenses.

New Day for SF, in supporting Kim, raised \$30,200 — including \$2,500 in free rent — and spent \$27,951. About \$8,000 of that went to Sara Powell, owner of a Mission District art/music/poetry venue called Kaleidoscope Free Zone, for "field work" and almost \$10,000 went to Li Chang Yu for voter registration.

Besides Brown's \$5,000, New Day also got \$5,000 from attorney Steven Kay, who has represented the 49ers, a group trying to purchase the Oakland A's, and numerous sports stars. His firm, Kay and Merkle, has offices adjacent to Brown's. San

Franciscan Florence Kong, president of Kwan Wo Ironworks, gave \$2,500. Peter Bosma and Alastair McTaggart, both of the prominent SoMa builders Emerald Fund, each contributed \$2,000. Urban Realty principals David Rhoades and Martin Sawa, the driving force behind the proposed mid-Market retail showcase CityPlace, together gave \$1,500. Lawrence Lui, president of the Stanford Hotels Corp., gave \$1,000; Dublin's Kho Corp. and San Francisco's Electric Current Construction each kicked in \$1,000. Henry Karnilowicz and the South of Market Business Association supplied the free rent. ■

PAC contributions to District 6 supervisorial candidates	
Four of the 14 candidates received a total of \$439,773 from 13 different PACs.	
<b>Theresa Sparks</b>	
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club	\$15,012
Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth	\$176,800
Coalition for A Safer California	\$12,715
Coalition for Sensible Government	\$33,619
San Francisco Coalition for Responsible Growth	\$500
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$238,646</b>
<b>Debra Walker</b>	
Affordable Housing Alliance	\$1,172
California Nurses Association	\$9,990
Coleman Action Fund for Children Committee	\$284
Friends of Debra Walker	\$149,514
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club	\$5,159
San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee	\$606
Teachers, Nurses, Muni Riders	\$3,634
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$170,359</b>
<b>Jane Kim</b>	
Coleman Action Fund for Children Committee	\$284
New Day for SF	\$30,200
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$30,484</b>
<b>James Keys</b>	
Coleman Action Fund for Children Committee	\$284
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$284</b>

Source: S.F. Ethics Commission

**SFpark**  
CIRCLE LESS, LIVE MORE

**SFPARK.ORG**  
PARKING AVAILABILITY & PRICING

**The Benefits of SFpark**  
Find parking faster. Pay more easily. Avoid tickets. Less circling and fewer double-parked cars give us cleaner air and safer streets with less traffic.

no.1 Cleaner Air    no.2 Safer Streets    no.3 Faster Muni

Brought to You By **SFMTA**



**Left:** "Sarge" Hayes is a regular on Jones Street and was a chatty presence in the film.

**Center:** A dream came true for "Indian Joe" Plamondon, center left, because of the mural. With him in the 107.7 radio studio are cameraman Michael Dunston, rock star Alice Cooper and the mural's videographer Paige Bierma.



## Caron mural a showcase for characters

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

others about it."

Indian Joe is a main character in the film and part of "the most lively and interesting interaction" Caron says she's had in 12 years painting street murals. Every day people came up to her to ask technical questions, or to blurt out "what is this?" before realizing it was their neighborhood appearing before them. Then asking, "Can I be in it?"

"People were open and willing to share," Caron said, who recently completed murals in Bolivia and San Mateo. "I learned a lot. There

are nearly 300 people in it. I tried really hard to get everyone in but I just had to stop. It was never-ending. Maybe I'll come back and add some more someday."

Caron says that as she painted she became a "slow motion performance act" watched daily by a "Greek chorus" — the food line from St. Anthony's Dining Room across the street.

In a film preview on the Internet, The Extra saw the community enthusiasm grow as scenes and characters developed and whimsy like a passing antic bicyclist were added to the two walls on the northeast corner. Besides Plamondon, other neighborhood characters

getting prime time are kitemaker Jeff Marshall, the ever-present Didi Crane and Huey Newton's grandson Richard Rice.

