Greed shows its ugly face on Market St.

Hostel takeover a nasty end to good old Grant Building

BY GEOFF LINK

109 Market St., a.k.a., the Grant Building, no longer what it once was, is something else again.

This ‘06 quake survivor evolved as a stately house of progressive thought and action. It was home in recent times to SFNLAF, Agape Foundation, S.F. Mental Health Association, Greenaction, Human Rights Commission, the Bicycle Coalition and the Commissions On the Status of Women and Delinquency Prevention, and scores more like them.

The Grant Building was the birthplace of Open Hand, the Social Services Directory, Friends of the Urban Forest Public Interest Economics, Livable City and San Francisco Study Center. Founded in 1972 to help the nascent neighborhood movement grow and the burgeoning non-profit sector thrive.

The popular legacy of former Mayor Phelan, the Grant Building was a haven for non-profits and others who help others.

This venerable eight-story, 140-unit complex withstood the shaking of two mighty quakes to remain standing at Seventh and Market. An eyesore, now it’s the face of corporate greed, taken over by a father-son team that’s preparing to turn the place into a happenin’ hostel — like those in Amsterdam and Sydney — and into large, long-term leases. Only Study Center and Community Housing Partnership were CHP, occupied most of the seventh floor. Study Center had all of the sixth and three rooms on the second. Study Center had been at the Grant Building longest of anybody.

Study Center was at an area sidewalks.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

My Take is an occasional series of opinion pieces based on reporting and personal experience.

FREE FOOD FOR SALE

Little old ladies set up shop on area sidewalks

BY JONATHAN NEWMAN

With the Heart of the City Farmers’ Market gearing up across the street at 9:50 a.m. on a recent Wednesday, six elderly Asian women line up their wares across the front of the Grant Building and entreat pedestrians, calling softly: “Buy. You buy.”

Canned Bartlett pears, bagged carrots and onions, boxes of Land O’ Lakes American cheese, packages of whole wheat bagels, jars of Algood peanut butter, dried beans, sesame crackers and squat cans of evaporated milk were neatly displayed at their feet, along with grape juice and orange juice in plastic bottles — clearly food obtained from community agencies’ free distribution programs.

“One dollar,” one of the women told a sidewalk shopper. That was the going price for most items, some of which bore a marked notice: “Not For Retail Sale.”

The women are a Mid-Market phenomenon, on the scene the past year or so, operating at U.N. Plaza, on Market Street at Seventh and at the corners of Mission and Sixth and Seventh streets. Sometimes there’s only one, typically two or more are together, with six to eight in tandem on farmers’ market Wednesdays.

They rub some people the wrong way. Some feel the women are selling food that maybe they took right out of the mouth of somebody who needs it. And they’re making a profit while some poor family is going hungry. That’s an unlikely scenario given how widely available free food is in the neighborhood.

Another of their popular spots to sell is at U.N. Plaza in front of Carl’s Jr.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Tale of greed and disrespect in liberal landmark’s last days

node from page 1

Johnson’s wife, Simon’s mom, is on Larkin Street’s board, a connection at least the men in the family say they expect to result in a steady source of entry-level hostel workers — a boon for the kids, a bonus for the Johnsons. But if Study Center’s unfortunate experience as a tenant of the Johnsons is any indication, that behavior will be working for employers who are unequivocal in their disrespect for behavioral health clients and those who serve them.

With Study Center for many years has been the Office of Self Help and S.F. Mental Health Clients’ Rights Advocates. OSH is a Tendentious wellness and recovery center, and MHCCA is San Francisco’s state-mandated advocate for mental health clients. The people they serve are clients of the city’s Behavioral Health Services, whose privacy is protected by federal HIPPA rules.

Yet, under a remarkably rigid building rules, the Johnsons’ security guards would require photo ID along with sign-in and destina-
tion for admission to the building. Not so unreasonable, if you’re the Federal Reserve Bank, but after 35 years with flexible landlords, this felt like harassment.

One guard, Pavlik Bagdasarian, frequently wrote down certain clients personal information from their IDs, he suspected of being drunk upstairs. He warned that it was a basic
desk rules, by not providing ade-
quate heat to all of our offices, for
to be pooh-poohed. The landlords sent us packing, demanding that Study Center leave the building spic and span. We did. On final move-out day, Simon, who personally inspected the condition of our suites, was effusive, saying no other tenant had left their quarters so clean.

