#### COLLABORATIVE

### Westside seeks warm welcome, gets cold shoulder

Support nil for plan to move 3 mental health programs to TL

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

BNER Boles, head of Westside Community Mental Health Center, came to the Tenderloin Futures Collaborative in December to garner support for moving three programs, now in Western Addition, into the Tenderloin — 166 Golden Gate near Leavenworth.

Westside's adult crisis, adult outpatient and Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) programs have to move, Boles said, because building owner St. Paulus Church wants the space at 888 Turk St. near Gough.

Westside opened in 1967, a pioneer in community-based mental

"Don't get the

idea that we

don't care. ...

but we feel

the rest of

the city is not

pitching in."

The Rev. Glenda Hope

S.F. NETWORK MINISTRIES

health treatment. From its administrative offices at Oak near Divisadero it operates 19 programs.

The three it wants to move serve a lot of North of Market folks, Boles said. Adult crisis helps 3,000 clients annually connect with mental health professionals; 75% of the clients live in the TL and SoMa.

Just under half of the 300 to 400 clients in West-

side's adult outpatient program live North of Market; 20% to 30% live South of Market; the rest live in the Western Addition, Boles said.

And of the 100 ACT clients, "most are here in the Tenderloin," Boles said. To help them stay in the community, they get food, rent money and other incentives.

The response to the idea of another social service provider in the neighborhood was predictable: Not in My Back Yard.

Who owns the Golden Gate building? came the first question.

Boles said he didn't know. Laughter erupted around the table and several Collaborative members named him: Paul Bochetti.

Bochetti is well-known in the neighborhood. Elaine Zamora, interim district manager of the new TL Community Benefit District, later told The Extra that Bochetti owns 17 apartment buildings, SROs and tourist hotels in the Tenderloin — so many properties, Zamora said, that he is one of the four top owners in the CBD, after the Hilton Hotel, Hastings College of the Law and TNDC. Many of his buildings, which he's owned since the 1960s, are in disrepair, she added.

And Bochetti hasn't been neighborly. "He voted repeatedly against the benefit district and never was

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OFF AND
RUNNING

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# CENTRAL CITY

SAN FRANCISCO

#### DECO LOUNGE UNDER FIRE



PHOTOS BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Male stripper Quiet Storm started off looking like a ninja all in black before paring down to a G-string to open Strip-o-rama on a Sunday night at Deco Lounge.

## BAR BATTLE

Yee says he'll push bill to give citizens more clout

BY TOM CARTER

HE fight to limit bars in the Tenderloin pits activists against the Alcoholic Beverage Control department and the patchwork system that regulates liquor licenses.

The most recent skirmish is over the



**No neighbors** in the 500 block of Larkin Street objected to the bar.

Deco Lounge, a gay bar at 510 Larkin St. that wants to transfer a full bar permit from a Polk Street watering hole that closed two years ago. But neighborhood activists held up the process at a November hearing and the bar owners await the administrative law judge's ruling expected any day now.

New ground rules for the on-again, offagain battle may be the target of legislation in Sacramento next year to give citizens more say-so.

"I'm hearing more and more complaints against the ABC," Assemblyman Leland Yee said in an interview with The Extra. "People are writing letters about the ABC not being responsive. I'm going to be very interested in this in the Senate."

Yee, who as District 4 supervisor authored the moratoriums on Tenderloin massage parlors in 1998 and liquor stores in 1999, was back in the neighborhood Jan. 11 to speak at the Alliance for A Better District 6 monthly meeting. Alliance members are primary protesters of the Deco Lounge, though that's not why Yee was there.

Afterward, when asked about the continuing protests over liquor licenses not only in the Tenderloin but Haight-Ashbury and other neighborhoods, Yee said "citizens groups should have a direct voice." The ABC and police can put restrictive conditions on licenses that are based on data, such as security measures in high-crime areas, but may not include all the neighborhood's concerns.

"Citizens groups should be able to put conditions on licenses as well," Yee said. Currently, they can protest in writing to the

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## Asian Inc. does it again

Developer takes another small building, turns studios into larger units

> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

interested in TSIP," Zamora said. "Leroy Looper tried to get him involved on many occasions, but it never worked." Looper is founder of Reality House West, longtime owner of the Cadillac Hotel, across Leavenworth from Bochetti's Verona Hotel.

Asked when the three programs would have to vacate Turk Street, Boles said maybe in two years.

"We've already been looking for two years," he said. "We've begun talks with the owner on Golden Gate, and his building's been vacant for five or six years. We've submitted preliminary architectural plans and he's considering our offer. If all goes well, I think we could occupy it a year from now."

"Tm going out on a limb," said Terrance Alan, Entertainment commissioner and nightclub owner. "This community has the sense that it's serviced the disadvantaged more and longer than any other San Francisco neighborhood. I think your proposal is going to be resisted by those who wonder why it's always the Tenderloin. Why not other neighborhoods?"

"The people we want to serve mostly live here," Boles responded. "We see it as service improvement. But I understand your concern. We have talked to other Tenderloin providers. Some said they'd love to have us here; others said it might be duplicative. So we're considering not moving the outpatient services."

"I wouldn't expect a welcome mat for your project," said David Villa-Lobos, director of Community Leadership Alliance. "How much will the community's input weigh in your decision?"

Boles' reply was short: "We have to have community input."

In San Francisco, public mental health programs and private nonprofits like Westside that have city contracts must follow DPH's 1988 "good neighbor policy." New programs, or programs wanting to move to another neighborhood, have to meet with "residents, merchants and community organizations to discuss . . . any concerns they have," as well as "to allay fears and provide reassurances that we will be good neighbors," states DPH's policy.

Roy Crew, director of Office of Self-Help, a city-funded mental health peer support program at Seventh and Market, told The Extra that because of anti-discrimination laws and provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, neighbors rarely win when they oppose the location of a mental health program in their community.

"We'll put the skids on [moving to the Tenderloin] if the community opposes it," he said. "But I hope we can come to a compromise."

Central YMCA Director Carmela Gold didn't think so. "I have strong reservations. We're trying to move the Tenderloin to a residential and business base and away from a provider base." The corner of Golden Gate and Leavenworth, she said, is already "almost debilitating" in the severity of its problems

"Don't get the idea that we don't care," added S.F. Network Ministries Director Glenda Hope. "We do care about people in need — but we feel the rest of the city is not pitching in."

Boles was asked where Westside would go if the Tenderloin doesn't fly.

"We're looking at other locations. We've already looked in SoMa and the Western Addition, but there were issues of availability and cost." He estimated that it would cost \$1.2 million to \$2 million just for the renovation on Golden Gate.

Boles said he'd return soon.

#### **TENDERLOIN HOUSING TREND**

Continuing a mini-trend toward more housing for families in the Tenderloin, Asian Inc. presented plans in November for a rehab of its 47 low-income rental units at 575 Eddy, a seven–story building that the nonprofit developer bought in 1992.

Project Manager Hershey Hirschkop said 120 people currently live in the building's 35 studios and 12 one-bedroom apartments. After rehab, the number of units will stay the same but will be reconfigured to favor families: the studios will be cut by two-thirds, to 12; the one-bedrooms will more than double, to 29; and six two-bedrooms will be added.

The project is similar to a 29-unit building Asian Inc. renovated in 2004 at 421 Turk St.

Asian Inc. will relocate the tenants during rehab.

"We're planning to rent neighborhood apartments for them, and pay any rent difference and moving costs. When they come back, their rent should be comparable to what it is now, \$600 to \$800 a month." Hirschkop said. "The interior work will be done in three phases so, at most, tenants won't have to be out for more than five or six months."

Besides refurbished apartments they'll find the garage roof converted to a terrace and playground; a new community room, kitchen, computer lab, program office and laundry room; new windows and freshly painted facade; electrical, plumbing, fire, heat and ADA upgrades; and a paved, planted back yard. There will be a half-time social worker to coordinate building activities and refer tenants to other services as needed.

"We've worked hard to keep the tenants involved in what we're doing," Hirschkop said. "We've had a newsletter, several group meetings, and meetings with individual households to find out if they have special moving or relocation needs. I expect we'll lose a few along the way — they may decide to move only once and not want to come back, but we're doing everything we can to make this as easy as possible."

Hirschkop said returning tenants still must still meet the low-income requirement, 30% to 40% of the area median income, which, according to the Mayor's Office of Housing Web site, suggests rent for a studio, with utilities, should be capped at \$594, a one-bedroom at \$679 and a two-bedroom at \$764. Market rate rentals for such units are almost double.

It all sounded good to Collaborative members, who had no questions about the \$7.5 million project. About \$3.5 million of that is for the physical rehab, Hirschkop said.

"Re the other costs," she later emailed The Extra, "the old partnership sells the property to a new partnership for a third-party appraised price, which can add a few million. Other than that big chunk, [there are] architects, engineers, legal fees, consultant fees for feasibility study, market study, financial consultants, financial fees associated with bond issuance, con-

## Extra to publish map of fresh food in Tenderloin

AN Francisco Study Center, which publishes Central City Extra, has completed a fresh food survey in Bayview-Hunters Point and in the Tenderloin under grants from the Bay Area Nutrition and Physical Activity Collaborative and the S.F. Department of Public Health.