While Bierma's lens catches most of the characters in lively sidewalk talk — including a comically staggering pair of arm-in-arm singing drunks — she takes us into Marshall's cramped SRO room in the Boyd Hotel just across the street where he constructs colorful kites and lets him tell his story of being homeless and strung-out. In the mural he's a lone figure atop the Boyd, flying a kite.

One of Bierma's favorite scenes is when Caron discovers that an unprotected part of the

## City's new sit/lie law has yet to yield

BY TOM CARTER

**These photos** depict people on Tenderloin sidewalks who could possibly be subject to the city's new sit/lie law. Police have yet to cite anyone in the neighborhood under this law.

**T**HE hand-smacking sit/lie ordinance that grew out of troubles the Haight-Ashbury cops couldn't solve doesn't appear to be used much by Tenderloin police or by complaining residents in the neighborhood where hundreds of people hang out on sidewalks, some to escape the tight confines of their SRO rooms.

The "Civil Sidewalks" law voters passed in November became effective Dec. 17. But officers had to undergo a special training on its complexities, so enforcement didn't begin until March 1.

Tenderloin police have yet to write a sit/lie citation, according to TL Capt. Joe Garrity.

The law prohibits sitting or lying on sidewalks, or on objects on them, between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m.

A spot check by The Extra of three police

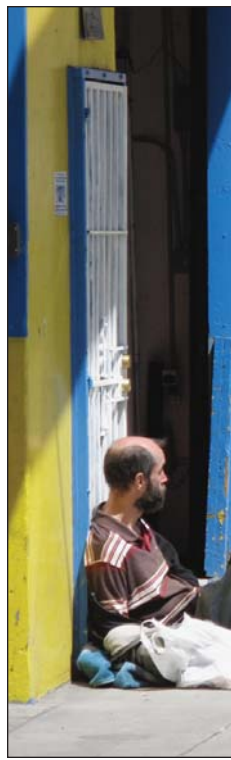
districts for the week of April 16-22 showed that the Tenderloin had just four "calls for service" from people phoning in for suspected sit/lie violations; Southern District, which includes Sixth Street, had 25; and Park District, which includes the Haight, had 30.

"Four to five is about normal for us," Garrity said.

Police only keep calls for service in each district, said Lt. Troy Dangerfield, SFPD spokesman. "There is no breakdown of arrests,



PHOTO BY TOM CARTER





## and source of pride for the community

**Top:** Marvin Debow and his wife Davonne are elated to be in the mural. He points to their spot in the painting. Photos far left and right are by Paige Bierma. Center photo courtesy of FM Radio Station 107.7

mural has been defaced. Near the image of a prowler car, in the street, was scrawled: FUCK. Caron, obviously hurt, says as she paints over it that she was warned this might happen. What Bierma's camera catches next is the outrage of Caron's sidewalk supporters, who feel insulted that someone would so diss their neighborhood. "They take ownership (of the mural)," she says.

In the 14 months since the mural was completed, Plamondon estimates, 10 of the 300 depicted have died.

Out of this project, too, grew Indian Joe's once-in-a-lifetime experience of meeting rock

star Alice Cooper, one of his favorites ever since a friend years ago drew imitative black lines down from his eyes. When Plamondon heard that Cooper was going to play the Warfield last year he was beside himself. Broke though he was, he turned food stamps into a ticket. But the real surprise for the Shushwap Canadian Indian was when Bierma took him to radio station 107.7 on Hawthorne Street in SoMa to meet Cooper.

"You know the first thing he said when he saw me?" Plamondon says. "Am I looking into a fuckin' mirror?"

Their videoed meeting made the film, but

not the language.

The year of filming "was a good experience — both ways," Bierma says.

"A Brush with the Tenderloin" may have an afterlife. Bierma intends to enter it in the East Coast's Silverdocs festival, the San Francisco International Shorts Festival, Mill Valley Film Festival and possibly others. ■

"A Brush with the Tenderloin" will be shown May 13 at 3:30 p.m. and at 8 p.m. in suite A at 134 Golden Gate Ave. Q and A's with Bierma will follow.

## held any citations in the Tenderloin

citations or warnings per district."

