

# Buying local is biggest benefit from tax break

Yammer, Twitter, others claim nearly \$3 million in food

By MARK HEDIN AND GEOFF LINK

THERE'S A CENTURIES-OLD saying about the need to feed soldiers: "An army marches on its stomach." And that's still true today in mid-Market, recently invaded and occupied by thousands of hungry tech workers.

Almost 3,000 are employees of the six tax-break companies — 1,500 at Twitter, 800 at Yammer, 200 at One Kings Lane, 163 at Zoosk, 250-plus at Zendesk and a smaller number at 21Tech, all with million-dollar payrolls. To get the tax break, they have agreed to provide a range of benefits to the neighborhood, including a pledge to purchase from neighborhood purveyors.

So far, restaurants and caterers are the main beneficiaries, according to the

first reports on file with the city administrator's office. The reports are to be filed quarterly. These first reports were to cover activities January through April. The reports arrived in July. Two make claims of extravagant spending during this period.

Yammer reports it spent \$2 million with caterer Green Heart, which operates out of a kitchen at 350 Golden Gate Ave. That's the biggest single expenditure listed in any of the first-quarter CBA reports, Twitter's \$750,000 on food a remarkable, but distant, second.

Twitter has its own kitchen and buys groceries from food distributors of which there are few in Central Market. Its report on company spending that benefits the inner city says Twitter spent six figures on food, 90% of it from "no more than 50 miles away," implying that purchases in Redwood City somehow benefit this community.

Within that distance, Twitter spokeswoman Karen Wickre named two coffee distributors elsewhere in the central city that the company does business with, and four other food distributors in San Francisco, plus others outside the city. One local business is Philz Coffee, with locations across from the old Federal Building and in the 700 block of Van Ness. Workers there asked not to be identified, but confirmed that the tech influx has been good for business.

"These code writers are up all night," another said. "It's the closest thing to legal crack," he laughed, adding that he believes someone in the company had a personal relationship with Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook — Philz Coffee has a location on the Facebook's Menlo Park campus.

The other company in the neighborhood that Wickre said Twitter buys from is Sightglass on Seventh Street.

"When buying in volume — say, meat, fish and produce," Wickre emailed *The Extra*, "it's difficult to find the vendors in the immediate neighborhood for our volume of business."

Neither Wickre nor the city administrator's staff explained how spending out-

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PUBLISHED BY THE SAN FRANCISCO STUDY CENTER

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Plus much more during the Fringe

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# CENTRAL CITY

# EXTRA!

SAN FRANCISCO

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY



At the Gangway on Larkin Street, Landa Lakes, a.k.a. Miko Thomas, Grand Duchess 36, poses with Kenya Pfister, a.k.a. Ken Harper, Royal Crown Princess, as they await the deadline for applicants who will vie to reign over the ducal court charity.

# The queens' charity

## Duke, Duchess benefit marks major milestone

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TOM CARTER

THE FUNKY, CENTURY-OLD Gangway on Larkin near Geary was a site for all eyes on a Sunday afternoon in mid-August when glittering drag queens and gay men applied to vie to be Grand Duchess and Grand Duke for the coming year.

Winning means a ton of work as fundraising chairpersons. The anointed royalty choose a court — their assistants — to help them raise money for charities they select. AIDS Emergency Fund has been a common recipient over the years. But so has help to other nonprofits and to individuals for special projects.

Before this 40th anniversary ducal year is out in September, and a new court is chosen with their handsome royal titles, more than \$50,000 will be distributed.

A few queens and their supporters lingered on the sidewalk, hugging and cooing over each other's finery before going inside just after 4 p.m. Aug. 18 when the application filing opened. Wide-eyed tourists in open air buses going up Larkin Street on a perfectly warm afternoon waved as they passed, not altogether certain what they were seeing.

The Gangway, one of the oldest gay bars in town, claiming a 1910 birth year, was packed and was loud and muggy. Most of

the men weren't in drag, only those vying to be Grand Duchess, members of the current court, or past winners — a dozen or more.

Near the doorway, Kenya Pfister is dressed in high heels, a tight, lemon-yellow sequined dress — "short," she points out — topped by a delicate white lace bolero jacket. She has a powdered face and blue eye makeup touched off with dangling, 4-inch silver earrings. Even if you knew this lovely person and your life depended on it, you could not guess this is Ken Harper, contracts administrator and human resource manager for the Tenderloin nonprofit, the San Francisco Study Center.

"I'm not running for Duchess, though some have asked me to," Harper says. "But this year I am the Royal Crown Princess, a member of the court. And if the Duchess can't perform her duties for any reason, I am the one who is supposed to step in and handle that."

The reigning Duchess has the musical name, Paloma Volare St. James, and is otherwise known as Daniel Fortuno. In this milestone year of royal fundraising, the court's \$50,000-plus was typical, suggesting that over the decades the ad hoc charity could have pulled in \$2 million. But absent a paper trail, no one knows.

"I've been involved four years," Fortuno says. "It was because of Landa Lakes. She was Grand Duchess ..." He stops in midsentence, leans toward the door and yells inside, "Landa! 36?" He nods, "Yes, the 36th year. She basically convinced me to get involved."

It was about the time Fortuno won the Royal Bunny contest at the Cafe Floré on Market Street, another fundraiser that netted \$8,000.

Fortuno is Grand Duchess to Grand Duke

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# Tenderloin crime: 5 cases that ex-Capt. Garrity will never forget

BY TOM CARTER

**J**OE GARRITY'S recent promotion from Tenderloin police captain to commander in the SFPD Operations Division put the iconic beat cop in a fifth-floor Hall of Justice office with a nice, tall northern exposure window. He keeps a handful of mementos on the sill and on his desk — like the miniature 49ers helmet signed by TL luminaries that Supervisor Jane Kim gave him as a going-away present. Occasionally he fumbles answering the phone: “Joe Garrity, Tenderloin sta ... er Operations.”

“Real quiet around here,” Garrity says, flashing the smile that endeared him to legions of residents, most of whom he knew by name.

The Extra asked what he considered his top five Tenderloin cases. He rattled them off in a flood of details, unrehearsed, in not even two minutes. Garrity, who has been a cop in the TL for 27 years, sat down with The Extra recently to explain.

**1. 1984:** The beating, rape and murder of Mei “Linda” Leung, a 9-year-old Vietnamese girl, in the basement of the apartment building at 765 O’Farrell St. where she lived. “I’ll remember it ’til the day I die,” Garrity says, shaking his head. This, though he was a graveyard beat cop who never saw the body nor got past the crime scene perimeter. Garrity said there are limits even among murderers that carry some hint of humanity. “I’ve seen shootings, sure, but there’s a kind of etiquette between cops and crooks in the Tenderloin, and this was over the line. It shocks any consciousness.”

The case came to mind in June when Richard “Night Stalker” Ramirez died of cancer on San Quentin’s Death Row. In an SFPD cold case examination four years ago, the DNA of the devil worshipper convicted of 13 murders was discovered to have been at the girl’s crime scene. He was living here at the time, months before committing his first murder in Los Angeles. “The chief, Greg Suhr, said he was an evil guy,” Garrity said. “The case is still unsolved.”

