

Strip club shut after continuing noise, violence

City-commissioner owner shuttered Pink Diamonds

BY TOM CARTER

THE beleaguered Pink Diamonds strip club was shut down Dec. 1, put out of business by the building owner after the city attorney threatened to sue over the club's continual violations.

The shuttering of the 220 Jones St. venue also came nine days after a man was gunned down on the street in an incident police traced to Pink Diamonds. And it came less than a month after the club management promised the neighborhood smooth sailing. The manager announced in a specially called public meeting that the club had hired an ex-police captain to devise an outside security system to control crowds and avoid bloodshed.

"The property owner decided he wanted that club out of there," Deputy City Attorney Jerry Threet said at the Nov. 25 Tenderloin police Community Forum. "And he called me to say it would be shut down in December."

The building owner is Terrance Alan, who serves on the Entertainment Commission and heads the Late Night Coalition, an industry group that promotes establishing after-hours entertainment in the city.

Threet said the previous day he had sent Alan's lessees a letter, copying Alan, saying the city attorney

was contemplating litigation to get the club to comply with the law. The lessees are Ed Pope of Ed Pope Inc., and Damone H. Smith of D.H.S. Global Investments LLC. Pope and Smith also had created Pink Diamonds' predecessor, The Vixen, which became so plagued with code violations and citations that Alan closed it late in 2007. In a three-month period, police connected seven shootings outside to The Vixen.

After The Vixen closed, Pope and Smith assured the city that new management would toe the line, Threet's letter pointed out. Yet "troubling incidents" continued.

Located just a half a block from the police station, Pink Diamonds opened in the spring and at some point began selling an array of non-alcoholic, high-energy beverages

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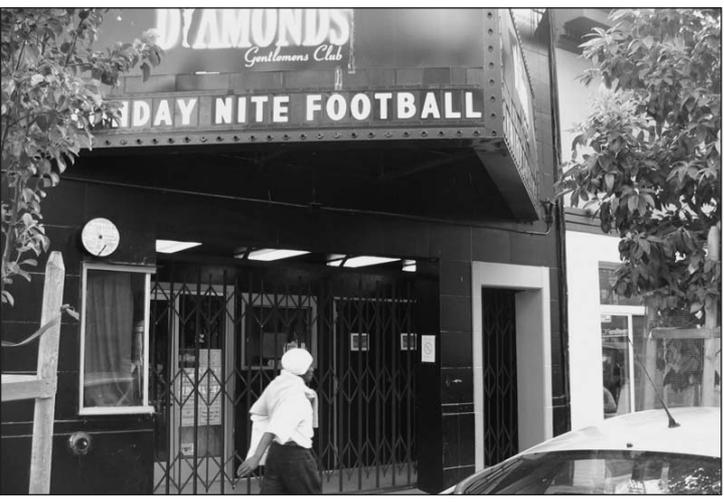


PHOTO BY TOM CARTER

Pink Diamonds' management promised much and didn't last a year.

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BREAKING CULTURAL BARRIERS

Pilipino Senior Resource Center

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THE TORCH IS PASSED

SomArts hires new chief executive

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HANK WILSON

He was Teresa of the Tenderloin

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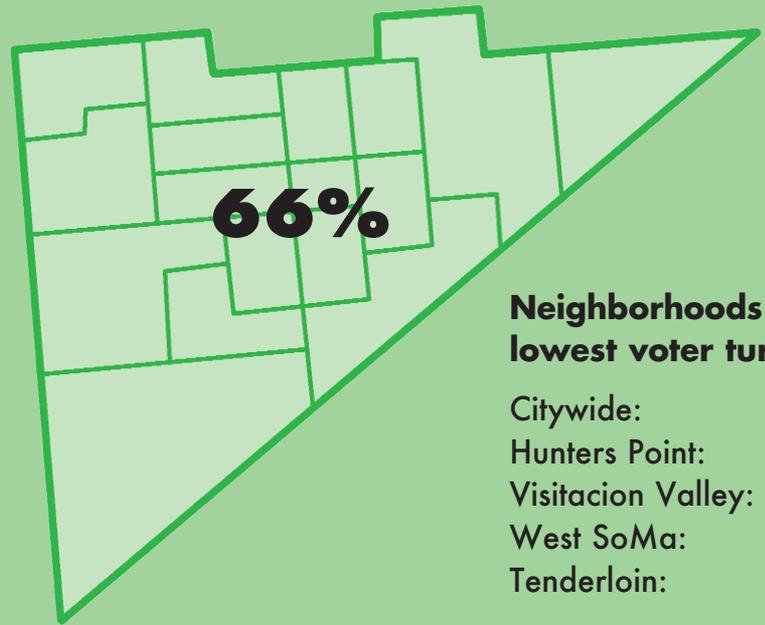
CENTRAL CITY

EXTRA

SAN FRANCISCO

PRECINCT BY PRECINCT

THE TENDERLOIN



Neighborhoods with lowest voter turnout:

Citywide:	81%
Hunters Point:	70%
Visitacion Valley:	68%
West SoMa:	70%
Tenderloin:	66%

Of the 12,633 people registered to vote in the Tenderloin, only 66% actually cast ballots in the November election. But it was a big jump in participation.

We're dead last

Central City's turnout soars, yet falls below the rest of S.F.

BY MARJORIE BEGGS, HEIDI SWILLINGER AND TOM CARTER

LIKE the rest of San Francisco, voters in the central city turned out in record numbers for the 2008 general election. Despite the major leap forward, the Civic Center area turnout was low compared with the rest of the city — citywide, 81% of voters, 388,112, cast ballots.

"Compared to 2000 and 2004, it's night and day," said Charles MacNulty, Elections Department voter outreach manager.

When you look at the heart of the central city, the numbers do soar compared with previous elections, yet remain the lowest of the low.

The Extra pulled numbers for the Tenderloin's 17 precincts and nine precincts in west SoMa. Together, the turnout averaged 68% — 20,548 voters registered in the 26 precincts and 13,957 cast ballots.

In the Tenderloin, 66% of those registered voted, a big jump compared with 57% in both 2004 and 2000.

In the West SoMa precincts, 70% voted this election, up from 60% in 2004. Because of changes in SoMa precinct numbers, The

Extra was unable to get comparable information for the 2000 general election.

The Extra's more focused central city boundaries make our tallies less rosy than the Elections Department's, which includes the Tenderloin in a neighborhood of 33 precincts it calls Civic Center/Downtown. The department reported a turnout of 73% for Civic Center/Downtown in 2008, 66% in 2004 and 54% in 2000.

But Civic Center/Downtown's boundaries extend as far east as Sansome Street and north to Sacramento Street. When the TL's 17 precincts are factored out, the 16 tonier precincts averaged a 79% turnout, 12 percentage points higher than the Tenderloin.

The department's SoMa summary takes in an additional 10 precincts that stretch down to King Street and along the Embarcadero to Market Street. Excluding West SoMa, those 10 had an 80% turnout. In the total 19 SoMa precincts, Elections reported, 76% of registered voters cast ballots, up from 68% in 2004.

So, central city came through, better by nine percentage points than eight years ago. But it was still way off the citywide average turnout and, for the first time, was the neighborhood with the lowest turnout in the city. Its closest competitors for that dubious distinction were Visitacion Valley at a hair above 68% and Bayview-Hunters Point at 70%. Both had jumped way up from 2000 — Bayview 19 percentage points and Vis Valley 16.

Of course, the fact that this presidential election was special drew voters everywhere out in droves. That the central city

► CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

GOOD NEWS for...

EARLY BIRD TAX FILERS Tax-Aid wants you to think ahead to tax time so you can get any refunds you deserve — especially the earned income credit and the child tax credit — and avoid paying to have your tax return prepared. Tax-Aid says its goal is to reach 15,000 low-income San Francisco families “now, before they go to paid preparers and take out refund-anticipation loans, or worse, use their year-end paycheck stub to get a loan before their W2 even arrives.” Tax-Aid is the nonprofit that coordinates free tax-preparation programs for United Way’s “Earn It! Keep It! Save It!” program. Its success rate should inspire: In 2008, Tax-Aid prepared 3,777 returns for free and helped these taxpayers get back \$3.4 million in refunds. Some refunds were more than \$4,500. Information: www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org. or find a free tax site at (800) 358-8832.