That same week citywide there were no sit/lie arrests, but six citations and 49 "advisements" — warnings to move or the cops can come back and cite you. But nobody can be cited without first being warned in writing.

"Every case is different," Garrity said. "It could be medical, or drunk or a number of things. Having experience helps."

The law has eight exceptions that Garrity wants the public to know. Most are obvious:

prostrate people needing medical attention, folks in wheelchairs, customers at outdoor cafes, people attending performances, parades, demonstrations and so on, sitting on street furniture, sitting in line for goods and services (if not impeding pedestrians), children in strollers and folks lounging in a Pavement to Parks project.

The first offense is an infraction. If convicted, a fine ranges from \$50 to \$100 and/or community service. Incurring a second citation

within 24 hours is a misdemeanor and a conviction brings a \$200 to \$300 fine and/or community service, and/or up to 10 days in jail. Anyone cited within 120 days of a conviction, and is then found guilty of the misdemeanor, faces a \$400 to \$500 fine, and/or community service, and/or up to 30 days in jail.

In Garrity's weekly community newsletter he offers to furnish anyone a summary of the law and a page of FAQs. ■



PHOTOS BY LENNY LIMJOCO

**RAYMOND DYER**  
**'A good brother'**

There was no shortage of tears at Coast Hotel the crisp, sunny afternoon of Feb. 23 as more than 30 friends and relatives gathered to remember Raymond "Ray Ray" Dyer, a fun-loving resident of the hotel who'd died the week before at age 54.

"(He was) always smiling and laughing about everything. Fun to be around. ... He was very easy to befriend, loved his grandchildren," fellow Coast resident, Cindy, said. Turning toward Mr. Dyer's family, she said, "I know all about you. Y'all meant the world to him."

Jeffrey, another Coast tenant, addressed the family: "I know your brother real good, too. He just lost \$20 trying to bet me with the Rams. ... He had his ways, everybody do. ... There've been so many deaths, I don't

go to all of these, but I had to go to this one. Ray was a good brother."

"He was a flirt, we're gonna miss him a lot. He was a big spirit in this building," Diane Correa, case manager at the hotel, said. "Some we get closer to than others; Ray was one of the ones we didn't have a choice, he'd just walk into the office and start telling jokes."

"He was a protector of the weak," said a nephew, who also cited Mr. Dyer's love of family and efforts to do right, before breaking down in tears, unable to continue.

Person after person testified to Mr. Dyer's love of family and high spirits, and of his love of food — "Ray Ray's ribs" and Benihana were mentioned. Ronald Dyer, his older brother, also recalled his brother promising to take him to dinner, and doing so — at Glide.

"He wasn't necessarily the best man I ever knew, but he was the best brother I ever had.

"I guess all you guys know Ray could make you laugh and piss you off in 60 seconds. He'd get real mad, but five minutes later it was on to the next thing," his brother recalled. "He'd always do the right thing when it was time."

Mr. Dyer had been a doorman at Holiday Inn, a courier and a hotel shuttle driver. He had a number of health problems and was a longtime drug user and drinker as well. He'd had a collapsed lung, and "probably had a heart attack," his brother said.

Mr. Dyer had attended Patrick Henry Elementary School, Everett Junior High and Mission High. Ronald Dyer remembered their childhood on Potrero Hill, and escapades such as

one night when Ray snuck out the window. "He went out with a natural and came back with a konk" — and acted surprised when someone noticed his new look at the breakfast table the next morning.

As a young man, he'd played the trumpet and liked Tower of Power, James Brown and the Temptations. "He thought he was one of them," his brother recalled. "He wore white shoes, the hair, did the dance steps." A band he played in cut a now all-but-forgotten 45 rpm single. Before moving to the Coast, he'd lived at the Henry Hotel on Sixth Street for 19 years.

"He lived a full life," his only child, Ashaunti Redd, said as she thanked the gathering "for being his family." "I'm going to miss him a lot. I talked to my Dad all the time. Dad didn't want to get off the phone a lot of times."

Also attending, besides his brother, daughter and nephew, were his grandsons Joshua Raymond West, Brandon West and LeAndre Thomas and granddaughters Jasmine West, Aryana Redd and Tianna West. Mr. Dyer is also survived by two sisters, Antoinette Lewis and Lillian Freeman.

