

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Earthquake and fire centennial event, free walking tours of the Barbary Coast every Saturday in April, 10 a.m.-noon. Guides tell stories of tragedies and triumphs along the route. Meet at the Old Mint, Fifth and Mission. More information at www.sfhistory.org.

Financial literacy workshops, two free sessions plus light refreshments, 11 a.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy, sponsored by Northeast Community Federal Credit Union. April 12: How to Do Your Budgeting; April 19: How to Manage Your Credit. Information: 434-0738.

Boeddeker Park Family Fun Day, Sat., April 22, 1-5 p.m. Barbecue, skits, children's entertainment and giveaways of Easter baskets, clothing and food. Sponsored by the San Francisco Lighthouse Church. Information: 440-4464.

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., CMHS, 1380 Howard, Rm. 537. CMHS advisory committee, open to the public. Contact: 255-3474.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Gough, 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.

Community Leadership Alliance, a chartered democratic organization. Quarterly informational forums with guest presenters and speakers, sharing news of upcoming events, proposals, resources. Meetings are first Thursday in Jan, April, July, Oct. Location information: David Villa-Lobos, admin@CommunityLeadershipAlliance.net

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.

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, 111 Jones conference room. Interim board meeting. 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, 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.

Big candidate turnout for Democratic forum in TL

BY TOM CARTER

Democrats at a March 15 forum in the Tenderloin described their "party of hope" as adrift but moving closer to a navigable course after beating Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger-supported initiatives in November.

Candidates for the District 13 Democratic County Central Committee also said their goal is taking back the Capitol, Congress and throwing President Bush and the right wing out of the White House. Voters turned back initiatives on teacher tenure, union dues, redistricting and school funding.

Committee member and candidate Robert Haaland, a transgender man who received the fourth highest number of votes when elected two years ago, said "last November was about real people coming together," but it wasn't enough. The party needs diversity, he said, and "think tanks" to determine people's needs. "Seventy-five percent of my people don't have jobs," Haaland said. "We're the beacon for the left agenda and for the things that are of everyday concern."

Other major candidate concerns were affordable housing, health care, the environment, ethnic leadership and the need to pull the Green Party and independents into the Democratic circle.

Nineteen of 23 registered candidates for the County Central Committee showed up at the TL police community room, nearly outnumbering the audience. Even so, the candidate turnout was a success for the seven sponsoring groups.

The candidates are vying for 12 seats on the June 6 primary ballot. Ten incumbents are seeking reelection. Meeting monthly, the committee endorses state and local candidates and ballot measures and passes resolutions that it takes to the state Democratic Convention. It also registers voters and gets out the vote.

Moderator Richard Allman, a former committee member, allotted the candidates four minutes each

for statements. Some floated proposals. Rodney Hauge favored lowering the voting age to 15 and allowing age-based, weighted voting with someone over 100 getting 12 votes. Jordanna Thigpen called Democrats "the party of hope," and said Central Committee fund-raisers throughout California could raise a \$1 million war chest.

Chairwoman Leslie Katz, a former supervisor (1996-2001) who got the second highest number of votes two years ago, said Central Committee meetings are sometimes "contentious." But she was proud that the committee successfully fought the governor's "mean-spirited initiatives." Responding to a question, she admitted minority representation in the party is low. "Actually, we haven't done a good job of recruiting others into politics."

Rick Hauptman, North Mission Neighborhood Alliance co-president, recalled working for the Johnson-Humphrey ticket in 1964 but said the party left him, a feeling voiced by several other candidates and two audience members.

Laura Spanjian said she was encouraged by the way sometimes-feuding LGBT groups had unified to defeat Schwarzenegger's initiatives. She had been disillusioned, too, that the party had left her. But the 58% voter turnout in November, she said, was higher than expected. "People didn't think we could do it," she said, adding, "and there was not one lesbian issue on the ballot. If we can do that to defeat things we can do even better to win things."

The Tenderloin's Bruce Windrem got the evening's biggest applause after suggesting the district should emulate Oregon where "grassroots" politics are closer to the people. "When I came here 16 years ago," Windrem said, "I couldn't stomach the (Democratic) platform. People need a say in the platform, like in Oregon. And the party needs to be in touch all year, not just during a crisis. We need to take back control of the necessities like food and transportation. We need to be our own party."

But no one got a simple message across better than Sue Bierman, the final speaker. The former supervisor, who got more votes in 2004 than any committee member, admitted being a "little selfish" for running again. But "I love being on this committee." Its main job, she explained, is distributing its slate of recommendations.

"People don't know how to vote," Bierman said. "And if we do anything, we better get those slate cards out."

The sponsoring organizations were: Alliance for a Better District 6, Central City SRO Collaborative, North of Market Planning Coalition, North Mission Neighborhood Alliance, TACPAC, Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco and Tenant Rights Association. ■

Café do Brasil

1106 Market Street at Jones
Since 1989 in San Francisco

17th Anniversary

Churrasco Dinner Thursdays to Sundays
and Lunch Buffet Mondays to Fridays