**BEING MUSLIM IN TL**

**Yemeni family’s remarkable story of how they cope**

By Tom Carter, Photos Paul Dunn

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### PART 1: CLASH OF VALUES

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EN THE SUNLIT Curran House courtyard, 13-year-old Nada Kaid sits with her mother, Nabihah. Muslims from Yemen, poorest of the Arab countries, they wear traditional dress. Away from Curran house, it causes them some grief.

Nabihah’s chador is a black robe that covers all but her face and hands. Nada wears separates of lighter dark colors, highlighted by her blue hijab, a scarf. As with her mother, only face and hands show, a sign of devout modesty in Islam that, accompanied by a lowered gaze, separates men from women.

Sharen Hewitt stands nearby. She’s the Extra’s facilitator for our series of profiles of residents of TNDC’s remarkably diverse Curran House, 67 units of nonprofit supportive housing in an evolving block of the Tenderloin. Hewitt lives here.

‘Muslim women can’t be photographed because of their religious restrictions,’ Hewitt says. Just interviewing anyone in Yemen, let alone a woman, would be considered ‘invasive and unacceptable. And this is a very private family.’

Nada, her sweet face the picture of concentration, interprets her mother’s replies to a reporter’s questions. She speaks fluently, quickly and intelligently, beyond her years.

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**Central City**

**Diverse City**

Nabihah Kaid, from Yemen, could not allow her face to be photographed, in keeping with her Muslim faith. Here she cradles Lucky, the pet of a Curran House neighbor, a friend of her 7-year-old son, Muhammed. The Kaid family is one of three Muslim families living in TNDC’s Curran House, a model of diversity on a tough block of the Tenderloin.

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**New super smack puts Public Health in crisis mode**

By Mark Hedin

A powerful drug is crashing the party in San Francisco.

Fentanyl, a synthetically produced, almost colorless, fine-powder opiate, is ‘the scariest one out there,’ according to Dr. Phillip Coffin, director of substance use research at the Department of Public Health. ‘It’s the only one we measure in micrograms instead of milligrams,’ Coffin said. ‘You just can’t titrate it (measure an appropriate dose) in the streets.’

Fentanyl is up to 100 times more powerful than morphine and 50 to 100 times more than heroin, according to a March news release by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

‘There is a white powder HERoin going around that is causing a lot of folks to overdose,’ reads a flyer distributed by the Homeless Youth Alliance and San Francisco Needle Exchange. ‘This heroin has been tested and is fentanyl, a really strong opiate. So if you are using it, please don’t use alone and remember you can always do more but never do less. You should all carry Narcan (the familiar name for naloxone, an opiate antidote) on you because you never know when it will save someone’s life, be it a friend or a stranger. Please take care of each other and be safe.’

‘We documented 75 naloxone reversals of fentanyl’ that July, Coffin said. Although some were initially reported as heroin overdoses, DPH believes that the powerful drug is crushing the party in San Francisco.

According to Coffin, fentanyl, also called the pain killer sufentanil and used in the streets. ‘It’s the only one we measure in micrograms instead of milligrams, “Coffin said. ‘You just can’t titrate it (measure an appropriate dose) in the streets.’

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How tech helped cops nab suspect in Pier 14 killing

Chief gives details at neighborhood news roundtable

By Jonathan Newman

Chief Greg Schar sat down with reporters from some neighborhood newspapers to answer their questions on salary, crime and the SFPD. The meeting was at the new Mission Bay police headquarters, a clean, strangely quiet public space so unlike the clamor and grime of the Hall of Justice on Bryant Street that is a block from the Flower Mart, but a world away from the clamor and grime of the hall of Justice Bay police headquarters, a clean, constant presence.

Cops from the 21 Club, the diviest dive bar in the city’s official Taylor Street “arts corridor,” was a community center by Tenderloin standards.

Tenderloin police called the section “ground zero for drugs and violence.” It was a happening every day and night right outside the club’s front windows: shootings and dope deals and crowds of menacing ne’er-do-wells a constant presence.