"He was just like an uncle to me," said Daniel Coffman, who lived a couple of doors down from Mr. Dyer. "We would always look at the football games; sometimes I would cook." ■

— MARK HEDIN

**JAMES "PETE" LANE**  
**Handled intense pain well**

James "Pete" Lane was a courteous, cultured man who lived with great pain, and took great pains to show his appreciation for the help he

sometimes needed. This was the collective memory of those who attended his memorial service Feb. 23 at the Hamlin Hotel.

"He wouldn't let us know that he was in pain, just that he was struggling," said resident and caregiver Cassidy Blonsky, who knew Mr. Lane for the last six months of his life. "He didn't want to burden a n y b o d y because it was burden enough to him."



**James Lane**

Mr. Lane, who moved into the Hamlin in 1992, was 56 when he died Feb. 19. He was born Feb. 3, 1955, in Alabama. He studied political science at Emory University in Atlanta and planned to become a lawyer. Ultimately, however, he worked in menswear at San Francisco department stores, helping fit clothes.

"He loved that," his friend, Richie Carlson, recalled. "He always talked about that — and history. He was a very smart man, liked to tell jokes.

"He was great. He had a lot of conditions that made it hard for him to do much, but he handled it with a lot of grace. He asked for a lot of help, but cared about being independent and didn't want to burden anybody else."

Mr. Lane struggled with cancer that had reached his bones and was mostly bed-ridden in his final years. Pearl Durmas, who knew him for

➤ CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



**Raymond Dyer**



**Tenderloin Technology Fair**

**Date: Saturday, May 21st**  
**Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Place: 150 Golden Gate Avenue 3rd Floor**

Enroll in our classes. Please RSVP to save your place! Free to all residents of the Tenderloin and to anyone who is homeless or marginally housed.

- A Class on [Craigslist.com](http://Craigslist.com) at 10:00
- A Class on what to look for When [Purchasing a Computer](#) at 10:00
- A Class on [Yola.com](http://Yola.com) at 12:00
- [Personal PC Tutoring](#) at 12:00

**Computer Repair**  
Bring your Laptop/Desktop to the Tenderloin Tech Fair where professionally trained ReliaTech Technicians will diagnose and repair common problems.

To RSVP please call, email or visit our front desk:  
Phone: (415) 592-2766  
Email: [FrontDesk@TenderloinTechnologyLab.org](mailto:FrontDesk@TenderloinTechnologyLab.org)

**TENDERLOIN TECHNOLOGY LAB**





**GET CONNECTED**

**CENTRAL MARKET**  
COMMUNITY BENEFIT DISTRICT

**All CMCBD Meetings are open to the public.**

Help us create a clean, safe and inviting Central Market. Get connected to the Central Market Community Benefit District (CMCBD).

All CMCBD meeting notices and agendas available at the San Francisco Public Library and at [www.Central-Market.org](http://www.Central-Market.org).

Learn more about the CMCBD's Board of Directors Meetings and Committees, and how you can get involved.

**415 957 5985 | [www.central-market.org](http://www.central-market.org)**

**CMCBD Board of Directors Meetings**  
Second Tuesday of Every Month, 3-5 p.m.,  
Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market Street, Second Floor

The Central Market Community Benefit Corporation (CMCBC) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) community-based organization formed in 2006 to provide programs and services to improve the quality of life experienced in the public realm of San Francisco's Central Market Community Benefit District (CMCBD)



► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

more than a decade in her work as a desk clerk and case manager at the hotel, said that Mr. Lane would get out into the neighborhood using his walker and wheelchair, taking cabs to where he needed to get, spend time lounging in the hotel's community room, or receive guests and fellow hotel residents in his second-floor room at the Hamlin after rebreaking his shoulder. He was hospitalized at Cal Pacific Medical Center on Feb. 17 and died there two days later.

John Franklin of the Community Housing Partnership said Mr. Lane was an Alabama University fan and that, as an Auburn fan himself, they enjoyed a lot of friendly banter over college football.