COMMUNITY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP They got the news Nov. 18: It is one of two San Francisco nonprofits that will receive Bank of America’s prestigious 2008 Neighborhood Builder Award. The \$200,000 prize recognizes CHP’s 18-year history of providing housing and programs for thousands of the city’s homeless. It currently operates 672 housing units in District 6 and has another 250 units under construction. BofA launched the Neighborhood Builder Award in 2004 and has since given the strings-free support to more than 400 nonprofits nationwide. The other 2008 San Francisco award-winner is South of Market Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, which helps women and men start or expand small businesses. TNDC won the award last year.

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

Attendance plummets, but regulars soldier on

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

AFTER seven years, the Tenderloin Futures Collaborative may have to rethink its usefulness as a venue for neighborhood information-sharing.

Launched in 2001 to carry on some of the work of the disbanded Lower Eddy/Leavenworth Task Force, the Collaborative’s monthly meetings used to draw 25 people interested in hearing about the latest land use plans, project and program startups and shut-downs, store openings, changes in bus routes and much more.

With a full agenda, Chair Glenda Hope often had to stop one presentation to make sure there was time for the next. Meetings always went full tilt for 90 minutes, right up to adjournment.

At the November meeting, only nine people showed. One was the Rev. Hope and another was Steve Woo of TNDC, who sends out the meeting notices, recruits presenters and prepares agendas. This agenda had only two items on it. The meeting was over in 45 minutes.

The Extra asked a few former regulars what they think is going on.

“Perhaps there has been some shift of interest,” said Elaine Zamora, manager of the North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District. “but there’s still so much going on in the neighborhood, and the need to know is still there.”

She acknowledged that proliferation in the number of meetings held by organized activists may be affecting TFC’s lower turnouts. Seven years ago there were no CBDs, no regular police captain’s meeting or Safety Network meetings, no weekly Community Conveners meetings about youth issues at the Central YMCA and more.

“In the course of being a CBD manager, I get more information about what’s happening in the neighborhood than I ever did before,” said Zamora, who used to attend every TFC meeting, but now is more selective.

YMCA Executive Director Carmela Gold used to be a regular, too. She thinks TFC meetings may have lost some punch, but they remain essential to the neighborhood.

“It’s been a great clearinghouse of new projects, programs and faces in the past,” she said. “I support it in concept and practice, and I learn something new every time I attend. And I like that it’s volunteer-based — not funded or staffed — and that it’s a pipeline where diverse people can gather.”

Gold also believes the many neighborhood meetings these days is healthy, a sign of active involvement.

Hope, chair since TFC started, sees a clear connection between the falloff in participation and meeting content.

“It’s time, again, to start doing active outreach for agenda items,” she said. “The issues are still out there — things haven’t gotten much better in the neighborhood even if there are more active organizations.” Crime and poverty persist, she says, and Tenderloin stakeholders need to track how land is being used.

TNDC’s Woo chalks up meeting attendance dropoff to normal fluctuation. Still, he says support from TFC’s steering committee “has been dwindling,” making it harder for him to do TFC outreach as well as his full-time TNDC community organizing job.

Two days before the December Collaborative meeting, Woo sent out an email to regular attendees saying that he and Hope had decided to cancel, but “we will pick up again in January.”

LATEST ON THE YMCA

The handful of people at the November meeting didn’t come away informationally empty-handed. On the agenda were an update on TNDC’s homeless housing development at 220 Golden Gate Ave. (Central YMCA) and an overview of how the Community Benefit District is faring.

Details of the \$51 million transformation of the Y are solidifying, according to Justin Mortensen, TNDC project manager. All building permits to renovate the 138,000-square-foot building into studios for the chronically homeless are pending. Construction is to begin next year and be completed by 2011.

The 172 units, for single adults only, are expected to rent from \$171 to \$286. They’ll have full bathrooms and “efficiency” kitchenettes — two hot plates, sink and refrigerator. Seventeen of the studios will be reserved for mentally ill homeless people; 61 will be for homeless mentally ill who also are substance abusers or have HIV/AIDS.

On-site support services for this needy population will be extensive, but none are official yet. DPH’s Housing and Urban Health Clinic, which opened in 2005 on the ground

floor of the Windsor Hotel at 234 Eddy to serve supportive housing tenants, is likely to move there, Mortensen said. The space at the Golden Gate Avenue location will give it much more room to serve its 8,600 clients a year.

The Y building will be 100 years old next year, a fitting time to begin its renovation. When complete, it will be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its auditorium and gym will be preserved and upgraded for use by residents and the neighborhood, but the pool’s a goner. Current tenant Wu Yee Children’s Services will return to the Y site after renovations.

“What’s going to happen to the old grand stairway?” asked Daniel O’Connor, St. Anthony’s community liaison.

“It won’t be an exact replica,” Mortensen said, “but it will capture the essence of what it looked like.”

TL resident Ed Evans wondered if alcohol or smoking would be banned in the new studios. “Many of these tenants are likely to have had alcohol problems formerly,” he said.

Mortensen said the building is unlikely to ban alcohol, but probably would offer harm-reduction services — groups, for example, that encourage healthy behavior rather than punishment or rehab for substance abuse.

CBD BUSY AND IN THE BLACK

Zamora ran down the latest on the CBD — new digs at 134 Golden Gate Ave., publication of its annual report, regular watering of the neighborhood’s trees and a December start for the mural at Golden Gate and Jones.

The office’s Nov. 21 grand opening featured an art exhibit and book release for painter and photographer Patricia Araujo and photographer Mark Ellinger. Zamora said the CBD was hoping to have regular art exhibits in the atrium.

The building’s top two floors house the Tenderloin Outpatient Clinic (formerly Hyde Street Clinic), a tenant since 2004.

The annual report shows that the CBD, whose net assets increased \$41,788 in 2007-08, expects net income to drop from \$175,973 in 2007-08 to \$58,453 in 2008-09. The report also lists every property in the benefit district, its 2007-08 assessment and how much was paid.

“Are any of the properties delinquent?” asked resident David Baker.

Zamora said that five or six owners in the district are late. “We’re about \$66,000 short,” she said.

The Extra counted 26 of the total 611 CBD properties in arrears for their 2007-08 assessment, for a total of \$43,593.

The assessment on 134 Golden Gate, owned, Zamora said, by Craig Larson, was \$1,830.54. And it was paid on time. ■



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PHONE: (415) 626-1650
FAX: (415) 626-7276
E-MAIL: centralcityextra@studycenter.org

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Geoffrey Link
SENIOR WRITER/EDITOR: Marjorie Beggs
REPORTERS: Tom Carter, Ed Bowers, Anne Marie Jordan, Phil Tracy, Heidi Swillinger
DESIGN AND LAYOUT: Lenny Limjoco
PHOTOGRAPHER: Lenny Limjoco
CONTRIBUTORS: Diamond Dave, Mark Hedin, John Burks
DESIGN CONSULTANT: Don McCartney
DISTRIBUTION: John Arguelles
EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE: David Baker, Michael Nulty, Debbie Larkin, Nicholas Rosenberg, Brad Paul, Tariq Alazraie

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An Extra 1 for 2

The holidays make it impractical to produce an issue in December and another in January. So No. 85 is a combo. The next issue of Central City Extra will be in February 2009.

Breaking through cultural barriers to health care

BY HEIDI SWILLINGER

COPING with breast cancer is hard enough. But coping with it alone is harder. Esther Macaraeg can't change the fact that it is the leading cancer among Filipino American women, affecting 73 in 100,000 Filipinas. But she has made it her mission to make sure they don't have to go through it on their own.

As executive director of the Pilipino Senior Resource Center in west SoMa, Macaraeg is in close touch with the Filipino community. She founded the center — initially as a volunteer — in 2006 to serve the needs of the neighborhood's large senior population. It's one of the neighborhood's newer resources devoted to Filipino Americans.

At the Senior Resource Center, Macaraeg provides case management, makes referrals for housing and medical care, and offers translation services that range from explaining forms written in English to interpreting during doctors' visits. She also offers support groups for seniors, and when she realized that many who attended were breast cancer survivors, she

formed a group for them. With help from U.C.

San Francisco and a \$35,000 grant from the Avon Foundation, the group began meeting in July.

In focusing on breast cancer, Macaraeg zeroed in on an unfilled need. Just behind Japanese women, Filipinas have the highest breast cancer rate among Asian subgroups, and the highest mortality rate among Asian subgroups in California, according to Nancy Burke, a professor at UCSF's Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Center. Compared with white women, Filipinas are more likely to be diagnosed at later stages and are more likely to die from the disease. Despite this, Burke says research on — and resources for — Filipinas with breast cancer is scarce.