At the end of the inspection, we came to the final nosh, the trash closed. In it stood a neatly wrapped 6-foot roll of window blinds, maybe 15 pounds.

Simon said he’d have to charge us to have this last piece hauled away.

How much? $50. Obviously, every dollar counts when you’re rich.

I walked away with the blinds over my shoulder, never looking back.

The Johnsons, not only trashed of the city’s smallest and one of the oldest, has reopened at 146 Leavenworth St. with the pristine glow of fresh paint, shiny floors and ADA accessibiltiy. The $1.2 million makeover took a year and includes an elevator that operates from the ground to the second floor where the sleeping capacity remains 25 beds and five emergency mats. Outside is a spacious new deck. Downstairs are optional services such as counseling. Jenks said that Hospitality House had gotten a pass on ADA compliance over the years because the 1920 building was so old and the neighborhood had been there so long — since 1967. The shelter program was started in 1982 in response to increased homelessness when the feds drastically cut affordable housing funds. The shelter serves more than 720 men a year.

VETERANS Permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless veterans stepped closer to reality with HUD’s award in March of more than $2.7 million to the city. The funds — 200 federally backed vouchers — will provide vets with rental housing through the Housing Authority of San Francisco, as support services to live independently with on-site case management and support services from Swords to Plowshares and SF VA Medical Centers. The award covers one-year funding. Swords to Plowshares estimates nearly 1,100 vets are among the city’s 6,445 homeless.

JOB-SEEKERS New computer stations, software and server upgrades, and a class projector are among the additions to the Positive Resource Computer’s training lab at 785 Market St., improvements made possible by a $50,000 technology grant from AT&T. The center, serving people with HIV or AIDS since 1987, provides counseling, education and training with a strong focus on improving clients’ chances of finding a job, even if they have a chronic illness, disability, or are homeless. Abuse substances or have been in jail. Among the center’s 2,200 clients, 950 use the employment services, and 1 in 4 finds a job, says Leigh Fillion, managing director of development. Benefiting from Word and/or Excel programs are required for most jobs. With the AT&T grant, the center bought the latest Microsoft Office suite as well as ZoomText, a program for the visually impaired, and Nuance Speak & See, a software suite for speech recognition and text-to-speech adaptation. Since the upgraded lab’s grand opening April 4, 10 new students have signed up for computer classes, which are open only to clients registered in the center’s Employment Services program. Info for registration and class schedules: positivetresource.org/computer_training.asp.

If you have some good news, send it to torent@studycenter.org or marjorie@studycenter.org.

> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The handsome Crow Building anchors the southwest corner of Seventh and Market. The landlord’s heavy hand, helped by the long arm of the law, made working in the historic building’s last days cold and miserable.
OBITUARIES

RICHARD ALLEN FOSTER
Father

Richard Allen Foster, father to 12 children, had many jobs in his lifetime and dozens of friends in the hotel community where he loved to hang out. Foster was known as Slick Dick, names that were never explained. At the memorial, those who knew him were quiet about how bad his condition was, Mejia said. "He had a constant smile. His children vis-

ited him. He began using a walker to get around. He was看出 he was wearing a wrist to show he wore the ball cap, Red had been with her 15 years. Her mother's strains of "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" on a CD soothing her, along with the awareness she was loved by family, friends and little dog, Coco, and that a warm and secure home awaited her.

"She was getting better and we thought she'd be coming home," said her daughter, Nila Gonzales, at Ms. Perez's April 10 memorial at the Polk Family Private. "But when I came here two years ago and I had just gotten the news about how bad his condition was, Mejia said. "I got him services.

"I'm glad he's not suffering any-

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There's also a food stamp scam

Food for sale on the street can draw a crowd, even when the sellers' come-ons are low-key. On one recent day as the women drum business at the corner of Market and Seventh streets, some bystanders berate them, coaching their anger in patrician jargon. Others support the little old Asian ladies, drawing a picture of economic benefit and convenience for those who buy the $1 items.

The women are approached by a Channel 2 newsman, microphone in hand and TV camera sidekick trailing. The reporter fires questions, the women clam up, and they clearly don't want to be photographed.

From the street, Al, a vocal defender of the sellers and their sidewalk enterprise, chases the Channel 2 pair off the corner. As the men depart, he tells them that the real story is up the block, pointing to the confluence of McAllister, Jones and Market streets, where, he shouts: “They're paying $100 cash for a full food stamp card. I know some people got whole stacks of them,” displaying his right hand with a 6-inch spread from fingers to thumb.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that nearly 10% of food retailers traffic in fraud by swapping food benefit cards for cash.

Typically, a merchant will pay $100 for a card with $200 in value, swipe the card through the merchant system and sell nothing. When the federal government gives the merchant the $200, the profit is pocketed and the card turned over.

— JONATHAN NEWMAN

Doggad old women hawk food that's fr
free from Food Bank, U.S. government

and the federal government earmarked for distribution to seniors, the poor and those enrolled in special nutritional programs. "Today, the women were warned and the food confiscated. We'll monitor on a weekly basis. We think that consistent monitoring will stop this practice," he said.

The Food Bank will also begin distributing flyers in U.N. Plaza on market days alerting the public that it is illegal to buy or sell food received free from community agencies. "We hope the economic market for these illegal sellers will dry up once people understand that selling the government commodity food marked for distribution by community agencies undermines the purpose of helping those in need," he said.

On April 25, the women returned to U.N. Plaza. Their carts were loaded with bags of potatoes, canned tomatoes and boxes of com-flakes. This time they fanned out in groups of two or three at Market Street at Seventh and a block away at the corner of Jones and McAllister streets. Cops and Food Bank reps were there, too.

Now she refuses to release her grip on the cart. The cops patiently wait her out as Food Bank rep Shirley Chin speaks to her in Cantonese. Finally, exhausted, the woman gives up and sinks to the sidewalk, wailing and weeping. From the crowd that gathered to gawk someone says: "She's crying, but there ain't no tears."

The women had been offering to sell bags of produce and cans of vegetables to passers-by. She is a you are the g a

"It's a real hardship," said the woman, who operates a small vegetable stand on the corner awaiting retrieval by an SFPD pickup. "It's going back to the Food Bank," a cop said. A quart voice in the crowd piped up, "That ain't going to make them stop. It's their only means of hustle."

The Food Bank estimates 40% of the confiscated items came from pantry distributions and 60% from the federal commodity food program aimed at needy seniors. Geoff Link contributed to this report.

Park sculptor sought

The Arts Commission is trying to find Anthony Jerome Smith, the Tenderloin artist and former Cadillac Hotel resident whose outdoor sculpture "Untied" was installed at Boedeker Park in 1986, a year after the park opened.

The 5-foot-tall bronze, weighing up to 800 pounds, depicts a pair of hands cupped around a globe inset with 14 life-size, multiracial faces of various TL residents, including Father Alfred Boedeker (center in the photo above), painter Craig Lashia, then-Cadillac Hotel Manager Sarah Kearney and Richard Livingston (right), managing director of Exit Theatre. Livingston, who remembers Smith creating the sculpture using negative plaster life masks, clay positives and the final bronze casting at an Oakland foundry, says many of the other models had connections to the Cadillac or Exit.

The Arts Commission selected Smith’s design from among 100 submissions and paid him $25,000 for the piece, which he worked on for 15 months. The commission wants to tell Smith that when scheduled Boedeker Park renovations begin later this year, his sculpture and other art in the park will be removed, stored, conserved and reinstalled.

If you know where Anthony Smith is, get in touch with Carol Marie Daniels, Arts Commission’s project manager for public art and civic collections, 252-2598 or carolmarie.daniels@sfgov.org.

— Marguerite Braga
The end result of the months-long process of redrawing heavily populated District 6 by inches this way and that on a big wall map may have pleased a lot of people but not rock-ribbed progressives.

The map the Redistricting Task Force submitted to the Department of Elections April 14 showed the final boundaries. It pared progressive strongholds and made the district more conservative, critics say.

“These were unconscionable cuts,” said a disappointed Otto Duffy, neighborhood activist who represented the Central City Democrats at most of the 30 community meetings that the task force held. “The district now is more conservative. And it didn’t have to be that way.”

The task force was mandated by the city to equalize San Francisco’s 11 supervisorial districts after the 2010 census by dividing the city’s new population of 805,000 among them. D6’s population came in at 94,800, overshooting the mean figure of 73,200 by 21,600 — more than three times out of kilter than the next size district. Not quite 6,000 in District 6 are under 18 and can’t vote.

Shedding population in the historically progressive district was going to be tricky. High-end condominiums have sprouted South of Market, a contrast to the Tenderloin, the city’s poorest neighborhood. Lopped off were Hayes Valley and Inner Mission, “historically progressive” areas, said Duffy, who gave a redistricting summary April 18 to the Central City Collaborative and later talked to The Extra. Mission resident Debra Walker, runnerup to Jane Kim in the 2010 election two years ago, got moved into District 9.

But the unkindest cut, said Duffy, came out of the northern border running east from Van Ness Avenue on Post Street. The ragged line took out about 10 Tenderloin blocks, or about 2,700 residents. One lost block, bound by Leavenworth, Geary, Jones and O’Farrell, had 900 residents.

“That block has a big apartment building,” Duffy said. “It’s market-rate but they support tenant rights and were important politically.”

Given the size of the task force’s job in D6, Supervisor Jane Kim said the group did “an incredible job of listening — most voices got heard,” and she was “very happy” with the result.

“North of Mission wanted to be reunited with the Mission,” she said. “We heard that consistently. But it is not clear to me if there was a major (political) shift. Western SoMa and the Tenderloin are still intact.”

Duffy was committed to preserving the central city, a 55,000 population, roughly bounded by Post, Van Ness, Division and Mission Creek just south of Berry Street. He would have let go China Basin/Mission Bay where the “middle-income and high-end condominium owners are.”

Guarantines allow a district to vary up to 1% (732 people). But additional variations up to 5% (3,660 people) are okay “if necessary to prevent dividing or diluting the voting power of minorities and/or to keep recognized neighborhoods intact,” according to the City Charter. The committee interpreted this liberally.

“The Tenderloin and the central city could have been preserved,” Duffy said. “But the committee didn’t see it that way. I was trying to hold on to political ballast. Some other districts varied by 5%.”

Indeed, Districts 1, 2 and 9 wound up just shy of 5%. The final District 6 map has a 73,999 population, just 0.96% over.

Another surprise in the nine-member committee’s 41-page report is two ethnic-voter shifts. Accompanying D6 data showed the percentage of Asian voters at 31.26% of the new 67,943 voter (not population) base, a 20% jump from 10 years ago. Meanwhile, the Latino percentage of voters had dipped 25%, likely a result of losing the Inner Mission. Whites, with 40.5%, had gained 2.5% and blacks (10.5%) edged up 1%, compared with the decade-old data.

Understandably, compatible neighborhood populations and community interest groups were eager to weigh in to protect their spread of involvement. Indeed, the committee, which spent 100 hours in 30 meetings and a lot more time poring over data, fielded 1,300 written and oral comments. Chairman Eric McDonnell’s sense of humor often kept meetings light and palatable, which audiences appreciated.

His task force report highlighted the main con-
Tech's leading role in redistricting
Maps change instantly with click of a mouse

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

WHEN Redistricting Task Force members began meeting in July, their consultant used a software program that brought the latest technology to a knotty problem: deciding how to reconfigure the city’s 11 supervisorial districts. Boundaries with speed and clarity that would be immediately understandable to all.

Hired to operate the program, Maptitude for Redistricting, was Karin Mac Donald. Her day job is director of the Statewide Database, a redistricting resource that the Institute of Governmental Studies hosts at U.C. Berkeley. Mac Donald also leads Q2 Data & Research, a small, women-owned consulting firm in Oakland. She and a colleague attended all 30-plus task force meetings, manipulating maps with a laptop and shifting boundaries projected on a screen with the click of a mouse.

Maps could be viewed and analysed four ways — from each section or the population of a single district, its neighbors, showing instantly as a box a new population number and the percentage that number deviated from the mean.

The idea is that with 11 districts and a citywide population of 805,235, the mean population of each district would be about 73,203 people. The City Charter and the U.S. Constitution say local legislative districts must have “equal populations” to maintain the one-person-one vote mandate: A district’s population can deviate no more than 5% above or below 73,203 people. At the start of the redistricting process, District 6’s population deviation was the most skewed in the city, almost 30%, over the 73,203 mean. At the other end of ideal,” District 9 lost more than 10% (7,530 people) when redistricting was done in mid-April.

Over the months it took to get all 11 districts to ideal deviations, Mac Donald handled the technical aspects of adjusting boundary lines over and over in meetings, projecting the full city map, then focusing tighter into a single district.

“The task force members might ask to see a specific street or intersection or the population of a single block,” she said. “We’d zoom in, they’d deliberate and decide whether to move or shuffle. Then we’d move to the next change.” Every half-hour or so, she’d zoom out so all of the districts could be seen.

The task force also asked periodically for a citywide analysis of race or ethnicity, which Maptitude displays by showing lightly populated areas in a faint color — say pale pink for up to 10% Asians in one neighborhood and deep red for 90%-100% in another.

“Race and ethnicity can’t be a predominant criterion in redistricting by law, so the task force used it infrequently,” Mac Donald said, but it can contribute to more informed decision-making.

The ability of the task force to do real-time shaping is what’s put Maptitude — well, on the map. The program developer, Caliper Corp. of Maine, claims to have tens of thousands of users worldwide for its several programs. The redistricting version is used by congressional, state, city, county, school, water or other districts.

“Because people are participating in the process live,” Mac Donald says, “they can visualize the information and also understand the constraints better — how moving a boundary line one block affects a single district, its neighbors and the whole.”

Her main complaint about Maptitude for Redistricting is that expected competition from other software designers hasn’t materialized, driving up the price: In 2002, when San Francisco used Maptitude in its first redistricting process, the program was in beta testing and cost under $1,000. Today, it costs $7,500. It doesn’t invite much competition, she says, because redistricting is but once a decade, and the market is limited to political jurisdictions.

City & County of San Francisco Department of Elections

Be A Voter

June 5

Presidential Primary Election

Register to vote by May 21
Apply to vote by mail by May 29
Vote early at City Hall May 7 - June 5
Polls open 7:00am - 8:00pm June 5

Questions?
(415) 554-4375 sfelections.org/toolkit
Learn about the NEW “open” primary!

Become a paid pollworker: Apply at City Hall, Room 48 or sfelections.org/pw
ART EVENTS
“What’s on Stage” and People in Plazas Music Concerts kick-off celebration, U.N. Plaza, May 8, 12-2 p.m. Featuring theater preview of Cutting Ball Theatre’s “Tenderloin” and “Midsummer Night’s Dream” by American Conservatory Theater’s MFA program students; dance preview by Samantha Giron Dance Project of The Garage and Deborah Karap of CounterPULSE’s 2nd Sundays series; and music by EXIT Cafe’s Songwriter’s Saturdays artists Lane Murchison and Ira Manoffi, curated by Melissa Lynn. People in Plaza presents concerts Tuesday at noon throughout the summer. Info: peopleinplazas.org

Free community celebration for Asian Pacific Americans in the nation — featuring Asianfairsf.com Singer, dancers, musicians, artists, spoken word, and screenings, and, courtesy of Target, free Asian music by EXIT Cafe’s Songwriter’s Saturdays artists Lane Murchison and Ira Manoffi, curated by Melissa Lynn. People in Plaza presents concerts Tuesday at noon throughout the summer. Info: peopleinplazas.org

8th Annual Asian Heritage Street Celebration, May 19, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Civic Center to Little Saigon, Larkin St. from Grove to Ellis streets. Free celebration — the largest gathering of Asian Pacific Americans in the nation — features cultural procession, handmade arts and crafts, pan-Asian foods and performances, celebrity cooking and martial arts demonstrations, films, children’s area, health information and screenings, and, courtesy of Target, free admission to the Asian Art Museum. Info: asiansf.com

Talent in the TL, Sat, July 14, 2nd Sunday, Piedecker Park. Singers, dancers, musicians, artists, spoken word, rap, drummers, visual artists invited to show your stuff. Free community celebration presented by Friends of Biedecker Park. Space is limited; sign up now for stage time and performance space: 225-8540.

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE
HOUSING
Supportive Housing Network, 3rd Thursday of the month, 3-6 p.m., Dorothy Day Community, 54 McAlester St. Call: 421-2926 x504.

Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco, 1st Wednesday of the month, noon, 201 Turk St., Community Room. Contact Michael Nutty, 309-8327. Resident unity, leadership training. HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH
CBHIS Consumer Council, 3rd Monday of the month, 6-7 p.m., 1280 Howard St., room 537, 255-3666. Consumer advisors from self-help groups and mental health consumer advocates. Public welcome. Health & Wellness Action Advocates, 1st Tuesday of the month, 5:7 p.m., Mental Health Association, 807 Market St., Suite 902, 421-2926 x308. Healthcare Action Team, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 1010 Mission St., Bayview 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 Chiong, 703-0168 x304.
Mental Health Board, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6-8:30 p.m., City Hall, room 278. CBHIS advisory committee, open to the public. Call: 255-3474.
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Geary St, 5th Fl. Call: 955-6254. Family member group, open to the public.