"As much as I'm sad about it, I kinda feel like he was ready," Roma Eisenstark said. "He seemed a lot more peaceful, accepting."

Others who knew him recalled a man who displayed plenty of spark. One hotel resident, Mary Mathews, said Mr. Lane was "always sending me to get Miller Genuine Draft."

He'd made a lot of friends at a Larkin Street bar. One of them, John, was in daily contact, either by phone or through frequent faxes. "Every morning on his fax machine, John would have sent a poem or something," Carlson said.

"He was a great guy," Durmas recalled. "He would have his moments and he would call, saying, 'Pearl, I need this done today. T-O-D-A-Y, today!' I still get laughter, joy from that. But he would always make that extra effort to let you know he was thankful and appreciative. He was a

wonderful tenant."

Durmas also took care to speak for Mr. Lane's custodian Sunny, who couldn't attend the memorial. "She is taking it really hard. She's really kind of torn up right now."

Mr. Lane is survived by a brother-in-law. He lost his sister about three years ago, Carlson said.

"He had a painful life," Blonsky said. "He could handle pain and he was really tough and he went through a lot of stuff. He's probably feeling the most peace he's felt most of his life." ■

— MARK HEDIN

**SAUNDRA CASIMERE**  
Telephone operator

Head-strong Sandra Casimere pulled a "great escape" in her final months so she could be at home in the Alexander Residence with people who loved her.

The mother of two and former telephone operator got the news that she had terminal cancer in December when she was bedridden at S.F. General. She couldn't stand the thought of wasting away in the hospi-



Sandra Casimere with her granddaughter.

tal. So she plotted her escape with hotel social worker Betty Duran.

Duran told three dozen mourners at Ms. Casimere's memorial April 7 that she was concerned about liability issues if Ms. Casimere just left the hospital in her condition and came back to the Alexander. But Ms. Casimere assured Duran she would have a caregiver and her daughter to see her through to the end. So Duran had a wheelchair and a taxi waiting Dec. 23 for what she called Ms. Casimere's "great escape." But it was with her doctor's consent, of course.

Ms. Casimere received three months of attention from Billie Valbuena, her longtime caregiver, hospice folks and her daughter, Kelly Marie Noss, who lives at the Ambassador Hotel a block away and visited her every night. Ms. Casimere died March 27. She was 70.

"She was cantankerous, self-sufficient and stood her ground," said Rev. Michael Peterson, a resident who knew Ms. Casimere all 22 years she lived at the hotel. "And she was my dear friend."

"She could kick ass with the best of 'em," piped up a neighbor, drawing a ripple of laughter.

A dozen mourners, many longtime residents, told what a wonderful friend Ms. Casimere had been, sharing her experiences, listening to others and mixing in her good sense of humor. Valbuena said Ms. Casimere had become her best friend; they used to joke that they were so close it was like they were "married."

Peterson "glorified" Noss for her dedication to her mother.

Noss was seated in front with her brother, Vince, near a table holding

five bouquets and a cardboard panel on which were mounted photos of Ms. Casimere, some from her hippie days in the 1960s, others of her with her two grandchildren.

Rev. Glenda Hope, who conducted the memorial, said it was a tribute to Ms. Casimere and the residents that they are a strong community holding each other in high regard.

Ms. Casimere was born in Missouri, came to Sacramento as a little girl and at 21 arrived in San Francisco. She worked eight years as a Mark Hopkins Hotel operator in the 1970s. Her daughter said she was good at crafts, especially making sand castles at the beach. Ms. Casimere's older brother, Max Green, preceded her at the Alexander. He died there in the late 1980s.

The memorial opened with guitarist Gaudio Galicia accompanying the group's singing of "How Great Thou Art." At the end, the mourners sang "Amazing Grace" and a Filipino hymn, "We Will Never Forget You." The TNDC-owned Alexander treated everyone to cookies and snacks. ■

— TOM CARTER

**DONALD HAND**  
Glide volunteer

The William Penn Hotel community room overflowed with 50 mourners who remembered Donald Hand, an exemplary man who extended his helping hand to everyone and was a longtime Glide Memorial United Methodist Church volunteer.