**2. 2003:** The Dalt Hotel lobby massacre, late on a on a Saturday afternoon in June. “I came in later that day, a lot of innocent people got hurt, 34 Turk, and I knew John Bravard — he was a security guard, a crazy guy, a gun guy.”

Bravard, a 14-year resident of the hotel, was known as a hothead and loner with mental problems. People avoided him. But the Vietnam vet bumped into fellow resident Paul Howard in the lobby and an argument ensued. Bravard went off to get his gun, came back and killed three people, wounding another, before going to his room and killing himself. The Chronicle quoted a resident: “Bravard was a disaster waiting to happen.” Blood was still on the floor when Garrity showed up.

**3. 1990:** Drive-by shooting with an AK47, wounding three. On April 30 at 10:30 p.m., a 1960s truck zoomed down Eddy Street near Jones with a guy firing an AK47 out the back at street dealers in a turf battle. Garrity, out of Central Station, was patrolling with his partner, John “J.J.” Newman, and interviewed bystanders as “Inspector Lum chased them over the bridge” where they ditched their vehicle and were lat-

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## CORRECTION:

The credit on the Jazzie Collins photo in the August 2013 issue of The Extra was incorrect. The photographer was Christopher D. Cook.



Jones Street emerges as the go-to place for a variety of activities during the revival of Tenderloin Sunday Streets.

# Sunday Streets resurfaces in TL

CBD, Zendesk, The Extra all play a role in the revival

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TOM CARTER

**T**HE RESUSCITATED Tenderloin Sunday Streets was a lively success Aug. 18, with people cycling, skating and dancing in closed-off streets, thanks to a community that got involved and thus avoided being bypassed by organizers for the second straight year over its lack of enthusiasm.

An estimated 10,000 people joined the festivities, according to Susan King, executive director of Sunday Streets. The number of participating organizations quadrupled compared with two years ago.

This year’s event coincided with Glide’s 50th anniversary, which alone drew about 3,000, King said. The area involved 15 square blocks car-free but for a few, monitored, drive-through intersections.

“I was happy the neighborhood responded,” King told The Extra. “It had a lot of challenges. People had to step up and they got that. But it does take a lot of time to get traction. This year was more than just the small group at the beginning.”

Rain and attractions elsewhere in the city practically sank the event in 2011 while incurring a hefty expense for rerouting a thick web of bus lines. It was such a dud, King left the Tenderloin out of her neighborhood planning last year. That May, though, she met with a handful of neighborhood leaders to stress what had to be done to bring the popular event back in 2013.

And, in an interview in the October 2012 issue of The Extra she outlined the obstacles, which could be overcome if the community really got behind it.

“It’s time for the neighborhood to shine,” she told The Extra, then. “If you want it, bring it. Or we’ll leave you alone.”

King said reporting the ultimatum helped light a fire.

The first of the new techie kids on the block to join the participating organizations was Zendesk, the software company at Market and Sixth.

“They basically were the first tech company to support this,” King said. “They broke the ice and gave us a \$5,000 corporate sponsorship and sent volunteers, too.” She said she hoped other tech companies would jump in next year and maybe Zendesk would bump their sponsorship up “to \$15,000. It’s very important that the public knows these companies underwrite the costs.”

It costs about \$35,000 to put on a

Sunday Streets in any neighborhood.

And here, the stalwart support has been the Tenderloin CBD.

“Each year the CBD has given \$2,500, and it really helps us,” King said. “They help us organize, too, Dina Hilliard (former executive director) attended all the meetings. The CBD is really our go-to group.”

Jones Street was a magnet. The Tenderloin Boys and Girls Club had a disk jockey, Duy Nguyen, who played hot music for street-dancing dozens outside

while the club sold \$1 hot dogs inside. There was also ANTS tennis and the San Francisco Skate Club with a ramp course, plus a block away on Taylor at Ellis, Glide had a band and a big crowd.

“This year we had a lot of activity on Jones Street and people abandoned Larkin Street,” King said. “One was so crowded you couldn’t move and the other was dead. So we’ve got some work to do to anchor activity. But altogether it was fairly successful.” ■



An eight-year-old meets the challenge of a San Francisco Skate Club ramp.

CENTRAL CITY

**EXTRA!**

NEWS IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE  
SAN FRANCISCO

CENTRAL CITY EXTRA is published monthly by the nonprofit San Francisco Study Center Inc., serving the community since 1972. The Extra was initiated through grants from the S.F. Hotel Tax Fund and the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund. The contents are copyrighted by the San Francisco Study Center, 944 Market Street, Suite 701, San Francisco, CA 94102.

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DISTRIBUTION: Don McCartney

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CENTRAL CITY EXTRA is a member of the  
SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION,  
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER,  
AND SAN FRANCISCO/PENINSULA PRESS CLUB

# Spotlight on sex at Fringe Festival

## Hot topic in the eclectic lineup for TL's main event

BY PAUL DUNN

**T**HIS IS A STORY ABOUT SEX. But it's not about the birds and bees, to which Mom and Dad may have alluded. This is a story about sex on both sides of the fringe ... the good, the bad and the brutal. And it's a story about the 22nd annual San Francisco Fringe Festival — whose spotlight this year shines on the subject.

At first glance, Oakland residents Regina Evans and Siouxsie Q seem po-

lar opposites. A sex trafficker victimized one of them; the other loves being a sex worker.

Evans, 51, spent part of her adulthood kidnapped, raped and terrorized by a monster, the scars from the nightmare still menacing her in ways minute and profound.

"Do I know what it's liked to be kidnapped and raped? Yes," she said recently. "Do I know what it's like to be brutalized? Yes."

Though she won't offer lurid details — she has told her story many



PHOTO BY PAUL DUNN

**Siouxsie Q digs sex** and enjoys getting paid for it. But her 45-minute "Fish-girl" mermaid fantasy says a lot more than that. "52 Letters" and other takes on sex will be staged during the 158 performances at the 22nd S.F. Fringe Festival.

times, she said — Evans doesn't hide from the topic. She embraces it.

And that's the essence of "52 Letters," her one-hour Fringe Festival show that dramatizes sex trafficking primarily through the eyes of two girls, 8 and 15 years old.

"I want people to open their eyes to this social justice issue of our times," said Evans, who taught herself performance skills. "People don't believe that it's happening, or they think it's in Asia or Russia. But it's happening right here."

For Siouxsie Q, 28, a vibrant sex industry is happening right here, too. And she digs it. The bubbly, full-figured woman who does not disclose her real name, is a full-time sex worker, she emphasized — not a "dabbler."

"I've done almost all of it, except phone sex, which is on my bucket list," she laughed.

But there's a deeper side to her professional activity, an intellectual consciousness she seeks to publicize.

"My entire goal as an artist is toward the humanization and destigmatization of sex workers and the sex industry," said Ms. Q, who for two years strutted her stuff on stage at the just-shuttered Lusty Lady in North Beach, singing and strumming a ukulele. "I believe that when sex workers have the chance to tell their own stories, it moves toward the goal of humanization."

So, enter stage left ... "Fish-girl."