Although most of the members in Macaraeg's group are elders, it is open to women of all ages. They meet every other Monday to learn the latest about issues relating to breast cancer; the group is conducted in Tagalog. The educational component is important, says Macaraeg, because many of the women are immigrants unfamiliar with the concept of preventive medicine. They may not recognize the importance of having regular mammograms, or they may simply be afraid to go to a doctor.

"In our culture, we go to the doctor if we feel something is wrong," she says. "Otherwise, we don't go." She adds that many Filipinas — especially elders — rely on alternative medicines when health problems crop, and may not treat serious illnesses quickly enough.

But for women struggling with the complex psychological impact of breast cancer,



PHOTO BY LENNY LIMJOCO

Women from the Pilipino Senior Resource Center gather to learn the facts about breast cancer at one of the support group's bi-monthly meetings.

SOUTHSIDE

education alone isn't enough. There also are social and artistic opportunities through the support group. The women gather weekly to talk or make jewelry, candles or silk flowers, which they sell at fundraisers for the center.

With money raised from craft and food sales, as well as donations from San Francisco's 40,000 Filipinos, Macaraeg has turned a modest two-room office in the basement of the Mint Mall building into an oasis for the 10 to 15 women who attend the support group events.

For group members Veneracion Zamora, Celestina Jugo and Romana Elomina, who all faced their illness with little or no support from family members, the group is a valuable respite from their cares.

"I enjoy the laughter and camaraderie of the group," says Zamora, a retired Pacific Bell worker who was diagnosed with cancer in both breasts. "It gives me a reason to get out of the house."

Jugo says the craft sessions help her relax. "I don't think about my problems," says the retired security guard, adding that she particularly enjoys the company the group provides because her family lives in the Philippines. "I'm lonely," she says.

Jugo's situation is far from rare. Ramona Elomina, for example, was diagnosed in 2007 and underwent chemotherapy. The retired hotel housekeeper is a widow whose daughter lives in Las Vegas. Macaraeg says she formed the support group so that women like Jugo and Elomina wouldn't

have to cope with breast cancer all alone.

"Depression is a part of that sickness," she says. "Some of (the women) have support from families, but if you are a senior, you may have kids, but they're busy with their own families." One of Macaraeg's goals was to establish a buddy system, so that members have someone to turn to. "That's important," she says. "Knowing you have someone to rely on in case of emergency." ■

New ED at SomArts

BY TOM CARTER AND MARJORIE BEGGS

LEX Leitheit says that as the new executive director of SomArts, she knows she has "big shoes to fill" — those of Jack Davis, who died in September 2007 after 20 years at the helm of the innovative South of Market arts center.

"Lex's passion for community-based art, artists and their impact . . . makes her an excellent choice to provide the next generation of leadership at SomArts," said Brian Freeman, playwright/director and chairman of the search committee for Davis' successor.

More than 450,000 people a year come through SomArts' Brannan Street doors for its year-round arts classes, theater performances, gallery exhibitions and technical services.

Leitheit visited one of those art exhibitions in 2005 and, she recalls, found it "a magical place," with a mix of patrons from all over the city — "so friendly, talking and laughing, and it flowed into the gallery and showed in art on the walls — people [here] are very expressive."

She joined SomArts in October after 10 years as an arts administrator, the last four as the assistant director of Wesleyan University's Green Street Arts Center in Middletown, Conn. Green Street is a neighborhood arts and cultural center that serves Middletown's population of 43,000 but also draws audiences from the surrounding metropolitan region.

Leitheit initiated more than a dozen new performance, literary and visual arts programs at Green Street, increasing attendance and income for the center. She currently is vice chair of the Emerging Leader Council of Americans for the Arts, which promotes and nurtures new artists nationwide. The council helps the organization develop programs and resources.

Leitheit says she'll try to create a new chapter for SomArts, like "a metal alloy" that joins new and established artists. "It's important that we explore."

That exploration is happening. In November, SomArts Gallery featured "Synthetic Masquerade," an exhibition of Internet artists and how they express themselves by creating an avatar — an embodiment — for a game, virtual world or Website chat.

For SomArts programs and services, visit somarts.org or call 863-1414. ■

SOUTHSIDE

CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS JANUARY 12TH



Space is still available in many noncredit courses offered this Spring at **City College of San Francisco's Alemany Campus** at 750 Eddy St. and other locations. Instruction begins January 12th. **Noncredit courses are free.** Select courses from the sampling below or visit www.ccsf.edu for a complete list. **Then just go to class.**

FREE NONCREDIT COURSES

CRN#	Title	Days	Times	Location/Room
43036	ESL Pronunciation	M-Th	8:45-10 a.m.	750 Eddy/TBA
42253	ESL Beginning	M-F	8:15-10 a.m.	750 Eddy/302
40883	ESL Beginning	M-Th	6:30-8:35 p.m.	750 Eddy/305
40873	ESL Beginning	M-F	8:15-10 a.m.	750 Eddy/301
40979	ESL Beginning	M-F	6:30-8:35 p.m.	750 Eddy/302
45231	Typing/Computers	M-F	8:15-10 a.m.	750 Eddy/102
40874	ESL Beginning	M-F	8:15-10 a.m.	4301 Geary/Basement
40866	ESL Beginning	M-F	10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.	4301 Geary/Basement
40980	ESL Beginning	M-F	8:15-10 a.m.	4301 Geary/2nd Floor
45583	ESL Intermediate	M-F	10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.	4301 Geary/2nd Floor
40934	ESL Beginning	M-Th	6:30-8:35 p.m.	3151 Ortega/100

For more information call (415) 561-1020 or visit www.ccsf.edu

Hank Wilson – Teresa

He eased pain of AIDS — from the Ambassador

BY TOM CARTER

THERE'S a job that can't wait, Hank Wilson told the volunteer intern from SF Network Ministries. Upstairs, in the Ambassador Hotel that Wilson managed, George was in bad shape, very sick, incontinent. They had to give him a bath.

They went upstairs. George had gotten out of his filthy room and was crawling down the hallway naked, covered in his excrement.

The two got him into the bathroom. Wilson drew the bath and with effort pulled George into the tub and started cleaning the tenant who had always given him a hard time, the Rev. Glenda Hope recalled, as she told the story in her Network Ministries office recently. It was more than 20 years ago, and it was her intern.

"That's who Hank was at the core," she said, sniffing and dabbing her eyes. "That's what we saw in him. This guy who had so ripped him off — and was screaming obscenities and cursing him — and Hank was tenderly washing the shit out of his hair like a mother with a baby, and then drying him off with fluffy towels. And meanwhile, someone was changing his sheets."

The Rev. Hope paused as the memories from 28 years of knowing Mr. Wilson and often working with him in the Tenderloin's deepest trenches flooded her mind. As the guiding light of Network Ministries, the diminutive, rail-thin pastor has ministered to the poor and dispossessed and developed programs since 1972. She was not an intimate friend of the gay man, but a very

would have banned gay teachers in public schools. Mr. Wilson started the Gay Teachers Association and, with Ammiano, created a Gay Speakers bureau to educate public school students grades 7 through 12 about gay and lesbian issues. It was just the beginning.

"The number of organizations that Hank was involved in founding that are now the pillar organizations of the gay and lesbian community both in San Francisco and nationally is staggering," his close friend, UC Davis Professor Bob Ostertag, wrote on the Huffington Post Website.

Some names have changed, but others are: Bay Area Gay Liberation, Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC), Butterfly Brigade, ACT UP San Francisco, Survive AIDS, AIDS Candlelight Vigil, San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center. He also served on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission's Youth and Education Committee.

A NEIGHBORHOOD HERO

But his unique work in the Tenderloin, first with the poor and homeless, and then with the poor who were dying of AIDS, made him a neighborhood hero. On Dec. 1, AIDS Day, a memorial for him was held at Tenderloin Health, the nonprofit he co-founded that originally addressed the AIDS scourge and now serves 350 homeless people a day.

Following brief remarks, the crowd picked up whistles as prearranged, blowing them along a half-block march down Golden Gate Avenue to St. Anthony's Foundation to a larger community room. The crowd grew to 75. (As co-founder of Coalition United Against Violence, Mr. Wilson helped start a Blow the Whistle Against Violence campaign.)

More than a half dozen speakers, including Hope, told how Mr. Wilson's work with suffering people had profoundly impressed them and in some cases helped change lives.

"His memory won't end here," said Blackberri, a large black man who sang a song he composed 30 years ago when Harvey Milk was assassinated. "He (Mr. Wilson) taught San Francisco how to stand tall."

On Dec. 6, the AIDS organizations he started and others held a "Thanks to Hank" commemoration in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center gym, sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society and attended by 350. It culminated in a spirited march led by Extra-Action Marching Band through the Castro as more celebrants spilled out of bars, restaurants and shops to join the throng.