Mr. Hand, known as Donnie, devoted the last 15 years of his life to feeding and caring for the poor as a Glide vol-

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Treat Yourself.  
Hetch Hetchy Tap Water. It's Delicious.

San Francisco Water Power Sewer  
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
www.sfwater.org

311  
SAN FRANCISCO AT YOUR SERVICE  
www.sf311.org

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

unteer. He loved music, had a rich bass voice and sang in the Glide Choir.

"Among our 12,000 members, he was an integral part of the church," said Glide pastor Donald Guest, who brought condolences from Glide Revs. Cecil Williams and Douglas Fitch who were ill at home. "I knew him four years. And he volunteered every day he was able."

Good deeds, Guest said, are like pebbles dropped in a pond, sending out eddies of good will, and Mr. Hand "made quite a ripple."

In October, Mr. Hand began to suffer a series of heart attacks over six months. He died March 31 of congestive heart failure in Bruns House hospice in Alamo. Mr. Hand was 60.

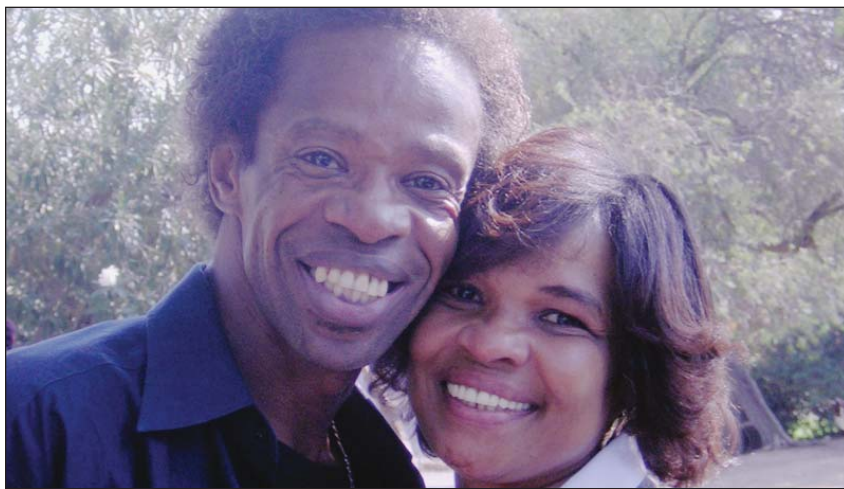
Twenty of Mr. Hand's relatives — brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and grand nephews — attended the memorial conducted by Buddhist priest Jana Drakka. A dozen mourners lit incense and everyone sang three verses of "Amazing Grace" before sharing their memories.

Mr. Hand was born in Oakland, eldest of three brothers who had seven sisters. Family members said he took on the role as family protector and would fight anyone, "especially when it came to his sisters." He moved to San Francisco in the 1980s and into the William Penn in 2003.

Mr. Hand helped start the hotel's recycling program, a woman said. The money from bottles and cans left in the lobby and around the SRO he donated to Glide's children's programs.

He was "the eyes and ears" of the hotel, someone said.

"He helped us when we needed



Donald Hand with his youngest sister, Pam Taylor. COURTESY FAMILY PHOTO

help," said Nancy, a resident. "I loved him and my husband loved him."

"He was always the first one to say, 'Can I help?'" Roberto Mejia, his counselor, said. "He wanted to touch people."

Margaret Dagovich, another counselor, had taken him to the hospital. She described him as "stubborn" but "a beautiful man with a heart of gold. When he found you needed help he said, 'I can do this.'"

Mr. Hand's nephew, Mike Mills, said: "I see how much you loved my uncle Donald. I remember even when I was a little kid how he could put a smile on your face. I loved him."

Mr. Hand kept his illness from his Glide friends until his massive heart attack, the family said. The day Glide learned of his condition, with his permission, Guest and some ensemble members visited him, then, to his joy, filled his room and the hospital corridor with their singing.

Drakka said Mr. Hand had

"entered vast silence" and his gift of giving was his "real treasure in life." She urged the mourners to counter the debilitating isolation of others and reach out to them, "like Donnie did, and play it forward."