It will publish maps of all fresh food outlets in the city's two lowest-income neighborhoods. Tenderloin is on the bottom, with an average annual income of \$15,000 below Bayview.

The Tenderloin map also will be published in a coming issue of The Extra, said Publisher Geoff Link. ■

struction loan interest and fees, relocation costs, operating reserves."

The rehab at 575 Eddy will start early in March.

#### FRESH IDEA

Housing covered, the Collaborative moved on to that other essential: food.

Fresh, affordable victuals are abundant in the Tenderloin only on Wednesdays and Sundays, when Heart of the City farmers' market comes to U.N. Plaza.

So Jerry Jai, TNDC staffer who coordinates Collaborative meetings, invited Literacy for Environmental Justice, a Bayview-Hunters Point youth group working to give residents access to fresh food.

Erin Yoshioka, manager of LEJ's Youth Envision Program, came to talk about its "good neighbor program" staffed by young volunteers and interns. The two-year pilot is a partnership of LEJ, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell and the city's Tobacco Free Project.

"In our community," Yoshioka said, "we're concerned about supermarket flight, lack of fresh produce, and all the junk food, alcohol and smoke products sold at corner markets." Sounds like the Tenderloin.

The project started with a baseline survey of what Bayview stores were selling. Its goals were modest: Get eight stores to increase their stock of healthy comestibles by 30%, 10% of which have to be fresh. Stores must take food stamps and participate in WIC, a federal nutrition program for women and their young children, plus the stores have to limit tobacco and alcohol advertising.

"In our survey, we found that one store was getting \$1,200 a month for displaying a single tobacco poster," paid for by the tobacco company,

Yoshioka said.

LEJ offers perks to stores that join: signs identifying them as a "good neighbor" to post in their windows; group-buying at wholesale prices plus free delivery; free in-store energy-efficient retrofits; promotional advertising through coupons and store tastings; training in how to stock produce with minimum loss; modest façade improvements; and help writing grants to get funding for larger renovations.

And the outcomes to date?

"We have four stores actively participating and three more are in the process of signing up," Yoshioka said.

Collaborative members listened politely to the presentation but asked no questions afterward.

A few weeks later, Jai told The Extra that he didn't sense a big "spark" in Collaborative members' interest, but, he said, he hoped that the idea might set a bonfire under someone in the Tenderloin. (See sidebar.)

#### CORRECTIONS

The November 2005 Extra stated that the Mid-Market Redevelopment Plan would have a hearing Nov. 22 before the Board of Supervisors, based on information received from the clerk. The plan is not yet scheduled for a hearing. The 3% decline Redevelopment reported in the project area's property value was a one-year comparison, 2005-06, to the previous year. The area's low-income residents, plus those from surrounding neighborhoods including the Tenderloin, would be eligible for affordable housing.

In the bedbug story, the Tenderloin Housing Clinic found 52 buildings that were infested; 28 were hotels and the rest apartment buildings.

CENTRAL CITY

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FOR 4TH, 5TH GRADERS De Marillac Middle School, which celebrated its fifth anniversary Jan. 29 with a 12:15 p.m. Mass at St. Boniface followed by a school open house, announced that it will add grade 4 next year and grade 5 in 2007. "We won't be a grades 6 through 8 middle school anymore, but this is what seems to be needed in the community." said school President Catherine Ronan Karrels. The name of the school will change, but that's still TBA, she said. De Marillac, a Catholic school sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers and the Daughters of Charity, is accepting applications for 2006-07, including for 4th-grade students. The 5th grade will open in 2007-08. Karrels expects the additional grades to push enrollment to 100. Sixty students are enrolled now. Nearly 50 live in the Tenderloin or nearby, she says. The school is tuition-free, but students' families, which must be low-income, are asked to pay a \$30-\$75 monthly activity fee, she said. Call 552-5220 or www.demarillac.org.

KIDS IN CARS The Department of Public Health's Community Health Education Section is launching an \$80,000 child passenger safety project this month that teaches low-income families, families of color, and families for whom English is a second language how to keep their children safe in vehicles. According to project head Nicamer Tolentino. 124 children were injured in car accidents in the city in 2004, nearly triple the number two years earlier. Four community agencies will receive \$20,000 each to operate the 10month program. A Feb. 14 special event will offer free inspection and installation of car and booster seats, and — best of all — free boosters to the first 42 families that show up or call for an inspection and installation appointment. The event will be held from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Cala Foods parking lot, 1245 South Van Ness, between 23rd and 24th streets. For appointments, call Yecenia Zamora, 982-4777 x23, Feb. 7-9. Project info: 581-2420 or nicamer.tolentino@sfdph.org.

**OLDER WOMEN IN RECOVERY** On Jan. 20, the Curry Senior Center, formerly North of Market Senior Services, began offering a support group for women, 55 and up, in all stages of recovery. Staffer Molly Lucier says women who are even thinking about quitting alcohol or drugs, as well as those who've relapsed, are welcome. "There's no commitment required for the group," Lucier says. "Come and try it out and see if it's a good fit." Facilitated by Curry staff, the group will meet Fridays from 2-3 p.m. at 315 Turk. Call Lucier or JoAnn McAbee, 885-2274.

If you have some good news, send it to marjorie@studycenter.org or tom@studycenter.org.

## **Gardenias in the park for Phillips,** gunned down in unsolved slaying

BY TOM CARTER

EMY Phillips, 25, was standing in front of the 21 Club at the corner of Turk and Taylor at 2:40 a.m. on Nov. 11 when someone walked up and pumped multiple rounds into him. It's believed Phillips was wearing a bulletproof vest and there was talk it was a drug-related hit.

Phillips had a history in the 'hood. He was a basketball player, good enough to have left an impression that talented athletes enjoy. And for that reason he got a gardenia bush planted in his memory in Boeddeker Park on Dec. 3, park Recreation Director Robert McDaniels told The Extra.

Homicide Inspectors Herman Jones and Edward Wynkoop are continuing to interview "several" witnesses and pursuing "some leads," a department spokesman said.

Tenderloin Capt. Kathryn Brown said at the Nov. 29 police community meeting that although 50% of the neighborhood's drug busts involving a "lot of dealers from out of town" occur at Turk and Taylor, this homicide was over "a boy-girl thing."

Jones and Wynkoop wouldn't comment on the love angle, SFPD spokesman Dewayne Tully said. And almost a month after the killing, they would neither confirm nor deny that Phillips was wearing a bulletproof vest. But Bob, the daytime bartender at the 21 Club, said the night man — who was

still closing up at the time of the slaying — saw a bulletproof vest on the sidewalk next to the body.

Phillips apparently had more than Boeddeker Director McDaniels mourning his death. A shrine sprang up on the corner outside the bar: flowers, candles, beer and whiskey bottles, hand-scrawled notes a couple of feet high.

"Some people were throwing trash on it and burning it and pissing on it," said Bob, who didn't want his last name used, "and it got so big, maybe 6-feet-by-6 feet, that it was blocking the door. It was bad for business. People were complaining."

Two weeks after the shrine went up, Mayor Newsom came the bar on Thanksgiving holiday walk through the neighborhood. Bob asked him if the city could remove the messy shrine. "Your wish is my command," Bob said the mayor told him. And the city scraped it up and hauled it away.

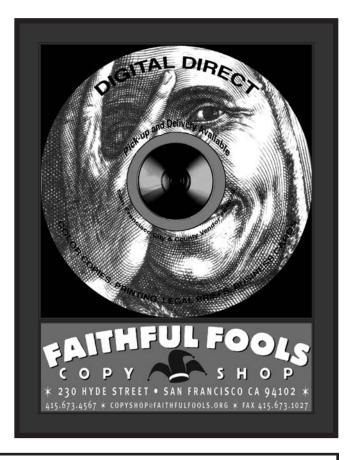
At Boeddeker, McDaniels has been collecting donations among the regulars to buy saplings for the children's corner to honor deceased people who have made contributions to the park. He felt Phillips had made enough of a difference on the court to be worthy.

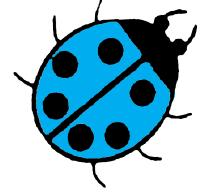
"He was an all-around point guard and could do anything — he could have played in college," McDaniels said of the stocky 5-foot-7 man he met on the Boeddeker court when Phillips was 18. "He was always encouraging people to play harder and then he'd congratulate them. He made people laugh a lot, too. But a couple of years ago, he drifted away. He only came back every now and then for games.

"I know it wasn't positive the way he died. And I wouldn't normally do this. But he made a difference with basketball."

McDaniels said at the last minute he chose a gardenia shrub for Phillips because of its white fragrant flowers. It is next to the two trees planted for Carmelita Richardson and Joycelyn Marie Jones. Richardson was a 46year-old mother who died Nov. 1 of brain cancer. She lived over on Third Street but often came to Boeddeker to make barbecue dinners to cheer up homeless people and draw the community together, McDaniels said. The 56year-old Jones was a retired nurse and park regular who suffered from a painful stomach condition that killed her.

"She never complained and she inspired people and told them not to worry," McDaniels said.





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## **Eateries add to growing TL license total**

#### > CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ABC and, depending on the type of license, testify at supervisors' meetings. "The next generation of liquor license law would give more say to neighborhoods," he said.

Yee said if he wins in November, he'll introduce a citizen-friendly bill to further restrict liquor licenses in neighborhoods that have more than their share.