But inside the Club people felt safe. “Bottles of Beer on The Wall Inc.,” owned the business applied for a change of ownership May 14, and that deal was consummated the day the club closed.

Poet Ed Bowers for a time held monthly readings by locals as he accompanied their lyrics played electric key. Bowers immortalized the place with his little book “Poems For the 21 Club.” With photos by the late legendary Filipino artist, Lenny Limjoco, Study Center’s longtime photographer and designer.

Frank, the harman and club owner, made it all him with longtime customers who imparted a social vibe perhaps akin to that of a watering hole in the jungle. He used to host group outings to Candlestick and has served on neighborhood boards of directors.

The Tenderloin had always represented something exciting — cheap housing and cheap thrills. A red light district with after-hours hot spots, a dicey hood that was a haven of creativity.

Home to the Blackhawk, the Sound of Music, recording studios, the Warfield and the edgy EXIT Theatre.

We still suffer from Original Joe’s abandonment. Now, with the passing of the 21 Club, it feels like the end of the line for the Tenderloin’s old way of life.

Death of the Tenderloin

By Greg Lox

THE TENDERLOIN as we know it died Aug. 21. Its heart stopped beating when the lights went out at the 21 Club, the diviest dive bar in the neighborhood. A performance venue in the city’s official Taylor Street “arts corridor,” it was a community center by Tenderloin standards.

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A close analysis of the ordinance the supervisors unanimously passed and Mayor Lee quickly signed belies Suhr’s position. The ordinance says a local official “shall not” detain someone solely on the basis of an informal request from the feds unless that person has been convicted of a violent felony within the past seven years and a judge has heard evidence and found probable cause for the person to answer a current violent felony charge.

Lopez-Sanchez was certainly a rearrested and convicted criminal as Suhr implied, but his record was not for violent crimes, only Merikarimi was not required to turn him over to the feds on an informal ICE request.

Suhr heard no complaints about the newly drawn boundaries for the police districts inaugurated in July. Tenderloin Station expanded its jurisdiction across Market Street one block to Mission, and eastward to Third Street and west to South Van Ness. Previously, Tenderloin’s jurisdiction ended on the north side of Market Street, leaving Southern Station officers to handle crimes and misdemeanors on the SoMa side.

“Never made sense to me that one side of a major thoroughfare was in one district and the other side was in another,” Suhr said, citing the old lines that split Market Street crime enforcement between Southern and Tenderloin stations.

“I heard a call come in this morning for Tenderloin officers, and Southern’s officers picked it up,” Suhr said. “That kind of cooperation and coordination between districts is crucial. Suhr believes, until more officers are deployed under Mayor Lee’s plans to bring the department to the legislated full strength — 2,200 officers — by 2017.

Alex Terezic, editor of The Tecolote, questioned Suhr on the SFPD’s relations with the Latino community, after the recent cop killings of Hispanics.

The community trust is broken. We’re doing some solid work to rebuild it, including a successful summer job program where 90% of the jobs were filled by youth from the Southeast and Mission districts. Gun violence is down, and we’ve found our kids in some new programs, more than a 1,000 in two years, get into fewer problems,” Suhr said.

Stg. Sherry Hicks fielded the question about the department’s protocol for handling threatening dogs, prompted by the recent shooting of Felony Jack, a neutered pit bull that advanced on officers as they questioned his owner about drug paraphernalia.

Right now, police academy cadets receive only two hours training in handling troublesome canines. We’re crafting more training. But I’m happy to say Jack is recovering and he will be returned to his owner, although he’s got a felony record now,” Hicks said.

Suhr added a coda: “There are leash
Warnings on the street about powerful opiate

“On the street, people don’t necessarily know what it is. They were just calling it heroin or china white.”

