

\$1.4 billion plan for Van Ness hospital complex

Cal Pacific first to use city's health impact report

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

RALPH Marchese was upbeat as he told the October Tenderloin Futures Collaborative about California Pacific Medical Center's \$1.45 billion plan for a new hospital at the site of the Cathedral Hill Hotel, formerly the Jack Tar. His Marchese Co. is the consulting real estate developer.

But he didn't say anything about organized opposition to the plan, brewing since early last year among Cathedral Hill neighbors, or about all the legal and policy hoops CMPC has yet to negotiate — from amendments to height limitations to participation in the city's first-ever use of a Healthcare Impact Report (HIR).

CPMC, Marchese explained, wants to raze the 10-story hotel, which fills the square block bounded by Van Ness, Geary, Franklin and Post, and build a 20-story, 490- to 650-bed hospital that would become the primary acute care and inpatient treatment facility for the four-hospital California Pacific system.

And directly across Van Ness it plans to demolish five two- and three-story buildings, on properties it's already purchased, and erect a nine-story medical office.

The hospital and office building, with a total 1.9 million square feet, would be connected by a tunnel under Van Ness. A thousand underground parking spaces are part

of the plan.

"CPMC is the largest health provider in San Francisco," Marchese said. "It has 1,500 physicians, 47,000 ER visits, 5,904 births, 415,643 outpatient cases and 19,000 ambulatory surgery cases."

It operates four hospitals here — in Pacific Heights, Presidio Heights, Duboce Triangle and the Mission — but all, he added, are out of date and must be seismically upgraded to meet state mandates.

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Illustration of how CPMC's proposed hospital would sit on the site, courtesy of Cathedral Hill Neighborhood Association.



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CENTRAL CITY

EXTRA

SAN FRANCISCO

'WORST' INFESTATION



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Tenderloin Playground Director Kay Rodrigues shows the garbage door's steel plate and black box trap that are used to fight the rat infestation.

It's rat season

Tenderloin parks, playground staff shocked at numbers

BY TOM CARTER

WHEN Rec and Park custodian Hugo Berrios returned to Tenderloin Children's Playground from a three-week vacation in August he was shocked to discover four large rats jumping around the garbage cans in the back. Among the 100 children who visit the playground daily, some had seen rats in the grass outside or traveling along the top of the fence.

Berrios notified Rec and Park headquarters and its pest control officers came out, set traps and caught two. But the problem, the worst infestation in the park's 11-year history, he said, isn't over.

Two blocks away, Boeddeker Park Director Al Wimberly announced at the Oct. 12 Friends of Boeddeker Park meeting that he had found five dead black rats in traps set inside the clubhouse.

Rec and Park had set the large spring-operated traps in the corners and a few black box traps with poison outside. The very next day he had a record catch. In his five years at the park, there have never been this many rats, he said.

"We had a few in January and I spent my own money to buy traps," Wimberly said. "But this is the worst I've seen it."

The Extra reported the park's rat problem in October, but the story was based on sightings outside the building by next-door residents at Presentation Senior Community. Rats that journeyed across the Presentation patio for a drink from the fountain were thought to be nesting in the grass and weeds near the park's locked gate on Ellis Street, and fed by food tossed over the fence from sidewalk encampments.

There's that, plus it's rat season. Fall is a time that appeals to the roof rat that lives above ground and the sewer rat that cavorts below it. Both types, going where their hunger takes them, are in abundance in San Francisco.

"Roof rats are more visible in autumn," said Helen Zverina, environmentalist with the Department of Public Health. "They are fattening up for winter with fruits and

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GOOD NEWS for...

GREENING THE TL St. Francis Memorial Hospital wants more trees in its neighborhood and the North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District does, too. In a match made in heaven, the hospital gave Friends of the Urban Forest a donation and asked that money go to the CBD to plant up to 40 new trees. "The hospital has always been very supportive of us," said CBD Manager Elaine Zamora. "They also want to be community participants and help with the planting, scheduled for Dec. 9." There's no charge for property owners who want to green their sidewalks with a new tree; the hospital donation pays for the tree, concrete breaking, stakes and netting. FUF will provide the expertise and help organize volunteers. "The owners are ultimately responsible for maintenance and liability of their tree," Zamora said, "but the CBD is debating whether it can help the owners and take on the liability in perpetuity for the trees." There's a tree-planting planning meeting Nov. 8, 5 p.m., at 118 Jones. To sign up for a tree, contact Zamora at 440-7570 x21 or e-mail her, ezamora@sbcglobal.net.

GREEN IS BEAUTIFUL The mayor's Neighborhood Beautification Fund has morphed into the Community Challenge Grant Program, but the aim's the same: Get residents and businesses involved in greening public spaces, such as medians, sidewalks and community gardens, and use the projects to get neighborhoods working together on common issues. Groups can apply for \$10,000 to \$100,000 grants; in return, they have to prepare a five-year maintenance plan and match the grant with volunteer labor and donated materials and supplies. In the May 2006 cycle, the program gave out \$589,000 in grants to 26 groups. A small grant, \$11,000, went to Enterprise for High School Students for a John McLaren Park summer youth employment gardening program. S.F. Clean City Coalition got one of the larger grants, \$39,000, for graffiti and litter abatement South of Market. Resident groups or business owners must apply through an existing nonprofit organization. Program Manager Lanita Henriquez, 554-4830, can help you find a nonprofit. For online guidelines and applications, <http://www.sfccgp.org>. Application deadline is Dec. 18.

KIDS ON BIKES After a three-week break, the Saturday Boeddeker Park children's bike program resumed in October with big improvements — 15 shiny new helmets donated by the S.F. Bike Coalition and a new trailer hitch, donated by San Francisco Parks Trust, that connects to a Rec and Park van. The hitch holds a five-bike rack; the rack and a dozen BMX bikes were purchased in 2003 through a Rotary Club donation. On Saturdays, up to 16 neighborhood kids, some with their own bikes but most without, show up at the park at 9 a.m. for an excursion to the ocean. The group rides in the van to a point in Golden Gate Park where they park, then pedal to the beach and back, stopping for lunch. "Everybody's huffin' and puffin' when we get to the beach," says Boeddeker Park Director Rob McDaniels who runs the children's program, "and oh, that ocean smell. It's great." Before the program got the hitch, McDaniels transported the bikes in his pickup truck and all the kids took Muni to meet him in the park. Now, most of the kids can ride in the van, five bikes go on the hitch and the rest are stacked in the back of the van. Next, McDaniels hopes for a donation so he can buy a trailer to carry a dozen or more bicycles. In other good news, McDaniels received an award from the National Council of Negro Women, Golden Gate section, on Oct. 14 for his work with children.

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

\$1.4 billion complex evokes 'complete outrage' from neighbors

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"Senate Bill 1953 from 1994 and this year's SB 1661 are at the heart of CPMC's plans," Marchese said. The legislation gives acute care hospitals in California until 2013 to make their buildings safe in earthquakes and other natural disasters. "The work to be done is so complex that [to comply], CPMC will have to off-load some services from the other campuses to the new Cathedral Hill campus."