A veteran of the liquor license fight, David Baker, said it's a losing battle because no elected official wants to say no to new businesses.

"Since the passage of the 1995 ABC law that turned over final decisions to the supervisors, the problem has been with the universe of licenses," Baker said. "The supervisors are okaying everything because they?re sympathetic to small businesses. They may think that imposing conditions controls the situation, but it doesn't. Also, places that serve alcohol have a short life — they go out of business and then we?re stuck with the license. I think there should be a limit to the universe."

#### **A TELLING STORY**

Three blocks from the Police Community Room where Yee had addressed the Alliance, the gay bar's protracted struggle with Alliance members to transfer its liquor license nine blocks from Polk and Bush to Larkin and Turk offers the opportunity to understand the complex nature of the battle here and, for that matter, all over the state becaue the issues are the same in all 58 counties.

The Deco Lounge jumped through all the required government hoops to get its liquor license transferred. But then it faced its stickiest wicket in a four-hour ABC hearing at the Tenderloin Police Station on Nov. 22 because it ignored TL activists along the way

Seven people in the audience of 16 testified against the license and none for it. The piano bar that features female impersonators and a Sunday night male striptease contest (down to their underwear) has been doing business since Sept. 1 on a temporary license, granted after the ABC determined the applicant is qualified, and extended in December to April 30 because of the protest.

Opponents said the hearing could have been avoided had the bar owners reached out to the community. Six residents, four of them Alliance members acting as individuals, wrote protests to the ABC in June when they learned of the license application. And after the ABC sent it on to the supervisors' City Operations and Neighborhood Service Committee for a recommendation, several protested in person on Aug. 1. On Aug. 12, the full board approved the license 10-0. Supervisor Daly voted for it, and the mayor affirmed it a few days later.

Repeated efforts over several weeks to reach Daly for comment, including by telephone, e-mail and dropping by his office, failed The protest is a continuing reaction against bars in the high-crime neighborhood that has more on-sale licenses than state law mandates. The California Business and Professions Code limits general on-sale licenses (for beer, wine and booze) to 1 license for every 2,000 people. The ABC uses the Department of Finance census, which puts San Francisco's population at 799.650.

#### **6 TIMES TOO MANY LICENSES**

By that measure, San Francisco should have 400 on-sale licenses. It has 2,424. Though many licenses have ancient histories and have been sold and resold, which the ABC can't prevent, new licenses have proliferated since the ratio was established in 1955.

The ABC says the Tenderloin is "authorized" for 94 on-sale licenses for bars and restaurants; the neighborhood has 185. (ABC spokesmen said "authorized" is determined by dividing the county's population by its number of on-sale licenses, then dividing the population of a specific census tract by that number.) However, licenses are being added yearly in the neighborhood through transfers that the ABC approves. It approves some new licenses, too.

Most license transfers are within the same census tract but can go from one San Francisco neighborhood to another, though they cannot come in from another county.

Too many on-sale licenses — citing ABC's data — is the protesters' main complaint. New licenses and transfers coming from outside account for the oversaturation in the Tenderloin.

#### TRANSFER FROM POLK ST.

Deco Lounge owners Paul Xavier, Douglas Cox and David Kapp want to transfer a license that Xavier and Kapp had at the Rendez-Vous, a bar at Polk and Sutter in Census Tract 120 until December 2004. The ABC tracks liquor licenses by census tract because of the per-capita ratio.

Deco Lounge was previously another bar, Jezebel's Joint. The census tract is 124 which includes the Civic Center and part of Little Saigon and is just up the block from Harrington's Pub, the neighborhood stalwart that got its license in September 1979. It opened Sept. 1.

After paying the ABC \$2,147 in fees and garnering all the necessary civic approvals, getting the liquor license seemed a slam dunk

"They (the owners) didn't come to the community," said Marvis Phillips, Alliance member and former president of the North of Market Planning Coalition.

"If they had consulted us, this hearing might not be necessary," said Michael Nulty, Alliance president who requested the hearing before Administrative Law Judge Arnold Greenberg. "We just want to be in the loop."

Phillips, Nulty and his brother John, Susan Bryan and two other residents had written protests in June objecting to the over-subscription of licenses, the bar's location in a high-crime area, the noise it might cause, possible loitering outside, and the proximity of the Tenderloin Community School 1? blocks west on Turk.

The Tenderloin Futures Collaborative repeatedly invited the Deco Lounge coowners to address its monthly meeting, a TFC spokesman said, but Kapp later said he didn't have time to attend.

#### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applying May 23 for the liquor license transfer, the Deco Lounge owners were required to hand deliver to the ABC a written explanation of their intentions, get fingerprinted, then post notice of the application on the premises. The owners also had to place an ad in a newspaper three times announcing the application. Foes had 30 days to oppose the transfer.

After receiving the lounge's type 48 full bar on-sale transfer application, the ABC

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

### **Battle the neighborhood won**

### Off-sale moratorium still on

CTIVISTS trying to stem the tide of on-sale liquor licenses in the Tenderloin will have to work hard to match the chutzpa of an earlier liquor battle — the one that ended in an off-sale license moratorium that morphed into an outright prohibition, part of the city's Planning Code.

In 1998, fresh from two successful campaigns — the first banned new smoke shops in the neighborhood, the second new massage parlors — a group called Tenderloin Community on Patrol set its sights on liquor stores.

Assemblyman Leland Yee, then a supervisor for District 4 (Sunset and Parkside), sponsored an ordinance to prohibit any new liquor store from opening in the North of Market Residential Special Use District, an area bounded by Post, Polk, Golden Gate and Taylor.

"We had a little coalition that got the three moratoriums enacted," recalled Jim Thompson, property manager at 165 Turk and founder of TCOP. "I remember going to a workshop and apparently we'd achieved some degree of fame across the state for our three campaigns."

Others in TCOP were resident David Baker, TL police Capt. Susan Manheimer (now San Mateo city police chief), former TNDC Executive Director Kelly Cullen, other TNDC staff, and "people who floated in and out of the group," Thompson said.

"Leland really was the one who kicked off the liquor law, but we all worked on it," he said. "I remember that Leland found out that the Tenderloin had the highest concentration of offsale licenses outside of New York."

When the moratorium went into effect, the special use district had one off-sale license for every 327 residents, according to Yee, who was quoted in the March 16, 1999, Chronicle. A week earlier, the Examiner had reported that, citywide, there was an off-sale license for every 719 residents. The state authorizes 1 for every 1,250 residents in the county.

Over the years, San Francisco has been

joined by other cities and counties that have called a halt to off-sale beer and wine licenses. According to the ABC, as of January 2005, 46 of California's 58 counties had full or partial moratoriums on off-sale licenses. The ABC updates its list of moratoriums every five years. Since 2000, 28 cities and one county, San Bernardino, no longer had moratoriums; nine cities and one county, Marin, had enacted new moratoriums.

#### FORTIFIED WINE FIGHT

The Tenderloin had an earlier fight against neighborhood booze that was less formal than the moratorium, but also effective, recalls Baker.

"It was in the late 1980s — not really a campaign but more a PR appeal to the wineries like Gallo and others to stop promoting the sale of cheap fortified wines in the Tenderloin," Baker said. "Those high-alcohol-level wines really appealed to the wino trade. North of Market Planning Coalition and some individuals met with Gallo's general manager and he was responsive. Gallo, for one, quit selling in the Tenderloin"

Brad Paul, senior program officer and housing specialist with Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, was head of NOMPC at that time. "Offsale was the big issue," he said.

"We had a grocery store in our building, at Eddy and Jones, and it sold individual cigarettes and paper cups of fortified wine," he said. People would stand around outside, he remembers, getting drunker and drunker and "bothering everyone."

Paul says he doesn't have a problem with on-sale licenses, especially those for restaurants whose evening hours and clientele are good for the Tenderloin.

No one has compared bar numbers over the years, but Thompson says that at least in his immediate vicinity, he's seen a significant drop. "On Turk, I can count at least four bars that have closed in the last 10 years," he said.

- MARJORIE BEGGS

## **Protest on Powell over 2-license request**

#### Police report shows high-crime data for wrong census tract

BY TOM CARTER

AM Sirhed wants to kick things up a notch at his marble-floored, three-story Gallery at 222 Powell St.

Operating his upscale business for almost a year after sinking \$6.5 million into the building, Sirhed offers eclectic objects such as 6-foot-long carved elephant tusks and matching lion statues as well as exotic furniture, jewelry and paintings. Now he'd like to have wine tastings, too, and sell gourmet wines and spirits to go — along with caviar, fine cheeses and pates. So he applied last October to the state's Alcoholic Beverage Control for two liquor licenses, one a transfer, the other new.

His applications are being protested by North of Market Planning Coalition, one of the Deco Lounge opponents and the head of the TL community benefit district. The police also recommend disapproval. The case is before the Board of Supervisors, but with incorrect data from the police.

The police report to the supervisors committee that is reviewing Sirhed's application uses data from a Tenderloin census tract indicating much higher crime in the area than across the street in Census Tract 117, where the Gallery is located.

Activist Marvis Phillips got wind of the application in a phone call from the Tenderloin Police Station

"And I'm the one that got them to the meeting," Phillips says.