Eliza Wheeler
Project Manager, Dope Project

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Naloxone, the lifesaving antidote to heroin overdose, is widely available to junkies and chippers. When the user shoos to much dope, the body reacts in ways that can lead to death. The overloaded brain can numb and forget to tell the lungs to breathe. With just a few seconds, the person is dead. Unless naloxone is administered by nasal spray or IV to bring the person back to life. This is the story line depicted in this digital image.

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**Additional Dates:**
- August 20
- September 17
- October 22*
- November 19
- January 21
- February 18
- March 17
- April 21

* *(4th Thursday)*

**3rd Thursday of each month**

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<tr>
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<td>4:00-4:15</td>
<td>Registration and administrative</td>
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<td>4:15-6:30</td>
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<td>6:30-7:00</td>
<td>Networking with Tech Companies and each other</td>
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JIM MEKO
SoMa loses its champion
A scrum of 200 admirers of Jim Meko jammed Slim's Aug. 17 to praise him as the driven, undaunted guardian of the west side of SoMa where he lived and worked for four decades.

Mr. Meko was known at City Hall for his indefatigable efforts to protect the diverse character of his working-class neighborhood through his comprehensive testing and the neighborhood plan he led or was a member of.

He was a formidable inquisitor on every issue, a feisty building one mo- ment, gentle the next, spicing dialogue with his droll and quick wit. Even at his dar-kest, friends said everyone knew his intentions came from the heart.

His death at age 66 leaves a gap in leadership, the mourners said, and hard to fill, someone to take up his torch, the work he began not yet done.

Mr. Meko served two terms on the Entertainment Commission, but his most notable achievement was steering the 22-member Western SoMa Citizens Advisory Task Force, created in 2004 by a resolution co-authored by then-Super- visors Chris Daly and Matt Gonzalez.

Charged with ensuring that the neighborhood retain its cultural di- verse, working-class character, the task force’s plan limited housing south of Harrison Street and market-rate housing north of it, developed height and density guidelines, required special permits for chain stores, restricted the size of big- box retailers, pushed for more parks and open space; and added more crosswalks and traffic calming. The plan changed 141 sections of the Planning Code.

At the memorial, reflecting on the evolution of his neighborhood. It began:

“...SoMa is my greatest love,” one mourner quoted Mr. Meko as saying. “It occupies most of my waking hours.”

Mr. Meko died Aug. 3 at UCSF hospi- tal after suffering a stroke July 19. He was found next to his bed in his home on 10th Street near Folsom, also his business address by Roy Carr, ’77, his partner of 50-plus years and co-owner of their printing shop.

Mr. Meko lingered for two weeks, never regaining consciousness. This memorial was his sendoff.

Mr. Meko came to The City from St. Paul, Minn. Daly, who praised him as an “elloquent writer,” read a piece Mr. Meko had written in 2006 for the Fog City Journal, reflecting on the evolution of his neighborhood. It began:

“I moved to SoMa in ’77, mostly to be left alone. It was a warehouse district.

There were no homeowner associations and very few families. My neighbors were Filipino refugees from Manilal, gay men experimenting with alternative lifestyles beat poets, performance artists and rock and roll bands. Survivors and squares.”

The neighborhood had good times and bad, the mix always striking a hu- manist chord in Mr. Meko, of Hungarian and Irish stock. He kept getting more deeply involved with his neighborhood until at one point he was a member of a dozen organizations, had served eight years on the Entertainment Commission and another eight on the time-consuming task force, was the neighborhood’s go-to historian and had run for District 6 supervisor.

In November 2010, the city gave him the NEN Lifetime Achievement award for his work.

Mr. Meko’s sister, Jeanne Hall, here from St. Paul, was introduced but did not speak. She told The Extra later that her “quiet” little brother had been editor of his high school newspaper, even in- volved in its printing. He could accom- plish whatever he set his mind to, Hall said. He loved learning things — he learned how to play the 12-string guitar in high school on his own. “Moving to San Francisco was a ‘good fit for him. Many opportunities to be of service.’