She knew Mr. Hand's "connection to the lord was important." So, at Drakka's request, Guest came forward and read the 23rd Psalm. Then, he sang "Blessed Assurance," the familiar phrasing, "This is my story, this is my song," filling the room.

At the end, the mourners headed to a corner, where a big chocolate cake and other refreshments from the hotel awaited. Pam Taylor from Modesto, Mr. Hand's youngest sister, recalled a vision of her brother from her last visit to Glide.

"I remember he was out there on the food line in his yellow gear in the rain," she said. "He'd raise his hand, whistle and yell '10 more!' And they'd let 10 more inside to eat." ■

— TOM CARTER

**STEVEN HANSON Gave away books**

Steve Hanson, a quirky, generous man with an astonishing library, was found lying unconscious on the sidewalk next to his wheelchair March 18, bleeding from a head injury, his bicycle helmet nowhere in sight.

Mr. Hanson, 60, was a 12-year resident of the William Penn Hotel on Eddy Street.

The exact circumstances of Mr. Hanson's death were unclear. Jose Jauregui, his case worker for three years, said paramedics found him on a Tenderloin sidewalk but he didn't know where. He said Mr. Hanson had trouble breathing and had passed out on several previous occasions. The medical examiner said cause of death was pending.

"He had more paperbacks than I've ever seen," said his friend, Percy Coleman, at Mr. Hanson's memorial in the hotel where three vases of white roses and a dozen upturned playing cards were placed on a table in his memory. "They were in big milk cartons all stacked everywhere. Must have been 10,000, all of them were categorized, like science, religion, beat poetry."

Mr. Hanson, quiet and attentive to people, was a voracious reader of fiction and poetry, and "a guy on a mission" to share the written word. The former taxi driver gave scores of books and magazines to his friends. They said his heart was big and his gifts even bigger — sometimes they didn't know what to do with the volume.

"He'd bring bags of 200 books" to weekly tenant meetings, said James Tracy of the Community Housing Partnership, where Mr. Coleman was

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# Downtown remodeled efficiency studios

\$675 and up. Beautifully maintained efficiency studios in a clean, friendly downtown building.

**Units feature**

- Private bathrooms and kitchenettes
- Water, heat and electric included

- Laundry room in building
- Two elevators
- Handicap accessible
- 24-hour desk clerk
- On-site resident manager and maintenance person
- Close to Civic Center Muni/BART, Hastings Law School, Academy of Art University, Golden Gate University, California Culinary Academy, Main Library, farmers markets



No pets, please. Income must be at two times the rent. Good credit required. One-year lease.

Call (415) 885-3343 for appointment, or walk-ins welcome Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.



**Help us shape the future of Pacific Campus!**

Meet and talk with the medical and planning teams about the future of California Pacific Medical Center's (CPMC) Pacific Campus. Learn about the hospital's future medical programming, design and landscape, transportation, construction phasing, and how to get involved in the visioning process.

**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.**

**2333 Buchanan Street, San Francisco**

**Labyrinth Garden**

**If you are taking public transportation (recommended):** The Pacific Campus is served by the 1 California, 22 Fillmore, 3 Jackson, and 24 Divisadero.



For more information, visit **RebuildCPMC.org**

For more information about the open house, contact Frieda Edgette at [edgette@barcoast.com](mailto:edgette@barcoast.com) or (415) 364-0000.

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

an avid volunteer in neighborhood outreach.

Mr. Hanson was also a much-appreciated volunteer at the Speed Project, part of the AIDS Foundation, said Terry Morris, who heads the project. Another mourner said he was sensitive to how drugs affected people.

Another mourner told how Mr. Hanson had tried hard to find the owner of a stray black cat with white markings wandering on Turk street but had no luck. He took it in and called it Tuxedo. Someone in front held the cat during the memorial.

Coleman, who drank a lot of beer with Mr. Hanson, said that earlier this year Mr. Hanson went to the hospital

and returned in a wheelchair. A couple of times afterward Coleman saw him stand and then fall. Mr. Hanson wasn't looking very good and was in and out of Veterans Hospital with breathing problems, Jauregui said.