That's the name of Siouxsie's 45-minute Fringe play. It centers on the mermaid Sirene, who just happens to be a sex worker, and her on-stage client played by Siouxsie's longtime theater

accomplice Sean Andries.

"Sirene doesn't like her work," said Siouxsie. "She's sort of a composite character who resembles me when I'm with a client I'm not really into."

The mermaid myth offers Siouxsie a convenient way to discuss her industry.

"Mermaids and whores are dangerous, mysterious, half in one world, half in another, stigmatized," she explained. "It all felt so relatable, and all of these feelings I was having about being in the sex industry translated so perfectly into the myth of mermaids. It was a great way for me to process a lot of that information in a creative, fantasy way."

"Fish-girl" — which will show five times — premiered in January at the Fertile Grounds Festival in Portland, Ore.

"Fish-girl" is short, it's high-octane, it's high drama," Siouxsie said. "Music, mermaids and murder!"

Evans — who uses poetry to tell "52 Letters" — has presented parts of the show twice, but this will be her first full go. She'll stop her four Fringe shows after 45 minutes so audience members can question on-hand experts about sex-trafficking issues.

"The show is very intense," Evans said. "Survivors (of sex trafficking) have had their lives controlled. These kids are kidnapped from everywhere, even in the 'burbs."

Tinged with humor, "The Women of Tu-Na House" continues the festival's sortie into the underbelly of polite society.

New York City resident Nancy Eng delivers this 55-minute play about an Asian massage parlor, which she pre-

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## 'Never know what you're going to get'

It's that time again, folks, when all things wildly creative descend on EXIT Theatre — the 22nd annual San Francisco Fringe Festival with 36 companies from around the country presenting 158 performances, Sept. 6-21.

There will be musicians and storytellers, clowning and drama, high-tech hijinks and stand-up comedy, even a bus ride around town.

"It's like Forrest Gump's box of chocolates," Fringe Festival publicist Gary Carr explained. "You never know what you're going to get. It's always a great experience and fascinating to see the wealth of ideas people are willing to experiment with."

Performances take place at 156 Eddy St.: EXIT Theatre's 80-seat cabaret-style venue, EXIT Stage Left's 49-seat black box and EXIT Studio's 40-seat black box.

Christina Augello, EXIT artistic director and Fringe producer who founded the festival in 1992, emphasizes there's something for pretty much everyone: "People who don't necessarily go to the theater might take a shot at the Fringe, and it will open the door for them. For others, it will reinforce their theater experiences."

Performers are chosen by lottery, the luck of the draw. This year, Fringe officials received 120 applications for 36 spots, placed the names in a plastic bucket and drew names until they filled all spots. The majority of performers are from the Bay Area, though some are coming from New York, Atlanta, Wisconsin and Texas.

"These are artists reflecting their times and the world," Augello said.

— Paul Dunn

**Tickets:** Advance tickets are \$12.99 or less, depending on the show. At the door the night of the show they're \$10 or less, and a Frequent Fringer Pass is five shows for \$40 or 10 for \$75.

# Garrity remembers big cases from the Tenderloin



**1984**

Murder of a 9-year-old Vietnamese girl at 765 O'Farrell was unsolved for years. DNA evidence later proved Satanist and "Nightstalker" murderer Richard Ramirez was her killer.



**1990**

Garrity receives meritorious conduct award for investigating a drug gang drive-by shooting when 4 victims were mowed down from AK-47 fire.



**1991**

The Tenderloin Task force kicks off from its basement HQ in the old Hibernia Bank building. The Force made 5,000 felony arrests in the first nine months.



**Late 1990s**

Mummified remains of a missing person are discovered in a rolled up carpet stowed in the rafters of the Road Runner Club at 177 Eddy Street.

**2003**

John Bravard, a "ticking time bomb," kills 3 and self in a Dalt Hotel shooting rampage.

INFOGRAPHIC BY LISE STAMPFLI

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er arrested and convicted. "I ID'd all four guys," Garrity says. "They all had guns and shot three people. Nobody died. It was narcotics-related, crack. Drive-bys were popular then. They still come over with guns." Garrity received a Meritorious Conduct Award. Three years later he arrested one of the men involved for gun possession.

**4. Late 1990s:** The "mummified" body. The Road Runner Club and bar at 177 Eddy was renovating in the late 1990s and a man's body wrapped in carpet was found in the rafters. Garrity was a beat cop who got the call. The decomposing body really stunk up the place. "People smoke cigars to get over that or put Vicks under their nose," Garrity says. "They rolled the body out and it was a missing person. Not a pleasant

smell. I don't know if the case was ever solved. No DNA back then."

**5. 1991:** The Tenderloin Task Force swings into action on April 1. Headquarters was in the basement of Hibernia bank and all the personnel were hand-picked volunteers — Capt. George Kowalski, two lieutenants, seven sergeants and 60 officers that included John "Joe" Garrity and his brother James. "We made 5,000 felony arrests by the end of the

year," Garrity says with pride. He made the first arrest, too: an ex-con with a gun. The task force celebrated its 20th anniversary with a bash April 1, 2011, at the Parc 55 Hotel. More than 2,200 attended. "I saw that guy I first arrested this month (July) in West Portal," Garrity says. "He said, 'Hey, you've got gray, you're getting old.' I said, 'You are, too.' But," he adds with that smile again, "no snow on the roof." ■

## 1st Grand Duchess recalls a palace coup from 40 years ago

### GRAND DUCHESS PERRY I

The creation of the ducal court 40 years ago came from a deal to keep H.L. Perry from acquiring too much power and influence in San Francisco's gay world.

At the time, Perry was serving on the board of the city's Tavern Guild, consisting of gay bar owners who fought police harassment (from 1962-95), and was simultaneously running for Empress of the Imperial Court system. The way he tells it, he was a shoo-in for Empress, a contest the guild had created in the 1960s and that raised money for causes mainly in the gay community.

"They told me to drop one or the other," Perry, now 84, told *The Extra* from his Chula Vista home in San Diego County. "I had 44 bars behind me for Empress."

Perry opted to forgo the Empress competition and instead created another contest for Grand Duchess, in a new ducal court, which he won handily. He became Grand Duchess Perry I. His inauguration was in the Fairmont Hotel ballroom, the first gay event to be celebrated

in a major San Francisco hotel, he said.

"All the hotels opened up to the gay community then," Perry said. "And I have no idea how much money we raised over the years, but it was a lot and we gave it all to charities."

Perry went on to create Atlantis House, a halfway house for gay ex-cons. From all his fundraisers — associated with the ducal court or not — 10% always went to the Metropolitan Community Church, he said. The church that celebrates all sexualities is located now at 150 Eureka St.

In 2006, Perry's work was commemorated with a month-long exhibition at San Francisco Public Library. Last year, the state Senate awarded him a certificate of recognition that called him a "gay icon."

Perry plans to donate the inaugural dress he wore 40 years ago to the LGBT Museum in the Castro.

"It was tan and pink and had lots of stones," Perry said. "Very expensive."