On a big screen behind the guest speakers a film loop of 430 photos ran continuously, showing Mr. Meko cam- paigning, in meetings, on the street with friends and supporters and in the print shop. “I met him in 2009 and started photographing him then,” said photogra- pher David Elliott Lewis who had pre- pared the loop and sported a Meko for Supervisor campaign button.

The screen was flanked by large bouquets, compliments of Kathleen Oliver and Kimberly Engle, from their neighborhood shop, Cherries, next door to Mr. Meko’s print shop. A long food ta- ble was supplied by Slim’s, DLOauge, Ted’s Market and Don Ramon’s restaur- ant, members of west SoMa’s old guard. The fare ranged from pizza and veggies to falafels and chicken casserole.

American cultural anthropologist Gayle Rubin read a long list of contribu- tions her friend of 15 years had made, calling him deserving of a place in the pantheon of SoMa heroes.

“...SoMa is my greatest love,” one mourner quoted Mr. Meko as saying. “It occupies most of my waking hours.”

He wanted to preserve the existing character of the neighborhood, Mr. Rubin said, the gay bars, small businesses and longtime residents: “And he sought com- munity control.”

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Jim Meko for decades was at the forefront of the fight to preserve western SoMa’s residential and small business character, especially keeping its longtime immigrant and working-class population in place.

centralextra / september 2015

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Nada, who avidly reads the Quran,\(^{11}\) and her husband, Jamal Kaid, who has a PhD in education from San Francisco State University, have both been active in the Curran House since 2010. Nada, active in the Curran House community, says the neighborhood, just outside of San Francisco, is expensive and that people are living in their cars because they can't find affordable housing. Jamal, who was born in Yemen, says that the neighborhood needs change, and that it's a great place to live for the young and old.

Jamal Kaid, 45, was born and raised in Yemen where his family was small-town. He immigrated to the United States in 1980. He and his family — wife Nada and five of their six children — have lived in Curran House since 2009.

Jamal Kaid, a Yemeni Muslim, is a local activist who has spoken at numerous events about the need for better representation for Yemenis in the city. He is a member of the Yemeni American Cultural Association (YACA), which was founded in 2004 to promote Yemeni culture and language in the Bay Area. YACA has about 1,000 members and sponsors events such as the Yemeni American Cultural Festival, which is held annually in San Francisco.

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Jamal Kaid, a Yemeni Muslim, is a local activist who has spoken at numerous events about the need for better representation for Yemenis in the city. He is a member of the Yemeni American Cultural Association (YACA), which was founded in 2004 to promote Yemeni culture and language in the Bay Area. YACA has about 1,000 members and sponsors events such as the Yemeni American Cultural Festival, which is held annually in San Francisco.
Mr. Meko was the leading voice of SoMa Leadership Council, an organization of leaderless group that met monthly to ‘ensure that South of Market remains a community of diverse and complete neighborhood;’ as its motto said. It grew out of another organization, the South of Market Residents Committee formed by Meko and neighbors launched in 1997 to fight noise, into a night entertainment committee. The council promoted peace between the clubs and their neighbors, urged the Board of Supervisors to ban live work/run clubs, and Mr. Meko, told The Extra in 2010, “it created the western SoMa planning process to preserve mixed use.”

“He probably went to more meetings and fund-raisers than you’d think,” said bin. And he was the fairest man I ever knew,” a sentiment widely held in the club.

Former Entertainment Commission Chair Audrey Joseph said Mr. Meko was a “community leader and the protector of SoMa residents quiet event- ment when threatened by loud clubs, and he was on every of the bylaw’s committees.”

Reporters picked up on his “bull dozer” personality of being one of the loudest during his commission days, he fired back — in his gentle form. He was known for his opposition to club noise, concern on the EC. It is not glamorous,” he wrote in a 2011 Facebook post, quoted in his Biz Bay Area Reporter obituary. “The Bay Guardian once described me as grumpy. Well, it has been a keep ing of a club, and it was a big part of it. It was intracting a crowd that defaces your property, or God forbid, if innocent victims are injured or killed. It isn’t a lot more than a frown.”