CPMC acquired the option to buy the hotel site in 2003, selecting it, he said, because it's on major transit corridors and is near enough to its other hospital complexes to allow movement of staff and patients between them.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

"We also believe that it can be an economic stimulator to this area," Marchese added. Employees, patients and hospital visitors always need restaurants and sometimes overnight accommodations, plus many other services.

Chaplain Earl Rogers of the San Francisco Rescue Mission asked if CPMC has a timeline.

Marchese estimated 2012 for completion, or four to five years after project approval and all its permit ducks are in a row.

"Will the hospital accept Medi-Cal and Medicare patients?" asked Tenderloin resident Mark Brown.

"We do at all our campuses now and we'll continue at the new campus," Marchese answered.

"Will the hospital have an emergency room?" wondered S.F. Network Ministries Executive Director Glenda Hope.

Three of the four CMPC campuses do and the new hospital may or may not, said Marchese.

TNDC's Jerry Jai asked if CPMC is considering the neighborhood's employment and health care needs in its planning.

CPMC "has to reach out to the community," Marchese said, adding that he expected there to be many opportunities for neighbors to voice concerns. "The EIR will be deeply scrutinized."

REGULATIONS TO HURDLE

After the meeting, The Extra looked at City Planning's July 2006 pre-EIR "notice" — a 34-page document that lays out all CMPC's retrofit and new construction plans — and could see that the Cathedral Hill project will require lots of jiggling of existing regulations before it passes muster.

It will need land use, height and bulk, open space and other amendments because it's within the boundaries of the Western Addition A-2 Redevelopment Project Area; design amendments to the city's General Plan; zoning changes; alterations to the Planning Code's annual office limit; special consideration

of the residential hotel ordinance (one of the buildings to be demolished is a six-unit SRO); and an encroachment permit agreement with Caltrans and Board of Supes approval for the tunnel under Van Ness.

Worse, perhaps, for CPMC, is that it will be the test case for a city-mandated Healthcare Impact Report.

ROOTS OF IMPACT

In 2004, the Board of Supervisors passed an amendment to the city's Administrative Code that requires "larger nongovernment health care providers" that want to "add or replace more than 200 hospital beds" to supply the Department of Public Health with extensive data. DPH then analyzes how the proposal affects "availability" and "accessibility" of services in the neighborhoods slated for the new construction, and prepares an HIR. "Larger" is defined as a hospital or part of a hospital system that provides more than 40% of the city's nongovernmental hospital beds. That's tailor-made for health care giant CMPC.

Health Department Public Information Officer Eileen Shields said the ordinance wasn't even on their radar.

"This isn't on anyone's desk yet," she said. "It may be too early in the legislation's growth mode. The department knows it will be involved, but no one here knows how it will work."

The Extra was told about the ordinance from Geoffrey Nelson, Marchese Co.'s CPMC project manager, though he didn't know details.

"We welcome it," Nelson said. "It's the only rational way to plan."

NEIGHBORHOOD OPPOSITION

CPMC's plan for a Cathedral Hill campus has generated "complete outrage" from the Cathedral Hill Neighbors Association, according to Marlayne

Morgan, the group's vice president.

"A year ago, Ralph Marchese presented the CPMC plan to four homeowner groups. It helped us coordinate our feelings about the proposal and that's when we formed our association," Morgan told The Extra.

She says the group represents 45,000 residents in a 36-square-block area, Polk to Fillmore and Eddy to Sacramento. Morgan has lived in a high-rise on Cathedral Hill for 12 years.

"We started out being surprised by the mass of the proposed buildings, and our goal was to get them more in scale with the city's plans for the Van Ness corridor," she said. "Then, as we got more familiar with health care issues citywide, it seems that CPMC needs a real campus elsewhere — not here in the middle of a residential area and a traffic corridor."

The group's most recent action was to ask the Board of Supervisors to look at acute care planning for the city. "How many beds are really needed in the city and where," she said. "We think the city is overbedded."

Nelson said his team has made plan presentations to high-rise apartment tenants and to every organized neighborhood and merchant group in the Cathedral Hill area.

"We've heard [Cathedral Hill Neighbors Association] concerns loud and clear," he said. "We went, twice, to educate their membership, and we've gotten a bitter response. They say we don't have a finalized project yet."

Told of Nelson's comment, Morgan responded that her group simply "invited them to present at the point that they had something new to show us. I can't imagine where the 'bitter' comment comes from. We've made it clear we intend to keep communicating with them as we go through the process." ■



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St. Anthony's serves 33 millionth meal

Itinerant musician, 62, hits milestone with meatloaf and mashed potatoes

BY TOM CARTER

AFTER Father John Hardin's blessing before 200 sit-down guests and volunteers, St. Anthony Dining Room served its 33rd millionth free meal shortly after 11 a.m. on Oct. 12 to Bobby Perry, a 62-year old musician.

The congenial 6-footer was sitting at a table with three others in the far corner of the spacious 2,500-square-foot hall. It was his second tray of meat loaf, mashed potatoes and green beans and a pastry that established the historic mark, and a phalanx of cameramen and reporters, several of them young women with radio microphones, rushed to his side.

To the inevitable question, "How's the food?" Perry smiled and issued his self-styled Michelin grade: "It's better than in some restaurants." Then, he had the disarming honesty to admit to the young ladies, "I'm enjoying the attention, too."

St. Anthony's has been serving free meals to the homeless, low-income and anybody else who wants to wait in the long line that snakes outside up Jones Street, around the corner and down Golden Gate Avenue every day since Oct. 4, 1950. That's the date Franciscan friar Alfred Boeddeker opened the doors at 45 Jones St. and served 400 meals.

Now, 2,500 meals are served daily, 25% more than in 2002.

The million-meal milestones used to come every three, five or 10 years. But they arrive more frequently now.

"Just over a year ago, we served our 32nd millionth," Father Hardin, St. Anthony Foundation's executive director, said. "The need for solutions to hunger in our community is urgent."

Destitute and low-income folks, from travelers with backpacks to scraggly street people to people in wheelchairs, sit and mix easily at the 180 blue Formica tables. Lines of volunteers — 40 a day — swoop down the aisles bringing hot food trays from the kitchen. The light gray linoleum floors are so clean they glisten. Pleasing murals of seascapes and countryside landscapes adorn the beige walls.

The meal is served between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., except after the 15th of the month when the crowd increases because money gets scarce. Then the doors open 15 minutes earlier.

The briefly famous Perry, a life-long traveling musician originally from Chicago, lives around town in cheap hotels ("in the Hindu Hilton," he'll say). He has been coming to St. Anthony's for nine years, "just when I need to," he said. Accompanying himself on guitar for the guests, he has sung jazz and blues during the meal. He also volunteers on Thursdays to fill and distribute brown bag lunches.

Now he is struggling with a new project. He is trying to distribute his two CDs, "Love Camouflage" and "In The City." He wrote, arranged and performed all the tunes on both CDs.

"I'm a musician trying to become a businessman



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Father John Hardin celebrates the milestone meal served to musician Bobby Perry, his second tray of the day.

and start a business and a record label," he said. "I've got very little money and I'm running into brick walls." he said.