— Tom Carter



*'I set out to be a gay notorious person, and I achieved it.'*

*José Julio Sarria*, native San Franciscan, the first Empress of San Francisco, pioneering and outspoken advocate for gay rights, died Aug. 19 at his home in Albuquerque. He was 90. He set the pace and the tone for drag queen royalty. His fractious progeny upped the ante with several courts all raising money for the common good. This photo was taken by the late Lenny Limjoco, Study Center photographer and designer, who photographed Sarria in 1978 for the Study Center's Neighborhood Oral History Project. In the interview Sarria said: "I set out to be a gay notorious person, and I achieved it." This provocative quote is out of context so it sounds more outrageous than it really is. What precedes that blunt assessment, and followed it, will be presented in a future issue of *The Extra* with excerpts from Limjoco's interview and more photos.

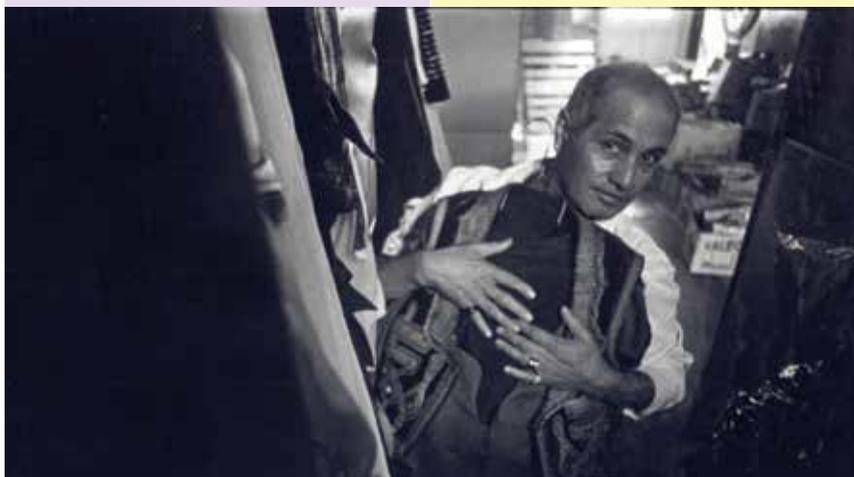


PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO 1978

# Queens gather for royal bounty



➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Moe Jo Coxxx.

The metaphor of a royal court seems an obvious organizational structure for San Francisco's significant drag queen community. It started in 1965 with the Imperial Court that annually would select an Empress of San Francisco, growing to 70 chapters, including some in Canada and Mexico.

But eight years later a rift occurred over the influential H.L. Perry (see sidebar), and he and his retinue of supporters broke away to form the Duke and Duchess system with gay bars like Gangway and Aunt Charlie's forums for the charitable fundraising.

The Gangway's application turn-in was to precede a fundraiser to celebrate those 40 years with a Bay Cruise dinner in September. After 8 p.m. the bar would have an open stage for the queens to perform and donate their tips to the ducal court. A raffle and a beer bust would add more dollars.

Other applicants and past royalty were showing up, well ahead of the 7 p.m. filing deadline, including Kylie Minono, who was Duchess 39 and now is campaign manager for Duke candidate Kippy Marks.

Rules forbid Minono from running for five years after winning. She said that her reign had raised \$47,000, mostly at bars, and the money got spread over 20 organizations.

At her side, Marks wore a formal white shirt and was beaming about his candidacy. He had strong credentials.

"I've worked with the Duke doing charity work before," he said. "Since 2009, I've raised \$130,000 for nonprofits like the AIDS Emergency Fund. I'm a concert violinist and I raise money by playing."

David Herrera, also a Duke candidate, arrived right after Marks. He got involved three years ago when a friend became Duke and he landed a court appointment.

"A lot of the charities we gave to I benefited from, and now I want to give back," Herrera said. "This is a big step up. You form a court — one or two people can't do it alone — and that's what I love about it. And everybody gets a title. It's part of a family, an army to raise money for our community."

(Recipients of this year's funds

Above and left, Paloma Volare St. James, raised \$50,000. Above, Kippy Marks, candidate for Duke. Below, Royal Crown Princess Kenya Pfister. The Aug. 10

were announced the next Sunday and included this partial list: Project Open Hand, Breast Cancer Fund, Camp Sunburst for HIV youth and others with life-threatening diseases, Positive Force that offers counseling and other support for HIV youth, and LYRIC.)

Suddenly, a Duchess candidate was at the door, Pat N Leather, tall and dressed darkly to the nines. She's Princess Royale, a current court member. Later, at the deadline, surprisingly she was the sole Grand Duchess candidate. Herrera and Marks were the only two vying for Grand Duke. Usually there are four to six candidates for Grand Duchess, fewer for Duke, which is considered a supporting role.

"I think the strength of the Grand Duchess candidate intimidated any competition, in this case," Harper said. "She has widespread support from different factions in the court, extensive connections and fundraising ability that she demonstrated this year."

"Many think people are bidding their time and next year's race will be a free-for-all."

Typically, the Ducal Council, acting as a board of directors, reviews the applications to determine the candidates. The community then votes, this year on Sept. 21 at these polling places: Project Open Hand in the TL, San Francisco Eagle in SoMa and the Magnet in the Castro. The winners will be announced Sept. 29 at the Whitcomb Hotel on Market Street at Eighth. But, in the unlikely chance the community rejects the sole candidate because of some palace intrigue, it's likely the council would appoint a Grand Duchess.

# er to raise y for charity



a.k.a. Daniel Fortuno, is the regal Grand Duchess 40 whose bard-working St. James court for Grand Duke, center, is flanked on left by Kylie Minono, former Grand Duchess, and 8 ducal festivities were held at the Gangway bar on Larkin near Geary.

Outside, Harper was nervously waiting for his day job boss to drive by and see him in his elegant transformation. He wasn't antsy about the boss, but because he was already late for, guess what, another fundraiser.

"We've actually got a conflict here," Harper said. "A fundraiser is going on at

the Edge, and I've got to be there. It's for the royal court — to help out with the cost of our 40th anniversary celebration. We want to get the ticket price down."

And it's a fine drag array like Kenya's that can drive those ducal dollars. ■

## Sex in spotlight amid eclectic lineup at the Fringe Festival

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

miered in 2010 at the Pan-Asian Repertory Theater in New York and has performed at Fringe festivals in New Orleans, New York and Hollywood.

Based upon her experiences in Flushing, a neighborhood in Queens, N.Y., she tells the vividly accented story of eight distinct characters during a wild visit to the massage parlor.

And, in an unpredictable parable with Siouxsie Q's Fish-girl, Eng, 50, explores what she calls the myth of forced sex workers.

"I want audience members to know that these women are like any other women in the country, and that they are not victims," said Eng. "They are doing it of their own free will and can make a living. These are real people who are not asking for forgiveness."

### FOOD, DRINK AND SERVERS

Bartenders and waitresses don't ask you to forgive them, either. And therein lies the theme for three other acts at this year's festival.

First up is "Parly Girl."

This is Sandra Brunell Neace's tale about waitressing for five years in New York City while she pursued her master's degree in acting at the Actors Studio in New York City.

Neace, 38, who now lives in Sparks, Nev., is diving into her first Fringe festival, though she has performed "Parly Girl" six times this summer at several theaters in Reno.

She hopes audience members come away with a taste of the service industry and the challenges workers face.

"I think it's (working in the service industry) a journey of humility," said Neace, who teaches introductory



PHOTO BY ERIC LOUIE

Flowers all around added to the festive reopening, and there was an uncharacteristic sense of order amid the rush and crush that surely won't last.

## Tu Lan reopens all clean, shiny

### Closed 1 year over violations — looks the same but brand new

BY GEOFF LINK

TU LAN, that decades-old fixture on the neighborhood food chain, reopened Aug. 25, one year after the Department of Public Health shut it down for serious and persistent violations.

Now it's back, with gleaming stainless steel equipment, rebuilt counter, sparkling white walls, simple new tables and chairs and the upstairs room nicely redone. Plain white globes hang from the ceiling, making the city's first Vietnamese restaurant a clean, well-lighted place.

It was festooned with flowers celebrating the much-anticipated moment. Thuyhn and Vinnie and nephew Anthony greeted a long line of customers, old and new, who happily found most of the old crew had returned as well.

It was as if they'd never left.

One man in line was Albert Colen-

dress, 47, of Daly City. He said he has been a customer since he started working at a nearby pawnshop almost 25 years ago.

"This is something different," he said, calling Tu Lan better than other Vietnamese restaurants, in part because the fried rice features curry. His order, however, was "No. 24," his old favorite combination plate of rice, imperial roll and pork kabob. "That's the famous one." It was \$6.95, up from \$6.25.

The menu is identical to the old one where customers ordered by number and good customers knew all 77 items by heart. The only difference is that prices have inched upward, but so modestly it's hard to tell— 50 cents per item, \$1 at most. The portions are just as generous and the quality maybe a notch higher. Plus, there are no shameful "S.F. surcharges." ■

Eric Louie contributed to this report.

courses in acting and theater at the University of Nevada. "It's easy to get angry, jaded and downtrodden, and in the end you have to let go of pride, and this is a funny take on that."

"Serving Bait to Rich People" adds another car to the Fringe dinner train. New York City stand-up comedian Alexa Fitzpatrick delivers this one-hour solo show chronicling her days as a bartender serving sushi to wealthy patrons at posh restaurants in New York and Aspen, Colo.

"This is the story of dating and waiting, or sex and sushi," said Fitzpatrick.

She said most people who have ever worked as servers or are single will relate to her jokes.

Fitzpatrick calculated she's performed "Serving Bait to Rich People" 41 times. She has been polishing her chops this summer after winning the Canadian Association of Fringe Festivals' lottery, which enabled her to perform at festivals in New York, Orlando, Fla., and in Canada's Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton.

"The Tipped & The Tippy" is the third in the festival's service industry triumvirate. Veteran bartender Jill Vice offers a satiric view of the not-so-glam-

orous bar culture.

Vice, 33, who has lived in San Francisco since 1998, ought to know. She has worked at 28 local bars, and they're all the same, she contended, even the one she currently works at several nights a week.

In a nutshell, they can all be "shit shows," she said. "People can be vomiting on each other and pulling knives."

The 53-minute performance, she said, "is all based on my experiences over the years. For example, there are a group of regulars in the story who are sort of a composite of some of my real regulars, and there has always been an 'Ace' person at every bar I've worked at."

But the show's not all light comedy, Vice said.

"I hope people get a very compelling story about our responsibilities for other people while laughing their asses off," she explained. "The audience will get to laugh at people's foibles, but it's also about people in the throes of their addiction (to alcohol) and bartenders see this."

She has performed "The Tipped & The Tippy" at the Chicago Fringe Festival, the Rogue Festival in Fresno, and San Francisco's Marsh Theater. ■

# Merchants don't all back benefit claims

▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

side Central Market qualifies as a benefit to the inner city.

Yammer did spend much of its claimed \$2 million in the neighborhood, most of it with a Tenderloin caterer, Green Heart, operating out of an old soup kitchen at 350 Golden Gate.

Green Heart, the only caterer in the Tenderloin, also serves workers at One Kings Lane. Owner Lisa Chatham said she does a lot of business with Yammer, but not \$2 million in a quarter, the time frame for the company's CBA report.

Yammer spokesman Jonathan Noble wrote in an email that "the Yammer team continues to try and track down an answer for you" in response to The Extra's questions about the dates.

The city administrator's project manager, Bill Barnes, nearly two months after submission of the CBA report, had no answer because he had not yet "fully completed verification of Yammer."

Chatham, a personal chef before founding Green Heart in 2009, says she began doing business with Yammer in 2011, when the tech giant was on Townsend Street and her kitchen was at 1550 Bryant.

The CBAs have been a godsend for her business, Chatham says. She has about 15 employees and they prepare 500 meals a day for Yammer from the kitchen she leases from Mercy Housing.

"I'm really into good, clean, simple food," she says, and "that involves a lot of vegetables." She spends about \$20,000 monthly at Veritable Vegetable, a women-owned cooperative on Cesar Chavez Street specializing in organic, locally grown produce; Golden Gate Meats on Seventh Street and, for dry goods such as flour, salt and beans, from Good Stuff



PHOTO BY MARK HEDIN

**Ellery Abels shows a tray loaded with pizza from the Green Heart kitchen. Green Heart, the only caterer in the Tenderloin, has a five-year lease.**

Distributor in the Bayview and Rain-bow Grocery in the Inner Mission.

Her lease with Mercy Housing, she said, has "completely made it possible." When her lease on a shared kitchen on Bryant Street was not renewed in July 2012, she said, she had no idea how she'd stay in business until on Craigslist she found both the Golden Gate Avenue kitchen and a one-story building shell on 20th Street in the Mission that she is weeks away from opening to serve new clients.

Originally, Chatham said, she saw the Mercy Housing site as a transitional space while she got the Mission site ready, but its proximity to the tech clients has worked out so well that last month she signed a five-year lease.

"It's just been great," Chatham, who just returned from a vacation hiking the Inca Trail, said from a perch at a balcony table overlooking the courtyard of the Madonna Residence as seniors exercised below. "We're going to stay here and be in the other space as well."

Whatever the amount, whenever the time frame, Yammer plainly spends a lot locally — Green Heart is right down the street from the new St. An-

thony's, after all. Some of Green Heart's minimum-wage workers may live in the neighborhood, and Mercy Housing has a happy tenant in what had been a vacant space. But overall, the relationship appears to be between two newcomers to the neighborhood doing business together, while life otherwise goes on around them, oblivious to their activity.

At Zoosk, the online dating site at 989 Market St., the staff eats on the company dime at least twice a week, community liaison Melinda Perales says. About 300 meals weekly are brought in from central city restaurants such as Bang San Thai, on O'Farrell, Little Delhi at Eddy and Mason, and Pakwan at 501 O'Farrell and Tian Sing on Cyril Magnin.

One Kings Lane's Community Liaison Stephanie Pettinati emphasizes that, unlike its upstairs neighbor Twitter and many other tech companies, OKL "does not provide daily meals to our employees. However, you will find our 200+ employees out and about in the local community eating lunch, having coffee, etc."

For the meals the company does cater, she said, the company they use to manage the ordering, Cater2Me,

which operates in New York, Chicago and from an office in the Financial District, has agreed to use at least one local caterer per month. So far, they've also done business with Bang San Thai, Little Delhi, Green Heart and Morty's Delicatessen at 280 Golden Gate Ave.

Kashi Serchan, owner of Little Delhi, said he was unaware of Zoosk or One Kings Lane's business, saying that if they are patronizing his restaurant, they come in just like any other customer. Serchan, who has been there seven years, said he hears a lot about the city improving the neighborhood.

"Is it really happening?" he said. "I don't see much."

In fact, he said, the area is getting worse, attributing the problem to cheap alcohol and drugs. Serchan, who is there 8 a.m. to midnight, said he sees the city crews washing down the streets, then somebody pisses on the sidewalk right after and so on into the night. He said he hasn't seen an increase in customers with the tech boom either.

Zoosk's downstairs neighbor, Zendsk, reports spending \$23,445.91 between Jan. 1 and April 30 on local catering "in our neighborhood, i.e. meals from Show Dogs, Taqueria Cancun, etc." Zendsk also hired the Episcopal Community Services' C.H.E.F.S. program to cater \$2,081 worth of meals. Zendsk community liaison Tiffany Apczynski told The Extra in late March that, in 2012, when it was the only company executing a CBA, Zendsk spent \$70,000 with the caterer Small Potatoes, which has since moved from Sixth and Stevenson to out on Seventh, down past the Hall of Justice.

It is worth noting that Zendsk's CBA report is the only one that calls the community "our neighborhood."

21Tech reported that it "continues to order all staff lunches and most client meals from establishments in the Mid-Market area," and has "compiled a list of restaurants" for its employees. As she has at every opportunity this year, 21Tech community liaison Deborah Trette did not respond to The Extra's calls and emails seeking further details on the company's CBA activities. ■

## Paid volunteers pay off for the neighborhood

BY MARK HEDIN

The first written summaries of the benefits that the six tax-break companies — Twitter, Yammer, One Kings Lane, Zendsk, Zoosk and 21Tech — have been bestowing upon their mid-Market neighbors have been submitted to the city.

The companies report that much time was devoted to getting to know the neighborhood and its needs, and looking for ways to put their capabilities to use.

The first quarterly reports — for February through April — weren't publicly available till July, and the city administrator's office is still, in the last week of August, verifying them.

The devil is in the details of these reports. In the case of 21Tech, which submitted sketchy information, the details are too few to describe any benefits, and questions to the community liaison go unanswered, as if the company considers this public process that the firms have entered into a private matter.

Five companies' spreadsheets are thin on particulars and not sharply focused. Many listed goals fall outside the first-quarter time frame, and many activities seem to overlap. Nonetheless, some community arts groups have received grants, some students have been tutored, computer hardware has been donated to several sites — Tenderloin Tech Lab, Sixth Street Safety Hub and San Francisco Education Fund were three

Yammer beneficiaries — and a lot of volunteer hours have been devoted to sweeping streets, serving meals and more.

Twitter spokeswoman Karen Wickre emailed The Extra that the company had sponsored 1,461 hours by 670 employees in the first six months of the year. Twitter's quarterly report cites 400 volunteers working on its June 28 "Day for Good" alone.

All the companies pay their employees to volunteer at each employee's rate of pay. Before the enactment of the tax break, the city estimated the average tech company worker's annual salary at \$100,000, or \$48 per hour. For Twitter staff time, that's about \$70,000 pro bono. Zendsk cited 268 volunteer hours spent at Glide and the Tenderloin Tech Lab by April 30 — nearly \$13,000 at that same rate.

It's much appreciated. Dave Kne-go of Curry Senior Center said that Twitter sent a "community ambassador" to train his staff how to use Twitter to reach potential donors, volunteers, community partners and corporate sponsors.

"Volunteering is great," he said. "Yammer has been here, Twitter also served lunch to our seniors."

However, he added, "that's an easy one. You don't need professional expertise." In contrast, teaching staff how to tweet "is a higher level. We like that. I can't afford that kind of help."

Some outright grants are list-

ed in the reports. Yammer spread "over \$60k" among 13 organizations. Among them, LEVY Dance, near the Hall of Justice, said it had gotten a four-figure grant, as did Episcopal Community Services' CHEFS catering program, and Boys Hope Girls Hope, which has supported promising Tenderloin students at the De Marillac Academy.

Bill Barnes, project manager in the city administrator's office who negotiated the CBAs with the individual companies, told The Extra he expected this first-year process to be instructive.

"We want to hear from nonprofits (at the next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting) what worked, what didn't, what could be improved," he said. "Any other nonprofit that hasn't been involved is welcome to come."

Bessie Carmichael Assistant Principal Karen Francois said Twitter volunteers regularly tutored her middle schoolers in algebra during the spring semester, once they'd cleared the requisite background checks required of any adult on school grounds.

Jessica Pullano, director of communications for the San Francisco Education Fund, a nonprofit that organizes private-sector aid for public schools, said that the tech companies' focus on the two schools in the neighborhood — Bessie Carmichael and Tenderloin Elementary — feels like they "are all being super-served. We see a fair amount of requests to volunteer there. With that criteria, there

are only so many options."

Still, the "wish list" on Bessie Carmichael's Website — for computer hardware, plastic cups, mentors and sports coaches, cafeteria and yard monitors, classroom aides — remains online, unchanged.

Stephanie Pettinati, of One Kings Lane, cited background checks for volunteering as "somewhat of an operational hindrance" for its as-yet-unmet goal of helping schools.

Hiring from the neighborhood also was a contractual priority for all tax-break companies, but no full-time jobs have resulted so far. However, three interns were hired through Vietnamese Youth Development Services — Zendsk hired one and Zoosk two, S.F. State sophomore James Piring and high school junior Elaine Huang. Wickre was concerned that if Twitter limits job openings to local residents it might be considered discriminatory. And Zoosk's Perales said the company is "not getting the kind of candidates they need" from the neighborhood.

However, Twitter's Aug. 8 "Nerd Underground" networking event for job seekers was open to students and former students of the Bay Area Video Coalition, which also oversees TechSF. Guests mingled over craft beers, wine, grass-fed beef sliders and donut holes made on the spot. Yammer hosted a similar event May 22. ■

— Geoff Link and Eric Louie contributed to this report.

# OBITUARIES

## MICHAEL MALAK Rehabilitated

Samira Morcos tightly cradled the small black box and slowly, tearfully placed it on the table in front of a vase of flowers and a picture of her son, Michael Malak.

Three dozen people filled the meeting room at the Arlington Hotel for Mr. Malak's July 24 memorial and the chance to say what he had been to them — wonderful friend, loving son, cheerful resident.

"He was such a bright light here, always stopping by my office with a smile on his face and with something positive to say," said Melissa Eaton, the Arlington's resident services manager. "One of the things he wanted to do was start an AA group here at the hotel."

Mr. Malak had lived at the Arlington for nine months when he died July 16 from a heart attack. He was 49. The year before moving to the Arlington, he was a resident of the Salvation Army's Harbor Light rehab center.

"He was fighting a 30-year addiction," his brother Edmond told The Extra, "and I think it was the rules and discipline that finally helped him." Mr. Malak's other brother, Clark, and a nephew also attended the memorial.

Born in Cairo, Mr. Malak came to the United States when he was 13, and by 19, he'd begun a downward spiral that lasted three decades.

To his family, the results of his rehabilitation were astonishing. Pulling out of it, they said, he was able to live independently at the Arlington, get a credit card, pay his bills, get back the driver's license he'd lost 17 years before, talk to them regularly, attend family events, including a recent wedding, and visit his mother every weekend by bus.

"God let you live until you cleaned up your life," his mother said.

One by one, Arlington residents



PHOTO COURTESY OF MALAK FAMILY

and Harbor Light clients remembered Mr. Malak, who returned to the center often to help others.

Mr. Malak was an ace pool player, Jose recalled. "The first day he walked into Harbor Light he looked at me across the pool table and said, 'I'm going to be all right here because I see my twin brother.' We'd play pool morning to night."

"I actually beat him once in pool," said another client. "I'd give him crap and he'd give it right back, but all of it was good-natured."

Others said of him, "He wasn't perfect, but he had a glow about him. I cried like a baby when I heard he was gone."

"He always talked about the past and how he wanted to change himself on the inside."

"He came to the center same time as me. You could always tell when he was in a room — you could hear him laugh."

"He loved his family, wanted to stay in recovery and make you happy and proud."

Mr. Malak's death was unexpected by everyone except, perhaps, his mother. A week after the memorial, she told The Extra that he had come to visit her on July 13 and complained of pain, but when he got back to the Arlington, he called her to say it was gone. The next day on the phone he told her he was having trouble breathing. She rushed to see him. Again, he said he was okay and assured her he didn't need to go to an emergency room. She returned home.

They talked once more, on July 15. "He called me to thank me for some movies I'd sent him," she said. "When I called on the 16th, there was no answer, and again none on the 17th."

He was found July 18 during a regular pest inspection of hotel rooms. ■

— Marjorie Beggs

## RICHARD RAMIREZ Desk clerk an awesome man

"My life is better because you're in it," said the thank-you card to Richard Ramirez from Hotel Iroquois resident Angelina Herman. She read the card she'd given him in the hospital shortly before he died.

"I didn't know he wouldn't get well — I was thanking him for being a good friend," she said tearfully at his July 16 memorial. "Now I'm having a hard time remembering he's gone. I wanted to call Richard today, but I couldn't."

Mr. Ramirez, who had lived at the Iroquois for 17 years, died July 11 at Chinese Hospital from complications of leukemia. He was 67.

Herman was friends with him for 10 years, "a trustworthy man who looked out for you, checking to see if you were okay," she said. "If you have a friend like that, be grateful."

Before he died, Mr. Ramirez gave Herman a key to his room and asked her to take everything. "He told me,

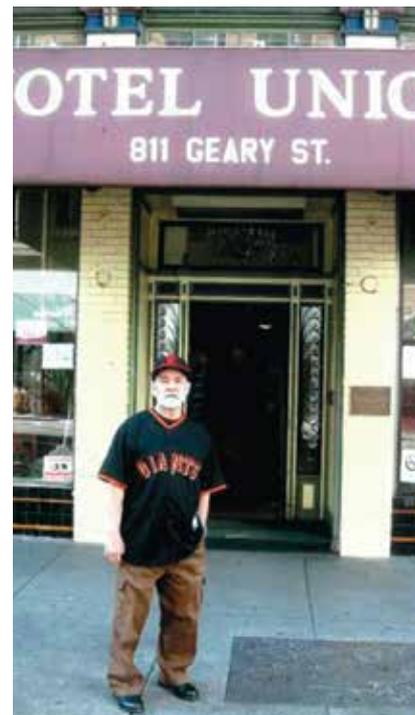


PHOTO COURTESY OF IROQUOIS HOTEL

'It's all yours,'" she said, which was a complete surprise and a measure of his trust. Herman didn't disclose what was in the room, but said some things were valuable, some not.

Of the 12 people at the memorial, several expressed sadness at Mr. Ramirez's passing, but none except Herman seem to have known him well, not even David Elliott Lewis, his neighbor on the sixth floor since 2007.

"I never got to know him, but I'm sorry he's gone," Lewis said.

Fellow residents knew little about Mr. Ramirez's past. Herman thought he was born in Texas, lived in Los Angeles, had a sister somewhere, but had no contact with her.

What everyone knew was that Mr. Ramirez had a job he liked as a desk clerk at the Hotel Union, 811 Geary. He worked there for about 10 years, right up until he was hospitalized. "Yeah, sure I knew him," a hotel co-worker told The Extra. "He was a cool guy."

Danny Mendez, the Iroquois' support services supervisor, said staff were in close contact with Mr. Ramirez and his doctors during the worst of his illness, when his twice-a-week chemotherapy took its toll, and for the several weeks he spent in the hospital before he died.

"Richard was frightened," Mendez said, "and we were hoping for the best for him. We'll miss him — he was an awesome man."

Another resident, a young man named Romano, remembered Mr. Ramirez as quiet and respectful. "I'm glad you're having this memorial for him," he said. "It's scary how many people pass away here every week." ■

— Marjorie Beggs



## HOUSING APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY BUILDINGS (SRO'S)



Please go to 241 6th Street, San Francisco, CA for applications.

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<b>Hotel Isabel</b> 1095 Mission Street (Homeless Project Based Section 8) Open Wait List until March 29, 2013	SRO — 1 person In the unit there is a sink, microwave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed, community kitchen, 24-hour staff & surveillance, laundry facility	1 person \$34,600 a year No Minimum Income	30% OF INCOME Requires a Certificate of Homelessness
<b>Bayanihan House</b> (Non-Assisted Units) Located at 88 — 6th Street & Mission OPEN WAITING LIST	SRO — 1 Person, Couple Shared Bath Single 10 1/2 x 12 — Double 12x12 In the unit there is a sink, microwave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed, community kitchen, 24-hour staff & surveillance, laundry facility	1 person \$30,275/a year  Couple \$34,580/a year Minimum income of \$866.40/month	Starting 1-2013 Move in Deposit \$545.00 Rent \$545.00 Utilities included

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**7 Year Anniversary Bash**, DISH (Delivering Innovation in Supportive Housing), Sept. 19, 5-8 p.m., LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Drinks, appetizers, silent auction, and celebration of DISH's work. DISH's Tenderloin residences include the Camelot, Empress, Le Nain and Windsor hotels and the Pacific Bay Inn. Info: <http://dishsf.org/2013/07/01/7-year-anniversary-bash>, and tickets: [dish7yearbash.eventbrite.com](http://dish7yearbash.eventbrite.com).

**SF HIREvent**, Sept. 10, noon-4 p.m., Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market St. Free job fair includes private and public sector recruiters ready to fill entry-level to management jobs in various fields and free resume consultations. Come dressed to impress and ready to market yourself. Sponsored by ABC7-KGO, Clear Channel and Job Journal. Info: [JobJournal.com](http://JobJournal.com) or (888) 843-5627.

## ARTS EVENTS

**Thursday at Noon Films**, Main Library, Koret Auditorium, noon-2 p.m. Sept. 5: "Buena Vista Social Club"; Sept. 12: "Milagro Beanfield War"; Sept. 19: "A Better Life"; Sept. 26: "Calle 54." Info: [sfpl.org/index.php?pg=1014057701](http://sfpl.org/index.php?pg=1014057701).