Daily was aware of how Mr. Meko sometimes was depicted in the press as irritable. “I have a different take on him,” Daly told the gathering. “I knew him as a warm and caring man. People don’t usually glee from that press stories. He was always48.84% for the San Francisco with a 30-year history of drug addiction and run-ins with the law, died Aug. 12, 2019.

Ms. Pettway, three of nine children, was raised in Hunters Point public hous ing and in the homeless Bernal Dwellings tower on Then-Army Street. She started Woodrow Wilson High but soon after leaving home as a teenager she became a heroin user who financed her habit by stealing. Her family is uncertain where he graduated from high school.

Ms. Pettway had five children, two born while she was behind bars. Two adult children are in the city and two are in the Karle Schaefer. She helped organize the mem orial and spoke toward the end. She was the sister-in-law’s roommate at Cruig hton College in Omaha, Neb., 50 years ago when Mr. Meko was a shy teenager. That was ancient history with his last 10 years, Schaefer added.

She was looking for ways to stop gang violence in the North Pacific Middle Portal towers. She joined the San Francisco Tennis club (now The Bay Club) at Fifth and Townsend street, lived in the Four Corners housing complex, mixed middle-class membership and its outstanding community outreach programs to benefit low-income children and families. Land use lawyer Sue Hayes, she said, recommended she connect with Meko.

She found a welcoming, middle-aged man, but now a cautious activist skept ical of what he figured was an elitist, self-absorbed tennis club member. He grills her, but listened just as hard. Then he rode his bicycle to the club to see for himself, and to listen to the members. He measured what was to be lost or gained and liked what he had found. “He hated Plutus, but he changed his opinion (about the club),” Schaefer said.

Mr. Meko persuaded Daly to bicycle over to make his own assessment. Too. He did, and partnerships were born.

Mr. Meko helped Schaefer organize SoMa town hall meetings to discuss the issues. He introduced Schaefer to a planning commissioner ahead of the meeting on the club and, like a younger brother she never had, schooled her in land use and district political power. Ms. Pettway criticized her Balsam Street parking lot, and got a parking lot on her block.

In the end, the moratorium passed, the economy took a downturn and gol f putters took a rock between the eyes and “pulled out” in 2008.

As a result, Jun got me involved with neighborhood stuff. I still am,” Ms. Pettway said. Her voice trembling. “He taught me that politics is about people — a difference that I could. He got people to know and love SoMa. I will miss him,”

— Tom Carter

OBITUARIES

Norbert Charles

Example for us all

Norbert Charles, featured in The Ex tra 1½ years ago in a story on palliative care, on July 28 succumbed at the age of 64 to the cancer he suffered then. Mr. Charles, at the time of the inter view, was fresh from a diagnosis of stom ach and colon cancer, plus heart and lung disease and rheumatological arthritis among the litany of its il s.

In a wheelchair and hunched up to an oxygen tank, Mr. Charles related his life history to The Extra’s John Bucks, tearful ly describing his disputes with the mil itary to clear his service record and ob tain veteran’s benefits. The unsuccessful efforts hurt him, Mr. Charles told Bucks, as it made him feel “like someone’s skeleton now that they can just throw away.”

The story in The Extra was part of the valley of death, but fearing no evil an “Squeak-Squeak has been adopted by a family. Pickens announced.

— Jonathan Newman

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Mr. Charles underwent surgery in 1950s. He was a track and football athlete at Poly High and served nearly three years in Vietnam with the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division. When on leave, he delayed returning to his unit to be with his ailing mother and was considered AWOL.

Mr. Charles was a lively, ebullient presence at Curry Senior Center, a volunteer greeter and familiar figure to many seniors’ moods during the daily senior lunches. His friend, Paul Hickman, called him a ‘beacon for the Center, a light for all’.

His spirit and humor made everyone feel good,” Hickman said.