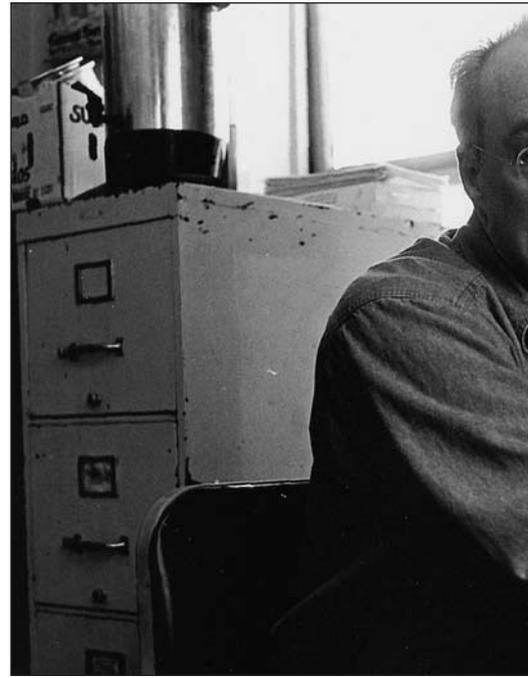
Mr. Wilson, handsome, bespectacled, with a mustache, lived a Spartan life jammed with work. He often astonished friends with innovative ideas he acted on quickly, as they scrambled to support him. His personality suited him well. Through 35 years of the endless challenges he sought as an activist, he maintained a droll, sometimes dark, sense of humor. He disarmingly spoke the straightforward truth and was relentlessly critical of wrong-headed policies. He never asked anybody to do anything he wouldn't do himself, including getting arrested at protests and going off to jail. He became an inspiration to all around him, and a mentor to hundreds of them.

SWIMMING AT THE Y

Mr. Wilson lived in a small room in a Market Street apartment building and slept on an air mattress on the floor. When the daily sea of troubles got to him, he recharged by swimming laps at the YMCA.

His friends say he had no interest in politics, although he ran for District 6 supervisor in 2000, finishing seventh in a field of 18 with 508 votes. He was indifferent to making money, too. Instead, the irresistible flame that drew him was people who needed help the most.

Mr. Wilson's focus after he left teaching fell on the Tenderloin in 1977. He and friend Ron



Henry Wilson left his imprint on the Tenderloin, the amalgam of AIDS programs that is Tenderloin Health.

Lanza saw a want ad for an SRO hotel manager and they got the job. The next year, Mr. Wilson leased the 150-room Ambassador Hotel and his legendary impact on the neighborhood began. AIDS wasn't yet known.

Word soon spread that the Ambassador was a haven for the poor and afflicted. Mr. Wilson seldom said no to anyone.

Tom Calvanese, a freelance marine biologist now, worked seven years with Mr. Wilson in the Ambassador's wildest days. His interview to be Mr. Wilson's assistant, he told the memorial crowd, consisted mostly of Mr. Wilson telling about dire episodes at the hotel "and giving me reasons not to work there." But Calvanese, too, couldn't resist the challenge at the barrel's bottom. He took the job and was soon marveling at Mr. Wilson in action.

HE LIVED FOR THE WORK

"He had a selfless compassion, incredible grace and demeanor to continue in this madness," Calvanese said. "He was this combination of qualities — I've never seen anyone embody more — and he lived for it (the work), and he got people to help in it."

"It was 35 years of doing this shit. He worked hard and could do so many things at once. But he didn't burn out. His key advice was: 'Pace yourself.' At the right time, he'd go off and swim 50 laps at the Y and come back."

"He was brilliant, too. He had these ideas, and never spent much time thinking. He just did them and left the rest to others. Those were just details, he said. It was the big idea that counted, like, 'People with AIDS can have a decent life.'"

In 1980, Hope ran a roving "house church" project. She, staff and volunteers went into SROs just to talk to and listen to poor people. Sometimes there would be prayer or Bible study, but the idea was to be present to support people. She knew the kinds of people Mr. Wilson was bringing into the Ambassador.

"Hank was hesitant at first to let us come in," she says. "I guess he had had some bad experiences with religious people beating people over the head with the Bible. But little by little he came to trust us, and then he started giving us names of people to visit."

"Later, he gave us his small office to use and he'd go away. It held maybe eight people."

Mr. Wilson said to her one day that people were dying on the street at an alarming rate. Nobody knew what was happening — there wasn't a name for it yet — but he wanted those people at the Ambassador.

Hope remembers the first death in the win-



Glenda Hope (left) and Hank Wilson at the Ambassador in 1987. "More than any other person I've known, he showed me the meaning — taught me — forgiveness and unconditional love."

good friend. On Network Ministries' 17-minute DVD about its work made in 2006, Wilson, a stout 5-foot-11, illuminates some causes of homelessness among the TL's gay population.

"He was a giant in my life," Hope said. "More than any other person I've known, he showed me the meaning — taught me — forgiveness and unconditional love. I adored him."

Henry "Hank" Wilson, gay activist, innovator and humble servant of the Tenderloin's sick, poor and homeless, died Nov. 9 at Davies Medical Center. Mr. Wilson, a nonsmoker who had survived the ravages of HIV/AIDS, died of lung cancer. He was 61.

Mr. Wilson's achievements are so epic some of his friends have called him the "Mother Teresa of the Tenderloin." Others said he created so many organizations here and in the Castro that he was the "Johnny Appleseed" of gay and AIDS causes. He clearly had no equal.

Born in Sacramento, he came to San Francisco in the 1970s after getting a B.A. degree in education from the University of Wisconsin. Soon the handsome, energetic young kindergarten and grade school teacher was fighting for gay equality in city schools and against a national anti-gay movement led by religious right-wingers.

Mr. Wilson and fellow teacher Tom Ammiano, who became a supervisor and now is a state assemblyman, successfully helped defeat the statewide Briggs initiative that

sa of the Tenderloin

mbassador Hotel to Tenderloin Health



PHOTO BY DON FUSCO

His legend lives on in the Ambassador Hotel, health and in the work of Network Ministries.

ter of 1987 officially linked to the nascent AIDS epidemic. Mel Wald was a member of the hotel's active group despite his plummeting health. They found him sweating with a high fever in bed, nearly unconscious, and took him to a hospice where he soon died. Mr. Wilson wanted a panel for Mr. Wald in the AIDS quilt that had begun in 1992, but it never happened.

"Hank said he was going to take into the hotel all the homeless people with AIDS and would I help," Hope said. "I told him yes. Nobody was doing anything. And we didn't know what it would be."

Network Ministries had an Urban Ministries training program then. Out of it came Penny Sarvis, a Brown University graduate, divorcee and lesbian "perfect" for the Ambassador.

"She really picked up the work for us. Hank would leave her a note for who to visit. And everybody loved Penny. She was one who cared, a good listener with a big heart.

"I did some of it. People died pretty fast, maybe one a week. Hank was taking in really sick people and there was no medication."

His staff would have horrified the religious right.

NURSE JOINS THE EFFORT

"Hank was running the hotel with an all-queer staff: drag queens, pre-op and post-op transsexuals, dykes and fags, queers of all colors," Ostertag wrote. "As AIDS began to fill the hotel, somehow Hank connected with a nurse who, during his off hours from his full-time nursing job, would come to the Ambassador and provide nursing to scores of dying people, working out of the trunk of his car."

Besides the nurse and the clergy, Mr. Wilson got Project Open Hand, the Visiting Nurses Association, Lutheran Social Services and others involved. Shanti wasn't interested, saying it was "too occupied with the Castro," Hope said. "Of course, we had different people dying here, the poor and destitute.

"But you just didn't say no to Hank, even if you didn't know where it led. He saw that where people lived they needed these services. And he was the first, honest to God."

Calvanese said people were attracted by this emerging model of care.

"But mostly we were attracted by this force in the middle of it all named Hank Wilson."

Mr. Wilson had no nonprofit organization. If the Ambassador's landlord wouldn't fix something like an elevator, he'd dig into his own pocket. He had a knack for knowing what touched people, too. Calvanese recalled at the memorial that Mr. Wilson bought flats of

seedling plants to give to tenants so they could nurture life, a subtle image for their individual and collective struggles.

"Tenants trashed the place a lot and didn't pay rent," Hope said. "These weren't appealing people. But it didn't matter to Hank as long as he could do something for them. He'd evict some, then let them come back. I saw a woman on the stairs once he had kicked out the week before and I asked why she's here. Hank said, 'Well, she didn't have a place to stay.'"

At the memorial, Hope acknowledged a remark Calvanese made years ago, saying, "Tom said it best — 'Hank not only forgave, he forgot.'"

Mr. Wilson was aware some people thought he was nuts.

"I know people laugh at me and what I do," Hope said he once confided to her. "But I like that about myself."

Mr. Wilson launched harm reduction 10 years before the approach even had a name here. In practice, the approach recognizes that you can do drugs, be an addict even, but don't harm yourself or the people around you.

"Hank and company were providing homeless services beyond what the city agencies were providing, without a penny of public money, paid for by the meager resources of the clients themselves," Ostertag wrote. "This was not supposed to be possible."

Meanwhile, Mr. Wilson was creating organizations away from the hotel like ACT UP and LYRIC, and even helped Lanza start a gay cabaret

It was evident to Hope, Mr. Wilson and their support team that the Tenderloin desperately needed the city's help, especially for prevention and harm reduction measures. But the city thought the AIDS problem lay mainly with the Castro's better-groomed citizens.

"The city wouldn't listen," Hope said.

But then a \$2,500 grant from Columbia Foundation came to the activists' group. Led by Mr. Wilson, Hope and Dennis Conkin, and coalesced in 1985 as Tenderloin AIDS Network, they hired an analyst to do a neighborhood "needs assessment." The recommendations were to get a storefront out of which to dispense condoms, bleach and disinfectant for needles, make referrals to city programs and send out "CHOWs," low-paid community health outreach workers, to spread the word.

Until the late 1980s, Hope said, the city said it had no money for this sort of thing. "But then the heavens opened up."

A particularly rainy season brought the city an excess of hydroelectric energy to sell. Program possibilities opened up. And the 3-year-old AIDS Network, with no office, successfully answered the Department of Health's request for proposals and became the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center with \$100,000 funding. Mr. Wilson, a co-founder, wanted to be close to clients and not be the boss. So he managed the drop-in center to provide support to the homeless and AIDS victims. He had been diagnosed with the disease the year before.

HE GETS AIDS

The center moved into a battered, abandoned storefront with narrow cubicles on Golden Gate Avenue in 1990, as AIDS raged on.

"Hank had AIDS himself," Ostertag wrote. "Bad AIDS. Terrible Kaposi Sarcoma. Lesions all over his body and eventually on his face. Tuberculosis. And finally AIDS-related dementia. Protease inhibitors came along just in the nick of time to pull his one foot out of the grave and give him back his health."

Still, Mr. Wilson managed the Ambassador. When Father John Hardin of St. Anthony Foundation wanted to join in, Mr. Wilson gave him, Hope and the nurse a bigger room, — "one he could have rented," Hope recalled — so a chaplain was present every day.

(Even now under TNDC ownership, the concept lives on in an Ambassador mezzanine

room called the Listening Post, where Network Ministries volunteers still go, and where memorials are held.)

"Meanwhile, Hank is involved all the way," Hope said. "He started ACT UP because he thought all this was taking too long. He was like that. He wanted things done at once. He kept pushing us. And that was good."

In the early 1990s the Metropolitan Community Church gave annual awards to "living saints" for their neighborhood work and wanted to name him. Mr. Wilson never wanted recognition or praise, but Hope convinced him to accept by arguing that the award "recognized the value of the work."

"It was given, by the way, in the basement of St. Mary's Cathedral," Hope said. "And when his name was mentioned the place erupted in cheers — they'd never had a chance to cheer him before."

Mr. Wilson later told Hope he was "happy" about it. "He was never effusive. Most of the time he was ready to criticize."

In 1996, after 18 years, Mr. Wilson left the Ambassador to care for his dying parents. Then he came back and picked up his work at TARC and was a mentor to scores of volunteers and staff. As manager of the homeless resource center, he was "the warrior" who maintained the direct "thread" to the community, TL Health spokesman Colm Hegarty said.

"He was a true advocate and mentor on every level of life for so many who were so desperately ill and in need of help — in a time when few were paid attention to this neighborhood and its residents," Hegarty said.

TENDERLOIN HEALTH IS FORMED

Mr. Wilson quit in 2006 when TARC merged with Continuum HIV Day Services to form Tenderloin Health. That year he went to work on an unusual homeless program at St. Boniface Church that offered its sanctuary pews during the day for sleeping. He finally stopped when his medical treatments became too much of a drain.

"There's no telling how many thousands he helped," Hope said.

One was Norman Hampton, 56, a Tenderloin Health staffer who led the AIDS Day memorial for Mr. Wilson. Hampton returned to San Francisco from Ohio in 2005 after shaking a drug habit. He landed at TARC, where Mr. Wilson, after several calls, got him a shelter bed. Two days later Hampton came back to volunteer.

"I didn't know any of the clients, but they all said this was a good place. And Hank treated me like a person. I was motivated. My passion is helping people, I told him."

After a few months, Mr. Wilson asked the rangy black man to join the staff.

"I'm a slow learner," Hampton said one afternoon in a TL coffee shop. "I'm living with AIDS and it was real motivation to have Hank there. He was easygoing, nothing bothered him. He was dedicated, loving, understanding — in a word, a real human being."

Mr. Wilson turned over two of his group sessions to Hampton. One emphasizes positive movement in life, the other encourages purging stultifying thoughts that block personal growth. And Mr. Wilson gave Hampton other responsibilities that showed his trust in him.

"It was the jump-start I needed," Hampton said. "I don't have a high school education but I've been trained in life. Hank could talk and train people on many levels, and his humor always kept me going. I never saw him in an altercation."

"The master has left this world," he said.

At the memorial, Blackberri concluded by asking everyone to "Hold on to Hank."

And in her office, Hope said, "He'll be honored for his action. But the Hank I loved was the other person. What an odd couple we were." ■

Daly hit 500 – his measure B failed, M passed

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only kept pace with, rather than surpassed, the rest of San Francisco suggests how deeply ingrained the neighborhood's voting patterns are.

With so much to vote for — a president we believe in, representatives in Congress, the state Senate and the Assembly we can count on, and local measures like B, K and M, not to mention Prop. 8, that are so meaningful to the neighborhood — it would seem to be good reason to warrant an even higher turnout.

Don Falk, executive director of TNDC — the main sponsor of the big Boeddeker Park registration drive in September — considers the turnout an accomplishment. "On a selfish note, I was really pleased to see the success we experienced in getting Tenderloin residents out to vote," he said. "Seventy-one percent (more than 800) of TNDC residents who were eligible to vote did vote." And more than 500 of eligible TNDC residents cast ballots for the first time in their lives in either the November general election or the June primary, Falk said.

OBAMA, AMMIANO AND LENO

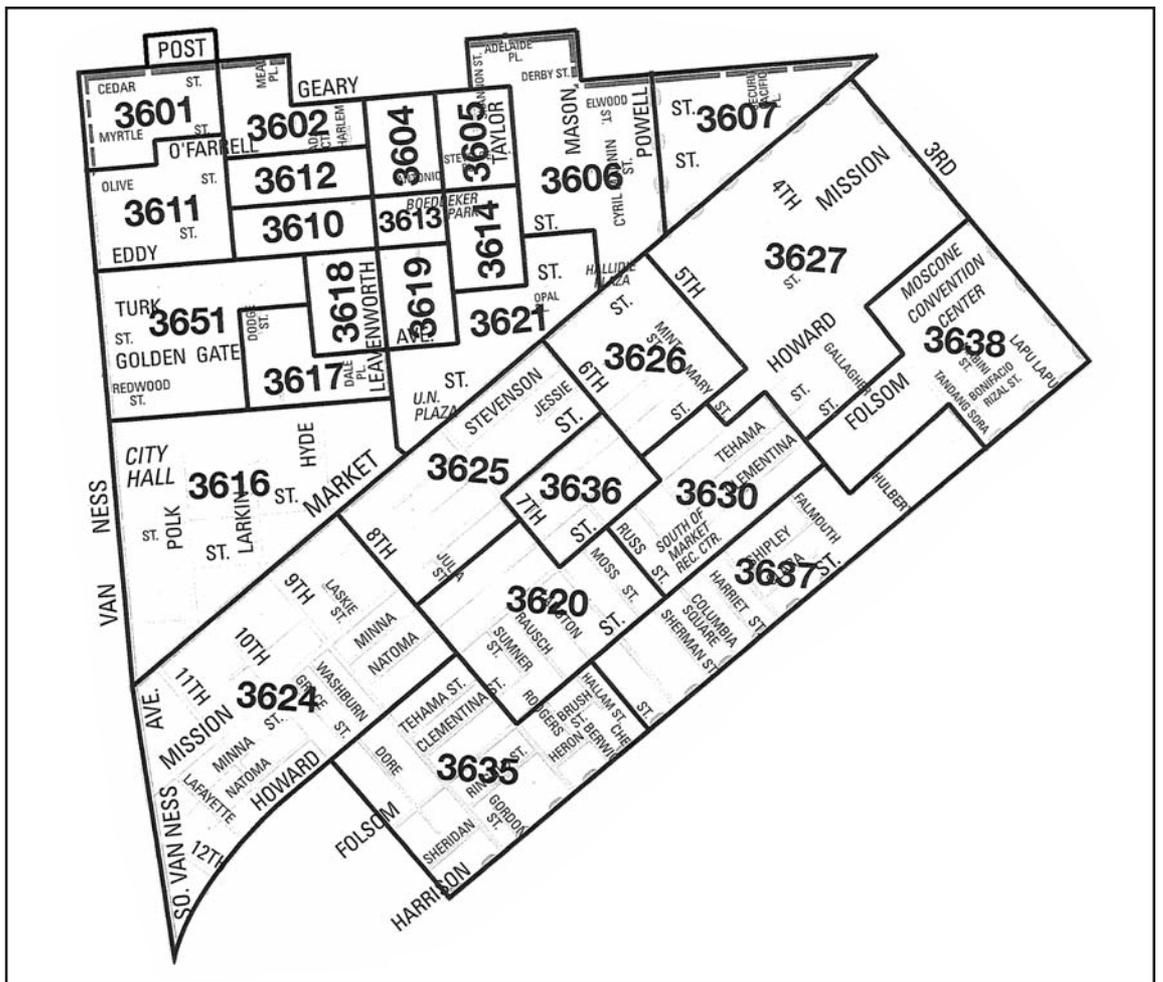
Tenderloin and SoMa voters gave a big thumbs-up to Barack Obama for president, but were less enthusiastic about Tom Ammiano for the District 13 Assembly seat and Mark Leno for District 3 state senator.

The president-elect got 81% of Tenderloin votes and 83% of West SoMa votes. In the TL, he grabbed the most votes, 88%, in precinct 3602 at the high-end of the neighborhood between O'Farrell and Post. Citywide, Obama got 84% of the votes. In West SoMa, where 83% voted for Obama, precincts 3630 and 3635 ran a dead heat for the highest percentage, 89%.

But the more mundane local candidates were less of a draw.

Ammiano got 83% of the overall Assembly District 13 electorate (the eastern half of the city) but 10 percentage points fewer in the central city. Almost 87% of voters in state Senate District 3 (also the eastern half of San Francisco plus all of Marin County and some of Sonoma County) went for Leno. In the Tenderloin it was 75% and in West SoMa, 74%. The falloff for two of the most stalwart champions of the central city was surprising, even to the experts.

Michael Nulty, president of Alliance for a Better District 6, was baffled, but he offered a possible explanation: "I think the TL is more diverse and has



more newbies. Because they're new, they might have been first-time voters, not realizing who they were voting for."

BALLOT MEASURES

• National — even international — attention focused on Proposition 8, the state ban on gay marriage. Citywide, three of four San Francisco voters were against it; the central city came in at 69% against. TL precincts 3605, 3607, 3610, 3613, 3614, 3619 and 3621 ranged from 44% to 59% against, but the other precincts offset those so-so medium votes. In precinct 3613, the Tenderloin Police Station's block, there were 114 votes for the proposition and 113 against. The biggest discrepancy was in precinct 3616, the blocks east and south of City Hall, where 13% voted for and 84% against Prop. 8.

Statewide, the proposition won narrowly, 52% for and 48% against.

• Measure B, Supervisor Chris Daly's affordable housing fund Charter amendment, lost citywide, as 52% of voters shot it down. But even in the central city, it wasn't a resounding victory. The Tenderloin voted 65% yes and 57% in West SoMa.

"We were extremely disappointed in the failure of Measure B to pass," TNDC's Falk said. "It will have ramifications over the next few years. Housing projects already approved and funded will have to go on hold. If B had passed, those projects could have gone forward immediately."

Falk thinks many voters were influenced by "the macro economic situation" and the mayor's opposition to the measure. "There's a lot of support for affordable housing in San Francisco," he said, "but if it doesn't translate into funding, we're going to continue in the crisis we're in."

In other poorer neighborhoods, Measure B fared about the same as in the central city: 68% approved it in the Mission, 63% in Bayview-Hunters Point, 57% in the Haight-Ashbury and 56% in Vis Valley. Chinatown voters came in the same as city-wide voters, 52% against.

"The whole electorate was pretty fiscally conservative," said David Latterman, a Bay

Area political analyst and head of Fall Line Analytics in San Francisco. "For (Measure B's failure), I don't see that as a rebuke on affordable housing, just as a rebuke on the price tag."

There was no "new" money involved and the price tag was uncertain. The measure would have set aside for 15 years an additional 2.5¢ from every \$100 of assessed property tax to purchase, build, rehab or maintain affordable housing; support programs for first-time home buyers; fund rent subsidies and repair public housing. According to the controller in the voter pamphlet, had the measure been in place in 2008-09, it might have raised \$36 million.

The rejection of Measure B extended the city's affordable housing losing streak at the polls even further. In 2002, voters only mustered 56% of the vote for a \$250 million affordable housing measure that needed a two-thirds majority. In November 2004, it was a different story for a \$200 million measure, but the same result. The vote was just 2.5% short. And in June 2008, voters showed little respect for Measure F, which would have designated half of any mixed-use development at Hunters Shipyard and Candlestick Point as affordable housing. Voters by 2-to-1 said no.

Possibly this time around with Measure B, the citizenry was apprehensive about how deep city finances are to be whittled down. Mayor Newsom warned in the voter pamphlet that B would mean more cuts to city services — this when San Francisco was facing an estimated \$250 million deficit for 2009-10 that it could ill afford, a figure that just after the election was re-estimated at a staggering \$575 million.

Calls and emails requesting comment from Supe Daly, B's main author, went unanswered. Even a reporter's trip to his office failed to elicit a reply.

• Confusion about the real effects of Measure K, an ordinance that would have changed how laws are enforced for prostitution and sex workers, was reflected in how San Franciscans voted — or didn't. Citywide, 59% of voters nixed K.

"I was pleased with the outcome — it was a pretty clear vote," said the Rev. Glenda Hope, San Francisco Network Ministries' executive director. "(Network Ministries) opposed it because we felt it was a free pass for pimps, johns and human traffickers. Political progressives opposed the measure as well."

Hope might be less than pleased with the outcome on her home turf, the central city, where she's worked for more than 30 years. Though not all TL voters marked the measure on their ballots (hence the under-100% total), 44% favored it and 40% opposed it in the Tenderloin. In West SoMa, it was 45% for, 43% against.

The biggest discrepancy between Tenderloin voters on Measure K was in precinct 3619, the prostitute-heavy blocks bounded by Leavenworth and Jones, Golden Gate and Eddy. There, 32% voted for

TENDERLOIN		2008		2004		
PRECINCT	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%
3601	815	521	64	864	429	50
3602	861	653	76	899	597	66
3604	893	631	71	952	565	59
3605	779	481	62	835	464	56
3606	712	494	69	820	481	59
3607	58	44	76	*	*	*
3610	558	305	55	649	297	46
3611	925	595	64	923	529	57
3612	908	704	78	850	604	71
3613	453	255	56	536	267	50
3614	960	589	61	970	528	54
3616	563	378	67	591	339	57
3617	746	536	72	772	499	65
3618	695	427	61	891	460	52
3619	731	473	65	795	483	61
3621	1136	669	59	1059	510	48
3651	840	597	71	862	538	62
TOTAL	12,633	8,352	66	13,368	7,590	57

* Figures for precincts 3606 and 3607 were combined by the Department of Elections

SOMA		2008		2004		
PRECINCT	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%
3620	1155	841	73	1159	713	62
3624	868	568	65	908	538	59
3625	815	545	67	979	438	45
3626	455	252	55	464	208	45
3630	795	552	69	528	345	65
3635	839	625	74	687	448	65
3636	1078	694	64	1049	596	57
3637	820	650	79	916	623	68
3638	1090	878	81	1056	799	76
TOTAL	7,915	5,605	70	7,746	4,708	60

COMBINED		2008		2004		
TOTAL	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%	REGIS. VOTERS	BALLOTS CAST	%
TOTAL	20,548	13,957	68	21,114	12,494	59

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Curtain falls on Pink Diamonds

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without a food and drink license, staying open after 2 a.m. without an after-hours permit to do so. Police cited the club for these violations on two occasions in September and closed it once for overcrowding. The first-floor entertainment area capacity is 231.

More troubling was the violence. Also in September, police had to quell a raucous after-hours crowd outside when gun shots were fired — terrifying neighbors.

Threet asked Alan to do something about it.

"Please immediately provide this office with your written plan to address these public nuisance activities," Threet wrote Alan on Oct. 17.

Alan responded by phone, not in writing, Threet told The Extra, and on Oct. 29, Pink Diamonds management, reacting to the rising neighborhood uproar, held a community meeting inside the strip club. It was attended by several city officials, including Entertainment Commission Executive Director Bob Davis, Tenderloin Capt. Gary Jimenez, club manager David Muhammad, retired police Capt. Richard Cairns and about 50 neighborhood residents. Muhammad had a beautiful dancer greeting guests at the door and hors d'oeuvres for everybody.

Alan, Pope and Smith did not attend, nor did Threet.

Cairns, Muhammad announced, was going to plan outside security to handle trigger-happy patrons with drugs and guns in their cars, so the neighborhood could rest in peace.

Jimenez, an old friend of Cairns', told the group he nevertheless feared the specter of "a dead body on the street" before a solution — if any — could be found.

And it almost happened.

A block away, on Saturday, Nov. 22, about 4 a.m., a man was shot twice in the torso and once in the leg at Jones and Golden Gate, Jimenez said in a crime bulletin he emailed to neighborhood activists. Witnesses heard the shots and said a "black male was standing over the victim just prior to jumping into the passenger side of a double-parked white Cadillac Escalade that immediately fled eastbound on Golden Gate toward Market Street."

The victim was a Texas man visiting his brother in Menlo Park, according to police. He had gone to get his car and left his brother in front of Pink Diamonds. The unscathed brother clammed up and wouldn't talk to police about who might have shot his brother or the motive.

The victim was recovering in the intensive care ward at S.F. General and there were no suspects, Jimenez said. He added that the police were responding to the violence with "saturated patrols." The TL is Zone One in Chief Heather Fong's Violence Reduction Plan for the city's hotbeds.

Last year Threet replaced Deputy City Attorney Neli Palma, who for years handled TL code complaints before taking a job in the private business sector. Months before she left, she said she was ready to move against The Vixen, but Alan closed it down before she could.

If a new business opens at 220 Jones, the record

is wiped clean. But for the police, the venue's history lingers like a bad taste. Jimenez indicated that any club opening there will be closely watched.

Some officials and residents are skeptical that any new strip club could do any better. The nearby Market Street Cinema and New Century strip clubs, not to mention the Mitchell Brothers — seven blocks away at Polk and O'Farrell streets — don't rack up police citations like 220 Jones does. They are not in the heart of the notorious Tenderloin, but are peripheral area clubs in busy, better-lighted business districts.

Although he doesn't dispute the difference in numbers of citations, Jimenez told The Extra he thinks location is less a factor than whatever it was Pink Diamonds offered in its "extended hours" that drew "an extremely violent type guest." He hastened to add that the club's hours between "2 a.m. and 6 a.m. proved a tremendous drain on the Tenderloin police station's limited personnel."

The captain and others say a new club under different management will pop up in 2009, but details could not be confirmed. Alan did not return phone and email messages. Adding to the venue's blemishes: Its \$810 property assessment for the TL CBD is in arrears, according to the CBD annual report.

The neighborhood, with the memory of the latest shooting still fresh, waits apprehensively for the third club at 220 Jones to open in a little more than a year.

"There were a lot of promises at the (Oct. 29) meeting," said Assistant District Attorney Brian Buckelew, who attended and was at the November police meeting, too. "I walked away with the feeling something (bad) was going to happen. And as the captain indicated, it has."

The DA's office has had its eye on the club, he said, and he will be interested to see if a new business can "reform" the site.

The DA's office has had its eye on the club, he said, and he will be interested to see if a new business can "reform" the site. ■

Deficit in billions delays Post Office upgrade in TL, no date in sight

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

THE economic downturn is reaching deeper into the neighborhood. In June, activists got the grubby 101 Hyde St. P.O. a makeover and reopen it as a full-service post office — with longer hours and staff at two windows selling stamps, weighing parcels, handling rental boxes, serving general delivery patrons and accepting passport applications.

"We had hoped to have held the grand opening party for the Civic Center Post Office by the beginning of the holiday season; however, that is not going to be the case," wrote USPS public affairs rep James Wigdel in an email response to Michael Nulty, representing Post Office Patrons, a group of central city box holders.

The reasons: Volume is down and costs are up, Wigdel wrote.

At the end of the federal fiscal year, Sept. 30, the Postal Service announced that it had lost \$2.8 billion. According to a USA Today story Nov. 17, USPS delivered 9.5 billion fewer pieces of mail than last year, a 4.5% drop, primarily because mailing by banks, retailers and real estate companies was down. It has cut service hours, offered 156,000 employees early retirement and might cut routes.

"We realize this is a disappointment for the community and also for us," Wigdel wrote. "Because of the realities of the Postal Service's financial situation, the [101 Hyde upgrade] process is taking longer than expected. We do not know at this point how long this process will take."

"We apologize for the delay." ■

Things that can go wrong on Christmas

"ON Tuesday 12/25/07 Officers Dong and Cueba were on patrol when they saw a car going the wrong way down a one way street," Capt. Daniel McDonagh reported in his Jan. 2 Southern Station district newsletter.

"They performed a traffic stop and discovered that the driver did not have a valid driver's license and had the wrong license plates on this vehicle. The Officers are required to tow the vehicle in a case like this.

"While doing an inventory of the items located inside the vehicle for the tow, the Officers noticed a Vizio flat screen television. Officer Ramos was on scene and took an earlier report of a burglary in which a Vizio flat screen television was stolen. The Officers connected the cases; the television was later returned to its rightful owner. The Officers also found computer equipment that belonged to another victim of another burglary.

"As if there was not enough evidence, the suspect was already on probation for, you guessed it; burglary." ■

—TOM CARTER

Newsom's popularity wasn't enough to push his agenda through

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K, 52% against.

"I think people at first found it confusing because of the way it was written," said Hope. "But as people got more informed, they realized there was a lot more to it."

Hope says efforts to address prostitution in the city will continue. "Many people in the No on K coalition are working to draft legislation that will help the sex workers, rather than the pimps, johns and traffickers," she said. She's not sure what form the legislation will take; the group is studying what other countries have done, but Hope emphasizes that she does not support legalization. "People don't understand street prostitution," she said. "This is not 'Pretty Woman.'"

• Measure L, funding for the Community Justice Center, flopped citywide with 57% voting no and 43% in favor. Funding was already a fait accompli, however. The mayor had submitted L for the ballot before the center on Polk Street had secured its local and federal money.

Every precinct in the Tenderloin voted against L — and in West SoMa, too. But, somewhat less enthusiastically than the city as a whole, the TL voted 43% no and 36% yes. The closest margin occurred in precinct 3621, a redrawn, sawtooth area anchored southerly by Market Street that voted 41% no, 36%

yes. But with 669 people voting, the second highest number of any TL precinct, that was more than double the 306 from the precinct who voted in the 2000 general election.

"The politics of L was interesting," said Corey Cook, a political analyst and assistant professor of politics at University of San Francisco. "Newsom was obviously pretty confident (about its passage). I'd say it was a sharp defeat for the mayor."

Cook notes that despite Newsom's popularity, he hasn't been able to commandeer the votes he needs to push his agenda through. "Newsom has been shown to have very minimal coattails in this city. We saw that with the community justice center, the board seats, and with other ballot measures."

According to Nulty, Measure L "was an unnecessary measure. It didn't need to be on the ballot because the Community Justice Center has already been funded by the supervisors and the (feds). L was just a gimmick to raise money and get a message across."

The center's court is to open in March and address quality-of-life violations in the Tenderloin, which have so often incited public harangues from merchants and residents. And which a year ago were prohibited from being tried by the Justice Center judge.

So with the mayor slashing services left if not right, he will allow \$1.2 million of mostly federal money for a Justice Center that most voters don't

want to remain in the budget.

• Two-thirds of the city's residents are renters, so it came as no surprise that Measure M — another Daly ballot measure, which prohibits landlord harassment — became a centerfield homer, garnering 59% of the vote. The high-density TL, the city's poorest neighborhood, was hot for M, voting 66% yes, 17% no.

Opponents dissed M as the "Full Employment for Greedy Lawyers" measure because, they said, it will whip up more action and cost renters and landlords a bundle in fees. The opposition's other objection was that existing law already prohibits underhanded tactics by landlords.

However, in Sean Elsbernd's Supervisorial District 7 where 32,372 votes were cast, Measure M failed by 350 votes. In Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier's District 2, which includes the Marina, Pacific Heights, Cow Hollow, 42,240 votes were cast and it won by 48.

• Measure T, which provides for free and low-cost substance abuse programs, was another ballot item where the city showed as much heart as the neighborhood populations affected by the programs. Citywide, voters approved M with 61% voting yes and only 39% opposing. The TL was 60% yes, 21% no. ■

John David Nunez helped crunch the numbers for this election analysis.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Toy giveaway at Tenderloin Police Station, Dec. 23., 301 Eddy community room. Members of the 49ers football team and the Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep football squad will distribute toys to 50 neighborhood children chosen from among those in the YMCA, Tenderloin Playground, and the Boys and Girls Club programs. Info: Officer Torres or Capt. Jimenez, Tenderloin Station, 345-7300.

SFGreasecycle, used cooking oil drop-off event, Dec. 27-30, Costco Warehouse parking lot and parking areas of all S.F. Whole Foods Markets. Save oil from the holidays in a tightly sealed, nonbreakable container and drop it off during store hours; it'll be recycled into biofuel. Info: 695-7366 or www.SFGreasecycle.org.

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE HOUSING

Supportive Housing Network, 3rd Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Contact: Kendra Fuller, 421-2926 x304.

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

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

CBHS Consumer Council, 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3-5 p.m., CBHS, 1380 Howard, room 537. Call: 255-3695. Advisory group of consumers from self-help organizations and other mental health consumer advocates. Open to the public.

Health & Wellness Action Advocates, 1st Tuesday of the month, 5-7 p.m., Mental Health Association, 870 Market, Suite 928. Call: 421-2926 x306.

Healthcare Action Team, 2nd Wednesday of the month, Quaker Center, 65 Ninth St., noon-1:30 p.m. Focus on increasing supportive home and community-based services, expanded eligibility for home care and improved discharge planning. Light lunch served. Call James Chionsini, 703-0188 x304.

Hoarders and Clutterers Support Group, 870 Market, Suite 928. Call for dates and times: 421-2926 x306.

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.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Gough, 5th Fl. Call: 905-6264. Family member group, open to the public.

SAFETY

Safety for Women in the Tenderloin, every 3rd Wednesday, Central City SRO Collaborative, 259 Hyde St., 4-6 p.m. Informal, friendly environment, refreshments, gender sensitive to LGBTQ community and sex workers. Discuss how to make Tenderloin SROs safer for women. Information: Alexandra Goldman, volunteer campaign coordinator, 775-7110 x102.

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team Training (NERT). Central city residents can take the S.F. Fire Department's free disaster preparedness and response training at any neighborhood location. See Website for schedule and training locations, www.sfgov.org/sffdnert, or call Lt. Arteseros, 970-2022.

SoMa Police Community Relations Forum, 4th Monday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location changes monthly. To receive monthly information by e-mail, contact Meital Amitai, 538-8100 x202 or mamitai@iisf.org.

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

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

Alliance for a Better District 6, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., 230 Eddy. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or sf_district6@yahoo.com, a districtwide improvement association.

Boeddeker Park cleanup, 3rd Saturday of the month, 9-noon, organized by the Friends of Boeddeker Park. To RSVP to work or for information, call Betty Traynor, 931-1126.

Central City Democrats, meets four times a year, 301 Eddy St. Community Room. Addresses District 6 residential and business concerns, voter education forums. Information: 339-VOTE (8683) or centralcitydemocrats@yahoo.com.

Central Market Community Benefit District, board meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 989 Market St., 3rd Fl., 3 p.m. Information: 882-3088, <http://central-market.org>.

Community Leadership Alliance. CLA Community Advocacy Commission monthly meeting, City Hall, Room 34.

Subcommittee meetings and informational forums held monthly at the Tenderloin Police Station Community Room. Information: David Villa-Lobos, admin@CommunityLeadershipAlliance.net.

Friends of Boeddeker Park, 2nd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., Boeddeker Rec Center, 240 Eddy. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact Betty Traynor, 931-1126.

Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board, 3rd Thursday of the month, 5 p.m. Board works to protect SoMa resources for children, youth, families and adults. Gene Friend Recreation Center, 270 Sixth St. Information: 538-8100 x202.

North of Market Planning Coalition, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., 301 Eddy. Call: 820-1412. Neighborhood planning.

North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District. Call District Manager Elaine Zamora for times and dates, 440-7570.

SoMa Leadership Council, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., The Arc, 1500 Howard St. at 11th. Emphasizes good planning and good government to maintain a diverse, vibrant, complete neighborhood. Contact: Jim Meko, 624-4309 or jim.meko@comcast.net.

South of Market Project Area Committee, 3rd Monday of the month, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom, between 6th & 7th Sts. Health, Safety and Human Services Committee meets monthly on the first Tuesday after the first Monday, 1035 Folsom, noon. Information: 487-2166 or www.sompac.com.

Tenderloin Futures Collaborative, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m., Tenderloin Police Station community room, 301 Eddy. Call 358-3956 for information. Network of residents, nonprofits and businesses aking on neighborhood development issues.

SENIORS AND DISABLED

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

Senior Action Network, general meeting, second Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Mary's Cathedral. Monthly committee meetings, 965 Mission #700: Pedestrian Safety, third Wednesday, 10 a.m.; Senior Housing Action, third Wednesday, 1:30; Information: 546-1333 and www.senioractionnetwork.org.

SUPERVISORS' COMMITTEES

Budget and Finance Committee McGoldrick, Elsbernd, Mirkarimi, Daly, Chu, Wednesday, 1 p.m.

Land Use Committee Maxwell, Sandoval, McGoldrick, Monday, 1 p.m.

TENDERLOIN HEALTH

a continuum of care

Outreach and Community Events January 2008

Health Promotion Forum

Topic: Breathe Easy Meditation

Speaker: TLH's Richard Daquioag, MSW, and Becca Wolfson, MSW

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 20, 9:30 am - 11 am

Location: 187 Golden Gate

Client Advisory Panel

Come talk with Tenderloin Health's Board Client Representative(s) and program managers about plans for Tenderloin Health.

Also provide input on new services and how we can improve.

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 14, 11:30 am - 1 pm;

Wednesday, January 28, 11:30 am - 1 pm

Volunteer and Intern for Tenderloin Health

Orientation: Sunday, January 11, 12 pm - 6:30 pm

240 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Floor, lunch provided

You must register for volunteer trainings.

Stop in/call Emilie (415) 437-2900 ext. 234.

For a schedule of our current groups or for more information call 415.431.7476 or go to www.tenderloinhealth.org

Dept. of Journalism

CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

50 Phelan Ave Bngl. 214 San Francisco, Ca 94112 (415) 239-3446



Spring 2009 Courses

Classes begin on January 12

Course	Units	Days	Time	Location	Instructor
Jour 19: Contemporary News Media	3 units	M/W/F	9:00-10:00 a.m.	ARTX 185	Gonzales
		T	6:30-9:30 p.m.	1125 Valencia St. 217	Graham
Jour 21: News Writing and Reporting	3 units	M/W/F	10:00-11:00 a.m.	HC 213	Gonzales
		W	6:30-9:30 p.m.	1800 Market St. 306	Rochmis
Jour 22: Feature Writing	3 units	T/R	11:00-12:30 p.m.	Bngl. 214	Graham
		R	6:30-9:30 p.m.	1125 Valencia St. 218	Rochmis
Jour 23: Electronic Copy Editing	3 units	T	6:30-9:30 p.m.	1125 Valencia St. 218	Rochmis
Jour 24: Newspaper Laboratory	3 units	M/W/F	12:00-1:00 p.m.	Bngl. 214	Gonzales
Jour 29: Magazine Editing & Production	3 units	M	6:30-8:30 p.m.	1125 Valencia St. 218	Graham
Jour 31: Internship Experience	2 units	Exp	Hours Arr	Bngl. 214	Gonzales
Jour 37: Intro to Photojournalism	3 units	T/R	9:30-11:00 a.m.	1125 Valencia St. 217	Lifland
		W	7:00-10:00 p.m.	HC 213	Lifland

www.ccsf.edu/departments/journalism



health promotion • social services • housing

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Peer Support Line **575-1400**

Office of Self-Help

1095 Market St., Suite 202