**22nd Annual San Francisco Fringe Festival**, Sept. 6-21, EXIT Theatre, Studio and Stage Left, 156 Eddy St., 36 companies present 158 performances. Info: [sffringe.org](http://sffringe.org).

**Architecture and the City Film Series**, Main Library, Koret Auditorium, Sept. 11, 18 and 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Part of the city's Architecture and the City Festival (includes lectures, exhibitions tours), through Sept. Films include an 8-minute trailer for "5 Blocks," a not-yet-completed documentary about the revitalization of Central Market. Info: [sfpl.org/index.php?pg=1014405201](http://sfpl.org/index.php?pg=1014405201) and [aiasf.org/programs/architecture-and-the-city](http://aiasf.org/programs/architecture-and-the-city).

**The Cyrus Cylinder and Ancient Persia**, Asian Art Museum, through Sept. 22. The Cylinder was inscribed in Babylonian cuneiform on the orders of the Persian King Cyrus the Great after he captured Babylon in 539 BCE. Info: [asianart.org/exhibitions/index/](http://asianart.org/exhibitions/index/)

## REGULAR SCHEDULE

### HOUSING

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

### HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

**CBHS Consumer Council**, 3rd Monday of month, 5-7 p.m., 1380 Howard St., room 537, 255-3695. Consumer advisers from self-help groups and mental health consumer advocates. Public welcome.

**Healthcare Action Team**, 2nd Wednesday of month, 1010 Mission St., Bayanihan Community Center, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Focus on increasing supportive home services, expanded eligibility for home care, improved discharge planning. Light lunch. Call James Chionsini, 703-0188 x304.

**Mental Health Board**, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., City Hall, room 278. CBHS advisory committee, open to the public. Call: 255-3474.

**Tenderloin Healthy Corner Store Coalition**, 4th Thursday of the month, 3 p.m., Kelly Cullen Community Building, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor auditorium or 5th floor gym. Public meetings to discuss legislation that encourages corner stores to sell fresh food and reduce tobacco and alcohol sales. Info: Jessica Estrada, [jessica@vydc.org](mailto:jessica@vydc.org), 771-2600.

### SAFETY

**SoMa Police Community Relations Forum**, 4th Monday of each month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies. To receive monthly email info: 538-8100 x202.

**Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting**, last Tuesday of month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

### NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

**Alliance for a Better District 6**, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m., 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael



PHOTO COURTESY VYDC

**35th Annual Tenderloin Children's Mid-Autumn Moon Festival**, Sept. 20, 6-8:30 p.m., Tenderloin Children's Playground, 570 Ellis St. Free event for families: games, activities and prizes, youth performances, lit-lantern parade, raffle prize giveaway, goodie bags for the first 200 kids. Info: [Phoent Tak, Vietnamese Youth Development Center, 771-2600 x 111](http://Phoent Tak, Vietnamese Youth Development Center, 771-2600 x 111).

Nulty, 820-1560 or [sf\\_district6@yahoo.com](mailto:sf_district6@yahoo.com), a districtwide improvement association.

**Central Market Community Benefit District**, board meets 2nd Tuesday of month, Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market St., 3 p.m. Info: 882-3088, <http://central-market.org>.

**Friends of Boeddeker Park**, 2nd Wednesday this month, 3 p.m., Police Station Community Room, 301 Eddy St. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact Betty Traynor, 931-1126.

**Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board**, 3rd Thursday of month, 5 p.m. Works to protect SoMa resources for all residents. Gene Friend Rec Center, 270 Sixth St. Info: Tim Figueras, 554-9532.

**North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District**. Full board meets 3rd Monday at 4 p.m.. Call

292-4812 for location or check [nom-tlcbd.org](http://nom-tlcbd.org).

**Safe Haven Project**, 4th Tuesday of each month, 3 p.m., 519 Ellis St. (Senator Hotel). Contact: 563-3205, x115, or [centralcitysafehaven@gmail.com](mailto:centralcitysafehaven@gmail.com).

**SoMa Community Stabilization Fund Advisory Committee**, 3rd Thursday of month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor. Info: Claudine del Rosario, 701-5580.

**Tenderloin Futures Collaborative**, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police Community Room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on issues of interest to neighborhood residents, nonprofits and businesses. Info: 928-6209.

**Tenderloin Neighborhood Association**, 2nd Friday of month, 842 Geary St., 5 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Info: [tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com](mailto:tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com).

## SENIORS AND DISABLED

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

**Senior & Disability Action** (formerly Planning for Elders/Senior Action Network), general meeting, 2nd Thursday of month, 9 a.m.-noon, Universal Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. SDA Housing Collaborative meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 1 p.m. HealthCare Action Team meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 1010 Mission St., (Bayanihan Community Center). For info about SDA's Survival School, University and computer class schedules: 546-1333, [www.sdaction.org](http://www.sdaction.org).

## DISTRICT 6 SUPERVISOR

**Jane Kim**, member, Land Use Committee, School District, Transportation Authority; chair, Transbay Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors; vice-chair Transportation Authority Plans & Programs Committee  
Legislative aides: Sunny Angulo, Ivy Lee and Danny Yedegar

[Jane.Kim@sfgov.org](mailto:Jane.Kim@sfgov.org) 554-7970

### City and County of San Francisco Outreach Advertising August 2013 #2 Assessment Appeals Board (AAB)

Notice is hereby given of 8 vacancies on the AAB. Applicants must have at least 5 years experience as one of the following: Certified Public Accountant or Public Accountant; licensed Real Estate Broker; Property Appraiser accredited by a nationally recognized organization, or Property Appraiser certified by the California Office of Real Estate Appraisers. For additional information or to obtain an application, please call 415-554-6778 OR visit the Board of Supervisor's website at [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org).

#### Department of Public Health

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#### Health Benefits!

For recently granted Asylees, Refugees, and Victims of Human Trafficking

Newcomers Health Program works to promote the health and well-being of newly arrived refugees, asylees and immigrants throughout San Francisco by providing access to excellent medical services and community referrals.

We offer health assessment services, and access to, in-person medical interpretation, referrals and ongoing health services for new refugees, asylees and victims of trafficking (VOTs). Our health workers are professionally trained medical interpreters who speak more than 8 languages and we have access to interpreter services for many other languages.

These services are FREE to you if you have Medi-Cal (public health insurance). You must apply for Medi-Cal within the first 8 months of your legal status as a refugee, asylee, or VOT.

Call us at 415-206-8608 for help with Medi-Cal or for any other questions about the program.

#### Newspaper Outreach Advertising Survey

The Board of Supervisors is evaluating the effectiveness of Outreach advertising. Was the information in this ad helpful and/or interesting to you? What types of articles would you like to see? Please provide your comments at 415-554-7710 or email [board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org). Please include the publication name and date.

#### Board of Supervisors Regular Meetings

Open to the Public; Tuesdays at 2:00pm at City Hall - Room 200

September 3, 10, 17, 24

October 1, 8, 22, 29

The City and County of San Francisco encourage public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

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# See You at City!