Coleman gave him his bicycle helmet. "He wore it every day, too, except the day he died."

Mr. Hanson had "moments" of sarcasm but he was "a beautiful person," said one woman. "He made sure people got what they needed," said another.

Because he had a "quirky" sense of humor, said Pat Murphy, they "clicked." He once described himself as "a red-neck against racism" and, on a form he filled out, "a hetero-flexible," adding, "I don't care who I hang out with."

Jauregui said Mr. Hanson was a

remarkably "diverse" person. When they first met, Mr. Hanson was so inspired by the art on Jauregui's office walls — some were Freda Kahlo posters — that he returned the next day with a present — a deck of playing cards from the Mexico City Modern Art Museum that featured images of Mexico's famous artists.

Rev. Jana Drakka, the Buddhist priest who officiates at memorials for THC residents, said that Mr. Hanson's family from Bellingham, Wash., had sent their sentiments. She read from his mother's: "After I read you 'Robinson and Crusoe,' you started reading everything ..."

"Now you are the captain of your ship and the master of your soul."

Mr. Hanson's older sister, Barbara,

whose comments lay on the table, wrote that as a child he seemed "filled with sunlight — our golden boy — and as he got older life's changes sometimes overwhelmed him, but the core of sweetness remained."

As the memorial began, Drakka invited mourners to light incense at the table as an offering for the deceased and to linger there in prayer or remembrance, a custom that favors anyone too shy to speak in a group. Two people accepted.

At the end, Jauregui gave the roses he bought, and the cards, to the mourners. And Coleman, who gave away Mr. Hanson's books to the Main Library and the hotel's library, gave Tuxedo a home. ■

— TOM CARTER



## Rebuild CPMC. More than a plan for better health care. It's a blueprint.



Future St. Luke's

Rebuild CPMC means two brand new earthquake-safe hospitals designed to remain open after a major disaster. Better access to the routine, emergency, and specialized care you and your family may need. And \$2.5 billion from CPMC and Sutter Health that will create 1,500 construction jobs at no cost to taxpayers. You see, with 150 years' experience, and a strong medical network behind us, we have a plan to make it happen. For details, including how you can help, visit [RebuildCPMC.org](http://RebuildCPMC.org).

 **California Pacific  
Medical Center**  
A Sutter Health Affiliate  
*With You. For Life.*



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## 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 Monday 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 services, expanded eligibility for home care, improved discharge planning. Light lunch. 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/sffdner](http://www.sfgov.org/sffdner), 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](mailto: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**, 1st Wednesday 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>.

**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 Advisory Committee**, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor. 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](http://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: 928-6209.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.sfsan.org).



NEWS IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE

**CENTRAL CITY EXTRA** is published monthly by San Francisco Study Center Inc., a private nonprofit serving the community since 1972. The Extra was initiated through grants from the S.F. Hotel Tax Fund and the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund. The contents are copyrighted by the San Francisco Study Center, 1095 Market Street, Suite 601, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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

Central City Extra is a member of the SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION, SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, AND SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA PRESS CLUB

# What Self Help Is

Self help is what you want. Self help is what you do for yourself.

Self help works really well if you have someone who knows your options and has answers to your questions. Someone who talks the same talk and walks the same walk. One person helps another person by sharing experiences. It gives you perspective.

Self help is you deciding you want more out of life, and having the initiative to go after it. You are what you want to be. We will give you resources to help you to achieve that goal.

It's your choice.

Nonjudgmental feedback can help you make positive choices, and compassionate guidance can bolster your self-confidence.

That's self help.

Office of Self Help is a safe place staffed by your peers who also struggle with mental health and substance abuse issues. We've been where you are. Here you can work on daily living skills and other options to improve the quality of your life.

Self help is an option to clinical services, though we will connect you with a compassionate clinician, if you wish.

Come on in, have a cup of chamomile tea and a warm place to sit and talk.

Office of Self Help Drop-In Center, 1095 Market Street, Suite 202  
This behavioral health education message is underwritten by Bank of the West.



575-1400