SAFETY
Neighborhood Emergency Response Team training (BERT), Central city residents can take the S.F. Fire Department’s free disaster preparedness and response training at neighborhood locations. www.sfpd.org/bertform, or Lt. Armando, 870-2002. Soma Police Community Relations Forum, 4th Monday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies. To receive monthly email info: 538-8190 x202. Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting, last Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 340-7000. Neighborhood safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
Alliance for a Better District 6, 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nutty, 820-1560 or sfcbay.org/afab, a districtwide improvement association. Central Market Community Benefit District, board meets 2nd Monday of the month, Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market St., 3 p.m. Information: 862-3888, http://central-market.org.
Friends of Biedecker Park, 2nd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., Biedecker Rec Center, 240 Eddy St. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact Betty Traeynor, 931-1129.
Gems Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5 p.m. Works to provide gems resources for all residents. Gem Friend Rec. Center, 270 Sixth St. Info: Tim Figueras, 354-9532.
North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District, Full board meets 3rd Monday at 4 p.m. Call 292-4812 for location or check non-tld.org.
Soma Police Community Stabilization Fund Advisory Committee, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness. 2nd Mon. Info: Claude Del Rosario 749-2519.
South of Market Project Area Committee Housing Subcommittee, 1st Wednesday of the month, bimonthly, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom St. Health, Safety and Human Services Committee 1st Wednesday after the 1st Monday bimonthly, 1035 Folsom, 6 p.m. 487-2166 or www.somapac.com.
Tenderloin Facets Fellowship, 1st 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. Information: 334-6209.
Tenderloin Neighborhood Association, 2nd Friday of the month, 842 Geary St, 5 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Call Tenderloinneighborhood@yahoo.com.

SENIORS AND DISABLED
Mayer’s Disability Counsel, 3rd Friday of the month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, room 400. Call: 554-6782.

Senior Action Network, general meeting, 2nd Thursday of the month, 9 a.m., noon, Universal Unitarian Church, 1187 2nd St. Monthly meetings, 955 Mission St. #707, Senior Housing Action Committee, 3rd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Call for health program and Senior University, 546-1333 and www.sfhr.org.

DISTRICT 6 SUPERVISOR
Jane Kim, Chair of Rules Committee, member of Budget & Finance Committee and Transportation Authority. Legislative Aides: April Venezian Ang, Sunny Angulo and Matthias Morrison. Jane Kim@supervisor.org, 554-7970.

C E N T R A L  C I T Y  E X T R A /  M A Y  2 0 1 2

Pregnant? When you know… Go! If you’re pregnant or think you might be, contact us within the first three months of pregnancy to give you and your baby a healthy start.

Call (888) 205-6552 Or visit www.sfhp.org

SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH PLAN Here for you

“Collect Your Greenbacks When Collecting Used Motor Oil”

Long time San Francisco resident and local business owner Rick Cole has worked in the automotive industry for over 20 years. He takes pride in helping his community by offering quality used auto parts at a low price and collecting used motor oil and filters from the public. Rick became a used motor oil collection center in order to help keep his neighborhood safe from exposure to the toxic effects of hazardous waste contamination. While doing so, he has generated publicity and additional revenue for his business.

The benefits of becoming a Used Motor Oil and Filter Collection Center are environmental AND economic. Your company can grow its green credentials and help prevent contamination on city streets. Collection Centers offer Do-It-Yourselfers (DIYers) the option of safe disposal as opposed to abandoning it on a city street. Storm drains and surface waters are protected as well. With each gallon of used motor oil collected from a DIYer, your business can receive $0.40. In addition, for each gallon of oil generated from business activity, you can receive $0.10. For each gallon of used motor oil recycled, at least one million gallons of water is protected from contamination. The oil filter is recyclable from the outer steel casing to the rubber o-ring seal.

When the majority of oil filters enclosed in a steel casing, the metal is sold to scrap yards to be reused.

Becoming a Collection Center is easy. First, an application is completed. Once approved, your business must accept used motor oil from the public at no charge and notify the public through on-site signs and local media. To receive payment for each gallon collected for recycling, an incentive reimbursement claim must be submitted to the state Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

Once your business has been approved to be a certified collection center, the San Francisco Department of the Environment will staff work with your business to ensure the facility has proper recycling infrastructure. This is a great opportunity to get to know your community and keep our city clean.

Call Rick Cole, Director of the Department of the Environment (at 415) 355-3771 to become a collection center today!