That was NOMPC's Oct.19 meeting. Phillips, its former president, telephoned Sirhed's lawyer at Hinman & Carmichael and said he and others had concerns about the license, even though the business was nearer Union Square than the Tenderloin. Could they, or Sirhed, attend the meeting and explain the intentions?

Sirhed 's lawyer, Barry Strike, took the high road and went to the neighborhood group's meeting hoping to get support. Strike explained why Sirhed needed a type 42 license for the on-sale beer and wine and a type 21 off-sale general that he would transfer from 4100 24th St., formerly Graystone Wine and Liquor now Vendima Vintage, a women's clothing store.

But NOMPC and Phillips weren't buying it. They said they were concerned about anything that might encourage the longtime TL scourge of brown bag

drinking and public intoxication. And type 21 to them smelled like a liquor store, although Sirhed's plan didn't sound like one.

"NOMPC instructed me to work out the conditions we wanted on the licenses with the lawyers," Phillips said.

Phillips filed a protest with the ABC on Nov. 11 then met with Sirhed's lawyer on Nov. 29 at the Alexander Residence where Phillips lives. They agreed on a number of conditions, most of them designed to keep the proposed "Gallery Market" from resembling a liquor store. In his follow-up letter, Strike told Phillips that Sirhed also agreed to hold fundraisers to donate revenue "to worthy non-profit organizations, including NOMPC."

But Phillips said he still worried that "market" in the new name would appeal to the brown-baggers. Morever, what if Sirhed went out of business? What might a license transfer bring? Phillips hasn't met again with Strike.

Police oppose the license. According to a Vice Crimes report to the supervisors' committee that will review Sirhed's application, 1,506 police reports were filed in 2003 in the plot where 222 Powell resides, five times the 282 reports that defined a high-crime area.

The report by Inspector Dave Falzon on Nov. 30 also said the Gallery is in Census Tract 123 where there are 3 to 4 times more licenses than allowed. Twenty on-sale licenses are "authorized" and 77 are "active"; eight off-sale are authorized and 27 exist, the report said.

Under law, the ABC cannot approve an off-sale type 21 license in an area having an "undue concentration" of them unless the Board of Supervisors finds that "public convenience and necessity" would be served.

"Vice Crimes Division concurs with the DISAP-PROVAL recommendation forwarded by Tenderloin Police Station," the report says, using capital letters.

However, 222 Powell is not in Tract 123. It is in Tract 117, which begins across the street. And the 77 on-sale licenses don't match up with a 71 count from a current list compiled by the ABC and supplied The Extra. Falzon couldn't be reached because he is on extended medical leave. But a spokesman said the difference might be 2003 numbers versus 2005 numbers, or an inclusion of licenses of clubs, caterers, theaters or seasonal permits. The ABC issues 80 different types of licenses.

Tracts aside, the address is in Tenderloin Station's triangle of jurisdiction, which is sided by Geary, Market and Larkin.

Officer Mike Torres, who reviews permits and applications for the TL police, says he doesn't see "any benefit" in approving either license. "It adds more," he says, "and the whole idea is to have less."

Torres repeated his objection before the supervisors' City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee that considered the license at City Hall on Jan. 23. The committee had put the matter over from December. Vice Crimes Inspector Richard McNaughton opposed it, too, as did TL activist Michael Nulty, and Elaine Zamora acting general manager of the new North of Market Community Benefits District. Phillips didn't attend for health reasons, Nulty said.

Sirhed was supported by several business representatives, including Marsha Garland, executive director of the North Beach Chamber of Commerce, who called his upscale venture, "not a liquor store, but fine food and wine," and a potential boon to the city.

Sirhed told the committee he agreed with some of the objections but he needed to go forward. Rents of "\$40,000 a month," he said, are driving businesses off the block. He said he had invited police to come see his business but they told him they were too busy.

Neighborhood Services Chairman Jake McGoldrick got into a shouting match with Sirhed when Sirhed waffled on saying when he learned of the police opposition. "I found out in the last two or three weeks," Sirhed finally said. Police, responding to McGoldrick, said their report was available in December.

Torres said the police hadn't approved an offsale license in 15 years. He said if Sirhed dropped both licenses and applied for a type 41 license, which allows beer and wine to be sold at a restaurant, the police wouldn't object.

McGoldrick said he "strongly" disapproved of the licenses, but committee members Fiona Ma and Bevan Dufty thought a postponement would give Sirhed and his opposition a chance to work things out. On a 2-1 vote, McGoldrick voting no, the matter was put over until Feb. 6.

Sirhed came to this country 31 years ago and after a stint as a cab driver made his money in real estate, he said afterward. "I have a gallery, I don't want a restaurant."

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

notified the city agencies that must weigh in on the license decision: the Board of Supervisors, the Police Department and City Planning, which confirms the appropriate zoning

The supervisors are involved because a 1995 state law prohibits the ABC from awarding outright a full bar license in a high-crime or oversubscribed area. The law allows local government to contain the growth of licenses. But only the ABC decides on applications for restaurants and hotels. First, the ABC investigates the type 48 license applicant and premises, then coordinates the police evaluation and the planning report and shoots the application to a county's Board of Supervisors with a recommendation to approve or not.

In committee, the supervisors consider the reports and hear public testimony. Then it goes to the full board where no testimony is taken. Typically, despite opposition, the supervisors determine that "public convenience or necessity" would be served by granting the license and make their recommendation to the ABC, which invariably approves the license.

The supes' Deco Lounge resolution included fairly standard police conditions on full bars to restrict noise, loitering, littering and prohibit alcohol sales between 2 a.m. and 9 a.m. and off-sale privileges.

Tenderloin crime figures don't stop an application, though state law decrees that if the rate of crime at an applicant's location

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PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

**Pianist Houston Allred,** garrulous son of a Texas governor, mixes politics with his songs on Sundays before strippers take the Deco Lounge stage. "Keep on Lyin' Condoleeza" is his signature piece.

## Running with MacCanDo



## First nonprofit track team in the Tenderloin 'It's about self-confidence and education, too'

TEXT BY TOM CARTER AND MARJORIE BEGGS

PHOTOS BY LENNY LIMJOCO



#### Above:

Boeddeker Park Recreation Director Robert McDaniels starts the Christian Academy's determined speedsters (from left) Leitzel Martinez, Stephanie Rosa Valencia in the 40-yard dash up the middle of the park.

#### Top far right:

Valencia are nearly neck-andneck in the home stretch.

#### **Bottom** far right:

The Christian Academy's Francisco Heredia executes a tuck style broad jump in fine form. Some kids jumped 5-plus

#### Center:

tries to achieve a distance mark in the long jump, the afternoon's last exercise.

VERY Wednesday after school, up to 30 tv Tenderloin. it's a cause for celebration.

Tenderloin Youth Track Club, a dream team assembled by the park's recreation director Robert McDaniels, who also hosts a monthly track meet for kids 5 to 12 from the Christian Academy across the street at 230 Jones.

McDaniels had the idea for the club 14 years ago — a time when Boeddeker Park was so populated with drunks and dope dealers that when he first invited Tenderloin kids to visit the park and run track, they

"The park was packed with drug dealers so we ran around and around the whole block," says McDaniels, 48, then a new Rec and Park employee and former star high hurdler at San Francisco State. Running were more than a dozen kids, a mix of Filipinos, Spanish, Asian, black and white kids he called his "rainbow"

"It was hard times, and there was some negativity, people on the sidelines saying a track team could never happen."

But it did. McDaniels followed his bliss and persisted with the young ones — the teenagers were involved then in a basketball program. Slowly the city began focusing on the park's problems, and in the mid-1990s police were assigned there four hours a

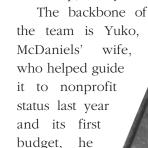
"The drunks and dealers wouldn't come in then," McDaniels says, "so I brought the kids in and they've

From those originals has sprung the track club, which also practices Saturdays at Kezar Stadium — on a real track — and competes in Los Gatos, San Jose and Berkeley.

In November, at the monthly track meet for Christian Academy kids, the 6-foot-6 McDaniels lined

up 64 of them to race by threes, 40 yards up the wide brick walkway's chalked lanes. A piercing blast from his coach's whistle set them off, ponytails flying and arms pumping, their classmates yelling and squealing encouragement. The meet concluded with the long jump competition on the

From this group, McDaniels says he's recruited eight for his team. The rest come from the neighborhood, including the captain, Jamilia Cato, 13, who lives across the street and has been a member seven years. A talented track and basketball player, she's headed for a college athletic scholarship, McDaniels believes. Her brothers, Anthony, 11, and Demarcus, 15, also are on the team.



to the top, honey."

But his fund-raising has turned things around. The team's first grant came from the Bay Area Women's and Children's Center at 318 Leavenworth, followed by others from Variety-The Children's Charity of New York, Wells Fargo, 2003 mayoral candidate Mike Denny and the Hilton Hotel. The club, a registered member of the USA Track and Field's Pacific Association, has a \$51,000 budget that goes for travel, food and uniforms. "I had one kid who graduated from Lowell, a polevaulter, but I'm no good with names," McDaniels said. "He went into the Marines and was in the first Gulf War. Now he's back and in school. One of my girls moved to San Jose and is on the high school track team. She called and thanked me the other day. That was nice. "But anyone can be on my team. This is to

et, he estimates.

get kids involved and off the street."