More than 20 friends and neighbors of Mr. Charles filled the community room of the Mentone Hotel, his home for the past 10 years, for his Aug. 7 memorial. Rev. Kathryn Benton, of the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples, began by quoting Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier’s belief that faith brings “a calmness to our souls the strain and stress,” and encouraged all to celebrate Mr. Charles’ life with stories and their feelings.

Diane Evans called Mr. Charles “wonderfully flirtatious” as she recounted a time at Curry Senior Center when Mr. Charles’ incessant flirting rankled some women who thought his words were meant for each of them exclusively “I told them, ‘Dears don’t you know Norbert has more wives than Solomon,’” Evans said.

Jim Murray met Mr. Charles eight years ago. “Norbert was good people. With his medical problems, life was a struggle, but he never hid in his room,” Murray said.

Mr. Charles’ happy presence in the community room watching television was noted “Military channel,” someone quipped. “Never Judge Judy,” another added. His case manager who asked to be identified as Leonard, voiced pride at being at Mr. Charles’ memorial. “Norbert was so sick, yet his spirit was so positive. He was an example for us all. He took his medicines, did his exercises, tried to do everything right,” he recalled. Once, while waiting for an optometrist’s appointment, Mr. Charles told Leonard that his life was without purpose.

“I reminded him that he brightened the world for others. His job was to be himself,” Leonard replied. All agreed Mr. Charles was now free from pain and the fight against his illnesses.

Rev. Benton read the Serenity Prayer by theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. With the words and serenity in the air, the memorial shifted to music and food in celebration of Mr. Charles’ life.

“We were always planning on going to Tommy’s Joynt for lunch,” Hickman remembered. “We didn’t make it on time.” — Jonathan Newman

Dear Fellow San Franciscan,

We are the residents and small-business owners living and working closest to the proposed Mission Rock project and we are saying YES on Proposition D and we urge you to support it too.

Today, the area is a large surface parking lot known as Lot A. Proposition D will breathe new life into our community and help create a place worthy of this spectacular location.

Over the past eight years, the Giants have worked collaboratively with our neighborhood to help shape the plans for Mission Rock. Our community will be improved significantly by the new parks, waterfront access, recreational opportunities, a refurbished historic pier, affordable housing, jobs, neighborhood retail and restaurants, transit connections and replacement parking for Lot A.

Our neighborhood played an active role in the planning process and we are excited to see the transformation begin!

The Giants have consistently demonstrated a steadfast commitment to our City and our neighborhood. Proposition D is another example.

As neighbors of the project, we say YES on Prop D!

Please join us in improving our community.

Sincerely,

Bruce & Tara Agid, Mission Bay Residents
Art & Sherrie Agnos, Potrero Hill Residents
Cathy Akiyama, South Beach Resident
William Cahill, South Beach Resident
Shelley Carroll, South Beach Resident
Derrick & Tricia Chu, South Beach Residents
Chris & Noel Kelton, Proprietors of Primo Patio Café, South Beach
Toby Levine, Mission Bay Resident
Katy Liddell, South Beach Resident
Charmaine Lobo, South Beach Resident
Robert Mansfield, South Beach Resident
Ronald Miguel, Potrero Hill Resident
Laura Nichol, Potrero Hill Resident
Rudy Nothenberg, South Beach Resident
Peter & Janet Osborne, Proprietors of Momo’s & Mission Rock Resort, Mission Bay Residents
Angeles Roy, Mission Bay Resident
Laura Obstbaum & Sunny Schwartz, Mission Bay Residents
Kevin Shanahan, South Beach Resident
Mimi Silbert, President, Delancey Street Foundation, South Beach Resident
Patrick Valentino, Rincon Hill Resident
Jamie Whitaker, Rincon Hill Resident
Corinne Woods, Mission Creek Resident

