

WINNER

Extra writers, artists snag 5 journalism awards

CENTRAL CITY EXTRA earned five awards at the San Francisco Peninsula Press Club's annual event in early December honoring regional journalists for excellence in their craft. Three of the awards were for news and features and two for compelling imagery — all were published in 2014.

A first-place award went to page designer Lise Stampfli-Torme for her "Shadow of tech" graphic and layout, illustrating Jonathan Newman and Editor and Publisher Geoff Link's report on how the tech industry has renewed central Market Street, but to date has left the Tenderloin largely unchanged except for forcing out the nonprofits that provide a safety net for the needy.

The Extra took second place in three story categories for nondaily newspapers: news, feature/specialty and business/tech. All of the stories examined aspects of tech's effects in the hood.

And Paul Dunn's photos of youth in the Tenderloin received third-place honors for photography illustrating Tom Carter's report, "1,100 kids missing," that investigated the "disappearance" of hundreds of neighborhood young people who had been counted in the census as living in the Tenderloin, but were under-reported in city services calculations after gentrification hit.

Marjorie Beggs' "Homeless to healthy" piece about Project Senior Vitality, a program at Curry Senior Center that gives elders high-tech equipment to help them stay on top of their well-being, received a second place and ap-

peared in the October issue.

In the same issue, Mark Hedin's "Disabled snubbed by Uber, Sidecar, Lyft" was another red-ribbon winner. It exposed how app-based ride services that have gutted the taxi industry refuse to serve disabled people, which is illegal under federal law but goes unpunished by fawning local authorities.

Another second-place winner by Hedin, "Tax-break tech hiring a bust in the Tenderloin," published in September, showed how, despite city-extracted pledges by Twitter and other tech companies to partially fuel their growing startups by hiring from the hood, that hasn't happened.

Thirty-five news organizations from 11 counties competed in the contest. Their nearly 400 entries were judged by press clubs in New Orleans, Cleveland, Florida and Southern California.

The San Francisco Peninsula Press Club is a professional organization that includes journalists, artists and others working in newspapers, television, radio, magazines, public relations and on the Internet. The Dec. 5 event in Redwood City was its 38th Greater Bay Area Awards program.

For 15 years, The Extra has been covering the central city. It is the only newspaper that regularly reports on the multimillion-dollar Twitter tax break and its ensuing gentrification of the lowest-income neighborhood in San Francisco, where economic inequality in the city is most obvious. ■

— Mark Hedin and Geoff Link

Top right, Lise Stampfli Torme's "Shadow of tech" graphic and layout won her an S.F. Peninsula Press Club blue ribbon. Paul Dunn's photos of eighth-grade artist Jaeya Bayani, right, and Kimberly Romero, below, a fifth-grade athlete at Bessie Carmichael, were among nine published a year ago in a story about faulty TL demographic data.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This is a double issue of The Extra, for December and January. We will be back to our regular monthly publishing in February.

Meantime, Central City Extra and San Francisco Study Center wish our readers happy holidays and a joyful new year.

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Intersection fights to pull out of crisis
\$200,000 in debt, group slashes staff, cuts performances
By MARJORIE BEGGS

MANOR HOUSE DELAYED
Plumbing woes, more postpone reopening
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TECH BUS FIRMS' FEE KICKS IN
Tariff triples with more parking cops on duty
PAGE 3

IN THE SHADOW OF TECH

SNAPSHOT OF CHANGE
In central city, only the scary TL is resisting gentrification
By JONATHAN NEWMAN AND GEOFF LINK

Resident artist Aaron Davidson's solo production, "Wrestling Jerusalem," premiered at Intersection in March.
PHOTO ALLEN WILNER
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It's been over three years since the Twitter tax break triggered a tech run on the central city. Now, all of Market Street's midsection falls under tech's shadow. But not the Tenderloin.

Twenty-five years later, traffic was blocked and the street dug up to build BART. Market Street's midsection — the seven-block stretch from Fifth Street to Van Ness Avenue — saw a four-decade decline, marked by empty buildings and closed storefronts from the '70s till now. That same stretch — dubbed Central Market in a bland mix of bureaucratic and real estate parlance — has become the mecca of San Francisco's renewed vigor, glowing with tax breaks and economic wisdom from the self-proclaimed civic wisdom of tech companies and their expanding workforces. Market Street, in this early 21st century decade that is dominated by tech, has taken on a new identity with a fresh-scrubbed, suburban personality that is snubbing off on the central city. This is a snapshot of that change three-plus years into the Twitter tax break that triggered it.

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