"We went to about 10 years of seminars,"

he said, shaking his head at the effort it took.

Meanwhile, keeping the team active since

1992 has cost him about \$5,000 out of pock-

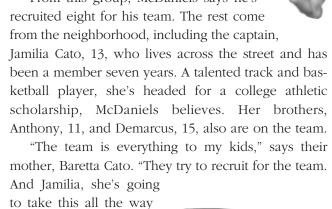
Under McDaniels' supervision, Boeddeker also hosts the track event of the five-day Sgt. Sugrue Tenderloin Games in August, named after TL cop Ken Sugrue who died of a heart attack three years after he started the Games in 1995.

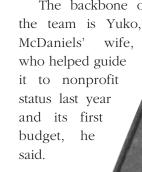
McDaniels has added something unique to the Tenderloin, says Dan Yee, Children's Playground director who serves on the track club's board.

"Robert has created the first nonprofit track team in the Tenderloin," he says. "He gets those kids involved in track and keeps them busy. But he incorporates more than track. It's about self-confidence and education, too. He told me once he kept kids from competing because their grades weren't good enough."



boys and girls pile into Boeddeker Park, hooting and hollering as they race up and down. In any other neighborhood, this would be business as usual, but in the grit-The kids are members of the MacCanDo







## Tenderloin liquor licenses and how they multiplied

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

exceeds 20% of the county average the license should be denied. Police typically blame the high rate of arrests in a Tenderloin applicant's census tract on the substance abuse of the homeless visiting nearby nonprofits and state that the bar is unlikely to make things worse. That's what the police said about the Deco Lounge.

The battle is mainly over the continuing approval of on-sale licenses to bars in oversubscribed census tracts. There's little argument about off-sale licenses for liquor stores and corner groceries. No new off-sale license has been granted the TL in 15 years, police say.

Oversubscribed on-sale licenses pose a conundrum unlikely to be solved in San Francisco. The number, style and quantity of bars and restaurants is essential to San Francisco's prosperity and the supervisors are loath to discourage them.

#### **LEGACY OF LIQUOR**

Booze is a pillar of San Francisco's colorful heritage that began with swilling miners in the freewheeling port's Barbary Coast and went on to play a starring role in city history.

During Prohibition, San Francisco was

"the wettest of the wet" towns in California. The Fairmont's Cirque Room was the first bar to operate after Prohibition's repeal

Liquor lobbyist Artie Samish of San Francisco bent the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act of 1935 to his desires. He called the shots for the liquor industry, bought politicians and bragged he was "the governor of the Legislature." Samish was jailed in the 1950s for tax evasion and things started to change.

#### **SETTING THE RATIO**

In 1955, the license-to-population ratio was set and the ABC was taken out from under the overworked State Franchise Tax Board and given its own director. No additional on-sale general licenses were to be issued if the total in any county exceeded 1 per 2,000 of census population.

But the large number of previously existing licenses resold over the years keep the ratio grossly out of whack, according to ABC spokesman John Carr. Additions under "public convenience and necessity," or PCN, as it is referred to, compound that. (See sidebar.)

In the Deco Lounge census tract, the ratio of on-sale licenses is 1 to 186, based on 8,188 population and 44 existing licenses, according to ABC figures. The majority of the licenses are common beer and wine transfers, mostly one restaurant replacing another at the same address. But since 2000, nine new licenses have been issued and others are lining up.

Among tract 124's licenses are 12 for full bar restaurants. Three were transfers from other tracts, two of them from other neighborhoods. The California Pizza Kitchen license on Van Ness near McAllister came from Geary and Taylor (tract 123) in February. Chevys at Van Ness and Golden Gate got one from the Outer Richmond; and Senor Peppers' license at Van Ness and Eddy came from O'Donoghue's Pub on Monterey Boulevard in July 2003.

The 1995 law, meant to stem the tide of the Samish years, has instead offered a path around the issue of oversubscription. PCN is the password.

The ABC's investigation found nothing to hold up the Deco Lounge application, so with no protests the license transfer could have been approved in three months. But this case will stretch to nine months, and if the administrative judge rules against the lounge and the decision is appealed, it could take a year.

The supervisors' seemingly automatic approvals disturb protesters.

"How are we going to get the number down to where it should be if the city and the ABC keep approving licenses?" Michael Nulty asked at the hearing. The question went unanswered.

The activists reiterated their arguments, but their salient points were dashed by the testimony of the ABC investigator.

#### **DECO IN DECOROUS SETTING**

The Deco Lounge is a cozy little bar on the tree-lined east side of Larkin Street that winces under random graffiti. It's across the street from the Phoenix Hotel, site of TNDC's annual celebrity pool toss. A travel agency, launderette, copy store and two notaries public as well as the venerable Saigon Sandwiches shop occupy storefronts on the block, which is dominated by five contiguous, six-story apartment buildings.



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

**Owners of the Deco Lounge** figured the fate of their liquor license transfer from Polk Street would be known before the end of the holidays. It wasn't, so they got an extension on their interim license.

A pair of blue neon rods overhang the bar's smart gold and black Art Deco façade that resembles an entrance to a 1930s movie theater. Inside is a fixed bar, a piano bar, and a stage that features drag contests and

male striptease. Capacity:49. The game room

has pinball, video games and a pool table.

Co-owner Kapp's application to the ABC didn't miss a political trick. He wrote that he is a gay entrepreneur who fled discrimination in the Pennsylvania town where he grew up. He came to San Francisco in 1982 and landed a bartending job at The Endup, happy to find a tolerant, urban environment. Five years later, he wrote, he went to work at the Rendez-Vous, eventually buying the bar with Xavier.

The Rendez-Vous at 1312 Polk St. lost its lease when the building was sold in 2004 to the First Congregational Church, which now holds services there. Kapp says a "smear campaign" by Lower Polk Neighbors, charging that male prostitutes plied the congested sidewalk in front of the Rendez-Vous and drunks slept in its doorway, stopped him from relocating elsewhere on Polk.

#### POLICE STATION HEARING

In switching neighborhoods, the Deco Lounge owners bypassed appearances before TL organizations but faced their representatives in the police station hearing. Kapp was there in shirt sleeves with coowner Cox, sitting at a front table. They spoke without notes, a contrast to the ABC's lawyer and investigator in black suits nearby whose table brimmed with thick documents supporting the lounge's application.

Under oath, ABC investigator Lee Reigler said all the considerations of the police and the city Entertainment Commission had been met, including soundproofing, security inside and outside, and hiring a doorman to keep the sidewalk clear. There were 285 offenses that police reported in the census tract, three more than the maximum 282 permitted for a license there. Reigler said Vice Crimes Inspector David Falzon blamed the bump in crime on drug use and the homeless and didn't believe the bar would add "to the existing police problem," Reigler said.

The police opposed the automatic type 48 provision for off-sale beer and wine, Reigler said, and the owners agreed to drop it.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## The business of buying, selling liquor licenses

HE American Liquor License Exchange, Amlex it's called, is one of a dozen specialists nationwide in the field of liquor license brokering — the buying and selling of licenses — according to its head broker, Jon C. Mejia.

"Most of our work is in California," Mejia said. The company is in Santa Monica. "I'd say we handle about 150 to 250 licenses a year, 10% to 15% in San Francisco.

"Since I started 22 years ago, there've been no new hard liquor licenses in San Francisco, either on-sale or off-sale," Mejia said. Half a century ago the state tied the number of liquor licenses to county population. San Francisco's is relatively stable. "That means anyone who wants a license has to buy it on the open market. And as for how much it costs, it's all supply and demand."

An on-sale license in San Francisco is \$50,000 to \$60,000, he said, "pretty much middle of the road for California. In Napa County, with its low population and high demand, it can go as high as \$250,000."

After 2000, when the dot-com bubble burst, and restaurants and high-end bars were folding citywide, "you couldn't give licenses away in San Francisco," he said. Things now are back to pre-2000 levels in the city.

Mejia noted that besides buying through brokers like Amlex, restaurants, bars, stores and others wanting liquor licenses in California can participate in Alcohol and Beverage Control's annual September lottery. When there are more applicants than licenses available, ABC holds "priority drawings" in counties and issues a limited number of type 47 (on-sale for general eating establishments) and type 21 (off-sale) licenses; licenses are available only in counties whose populations increased since the previous lottery.

San Francisco was not among ÅBC's list of counties where there were drawings last September. Neighboring Alameda County, by comparison, issued six off-sale licenses, 27 on-sale; Fresno County had 13 on-sale and 42 off-sale. The big winner in ABC's lottery is always Los Angeles. Last year its drawing listed 32 off-sale and 115 on-sale.

Like all lotteries, the ABC's priority drawing has a financial incentive: It sells its type 47 and type 21 licenses for an economical \$12,000.

According to ABC's Web site, the agency is a "special fund agency" whose entire budget and special programs are funded by license fees.

- MARJORIE BEGGS

Reigler said she got no response from information letters about the bar she sent to Rec and Park, which has a minipark at Turk and Hyde. The Tenderloin Community School principal later sent a letter to the ABC saying he wanted no more bars in the neighborhood. But the Deco Lounge can't be seen from the school, Reigler said, and it isn't in session during the bar's peak nighttime hours, though it opens at 9 a.m.