But he and thousands of others always know where a hot meal in the Tenderloin will be. ■

Turk St. methadone clinic has ties to CMPC

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

ONE of the properties California Pacific Medical Center bought last year to make way for its proposed medical office building was at 1040 Geary. The three-story structure, a clinic operated by Bay Area Addiction Research and Treatment, closed its Geary facility on one day in September and opened the next day at 433 Turk.

"We started renting the Geary building in the early 1980s and later bought it," said Evan Kletter, CEO of BAART, a nonprofit founded by his father in 1977, that provides substance abuse services, including 12 methadone clinics in California.

At the end of the October Tenderloin Futures Collaborative meeting, Kletter got up and invited everyone to the Oct. 25 open house at the new Turk Street clinic.

Neighbors rarely roll out a welcome mat for sub-

stance abuse providers that want to locate in their community, so despite a David and Goliath-sounding situation, Collaborative members showed little sympathy and pinned Kletter to a different mat.

"How many clients do you have, and what's BAART doing to keep them from hanging around outside the clinic during and after hours?" one person asked after citing the Tenderloin's glut of providers and clients.

"We have 600 clients and a security guard when we're open, seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.," Kletter said. "We're sensitive to the community, but I haven't thought much about our responsibility when we're not open."

"But that is exactly what being a good neighbor is," shot back Michael Nulty, resident and president of Alliance for a Better District 6.

Kletter promised to consider ways to keep BAART's clients from adding to sidewalk problems.

Two weeks after the meeting, The Extra talked with Kletter about BAART's move from Geary to Turk and its negotiations with CMPC.

When CMPC began "going down the block, snapping up sites," Kletter and his brother, Jason, BAART's president, decided that they'd sell only if they could open a better clinic in a different location.

"We found the Turk Street site fit our needs better," he said. "More of our clients come from the [94102] ZIP code, and we could install an elevator and do other things to improve the building. We've always put a lot of resources into our facilities, making them look good so anyone would feel comfortable coming to them."

CMPC's purchase of 1040 Geary was "a really fast transaction," Kletter said. BAART rented it back from CMPC for about six months while it prepared 433 Turk.

Clinics like BAART, most of whose clients rely on daily doses, can't have service gaps, Kletter said. "We closed Geary one day and opened Turk the next."

At the open house, he gave The Extra a personal tour of the new digs. The 10,000-square-foot two-story space, formerly a law office, is efficiently laid out and attractive — lots of exposed brick, olive and dark lemon painted walls, sharp black doors, nice carpet, checkerboard linoleum tiles.

After methadone clients check in, they go to the dispensing area to receive their dose

— a specific amount that's computerized, based on information collected by professional staff and entered in the client's record. Licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric techs, sitting at counters behind plastic barriers with large holes cut in them, measure the liquid doses into cups, which they pass through the holes.

For about two-thirds of the 600 clients on methadone maintenance, the drug must be consumed on the spot, and there's no loitering inside once the drug is ingested. The other 20% to 30% of clients considered stable enough to do "take homes" pick up their methadone in vials.

"In either case, we have a strict dose-and-leave policy," Kletter said. "I'm certainly aware now that the community wants us to watch the people we serve, and we will." ■

Central City Democrats gets official approval

THE San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee met Oct. 25 and chartered the city's 28th Democratic club — the Central City Democrats. The committee heard comments from six members of the new group, which was voted in unanimously.

Democratic clubs work to get out the vote, distribute slate cards, endorse candidates and promote the Democratic Party's endorsements. Each club president becomes a nonvoting member of the Central Committee.

"That's really important for us," said Michael Nulty, the new club's secretary, who also is president of Alliance for a Better District 6. "It means that in all committee discussions, there's representation for our district neighborhoods and their needs."

Other officers — all District 6 residents — are Rick Hauptman, president, also president of North Mission Neighborhood Alliance and a 30-year Democratic fundraiser and supporter; Marvis Phillips, vice president, Tenderloin block captain and former NOMPC president; and Susan Bryan, treasurer, also treasurer of Alliance for a Better District 6 and a NOMPC board member.

The Central City Democrats meet quarterly, with monthly executive committee meetings. Since forming early last year, it has sponsored four community and voter education events. More information: 339-VOTE. ■

—MARJORIE BEGGS

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Bambi meets Tenderloin art critic – a twisted saga

BY ED BOWERS

BAMBI Lake has been a habitu  of the Tenderloin for at least two decades. She's a transvestite poet/performance artist/singer who recently put out a CD titled "My Glamorous Life as a Broadway Hostess."

The word glamorous on the cover is spelled oddly. It looks almost right.

Just like Bambi. She looks like a woman but she's not. She's artifice.

But this CD is a masterpiece, a real work of art. The minute I heard it, I wanted to review it, and I don't even like this kind of music, much preferring the work of dead jazz musicians to the living songs the dead sing when all they want to do is make money.

The album perfectly captures the decadence of the '30s and fully documents the visceral extremes of joy, delusion and self-indulgence that reflect a myopic world reduced to trivia, momentary pleasure and egocentric glory that will eventually end in carnage, genocide and the atomic bomb.

The names and Social Security cards of the characters have been changed, but in the 21st century the actors remain the same.

My friend Vlad Popolev, a poet, once had to throw Bambi Lake out of his second-story window. She was obnoxiously out of control. He's from Russia. He knows.

A rendition of "Song of the Siren" is an anthem to self-obsession aimed at seducing those who would follow Bambi's path, thinking it romantic. Believe me, I've known Bambi Lake for six years. This is a song sung by Death.

My friend Snow at the 21 Club had to punch Bambi in the face to get her to shut up and back off. I guess if two speed freaks are added together with an argument then two and two equals one broken nose. I've never been good at math but I have learned the basics.

The next song, "Jaded Lady," is a lively up-tempo ditty about the glamorous life of a male prostitute working in a midnight meat market whose only goal is making lots of money; a story not so much different from that lived by the average hardworking slob.

Some idiot calling himself The King of Satan clocked Bambi Lake at his satanic celebration. Not even Hell wants her.

"Midnight in Manhattan" is a perfect New York City sophisticated lady taxicab romance song. It's a myth, but Bambi renders it perfectly. It is moonlight and skyscrapers in young eyes.

Bambi was stabbed by the manager of a punk rock club a few months ago. She lived to tell me about it at the recent City Hall poetry reading.

Nobody really cared about her being stabbed, but the fact that she survived caused a certain amount of disappointment among the underground poets who have known her for years.

Then on the CD there's an amusing narrative, followed by the song "Cigars, Cigarettes," whose subject is how wonderful it is to be a gangster's mistress dying from loneliness and alcoholism.

One week after I met Bambi in the year 2000 she entered Alcoholics Anonymous. It didn't work.

The content of this show is very funny, and

the fact that Bambi has connections with many famous and glamorous show business gangsters but is currently homeless adds irony to its sinister subtext.

Sean Penn and Henry Rollins had something to do with the production of this CD. I'm not sure precisely what they did and since she and I are no longer on speaking terms, I suppose I'll never find out. I'm not a famous person. I'm ignorant.

