

The Extra hits a milestone: 150 issues



PHOTO BY LEONOR VERA

Central City Extra staff gather in front of the newspaper trophy exhibit to celebrate a milestone, issue No. 150: From left: Sophia Heller, editorial assistant; Mark Hedin, reporter and distributor; Lise Stampfli, designer; Geoff Link, editor and publisher; Marjorie Beggs, senior writer and editor; Jonathan Newman, reporter; Tom Carter, community reporter. Issue No. 1 hit the streets in 2000. We began entering journalism competitions five years ago and since, have won seven 1st-place, 10 2nd-place and eight 3rd-place awards from the S.F.-Peninsula Press Club. The Society of Professional Journalists honored us three times: Link got the *Unsung Hero* award in 2009, Carter first prize for his 2013 “Birds of the Tenderloin” story and — most precious kudo — the 2011 best Community Journalism award among all Northern California non-daily publications. Not pictured are Paul Dunn, photojournalist; Mark Doneza, photographer; and Ed Bowers, Art Beat writer.

GOOD NEWS

HASTINGS’ HALLOWEEN Kids got a special pre-Halloween treat Oct. 24 courtesy of Hastings law students living at the 27-story Tower, 100 McAllister St. For a few hours, it was all sugary, shivery fun as the big “kids” tricked out their environs, competing in the annual “most spookified floor” contest, an event that goes back at least 20 years, says Hastings CFO David Seward: “This is a favorite holiday tradition at the school, an uber sweet event.” The 140 kids from five TL after-school programs started with pizza and candy in the wildly decorated lobby, then made their way up the tower for more treats from students



PHOTO JACKLYN FANG

A little goblin roams the halls of Hastings Tower on Halloween.

in some of the 251 apartments. Along the way, law student Lucas Pastuszka, a ghoulish 6-foot-4 creature with a black fright wig, (fake) bloody ax, bare legs and motorcycle boots with chains, popped out of the elevator

and around corners, scaring even the toughest-looking 10-year-olds. Lidia Lopez, second-year law student, Associated Students officer and the day’s event coordinator, was everywhere, her face painted like a Day of the Dead sugar skull. She chose the 34 contest winners — all 28 students on the ninth floor for best decorations plus six in a 10th-floor apartment for putting on the best spooky experience for trick-or-treaters. Each got a \$5 Philz Coffee gift card and earned pro bono hours. ■

— Marjorie Beggs

MORE HEALTHY STORES Last year, California Produce at 986 Polk St. was the only small grocery in the TL to get four stars in the Tenderloin Healthy Corner Store Coalition’s shopping guide, based on a survey of 56 stores in the hood. The stars rate measures types and quality of food sold, cleanliness, amount and type of advertising, and a score of other criteria. At the coalition’s second annual gathering Sept. 24, members

announced the great news: This year, a second store, City Supermarket at 669 Geary, got the coveted four stars; three-star stores almost doubled — from 12 to 23; and stores getting the dismal one star — no fresh produce, whole-grain products or other healthy comestibles — dropped from 12 to three. “These changes demonstrate a real ripple effect,” said Jessica Estrada, Public Health Department consultant and coalition co-coordinator. “Many corner markets are realizing there’s a demand for healthy foods in our neighborhood.” Other good news: Three TL stores — Dalda’s, Amigo’s Market and Mid City Market — will join the Healthy Retail SF program in 2015 (see The Extra issue No. 136). In exchange for stocking and promoting affordable, healthy food instead of tobacco, alcohol and salty, fatty, sugary snacks, each store gets \$16,000 worth of technical assistance and tangible products like display cases and coolers. ■

— Marjorie Beggs

SAN FRANCISCO NONPROFIT DISPLACEMENT MITIGATION PROGRAM

The Northern California Community Loan Fund, Community Arts Stabilization Trust and Urban Solutions announce the availability of technical and financial assistance to address displacement impacting San Francisco nonprofits providing arts, cultural, and social services.

Applications must be received by Friday, November 14, 2014. For information and the online application, please visit: www.nccf.org/npdmitigation

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