WE SUPPORT PROP D:
Mayor Ed Lee
House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi
Board of Equalization Member Fiona Ma
State Senator Mark Leno
Assemblymembers
David Chiu & Phil Ting
Board of Supervisors President London Breed
Supervisors
John Avalos, David Campos, Julie Christensen, Malia Cohen, Mark Farrell, Jane Kim, Eric Mar, Katy Tang, Scott Wiener, Norman Yee
Former Mayor Art Agnos
Former State Senator John Burton
Former Assemblymember Tom Ammiano
Judge Quentin Kopp (ret.)
San Francisco Parks Alliance
Affordable Housing Alliance
San Francisco Bay Area Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR)
UNITE HERE! Local 2
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco Democratic Party
San Francisco Republican Party

MissionRock.com
 Jamal’s family life takes a surprising turn

Some of his Muslim ways got dropped. He’ll drink a beer occasionally—nothing stronger—and he doesn’t fast with the family during Ramadan. He thinks it’s foolish.

Jamal fits easily into the international fabric of the Curran House residency. He enjoys it, and is grateful to be there, he says. Everyone on the fourth floor is his friend, he says. “Other floors, too—Sharron has done a lot for me.” He says, and mentions Lozano Listana, a TNDC employee from the eighth floor whose Filipino American family was The Extra’s first feature.

He figured she would give much of the money to her father and other relatives, but instead it was kept for the family. Sharron came over, too. “The Kaids have done a lot for me,” he says. “Other floors, too. Sharen says. Everyone on the fourth floor is his friend.”

Jamal’s family life takes a surprising turn. Nabihah, he says, has left him. He is pretty sure she took everything she took from him and his father, he says. “That, or what of it remained was taken to a hospital by ambulance. He sustained bruises and a bad arm injury, and was taken to a hospital by ambulance.”

He said the family were The Extra’s first feature. They are “the type of people who are not afraid to be the type of people.” He said they were “the type of people who are not afraid to be the type of people.”

Jamal relaxes at home with his 7-year-old son, Muhamed (left), who is playing a video game. Muhamed’s pal, Matthew-Cabrera Hernandez, 4, gets in on the fun.

Jamal Kaid

City and County of San Francisco
Outreach Advertising
September 2015

Stay Connected To the City through SF311

The SF311 Customer Service Center is the single stop for residents to get information on government services and report problems to the City and County of San Francisco. And now, we have even more ways for you to stay connected to the City with our SF311 App and SF311 Explorer website.

The SF311 App lets you get information on City services and submit service requests on-the-go from your smartphone. You can track your service requests through the app or through our new website, SF311 Explorer.

SF311 Explorer not only lets you check the status of your own requests, it enables you to see what issues are being reported throughout all of San Francisco and what the City is doing to resolve them.

Download the SF311 App from your smartphone’s app store and visit the SF311 Explorer at explore311.sfgov.org today!

Port of San Francisco

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Port of San Francisco (the “Port”), a department of the City and County of San Francisco (the “City”) announces Contract #2774R, Pier 44 High Mast Lighting Project. Located at Pier 44, the scope of work consists of removing two (2) 100-foot high lights and installing two (2) 80-foot high modern lights. Bidders may either be Class A or Class C-10 licensed, and must be either a San Francisco certified: (1) Micro-LBE or (2) Small LBE contractor. The LBE requirement for this is 20%. Partnering Level 1 is required. Refer to Section 013133 for more details. Estimated construction cost is $303,000. To be qualified to bid, the Contractor must have documented experience in performing a minimum of three (3) projects similar in scope and complexity during the last five (5) years. If bidder does not meet the experience requirements stated in this specification, the City may determine the bidder to be unqualified to perform the work under this contract. Additional electrical requirements are in Section 16530 paragraph 3.02,A. Pursuant to Charter Section 3.105, all contract awards are subject to certification by the Controller as to the availability of funds.

Notice is hereby given of 12 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.

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.

Thursday, September 3, 2015
Muslims in TL

PART 4: LONELY BUT COPING

Jamal is off today because the place was shut down for a wedding in his boss’ family. With his wife and life savings gone, losing income comes at a bad time. “I can’t pay the rent,” he says. “I’ll get a notice.” He looks worried. Earlier, in the community room downstairs, he had picked up food from the weekly Food Bank pantry drop, a dozen eggs, two pounds of spaghetti, a bag of vegetables, and hugged them up to his apartment.