"Marahuana" is a tango sung about the soothing caress of getting high on pot. The word marijuana was misspelled. It should have been spelled "Meth."

Bambi prefers hard drugs, but art is illusion and she does a great job of creating a romantic fantasy in the mind of the listener concerning the virtues of oblivion.

"The Golden Age of Hustlers" is a masterpiece and it was written by Bambi Lake. It's a precise and hard look at what being a gay hustler is in San Francisco. The way it is sung is minus any trace of self-pity, and actually conveys an affection and feeling of universal brotherhood for those who have shared her lifestyle.

It's nice when somebody who is narcissistically psychotic can look outside herself for a few seconds and bring to light a vision. I admire that.

My friend Veronica was sitting with singer Mark Eitzel at the original Baobab when Bambi Lake saw them, threw a fit, put her foot through a plate glass window, and was spotlighted by the Beauty Bar and carted offstage by an ambulance team who laughed in her face.

The rest of Bambi's repertoire is also per-

fectly rendered. It is pure show business, the songs of a 57-year-old transvestite who sings like a fallen angel and lives out of a trunk.

But right now Bambi is living out her Tennessee Williams fantasies at the kindness of strangers. She's homeless, as are many mentally ill people in San Francisco and the United States of America.

Poet-photographer Ramu Aki gave me her CD and suggested that in my capacity as art critic for Central City Extra that I review it. Then my friend Veronica ran into Bambi on Polk Street and informed her as to where she could locate me.

Bambi contacted me, and I scheduled a photo shoot for her. Then I mentioned to her that I had been told that someone might be moving out of my residence and that she should inquire as to its availability. I forgot that you have to watch what you say around unstable people.

One mistake, that's all it takes around here. So Bambi came back the next day and said that she wouldn't do the photo shoot if she couldn't get the room.

The room, as it turned out, was not available, so, after insulting me because I had no power to cure her homelessness, she walked out. But then she returned after I canceled the photo shoot at her request and screamed out my name on the street for 15 minutes of fame because she wanted to go to the photo shoot.

With some losers you cannot win. The Diva was now transformed into the Wicked Witch of the West.

I've read books about people who are demon-possessed. You don't want to engage these creatures in conversation. Just review

their CDs and get the hell out.

Later, Bambi returned twice to insult Ramu with racial epithets, and caused a certain amount of unnecessary stress to people like me who only wish her well, don't know any famous people, and are just surviving from paycheck to paycheck.

The Bambi Lake saga is a Tenderloin story. It is selfish and it is sad. She received thousands of dollars for this CD, but it didn't do her any good. She blew it.

But she is not alone. There are many like her here. They are not nice people. They destroy themselves, and sabotage anyone who would help them.

Yet there is a light inside them that is dying to get out and, heroically, some of them manage to shine for a bright second in a precise and focused manner that can be for the good of others before their flame is extinguished.

I suggest that anyone who loves music purchase "My Glamorous Life." If you're smart enough to read between its lines, you will get quite an education.

How can you purchase it? I don't know. Bambi sells them for three dollars on the street. All you have to do is find her. Check out Polk Street. Or wait for her to get mad at me again and go down to Hyde.

Warning: A few months ago, while trying to order coffee, I was sitting with Bambi outside the Caf  Zoetrope when she spit at the waiter for giving her \$800 fur coat to Goodwill because she hadn't retrieved it for two weeks and we took off in opposite directions.

Maybe you should just order this CD on the Internet. Getting too close to the source can often be a losing proposition. ■



PHOTO BY RAMU AKI
Bambi Lake is a transvestite poet torch singer whose CD is a masterpiece. She sings like a fallen angel and lives out of a trunk.

Rat season — 'We've got 'em. Huge. The size of cats.'

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berries and other food."

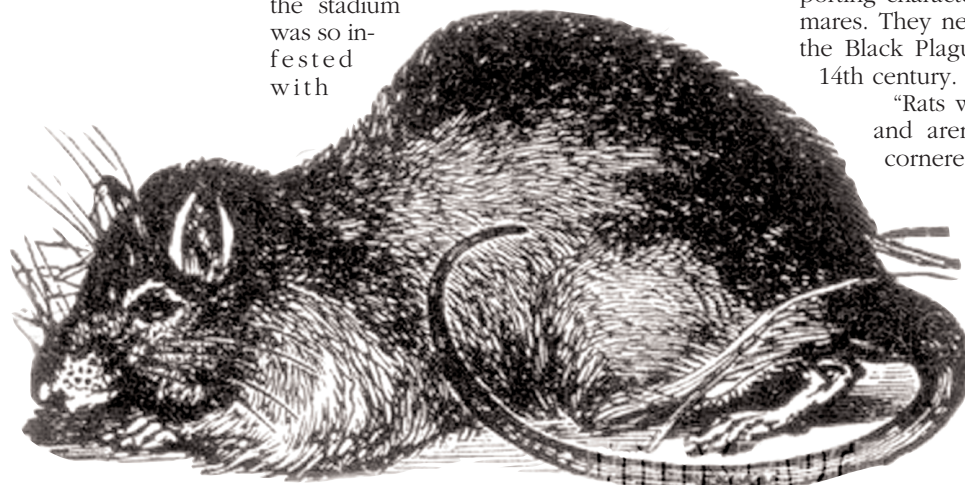
Abandoned sandwiches are high on their list.

Nobody knows how many rats are in the Tenderloin let alone in San Francisco, but they are present just about everywhere at one time or another. With food, water and shelter they multiply like crazy.

How do rats do it? Quickly and often. Male and female rats may have sex 20 times a day, according to Robert Sullivan's book, "Rats." One pair of rats has the potential to birth 15,000 descendants in a year.

Phil Rossi, who coordinates Integrated Pest Management for Rec and Park's 250-park system, said a rule of thumb is that rats equal the human population, which puts the number in San Francisco at close to 800,000. "And I think that's conservative," he said, "but it's just a guess."

Park facilities can be overrun quickly. One Rec and Park employee recalls when Kezar Stadium had to be closed to any event that had food because the stadium was so infested with



ART FROM ANIMALS BY WILDSIDE PRESS

rats gobbling up what people were throwing away. "We had to ban events at Kezar," she said. "They were all over the place."

The Tenderloin is especially vulnerable because it is old and densely populated. Rats like to burrow through the mortar of its large brick buildings to look for food and to hide and perhaps nest, although shrubs suit them best, which is why they're rampant at Boeddeker and TL's other two open spaces. Metal plating is used to repair the brick intrusions. For the brown sewer rats, which are slightly bigger than roof rats, a large underground sewer system accommodates them. They are more prolific and more aggressive. They can push roof rats out of their territories.

Sewer rats live in or near garbage dumps, sewers and basements and are good swimmers. A roof rat likes warmer weather and is a poor swimmer but an agile climber. Both are nocturnal and omnivorous — although grains rank high — and both are burgeoning now.

Children, or adults for that matter, are usually not in any danger from rats, though they may be frightened. Long viewed as disgusting, disease-carrying parasites, rats are often supporting characters of horror stories and nightmares. They never got over being blamed for the Black Plague that ravaged Europe in the 14th century.

"Rats will run away from loud noises and aren't dangerous unless they are cornered and you're trying to hurt them," said Olga Jaurigui, senior Environmental Health technician with Public Health. "Then they will attack humans."

DPH advises other city departments that contract separately for pest control, and under the health code requires property owners to keep their spaces unattractive

to rodents and to do their own trapping. The PUC, which has jurisdiction over sewers, contracts with Pestec, a company in the Mission.

Rats can carry upward of 30 diseases, although it is the roof rat that's most likely to carry plague germs (see sidebar) and show up at Boeddeker, the Tenderloin Playground and Sgt. John McCauley Park on Larkin Street between Geary and O'Farrell.

What attracts rats is food and that's what's bringing them to the Tenderloin Children's Playground and Boeddeker.

"Rats," said Children's Playground Director Kay Rodrigues, making a face. "We've got 'em. Huge. The size of cats."

She was standing on the playground next to the garbage enclosure and its porous metal gate. The gate had a new 3½-by-2½-foot solid metal plate at the bottom to keep out rats. Park and Rec's three-man pest management team, responding to the infestation, had installed it when they put two traps inside by the garbage can.

Nine-year-old Dominic Eik sidled up to Rodrigues. Sure, he has seen rats several times, he said, in the grass on the other side of the north fence, running on the top of it, and on the 10-foot wall and fence to the east. "I look for them," he said. Nope, he wasn't scared, he said.

The next day, Berrios was at the eastern fence. He pointed to a rat hole in the ground on the other side where he said pest management put poison when they set traps by the garbage cans. Garbage got out of hand while he was away three weeks, he said. "We're short on staff and if it was only cleaned up once or twice a week, then it happened," Berrios said. "That's the way I see it."

Food attracted those rats from the hole and more from the garbage cans that he pointed to farther down the fence. They belong to the Arundell Apartments at 526 Ellis.

He said he has seen the rats running atop

the fences there. He held his hands 9 inches apart to show their body size.

Mice have beleaguered the park before, he said, but "this is the worst we've had rats."

Some mornings now Berrios sees two rats at 5 a.m. scampering across the front steps. Walking out to the steps, he climbed over the rail and pulled back vegetation to show a rat hole at the edge of the building. "I saw one in the building yesterday. I'll have to put in another work order."

Three days later, the Arundell Apartments manager, who refused to give her name, denied that the property had any rats. "Absolutely" no rats, she said, "and no droppings." She wouldn't say more.

It is possible the rats in the front of the playground are the brown to gray sewer rat, also called the Norway rat. "Remodeling or work on sewer lines will disturb colonies that weren't apparent before," said DPH's Zverina. "They need new hiding places."

They are a problem in the sewers where they find the grease they adore. The PUC has a program that encourages North Beach and Chinatown restaurants to contain their fats, oils and grease (FOG) instead of dumping them down the drain. Clogging means a feast for rats.

The PUC wants to eliminate dumping altogether. Next year, the PUC will start a pilot program to collect FOG and turn it into biodiesel fuel for city vehicles.

"You'll never get 100% eradication," Phil Rossi of Pest Management said. "McCauley Park has regular activity and we always keep a black box in it."

A black plastic box is about a foot long, 8 inches wide and 4 inches high and has a door that allows a rat to go inside, eat tasty food off a spit, then leave. Pest Management has one each at the playground, Boeddeker and Sgt. John McCauley parks.

Besides grain, the roof rat likes sourdough

bread and peanut butter but even so the food in the box is Generation Mini Block and it's irresistible. It contains chemicals that destroy the rat's nervous system. One dinner is enough to kill it in two to three days, Rossi said.

"All you can do is monitor," Rossi said. "In one month they should be declining. If they are not taking the bait, they're not present."

The Boeddeker clubhouse gets cleaned regularly. It has a kitchen and refrigerator in one corner. The seniors who play bingo three afternoons a week have doughnuts and snacks and Pastor Roger Huang from the San Francisco Rescue Mission brings food in on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The snap traps were put down after a thorough cleaning of the facility, and always away from children and dogs in rooms accessible only to staff, according to Rossi. The "ReCreation," a volunteer cleanup operation Sept. 9 sponsored by the San Francisco Parks Trust was followed by another session. Assistant Recreation Director Pat Wiley, who oversees Boeddeker, found "mice poop." And when others told her they had seen rodents, she was "horrified."

"People leave food on Ellis Street and in the park," Wiley said. "It's unsanitary. I don't know how police can handle that. I don't know the answer."

"If I walk up (to the encampment) and ask them not to sleep there they look at me like I am talking a different language. If they are stoned, they get angry. I've been spit on and my car's been kicked in. It's not a director's job."

But in recent weeks the street encampments have diminished. Diamond-shaped SFPD signs reading "No obstruction on street or sidewalks" are posted on the park's Ellis Street gate. Dan Stein, a resident of Presentation Senior Community at Ellis and Taylor, said Tenderloin Police Capt. Kathryn Brown is probably responsible for it.

When rats brought death to S.F.

SAN FRANCISCO's rat problems are nothing compared to our bubonic plague years in the early 20th century when the city had a bounty on rats and killed a million of them in two months.

The dead rats were taken to Bureau of Health Rat Receiving Stations.

From 1900 to 1909, about 200 people in San Francisco died from the plague. It was the same plague, or "black death," that devastated Europe in the Middle Ages. The plague hit here twice.

In 1900, rats and people off a boat from Hong Kong were blamed. Houses in Chinatown were inspected and 1,200 were scoured. A move to close Chinatown failed. The plague subsided in 1904, but 122 had died and no one knew with certainty what caused it.

After the 1906 earthquake, rat and flea populations exploded. A larger plague outbreak began in May 1907 and peaked in September. All parts of the city were affected. Of 160 human cases, 77 died, all "white persons, many of them of a good condition in life ... and dwelling in houses that would commonly be called 'sanitary,'" one report said.

In 1908 it was accepted as medical fact that fleas off rats spread the plague's germs. In a historic civic effort, organizations throughout the city pitched in to educate the citizenry and eradicate rats. The U.S. Public Health Service established Rat Receiving Stations and the bounty concept was very successful: a million were killed in two months. By 1909 it was over.

In a 1926 follow-up study, 20,000 rats were trapped, killed and analyzed by a five-man crew to determine if the city was in any danger of the plague. It wasn't. ■

—TOM CARTER

"So far, it seems to be working day and night," he says.

And as the colder weather sets in, rats will stay closer to their nests and won't mate as much. ■

Redevelopment tries to buy the Hugo

BY TOM CARTER

THE San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is negotiating to buy the long-vacant Hugo Apartments at Sixth and Howard streets where the whimsical art project Defenestration has adorned its blemished outer walls for 10 years, delighting thousands.

The property is worth upwards of \$4 million, according to an estimate of a neighborhood general contractor and former member of the South of Market Project Area Committee that advises Redevelopment.

But in 2005, the Hugo owner turned down a \$4.6 million offer, according to a Sept. 10 story in the Chronicle. A Bay Area developer wanted to build 20 market-rate condos and 10 storefronts, the story said, quoting an anonymous company source. The developer didn't mind the 50-foot height limit, even though sometime in 2007 the Planning Department is expected to rezone it to 85 feet, the allowable height on the other three intersection corners.

"The land is worth about \$2 million and with the Hugo, about \$3.5 to \$4 million," said Henry Karnilowicz, a SOM-PAC member when the group recommended early this year that Redevelopment try again to buy the blighted building, vacant 20 years.

For years, a sign on the building has directed any interested buyers to a fax number, (415) 621-8436. A couple of years ago when Redevelopment inquired, the building's owner wanted \$4 million. But SOM-PAC said then that was way too much, and Redevelopment stopped its negotiations.

Karnilowicz, who rehabilitates and master leases commercial properties on Sixth Street, said the Hugo is in bad condition and should be torn down and replaced with housing. He served on SOM-PAC two years ago when it rejected the \$4 million asking price. The property has appreciated since

SOUTHSIDE

and an 85-foot limit would push its value higher, although the seedy neighborhood doesn't inspire offers. Karnilowicz had no idea how the May 2006-elected SOM-PAC would respond to a sale figure that Redevelopment would bring to it.

"All the information is confidential" about the negotiations, said Mike Grisso, Redevelopment's SoMa project manager and liaison to SOM-PAC which urged the purchase last March. "But we expect to have something to announce sometime."

There is "no time limit" on negotiations, which could go past the year's end, Grisso said.

If and when the sale is consummated, the agency will "definitely" put in housing, Grisso said. The fate of Defenestration would be decided then.

The five-story building has 75 units, fallow since a fire in 1987, according to a Central City SRO Collaborative report on SRO fires. The building was damaged further by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

I.M. (David) Patel bought the building in 1964, according to a Chronicle story. In 1998, assessor records show that I.M. and daughter Sumatai Patel turned it over to Branch Limited

Partnership in Hillsborough, where David Patel's daughter Varsha lives, and the assessment valuation was \$400,589. She handles the go-between negotiations, said Karnilowicz. The Patels also own the Ramada Limited at 240 Seventh St., which Varsha Patel manages.

In 1997, the abandoned Hugo became a building everyone suddenly noticed. Sculptor Brian Goggin got approval from the Patel family to create a surreal, three-dimensional scene on its outer walls. "It was very casual," Goggin said of the agreement in an interview with The Extra in April. "It was just a handwritten note. No lawyers."

Goggin's idea, inspired by New Stone Age paintings of animals on cave walls, had landed him a \$3,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and \$20,000 in other grants. Bayshore Metals Inc. and Harrison and Bonini hardware store donated materials worth "thousands," he said. About 200 people volunteered, some for a few hours, others for months.

"A lot from the Burning Man community helped," he said.

The volunteers anchored bulky furniture, appliances and a grandfather clock — more than two dozen objects that Goggin scavenged and some

that were donated — near, or in, the Hugo's windows. The spectacle was called Defenestration. It means to throw things out the window. Immediately, it caught the eye of city residents and tourists and soon was a favorite on the Gray Line bus tour. Some see it as a comment on rampant consumerism.

Goggin feels lucky he was allowed a place where his work would be seen by thousands.

A cabbie once told him that a German couple asked to go see Defenestration because they had read about it in Der Tagenspiegel, the big Berlin daily.

Although his www.defenestration.org Web site offers Goggin's art project for sale for \$100,000, ideally, he says, the Hugo and its quirky spillage should become a community arts center with studios.

"It has international recognition so why tear it down?" he said. "I'd like it to last forever."

Even so, SoMa's singular amusement doesn't attract tourism to the city and the city has lost two decades of taxes that replacement housing would have generated. In 2000, Redevelopment paid \$1.8 million for the Plaza SRO diagonally across from the Hugo, then built the eight-story \$22 million Plaza Apartments, which opened in March with 106 units to house low-income and formerly homeless.

But after being rebuffed by Hugo's high price, Redevelopment got a significant bargaining tool in December. The Board of Supervisors approved converting its purpose from earthquake recovery to a traditional redevelopment project with expanded powers.

This meant the agency could acquire blighted properties like the Hugo. If its owners didn't fix up their property, which they haven't, Redevelopment could negotiate to buy the place for fair market price, or if no deal could be made, acquire it by eminent domain.

A factor making the owner intractable over the years was the Hugo's 50-foot limit, and the hope the city would "be fair," in Vasha Patel's words, and give it a boost to 85 feet. Redevelopment took advantage of the 85-foot zoning across the street when it tore down the two-story Plaza SRO and replaced it with an eight-story apartment building.

Varsha Patel has indicated the owner would have been more cooperative years ago if the value-adding change had been made. It's City Planning's intention to do that through its East SoMa Plan, expected to be adopted in February.

The change to 85 feet "is being taken into consideration" in the current negotiations, Grisso said. And the option of eminent domain, if a fair market price is rejected, is leverage. Karnilowicz said eminent domain could be an issue "in six months, if things don't pan out."

Every two years Goggin spruces up Defenestration. He gets a permit to use a crane and inspects the pieces and their moorings, sands and refinishes wood, replaces light bulbs and checks all the wiring. It takes two weeks of long days and costs him \$7,000. This year he has postponed it because he thought he might get some donations to defray the cost, maybe a waiver from the city for the crane permit that would show its support of popular art. He wanted the work-over for Defenestration's 11th anniversary March 9.

A commemoration may be in order in March anyway, as a wake or rededication. Informed of the negotiations by The Extra, Goggin was eager to talk to the Redevelopment Agency.

"It would be a shame to get rid of it," Goggin said. "It's an iconic image and a beautiful building with arching windows and the turret on the corner. It was built in 1908 and named after Victor Hugo. It adds to the neighborhood. Structural engineers say the façade doesn't need to be torn down and can be shored up.

"Maybe we can work together." ■

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ROBERT BURKE
Wrote for "Hollywood Squares"

For 10 years, Robert Burke and Beth Chiarelli met regularly for lunches that were punctuated with the 5-foot-2 Burke's stream of witticisms and banter. The 5-year-old son of a friend of his some years ago had once looked up and asked his mom, "Is Bobby a grown-up or a kid?"

"It was our standing joke," said Chiarelli, his social worker 10 years ago when Mr. Burke was in the city's shelter system, just before he moved into the Ritz Hotel, an SRO on Eddy Street. "He was quite a guy, positive about everything. He used to write for 'Hollywood Squares.'"

"He was more like a kid than anyone I ever knew," said Morgan Paris. "He was the liveliest person in the Ritz. I called him the Watermelon Kid because he loved watermelon. Every day I miss him. It's not the same without him."

Paris and Chiarelli were two of a half-dozen friends who attended Mr. Burke's memorial at the Ritz on Sept. 19. Mr. Burke, who claimed he never had gone to a hospital, was taken unconscious from his fourth floor room on Sept. 6 after fracturing his neck in a bathtub fall, his friends said. He died of complications two days later at St. Francis Hospital. He was 68.

Chiarelli, who had her 2-year-old son Devin with her, said Mr. Burke did office work in his life but also once wrote for "Hollywood Squares" and was a friend of actor Paul Lynde, a show regular.

Paris said Mr. Burke had injured his back in another fall in February. He was incapacitated and his friends ran errands for him. In two weeks he resumed watching sports on television downstairs, insisting that others watch, too. Originally from Boston, he avidly followed the Red Sox and was a consummate tennis fan, rising well before dawn to watch every hour of the French Open in May. It was suspicious when he missed a couple of days of the U.S. Open in September.

"I called to tell him about the Andre Agassi match, but there was no answer," Paris said. "I had the hotel go up and check and they found him."

Dozens of inscriptions on two sheets of paper next to flowers and two lighted candles on a memorial table recalled his scintillating personality and love of sports. "God has blessed you, you have a better seat now for all the major tennis matches," said one. "I think the Red Sox will win again this year and (Roger) Federer won the Open," said another.

Mr. Burke attended every social event the Ritz sponsored, said Ritz Hotel social worker William Leary. "His name was always at the top of the signup list," he said. "And he was the official food taster. He had to taste everything first to see if it was okay for everyone. He knew how to make people smile."

Someone said a fortune-teller once told Mr. Burke he'd live to 101 but he said he didn't need all that time. He had done everything he wanted to do, he said, and was happy with who he was.

—TOM CARTER

IDA GARNER
Safeway worker

Ida Garner worked many jobs in her life and was looking for another when she died unexpectedly of unknown causes in her Senator Hotel room on Labor Day, hotel sources said. She was 52.

"She looked like the picture of health when she came here," said Deborah Brooks, the hotel intake coordinator.

But Ms. Garner had "health issues" she was trying to resolve as she also sought employment, said Dorothy Ridley, supervisor of Tenant Services, before a memorial for Ms. Garner on Sept. 11.

Her friends said Ms. Garner was a slight, sweet, soft-spoken lady who favored wearing "leopard" — animal print — pants. She loved cooking soul food, especially ham hocks and yams, in the hotel's community kitchen.

Ms. Garner had worked for Safeway, in concessions at SBC Park, recycling for the Gay Pride parade and at odd jobs that the Tenderloin Housing Clinic found for her, Ridley said. She was homeless before signing up for the city's shelter system that led a year ago to permanent housing at the Senator.

"She was like a big sister to me," said a lady who identified herself as Kim. "She had a smile that would knock you off your feet. You don't get the good people too often. This is the worst thing that could happen. And this is how I have to close it out."

Ms. Garner is survived by two daughters, one in Los Angeles, the other in Michigan.

—TOM CARTER



LEE HARMONY
Carpenter, waiter

Lee Harmony sat in his wheelchair in the Alexander Residence lobby, or went to UCSF for cancer treatments. The rest of the time he was in his room watching cowboy movies where his caregiver visited six days a week and prepared his meals.

"If he (Mr. Harmony) came to any social event he didn't stay," said his social worker Winnie Kwong. "He'd take his food upstairs to his room. When he came back from the hospital the last time I asked him why he didn't go to a hospice or a nursing home? He said, 'What are you talking about? I want to die here, at home.'"

Mr. Harmony got his wish on Sept. 19, succumbing in his 11th floor room. He was 66.

"I'd see him in the lobby," Beatrice Duran, a woman who has lived at the Alexander a year, said at his memorial service. "He was a quiet man but he always responded if you greeted him. And he is a member of this big family. I feel the loss. I pray for his eternal peace."

As the Rev. Glenda Hope read scriptures and prayed, Kwong interpreted for the dozen Chinese and Filipino women and men who attended the memorial. More than half of the Alexander's 200 residents are elderly Asians.

Mr. Harmony had once been married in Michigan and has a brother and sister in Idaho, his friends said. He worked as a carpenter and handyman, also as a waiter in New York and at a Powell Street restaurant, Edgar Sanchez, his caregiver of 18 months, said.

Kwong said Mr. Harmony wanted to leave her everything in his will but she said no, a social worker can't do that. She did accept his movies, about 100, including the TV series, "Gunsmoke," all of which she donated to the hotel's library. The remainder of his estate he left to Sanchez, she said.



—TOM CARTER

STEVEN PANGLE
Vietnam veteran

Steve Pangle could scare you to death just by looking at him. He had a full beard, long hair and no teeth. In his black leather jacket, the 6-foot-1, 200-pounder looked like a glowering Hells Angel. He was gruff and irascible besides.

But it didn't keep a handful of his friends-at-a-distance at the Iroquois Hotel from liking the loner, or his understanding sister from her unconditional love.

Mr. Pangle, a Marine who served in Vietnam in the early 1970s, died in his Iroquois room on Oct. 5, two weeks after returning from a seven-month hospital stay. He had lived in the O'Farrell Street SRO six years. He was 55.

At his Oct. 10 memorial several residents told how they had appreciated Mr. Pangle.

"He was a character who had his ups and downs, and some attitude," said one man. "But he always said hi to me." A big lady described how much Mr. Pangle admired her arm tattoos, which became their casual friendship bond. And she said she was glad when he came home from the hospital.

"Oh, he was so handsome and kind," said another woman, fighting back tears. She glanced at Mr. Pangle's sister sitting in the front row and added, "I had a crush on him, by the way." Everyone laughed.

"He was rough around the edges," said Cory Reese from his wheelchair. "I think we related through disability. He could be a big tough guy but he told me once how hard it was for him to parachute out of a plane the first time. He wet his pants."

But it was Mr. Pangle's sister, Pamela Hageman, who provided a history. She and her husband and one of their two sons had come up from Monterey. On a bulletin board leaning against a table with two candles were 15 pictures she had put up. One was of Mr. Pangle as a sweet little boy in a striped, dark T-shirt, another was of him as a handsome, strapping high school student in coat and tie. A black-and-white snapshot showed the two as children sitting on a step, and in a leap to 2002, a color photo showed the burly, leather-jacketed brother with his arm around his pretty blonde sister.

Hageman said her brother died of a drug overdose after resuming his habit following his long hospital stay, but the medical examiner's office couldn't confirm that and on Oct. 27 said the cause was still pending.

She and her brother had been raised in China Lake near the Mojave Desert where they rode bikes and hunted lizards, and he was big-brother-protector.

"Nobody messed with me in high school," she said. "He could be scary. But unfortunately he didn't get the love and attention at home he needed, and at 13 or 14 he turned to drugs."

She lost track of him after high school. She later learned he had been in the Marines, worked for the Post Office, was married twice and has an estranged son, 24. A father-in-law of his once said he was "a great guy when he was clean and holding a job," she said. "But drugs were a demon he was never able to conquer."

She reconnected with her brother 17 years ago when he was diagnosed schizophrenic, went on SSI and needed a sponsor to receive his monthly checks. In his impatience for money, he'd call her at home and leave messages laced with foul language.

"I was a wife, a mother with two children and working two jobs," she said, "and I didn't need that. So I told him to forget it. But he apologized and said he loved me. I was the one solid thing he could count on."

When she had to call him, and he answered gruffly, she cut him down with sweetness.

"I'd say, 'hello, Sunshine,' " she said, "and he'd immediately change and be nice. 'Hi, Sis,' he'd say."

They met infrequently over the years as he bounced around before landing in San Francisco. But when he got sick in February they started talking a lot more. And two days after he returned from the hospital, she came to visit. She learned he had given the nurses such a bad time that he was passed from one hospital to another to get rid of him.

Hageman brought her brother clothes, food, a microwave and two tickets to a Nov. 2 concert starring his favorite group, Arrowsmith, at Shoreline Amphitheater in Mountain View.

Mr. Pangle was ambulatory but in pain. His colon and three-fourths of his stomach had been removed. She stayed seven hours. His room had knives and swords on the walls. They talked a lot and said they loved each other.

"My brother liked pizza, Arrowsmith, the Raiders, motorcycles, the Roman Empire, lemon meringue pie, Butterfingers and weapons," she said standing next to the pictures. "Some people asked if he overdosed on purpose. I don't think so. He was looking forward to getting rid of the colostomy bag and the concert, and I was going to come back for a visit."

"But he had been in the hospital so long and then he must have resumed the same level of drugs. His body couldn't take it."

"Some say people like him weren't meant to be here. But I thought he was here for me. He was ornery and reclusive and a very big bad guy — but he really wasn't. I'll miss him."

She said she would donate his body to a college here because "I'm sure they can learn something," and thanked people for coming.

Then the group broke up and ate the pizza that Hageman offered and listened to an Arrowsmith CD she brought.

—TOM CARTER

MORLIN SMITH
Longtime resident

Morlin Smith, longtime Tenderloin resident, died Oct. 3 at the age of 59.

Cards on the table at his memorial service at the Alexander Residence showed Mr. Smith was held in high regard by staff and residents.

One staff member wrote, "Thank you for always being kind and patient with the new girl at the desk."

"And thank you for making your space safe for people in need of sanctuary. Your helping nature and accessibility will live on in the hearts of those you touched," another noted. When asked what "sanctuary" referred to, a staff member laughed and shook his head before answering, "When he could bring people in, on the sly, to crash there, he would."

Mr. Smith was born and raised in Marin County. His family did not attend the memorial because the funeral was being held at the same time. They sent flowers as a way to celebrate his life with those he spent his days with, the ones who consistently called him "a good person."

—HAPPY HYDER



Pamela Hageman and Steven Pangle

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tenderloin Childcare Center silent art auction and reception, Nov. 9, 5:30-9 p.m., 144 Leavenworth. Included are works of local adult artists and center children that were displayed at City Hall in October. A \$10-\$20 donation at the door supports the child care center, a program of Compass Community Services, which serves the city's homeless families.

Hospitality House Exhibit features Harry Driggs, through Nov. 17, Community Arts Studio, 146 Leavenworth. Paintings, sculpture, illustration, classic underground comics originally printed for Rip Off Press. Information: 749-2104.

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE

HOUSING

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

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.

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

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.

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

Healthcare Action Team, 2nd Wednesday of the month, Quaker Center, 65 Ninth St., noon-1:30. Focus on increasing supportive home and community-based services, expanded eligibility for homecare and improved discharge planning. Light lunch served. Contact: Aaron Wagner, 703-0188 x304.

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.

Mental Health Board, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30

p.m., City Hall, room 278. CMHS advisory committee, open to the public. Contact: 255-3474.

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

Crime and Safety Committee, meets bimonthly on the Wednesday after the first Monday, SOMPAC, 1035 Folsom, 6 p.m. Information: 487-2166 or www.sompac.com.

North of Market NERT, bimonthly meeting. Contact Lt. Erica Arteseros, S.F. Fire Department, 970-2022. Disaster preparedness training by the Fire Department.

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. Contact Susan Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

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.

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.

Central City Democrats, meets four times a year, 301 Eddy St. Community Room. Addresses District 6 residential and business concerns, voter education forums. Information: 339-VOTE (8683) or centralcitydemocrats@yahoo.com.

Community Leadership Alliance. CLA Community Advocacy Commission monthly meeting, City Hall, Room 034. Subcommittee meetings and informational forums held monthly at the Tenderloin Police Station Community Room. Information: David Villa-Lobos, admin@CommunityLeadershipAlliance.net

Friends of Boeddeker Park, 2nd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., Boeddeker Rec Center, 240 Eddy. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact: 552-4866.

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: 554-9532

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.

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

North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District, 1st Thursday of the month, noon. July and August 2006 meetings: Hastings College of the Law, 198 McAllister, Classroom B. Contact Elaine Zemora, district manager, 440-7570.

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

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

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.

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, 965 Mission #700: Pedestrian Safety, third Wednesday, 10 a.m.; Senior Housing Action, third Wednesday, 1:30; Information: 546-1333 and www.senioractionnetwork.org.

SUPERVISORS' COMMITTEES

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.



TENDERLOIN HEALTH Outreach and Community Events November 2006

Health Promotion Forum

Topic: Come learn about HIV Testing and Ways to Stay Safe

Speaker: Tenderloin Health Promotion Team

Date/Time: November 8, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

GET SAFE! Free HIV Testing 7 Days a Week

Where: Tenderloin Health, 187 Golden Gate Avenue

Get your results in 20 minutes with a RAPID test!

Weekdays: 9 am - 12 pm; 1 pm - 4 pm; 5 pm - 8 pm

(5 pm - 8 pm Mondays/Wednesdays standard tests only)

Weekends: 9 am - 12 pm; 1 pm - 4 pm

Client Advisory Panel

Come talk with Tenderloin Health's Executive Director and program managers about plans for Tenderloin Health. Also provide input on new services and how we can improve.

Date/Time: Wednesday, November 8, 11:30 am - 1 pm;

Wednesday, November 29, 11:30 am - 1 pm

Volunteer and Intern for Tenderloin Health

Orientation: Sunday, November 12, 12 pm - 6:30 pm

220 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor

lunch provided

You must pre-register for volunteer trainings.

Stop in/call Emilie (415) 934-1792.

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

TENDERLOIN HEALTH

A MERGER OF CONTINUUM AND THE TENDERLOIN AIDS RESOURCE CENTER

PROGRAMS • 415.431.7476 and 415.437.2900

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE • 255 Golden Gate Ave • San Francisco CA 94102

MAILING ADDRESS • PO Box 423930 • San Francisco CA 94142

www.tenderloinhealth.org

HELP WANTED

CIRCULATION COORDINATOR — We need someone to distribute Central City Extra. Someone who wants a regular part-time job.

The person must be willing to work hard two, three days in a row once a month.

We deliver to the Main Library, City Hall offices, Glide, all TNDC buildings, SomArts, Brainwash among nearly 150 locations in the Tenderloin and SoMa.

Pay: \$10 an hour.

We need someone reliable who understands how important good distribution is to The Extra.

Call 626-1650. Ask for Phil.

Café do Brasil

**1106 Market Street at Jones
Since 1989 in San Francisco**

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**Churrasco Dinner Thursdays to Sundays
and Lunch Buffet Mondays to Fridays**