Reigler said she also sent letters to residents of 120 apartments living within 100 feet of the bar and got no responses.

"Ninety percent of the residents don't speak English," Michael Nulty said.

"The letter was in several languages," she retorted.

"Is there wheelchair access?" he asked.

"It's not relevant to the ABC license."

"The applicant did no outreach."

"It's not required."

Nulty pointed out that social service agencies are nearby and homeless people linger on the sidewalks. The judge said the bar had agreed to manage any "loitering."

Phillips said the bar's video games could serve as cover for drug dealing. He said he was speaking from experience. "I was a drug dealer 20 years ago and that was my cover," said Phillips, who later said he rehabbed and has been clean and sober for going on 12 years. "I hadn't heard anything about cameras before (today), but I am glad there are cameras."

#### **LOOKS LIKE A BREAKTHROUGH**

Judge Greenberg sensed the protesters and owners were "working toward a common objective." He suggested a 20-minute conference, so Phillips and Nulty pulled up their chairs to the owners' table.

After nearly an hour the conference was a bust, having deteriorated into quibbling.

"Let's go back on record," the judge said.
"Anything I can do to help you? If you've agreed on a condition, it can be part of the decision."

But there was no consensus. John Nulty later said the owners wouldn't agree to limit their bar operations to one of the three floors they lease.

"We've complied with every legal hurdle." Cox said.

"The neighborhood is getting shafted," said Phillips. "You can't expect us in 45 minutes to settle this."

The opposition had its turn in calling witnesses. Three were from the Rescue Mission on Jones Street.

"This is an attempt to move something into the Tenderloin that isn't accepted elsewhere," Chaplain Earl Rogers said. "And this was well down the pike before we got wind of it

"The ABC has seen fit to go over the limit 18 times," he said of the difference between the number of liquor licenses authorized and those existing. "The highest concentration in the city is in the Tenderloin."

(ABC's Carr couldn't confirm if it is the highest. "However," he said, "the Tenderloin is one of a few areas with higher concentrations of liquor licenses. Other areas include the Mission District, Third Street Corridor and Haight-Ashbury.")

"Getting another liquor license doesn't necessarily help the city," Rogers said. "But the board (of supervisors) will approve anything."

#### **4 LICENSES ON BLOCK IN 5 YEARS**

The supervisors have approved four onsale beer and wine licenses on the west side of the 600 block of Larkin Street since 2000. The fifth license on that block was approved in 1983 for First Restaurant, serving Chinese and Thai food. The block's latest license, approved by the ABC in October, was for Gyro Kebob, an elongated Mediterranean restaurant plopped in the middle of Little Saigon's Vietnamese cuisine.

The ABC can keep the trend rolling with the Mangosteen restaurant at Larkin and Eddy. It opened last year and applied for a type 41 license on Dec. 12. The airy, limegreen Vietnamese restaurant's imperial rolls were among the tastes leading a Chronicle reviewer to call Mangosteen "a keeper."

## S.F. liquor license trends: On-sale up, off-sale down

HE granting of liquor licenses for restaurants has kept pace with the growth of San Francisco as the dining capital of the West Coast, even as off-sale licenses in the city have become almost impossible to get, according to figures furnished by the Alcoholic Beverage Control's office in Sacramento.

The city has 1% fewer liquor licenses now than in 1980. Since then, San Francisco has pared off-sale general liquor licenses by a third, off-sale beer and wine permits by 43% and onsale beer-only by a whopping 75%. The number of type 48 licenses also indicates there are 30% fewer full-service bars in the city than in 1980.

Meantime, another trend has emerged in keeping with the city's culinary reputation. Onsale beer and wine licenses at eateries jumped from 818 to 1,362, or 67% in the same 25 years, and general licenses, which include distilled spirits, increased from 590 to 671, or 14%.

Liquor licenses for restaurants were not specified in a 1999 off-sale moratorium in the Tenderloin aimed at liquor stores. And state law doesn't require the ABC to refer those applications to a vote of the Board of Supervisors before it can act, as it does with bars. But, as if to expand the moratorium, the ABC is denying all applications for the full bar restaurant license, type 47, while approving beer and wine restaurant licenses, type 41, despite being oversubscribed.

"The only ones that can possibly be approved under the moratorium are 41s, not 47s," says John Carr, the ABC information officer. "The ABC has stopped accepting applications for 47s (the license type for full bar in a restaurant) because the licenses are oversaturated. But we are accepting them for 41s (wine and beer in a restaurant)." Reminded that 41s are included in the excess (see sidebar), he was asked why the double standard. "I don't know how to answer that," he said. "We just do."

Here is a partial list of citywide license totals.

#### San Francisco Liquor Licenses 1980-2005

	1980	2005
Total licenses	3,505	3461
Type 20, off-sale beer and wine	334	192
Type 21, off-sale general	1,036	708
Type 40, on-sale, beer	108	27
Type 41, on-sale, beer/wine, restaurant	818	1,362
Type 47, on-sale, full bar, restaurant	590	671
Type 48, on-sale, full bar	523	364
Other licenses (ABC has 80 different types)	96	137

- TOM CARTER

Source: Alcoholic Beverage Control

The police generally go along with a liquor license for a restaurant if the majority of its sales is food. That becomes a condition of approval.

"If it's about a restaurant opening," says Michael Torres, the Tenderloin cop who makes police recommendations on proposed licenses, "we think that's an opportunity that should be given. But just a bar, we have more than enough, and I see no benefit to the community. It's a lucrative business. And if it were up to us (the police), we'd be even stricter.

"Take a walk around the Tenderloin and see what oversaturation does. People are impacted by alcohol. But we don't give the license, like most people think. We only recommend. But somebody has to put their foot down."

ABC spokesman John Carr could not say whether the ABC has ever refused a San Francisco application supported by the supervisors.

#### **27 ON-SALES ISSUED SINCE 2000**

So the on-sale numbers rise because of restaurants, less so because of bars. Census tract 124, where 26 on-sale licenses are allowed, has 37 on-sale beer and wine and general licenses for restaurants, 27 of these issued since 2000, according to ABC figures. The tract also has five type 48 bar licenses. The last, and the only one since 1996, was issued June 21, 2004, for the Orpheum Theater

Ironically, despite oversaturation, the ABC is bowing to local control. It does what the supervisors want. In the Artie Samish days, the ABC gave local communities no say about liquor licenses. And their common complaint, according to Gilman M. Ostrander, author of "The Prohibition Movement in California," published in 1957, was that the ABC "forced bars and liquor stores into communities against the overwhelming opposition of local opinion" — so the state could get more revenue.

Though the written protests accompanied the Deco Lounge file when the supervisors voted Aug. 12 for the license transfer, Daly spokesman John Avalos said the onsale protests "haven't been brought immediately to our attention. But we'd like to hear from people about how it impacts the neighborhood," he said. "Then we can follow up."

#### **HEARING WRAPS UP**

At the November hearing, the protesters were uncomfortable with the bar's image. But Kapp was adamant about keeping it intact for his regulars who expect amusements like the Oct. 14 wet jock contest and the male striptease contests on Sundays.

"This isn't a neighborhood bar," Nulty said. "It caters to a different population coming from outside the city."

But, Kapp said, "most of the clientele is in the neighborhood." When the judge asked if Kapp was willing to get rid of exotic dancing to promote neighborhood peace, he said no

Among the written materials the bar owners submitted was a list of more than 30 gay and straight organizations the Rende-Vous had donated to, including the Larkin Street Youth Center, the American Red Cross and Project Open Hand.

Judge Greenberg's decision is expected any day. ■

### **Liquor licenses in TL**

THE ABC has issued 179 on-sale liquor licenses of varying types to bars and restaurants in the Tenderloin's four census tracts. This is almost twice the number allowed under state law.

Census Tract 123 is home to nearly 40% of such licenses in the neighborhood. The tract is bounded by Powell, Ellis, Leavenworth and Post streets. Inexplicably, the police claim there are 77 licenses there, 6 more than the ABC's data show.

Census Tract	Licenses	Allowed Actual
122	23	28
123	20	71
124	26	44
125	25	36
	94	179

— TOM CARTER

Source: Alcoholic Beverage Control data supplied in December 2005.

#### KEITH STEVENS 'The best man'

Keith Stevens and his wife of 15 years, Jennifer Lee, moved into the Union Hotel in May. They were happy to be there and made everyone else glad to have them. But their pleasure was short-lived: Mr. Stevens had a heart attack and died in his hotel room Oct. 25. He was 51.

At a front table at the Nov. 16 memorial for Mr. Stevens, two huge bouquets and a foot-high card, signed by dozens of friends, flanked his smiling portrait.

"I'll always remember Keith smiling, no matter how he was feeling," said the hotel social worker. "I'm glad I got to know him."

Added Marjorie King, the hotel's residential manager, "Keith was one of our nicest residents, always so polite. And you, Jennifer, always made the staff feel good."

Lee, who attended the memorial with her son, Cordero, 19, and daughter, Kristian, 20 — Mr. Stevens' stepchildren — thanked King. She was too overcome to share anything about her husband, she said, then leaned against Kristian, who put her arm around her mother.

After the memorial, Kevine Boggess, Mr. Stevens' half-brother, told The Extra that Mr. Stevens was born in New Jersey and moved to San Francisco 20 years ago. King explained that the couple had been homeless for three years before moving to the Union, one of the city's master lease buildings for the formerly homeless.

Asked for a few details about her husband's life, Ms. Lee said he served in the military, stationed at Fort Dix in Jersey City. "I think he was in 'Nam, but he didn't talk about it," she said.

"All I know is he was the best man I ever had in my life."

- MARJORIE BEGGS

#### TIJUANA RIOS Mother of 7 dies at 35

Thirty-five friends and relatives gathered at the Cadillac Hotel Nov. 30 to remember the life of Tijuana Rios.

"I am the mother of seven children, and she was my baby, a sweet, sweet girl, but she was a sick girl," said Dorothy Payton, Mrs. Rios' mother. "I told her every day that I loved her. She knew I loved her."

In 1998, Mrs. Rios left her native Louisiana and started a new life in San Francisco. Within a year, she married Richard Torres Rios, a Texan, and moved into the Cadillac where he was already living. He was more than twice her age, but for six years, they were a steady couple.

In December 2004, Richard Rios died of a stroke in their room. He was 72.

In November, Mrs. Rios died in her room of an aneurysm. She was 35.

"She was sick for a long time," her mother said, "but she didn't want to have surgery."

Mrs. Rios' aunt, Hazel M. Collins, thanked every-

one for coming to the memorial and, looking around the Cadillac's large lobby where the service was held, said, "I can see Tijuana had a lot of friends. I hope all of you will say a prayer for



PHOTO COURTESY CARL JEROME LEWIS

Richard and Tijuana Rios

Mrs. Rios' brother, Carl Jerome Lewis, also a Cadillac resident, spoke briefly: "I'm the baby son of the family. She was the baby girl. In the last hours of her life, she was smiling — she left with a smile. Ti, I'll always miss you."

Minister Jerry Shaw of the Christ Mission Fellowship officiated. He read from Job, Chap. 28, Verse 12, delivered a sermon on wisdom, and sang and played the guitar to open and close the service.

In addition to her mother, brothers and sisters, Mrs. Rios is survived by seven children, aged 8 to 16, who live in Baton Rouge.

- MARJORIE BEGGS

#### JOSEPH MIKELL 'Gentle soul' who died alone

Life seemed to be on the up-and-up for Joseph Mikell, according to his public health nurse, his caregiver and his social worker at the West Hotel, where he'd lived for a year. But on Nov. 9 he died

at San Francisco General Hospital of a head injury from unknown causes. He was 64.

Mr. Mikell was in a wheelchair, all 6-foot-3 of him, when he left the West Hotel on Nov. 5. No one noticed him leaving and he was carrying no identification.

According to Tomiquia Moss, the hotel's social worker, Mr. Mikell was brought to the hospital after being injured "somewhere out in the community." He told E.R. staff his last name, but it sounded like "Michael" to them, which delayed efforts to identify him for four days.

At a Nov. 30 memorial at the West, Jan Shropshire, his public health nurse since last January, remembered him fondly.

"Joseph was such a gentle soul, and he seemed to be flowering," Shropshire said. "He was looking better than ever, though I know he had shadows and struggles. I'm just so sorry I couldn't have been with him at the hospital."

Moss knew him well. "I saw him thrive here and become part of the community. Also, he had great a

support system and lots of friends in the building who were sorry not to be able to say good-bye."

She recalled that when Mr. Mikell lost all his teeth, she and his other professional supporters worked hard to get him dentures.

"The day he got his uppers, he knocked on my door, and when I opened it he paused a minute, then gave me a big smile," Moss said. "His smile was lovely even without his teeth — but it was even better with."

For just under a year, Mr. Mikell's caregiver at the hotel was Rebecca Janozo. She confirmed his appreciation of the care he was receiving.

"He'd always say to me, 'Sit down and watch

TV. Stop working.' And every day when I left he'd say, 'Okay, sweetheart, see you tomorrow, but be careful outside,' and he'd apologize if he spilled ashes in the room," Janozo said.

PHOTO COURTESY WEST HOTEL

Joseph Mikell

On the last day she saw him, he seemed unwilling to get out of bed, Janozo remembered, but he refused to let her call the doctor or 911.

The few people at Mr Mikell's memorial, officiated by the Rev. Glenda Hope, agreed with Moss' last thoughts about her client: "I celebrate the kind of person he was. It was a pleasure to have known him."

Mr. Mikell is survived by two sons in Florida

— MARJORIE BEGGS

## JAN CASTRO BERNARD CLARK FRANKLIN MOSBY 3 residents of Jefferson Hotel

A cloud of sorrow settled on the Jefferson Hotel at 44 Turk St. before Christmas when three residents died within a week of each other, one of them a warm-hearted maintenance man who lived there more than a dozen years and was a cherished regular at Brown Jug bar over on Hyde Street.

The hotel held a memorial for them on Dec. 16 in a bright, carpeted basement room set with handsome wood chairs and a white cloth-covered table. On it, three floral arrangements celebrated the lives of Jan Castro, who was 53; Bernard Clark, who was 38; and Franklin Mosby, who was 61.

Ms. Castro went to St. Francis Hospital on her birthday, Nov. 21, and died of pneumonia on Dec. 4.

"I had a denim skirt for her," said one of the dozen mourners. "She died before I could give it to her. Her death broke my heart. She was my friend."

Ms. Castro had come to the hotel in May to be close to a companion, Jeffrey Leggett, and soon began volunteering for the hotel's social activities, said the hotel's case manager, Mariko Obrero.

Mr. Clark, who died Dec. 11, was a Jefferson Hotel resident less than a month when he went into an Oakland hospital where he died while on a support system.

"Both Mr. Clark and Ms. Castro were expected to come back, and that's what makes it so hard," Obrero said.

Mr. Mosby, a 13-year resident, died in his room Dec. 9 of natural causes. "The three losses have been very painful for our community," Obrero added.

Randy Burns sobbed and struggled as he spoke of Mr. Mosby, a drinking buddy for 20 years and a gay man like himself.

"He'd always say, 'Randy, be strong for gay people with AIDS.' He knew all the gay people who died of AIDS. I can't believe he's gone. I loved him so much. He was a very special person."

A neighbor of his on the second floor said Mr. Mosby always greeted him with "have a good day and enjoy yourself."

According to Obrero, Mr. Mosby was a diabetic. But it didn't stop him from drinking daily at the Brown Jug where he became a close friend of Ralph Schaefer, a bartender and owner for 37 years.

"He was in here every day for more than 15 years," Schaefer said over a country and western song from the bar's jukebox. The place is fairly dark unless the door is open and two muted televisions are kept going at either end of the old-timey bar. A man nursing a beer said he had known Mr. Mosby 30 years, and that he worked as a maintenance man



## TENDERLOIN AIDS RESOURCE CENTER Outreach and Community Events February 2006

#### **HIV Education Forum**

Topic: HIV Side Effects and How to Talk to Your Doctor About Them
Speaker: Bill Stewart, Cal-PEP
Date/Time: February 15, 6 - 7 pm

#### **HIV Housing Forum**

Topic: Accessing Housing in San Francisco
Speaker: Tyrone Payne, Housing Services Manager
Date/Time: February 22, 6 - 7 pm

Location for Forums: 175 Golden Gate Ave.
(St. Boniface Marion Group Room); light meal will be provided

#### **Client Advisory Panel**

Come talk with Alexander Fields, Consumer Board Representative; Tracy Brown, TARC's Executive Director and program managers about plans for TARC. Also provide input on new services and how we can improve.

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 8, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm;
Wednesday, February 22, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

#### Volunteer for TARC

Orientations: Sunday, February 19, 10 am - 5 pm (lunch provided)
Sunday, February 26 10 am - 5 pm (lunch provided)
183 Golden Gate Ave.

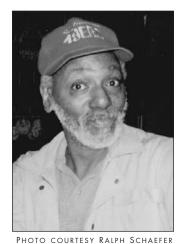
You must pregister for volunteer trainings. Stop in/call David (415) 934-1792.

For current groups' schedule or for more information call: 415.431.7476 or go to www.tarcsf.org



health promotion • social services • HIV housing For more information visit www.tarcsf.org

#### **OBITUARIES**



#### Franklin Mosby

janitor at many bars in the TL such as the Ram's Head on Taylor and Leona's Cocktail Lounge on Turk.

"He was my handyman, Schaefer said. "He'd do plumbing electrical, and things. I'd small pay him. And when I'd have a bar party he'd always volunteer to do the cooking."

Sitting at his regular spot, the

third stool from the end of the bar near the door so he could look outside, Mr. Mosby was a soft touch for his acquaintances.

"People would come in and whisper in his ear, then he'd borrow \$5 from me and give it away," Schaefer said. "He always paid me at the end of the month. But he never got his money back. He was a drinker. He couldn't remember everything."

When Mr. Mosby didn't show up at his seat on Thursday, Dec. 8, Schaefer sent three people at different times to the hotel to check on him, he said. The last was a resident who got management on Friday to open his door and they found him dead.

"We were close buddies," Schaefer said. "He was gay, you know. I'm going to get a brass plate engraved with his name and 'rest in peace' and put it on the bar at his seat.

"I got a whole barful of people I'd gladly change for him. That's the way I feel about it.'

- TOM CARTER

#### **DONNA JEAN REDMON** 'Proud alumni' of SafeHouse

Relatives and friends of Donna Jean Redmon crammed the small sanctuary of an Outer Mission church to overflowing in a memorial service, describing her as a strong-willed woman with a winning personality who weathered her stormy life with

About 80 mourners of all ages, most dressed in church finery, some of them the staffs of recovery programs that Ms. Redmon successfully completed in the Tenderloin, filled all 16 pews and stood in back of the First Presbyterian Church at 32 Ocean Ave. clutching eight-page programs.

In front, flower sprays surrounded a handsome blown-up picture of Ms. Redmon whose soulful eyes looked out over the sanctuary. Near the pulpit, a poster on the wall read: "Together we make a difference." During vocal tributes, some mourners burst into spontaneous song at the Nov. 11 memorial conducted by the Rev.Glenda Hope, who officiates at many services for Tenderloin residents.

Ms. Redmon died Nov. 5 of a heart attack. The mother of five children and grandmother to 11 was

A native of San Francisco, Ms. Redmon lived for a period in Alabama. She once resided in the Hamlin Hotel at Eddy and Leavenworth, according to close family friend Phil McKnight, a longtime Sixth Street grocery operator, now retired. She had a "magnetic personality," he said, and had successfully battled a substance abuse problem. "She was a graduate of Walden House and had been clean for four years," McKnight said.

Her son Thaddeous said his mother was raised in "racist times" but taught him "not to hate, and I'm better because of that." Her sister, Bethola Harper, said Ms. Redmon was remarkable for quickly apologizing after losing her temper, and never holding a grudge against anyone.

"My mother was strong, strong, strong," said her only daughter, LaRonda Anderson, a Department of Public Works employee. "She taught me to hold my head up when I walked and I always have. And she worked hard. I never wanted for grits."

Ms. Redmon, a former nursing assistant, had trouble breathing the afternoon of her death. But she wouldn't call 911 to her sister's residence near the church where she was living because it was "too expensive," her daughter said. Instead, she called a cab.

When it arrived, Ms. Redmon got as far as the

sidewalk and collapsed. The cab driver then called 911. An ambulance came and took Ms. Redmon to St. Luke's Hospital where she died. Anderson said her mother was "jokin' till the last."

The memorial program said Ms. Redmon was a "proud alumni" two years ago of San Francisco SafeHouse, a program for women leaving prostitution. It was founded in 1998 by the Rev. Hope through her San Francisco Network Ministries in the Tenderloin.

"She was one of our most successful graduates," Hope said afterward. "She even came back to work with the staff and to help and encourage other women. She was helping on the day she died. She loved children, too.

"She'd be alive today if we had a health care system that served everyone," she said.

The mourners attended a repast downstairs in the church dining hall.

— TOM CARTER

#### **LORI KOHNIKA and LUCINDA CARLOS** Women of the West

A half dozen mourners gathered at the West Hotel to commemorate the lives of Lori Kohnika and Lucinda Carlos, residents of the renovated hotel since it opened a year ago at 141 Eddy.

Ms. Kohinka died Thanksgiving Day in St. Francis Hospital. She was 44. Hotel social worker Tomiquia Moss said Ms. Kohinka had recovered from a blood clot in her leg that had traveled to her heart. But after returning to the hotel, she relapsed and went back to the hospital where she died of complications. She is survived by her husband of 15 years who lives in another Tenderloin SRO, Moss said.

Ms. Carlos, who has family in the Bay Area, formerly worked as a dental assistant and on a factory assembly line. She attended all the hotel's social events and was "a sweetheart," Moss said. She died alone in her room of natural causes on Dec. 1 She

"It's been very hard," Moss said of the losses.

The Rev. Glenda Hope suggested the mourners seek out people during the holidays who are alone. "Give them the gift of your presence," she said.

- TOM CARTER

#### A MESSAGE FROM SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 798:

### THANK YOU SAN FRANCISCO!

Thank you for voting to save our neighborhood firehouses by supporting Proposition F, the Neighborhood Firehouse Protection Act.

Thanks to you, San Francisco will be a safer city — better protected against fires, medical emergencies, and major disasters. When the alarm rings, our neighborhood firehouses will be open and fully operational, and our local firefighters will be better equipped to protect every San Francisco neighborhood.

San Franciscans know what's best for San Francisco. Thank you for keeping Neighborhood safety one of our highest priorities.



Paid for by Yes on F: San Franciscans To Protect Neighborhood Firehouses, Sponsored by and Major Funding by International Association of Fire Fighters Local 798 San Francisco. FPPC ID# 1277335.

Our special thanks go to these courageous individuals and organizations who stood with us by standing up for public safety:

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE (S.F. CHAPTER)

CITIZENS FOR A BETTER SAN

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DISTRICT 11 DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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[PARTIAL LIST]

## 

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Adult Health Screening Day**, Feb. 10, 330 Ellis, Freedom Hall, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., sponsored by Glide Health Services. Free blood pressure, cholesterol, asthma screenings, HIV testing, immunizations and more. Info: 674-6140.

Mark Ellinger's "Hotel Project," more than 100 images on display in Supervisor Chris Daly's office during the month of February. Opening event for the exhibition TBA.

#### **COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE**

#### **HOUSING**

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

**Supportive Housing Network**, 4th Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Contact: Alecia Hopper, 421-2926 x302.

#### **HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH**

**Health & Wellness Action Advocates**, 1st Thursday of the month, 1-3 p.m., Mental Health Association, 870 Market, Suite 928. Contact: 421-2926 x306.

**Mental Health Board**, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., CMHS, 1380 Howard, Rm. 537. CMHS advisory committee, open to the public. Contact: 255-3474.

Hoarders and Clutterers Support Group, 2nd Monday and 4th Wednesday of each month, 6-7 p.m. 870 Market, Suite 928. Contact: 421-2926 x306.

**CMHS Consumer Council**, 3rd Monday of the month, 5:30-7:30, CMHS, 1380 Howard, Rm. 537. Contact: 255-3428. Advisory group of consumers from self-help organizations and other mental health consumer advocates. Open to the public.

National Alliance for the Mentally III-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of

the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Gough, 5th Fl. Contact 905-6264. Family member group, open to consumers and the public.

#### SAFETY

**SoMa Police Community Relations Forum**, 4th Monday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location changes monthly. To receive monthly information by e-mail, contact Lisa Block, 538-8100 ext. 202 Lblock@iisf.org.

**Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting**, last Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy. Note change: previously was last Wednesday of the month. Contact Susan Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

**North of Market NERT**, bimonthly meeting. Contact Tim Agar, 674-6142, or Lt. Juanita Hodge, S.F. Fire Department, 558-3456. Disaster preparedness training by the Fire Department.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT**

Land Use Subcommittee of the Tenderloin Futures
Collaborative, 1st Friday of the month, 11 a.m., 100 McAllister,
Room 325. Tracks new and continuing building projects and
other land use changes in the Tenderloin. Open to public, but
call to confirm attendance, 557-7887.

Alliance for a Better District 6, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., 301 Eddy. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or sf\_district6@yahoo.com. Districtwide association, civic education

Mid-Market Project Area Committee, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Ramada Hotel, 1231 Market. Contact Carolyn Diamond, 362-2500. Market Street redevelopment on Fifth to Tenth street

**Tenderloin Futures Collaborative**, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m., Tenderloin Police community room, 301 Eddy. Contact Jerry Jai at 358-3956 for information. Network of residents, nonprofits and businesses sharing information and taking on neighborhood development issues.

Friends of Boeddeker Park, 2nd Thursday of the month, 5-6:30 p.m., Boeddeker Rec Center, 240 Eddy. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact: 552-4866.

**South of Market Project Area Committee**, 3rd Monday of the month, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom, between 6th & 7th. Contact: SOMPAC office, 487-2166.

**North of Market Planning Coalition**, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., 301 Eddy. Contact: 820-1412. TL 2000, neighborhood planning.

**Boeddeker Park cleanup**, 3rd Saturday of the month, 9-noon, organized by the Friends of Boeddeker Park. To RSVP to work or for information, contact Betty Traynor at the Neighborhood Parks Council. 621-3260.

Community Leadership Alliance, quarterly informational forums with guest presenters and speakers, sharing news of upcoming events, proposals, resources. Meetings are first Thursday in Jan, April, July, Oct. Contact David Villa-Lobos, 921-4192 or admin@CommunityLeadershipAlliance.net

#### **SENIORS AND DISABLED**

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

Senior Action Network, general meeting, second Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Mary's Cathedral. Monthly committee meetings, 975 Mission #700. Fundraising, first Thursday, 2 p.m.; Pedestrian Safety, second Friday, 10 a.m.; Sr. Housing Action, third Wednesday, 1:30; Health, last Thursday, 1:30. Information: 546-1333

**SUPERVISORS' COMMITTEES** City Hall, Room 263

**Budget Committee** Daly, Dufty, Peskin, Thursday, 1 p.m.

**City Services Committee** McGoldrick, Dufty, Ma, first and third Monday, 1 p.m.

**Land Use Committee** Maxwell, Sandoval, McGoldrick, Wednesday, 1 p.m.

## Café do Brasil

1106 Market Street at Jones



Gospel Brunch with S.F. Choir Sundays 11 a.m. -2 p.m.

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