While warring factions vie for the upper hand in his country, Jamal remembers the good times. He’s from a family that had more land and money than any of the neighbors. It created a status that as a child made him uncomfortable. His playmates deferred to him. “No, I say, I want everyone equal, everyone,” Jamal said. “But I had a very happy childhood.” He had a happy wedding in Yemen too. Well over 200 relatives came to celebrate. And the food? He ponders. “Ten sheep, five goats, five baby cows. ”

Nine days later, Nabihah is still in mourning. “Oh, I miss my beautiful wife.” She’s not in good shape. In San Jose, two months after her death, Nabihah’s spirits are linked to the Crime Data Warehouse. She tells the department officers about Nabihah’s phone calls. “My husband!” she exclaims, trumpeting the fulminations of grief that excite him. He got up and began weaving the vine in the middle. The garden was all around him, two dozen silver metal tubs exploding with rich green herbs and vegetables, a virtual garden of Eden that excited him. He got up and began weaving his way around them, passing at each.

“Take some and the next day there is more!” he exclaimed, trumpeting the profuse growth. “Nabihah planted this; see!” he motions to a profusion of mint in one tub; “and this,” he points to hand in another. “We do this,” he gestures to other tubs growing tomatoes. “Look, organic, and this,” he points to vibrant beds of pale green lettuce shimmering in the wind. “Oh, I miss my beautiful wife.”

Still, she won’t respond to his calls. But he has spoken by phone to Nada and to his brother, Fuad, who lives near Nabihah’s father and they’re good friends. The brother says things will work out, but Jamal must be patient. But it’s painful and Jamal must remember the direction his elders gave him as a child to never get angry.”

Nine days later, Nabihah is still in Detroit and Bilal is still in Riyadh.

Chief meets neighborhood newsies

Despite the strong sun pouring through the windows on the blue and gray walls. A tour of the six-floor, 263,000-square-foot, $243 million headquarters would have to wait. The meeting was over.

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SAFETY
SOMA Police Community Relations Forum. 4th Monday of each month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies.
Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting, last Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m. police station Community Room, 307 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood Safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
Alliance for a Better District 6. 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6-8 p.m. 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1565 or sl_diamond@yahoo.com, a districtwide improvement association.


Friends of Bodecker Park. 3rd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., park Clubhouse, Eddy and Jones. Info: Betty Traynor, 917-1326.

Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5 p.m. Works to protect Soma assets for all residents. Gene Friend Rec Center, 210 Sixth St. Info: Tim Figurea, 564-9652.

Tenderloin Community Benefit District, full board meets 3rd Monday at 5 p.m., 56 Taylor St. Info: 293-4912.

Safe Haven Project. 4th Tuesday of each month, 3 p.m. 519 Ellis St. (Senator Hotel). Contact: 563-3205, x110, or centralcitysafehaven@gmail.com.

SOMA Police Community Relations Forum. 4th Monday of each month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies.
Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting, last Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m. police station Community Room, 307 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood Safety.

Still from “Our Future Ends,” from experimental filmmaker Clement Hill Goldberg, one the artists showcased at SOMArts’ awards exhibition.

SENIORS AND DISABLED
Mayor’s Disability Council, 3rd Friday of month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, room 400. Call 554-6718. Open to the public.

Senior & Disability Action (formerly Planning for Elders/SeniorAction Network), general meeting, 2nd Thursday of each month, 9 a.m.-noon, Universal Unionarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. SOMA-Housing Collaborative meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 1 p.m. Healthcare Action Team meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 1010 Mission St., (Bayview Community Center). For info about SOMArts' annual awards exhibition.

Still from “Our Future Ends,” from experimental filmmaker Clement Hill Goldberg, one the artists showcased at SOMArts’ awards exhibition.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR