**SOUTHSIDE**

**Hue, cry over latchkey fee at Rec Center**

From free to $600 yearly brings protests

**BY TOM CARTER**

SOMA’s Gene Friend Recreation Center in the fall will begin charging for a previously free latchkey program that will bar teenagers, changes that have angered the low-income community at odds with what it sees as a disconnecting Rec and Park Department.

A year ago, the center’s after-school program was free and served up to 40 K-12 children. The program is still free for now, but has only eight youngsters, ages 6 to 12. Anyone older is barred from the park. The program has drawn heavily from nearby Bessie Car-michael Elementary School, where three-quarters of its 560 students qualify for free or reduced cost lunch.

In the fall, the center will start charging $16 a week, or about $600 a year, for a new latchkey program.

The attendance dip came in October when Rec and Park evicted United Playaz, an anti-violence nonprofit aimed at youth. Playaz had operated a free program from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. for three years, a period when the Rec Center experienced serious security problems.

The community apparently hadn’t seen the change coming — although the Board of Supervisors had voted to double the weekly fee to $18 for the citywide latchkey program in May — and the community set off a series of protests. A coalition formed and complained bitterly to city officials about being left out of the decision-making and about the $600 fall program that shuts out teenagers.

United Playaz Executive Director Rudy Corpuz says he was unaware of the pending change until an eviction notice appeared on a Rec Center wall in August, along with an announcement that the replacement latchkey program would cost $300 this year and $600 next year. But Playaz had been blamed for some of the park’s security problems over three years. The worst incident was Aug. 20, 2007. A man and a woman came in at 11:30 a.m. and shot and robbed a man in front of witnesses. The victim, who survived, was identified as a Playaz staffer. Police never got the shooter.

Corpuz thought his program was safe under his memorandum of understanding with Rec and Park. Playaz, funded by donations and a $200,000 reimbursement contract from the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, didn’t charge Rec and Park for the latchkey activities that ranged from life skills training to sports.

“I didn’t know until they posted it,” Corpuz said of the change. “And I didn’t know the Board of Supervisors passed it either. I didn’t know the Board of Supervisors passed it either. I didn’t know the Board of Supervisors passed it either. I didn’t know the Board of Supervisors passed it either. I didn’t know...”

**“Maybe the city doesn’t want people to come to the park.”**

Nicholas Quesada
President, S.F. Youth Commission

**THE THE BEST MID-MARKET BUSINESS**

Mini-boom in housing

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**MID-MARKET PART III**

**Artist Joseph Sierra** poses with the mural he painted in the lobby of the San Cristina, the nonprofit SRO on Market Street where he lives.

**LIVING on the Street**

‘There’s a hipness about its slumminess’

**BY MARIJORIE BEGGS**

**AND JONATHAN NEWMAN**

**PAGE 3**

**LIVING on the Street? There’s never a dull moment.** So says Mark Anthony, who’s lived in the San Cristina Residence for seven years. The 58-unit nonprofit SRO is in the thick of it — on Market, at the confluence of Golden Gate Avenue, Taylor and Sixth streets — the entrance to the Taylor Street Arts Corridor. The depressed mid-Market retail scene has grabbed so much of the spotlight, no one is thinking about the hundreds of people, like Anthony, who walk out their doors daily and encounter the good and the bad of their neighborhood.

And their numbers will swell. In the next couple of years, more than 3,700 new housing units will open up on mid-Market and a block or so either side of it between Fifth and 10th streets.

Residents — today’s and tomorrow’s — are an eclectic bunch, from the formerly homeless to peri-urban youth to economically stable families that own condos.

Doug Earle is property manager for 1005, 1049 and 1067 Market, all former office buildings converted to living spaces in the early 1990s. Young graduate students, clerical workers, self-employed techies and budding artists make their homes in the three buildings’ combined 200 live-work spaces that, Earle said, are “like college dormitories” — no kitchens and all but a few with shared bathrooms. The buildings, secure and well-maintained, are fully occupied, he said, and vacancies are snapped up almost immediately, filled by tenant word-of-mouth.

The appeal “You can hop on BART or a bus and get anywhere,” Earle said. “None of my people have cars.”

David Quintanilla, a 22-year-old S.F. State student, has lived with a roommate at 1049 Market for two years. The economics major says he’ll probably head for the East**
would’ve felt better if they (Rec and Park) would’ve talked to me.” The $300 fee for this year was dropped after protests from a coalition of neighborhood groups led by SOMCAN. But since the Playaz’s eviction, the campaign to get Rec and Park engaged with the community hasn’t succeeded.

SOMCAN, western SoMa’s nonprofit community action organization, sent a three-page letter on Oct. 2 to Mayor Newsom decrying the changes. It demanded access at Gene Friend for kids 17 and under; adequate park staffing, maintenance of restrooms, monthly meetings at Bessie Carmichael with the community and a Rec and Park outreach process.

The letter listed 15 organizations in support and copied the supes, the San Francisco Youth Commission, and DCVF Director Maria Su, among others. And it asked for a meeting with Rec and Park. Mai Doan, SOMCAN youth organizer, says Newsom never answered the letter.

The coalition went to the Youth Commission Oct. 5 and got a supporting resolution that was also sent to the mayor, the supes and Rec and Park demanding “urgent action” in addressing the SoMa community’s concerns. The resolution cited the latchkey program’s cost to “largely immigrant, low-income neighbors” and the “antidemocratic and effectively discriminating changes.” Youth Commission President Nicholas Quezada seemed mystified by the $600 charge. “Maybe the city doesn’t want people to come to the park,” he said in an interview, “and maybe it’s trying to change the demographics.”

**NO RESPONSE TO OUR DEMANDS**

SOMCAN Youth Lead Park General Manager Phil Ginsburg and Area Supervisor Steve Cismowski were at two commission hearings, Doan said, “to address the public, but with little information, acknowledgement of our concerns, or clarity.” As a result of the Youth Commission resolution there was a meeting with Cismowski, she said, after “much resistance and reshuffling.” But the months dragged by with no follow-up with a promised town hall meeting and no response to our demands.”

To publicize the neighborhood discontent right after United Playaz’s eviction, the group had held a colorful demonstration Nov. 2 outside of Gene Friend called “Dia de los Muertos: Death of a Community Space.” Corpuz led a sign-carrying group of 60 headed by a score of little kids down the sidewalk to the front door.

The group chanted slogans and a half-dozen speakers from various groups, including two senior organizations, raised against the changes. With few backyards, one speaker said, residents need a free, safe community space. Gene Friend is the only covered public recreation center in SoMa. The open Victoria Manalo Draves park is a half-block away on Folsom Street.

“Stand up, man,” Corpuz yelled. “It’s time to fight.” Little kids clustered around and joined the antiphonal chants. “Pay a fee? No, keep it free. Whose community? Our community. Hell no, we won’t go.”

**YMCA PROGRAM BOOMING**

At the time, the new latchkey program inside had two children in it. By February more had come for the offering of sports, games, arts, crafts and a snack. “We have eight signed up and five regulars,” Melvina Hill, who runs the program with David Hong, told The Extra in February. “But the YMCA afterschool program at Bessie Carmichael,” she said, “is kind of hurting us.” From 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Gene Friend is closed to anyone age 13 and over, unless it’s an adult accompanying a youngster.

But the Playaz’s exit ends a controversial era at Gene Friend that was fraught with security issues and he had signed a memorandum of understanding with Rec and Park.

United Playaz landed on its feet, though. It was given an activity space at Bessie Carmichael for a couple of weeks until Corpuz could find his own center, which he did. He landed a Mayor’s Office of Community Investment grant to lease a two-story building at 1038 Howard St. “It’s a safe place for youth and we have 40 to 50 here,” he says. “They come from all over the city. It is free for youth 5 to 17 and goes 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. It has a study hall, life skills training, job placement, case management, counseling on teenage pregnancy, tattoo removal referral and completed the volunteer process, which among other things requires fingerprints. Days later, Corpuz told The Extra Playaz had done everything required to work with Rec and Park.

United Playaz’s eviction, the group had held a colorful demonstration Nov. 2 outside of Gene Friend called “Dia de los Muertos: Death of a Community Space.” Corpuz was in the audience and spoke up. “Afternoons are the highest crime time for over-12 kids,” he said. “And the neighborhood has 1,800 youngsters between 12 and 21.” But he quoted no source.

**SOMA UNITED’S TOWN HALL**

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When the latchkey issue came up during public commentary, Ginsburg said that Gene Friend was one of 16 parks that were given such a program in the fall and if anyone had trouble paying, Rec and Park had a scholarship program. And to his knowledge, he said, nobody had ever been turned away from a program for lack of funds. The Extra asked what plan, if any, the department had for teenagers turned away in the fall. He deferred the question to Cismowski, who said the department wanted to add teen programming, but they “wouldn’t be five days a week.”

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The Buddha of Retail

Zane Kaplan, 84, owner of Kaplan’s, at 1055 Market St. for 45 years

BY ED BOWERS

The past still exists now at Kaplan’s emporium. The modern version of a war-surplus store harks back to an era when businesses served their neighborhoods with consideration and treated their customers, no matter how dif-
ficult, with respect and dignity.

This is the third location for Kaplan’s. It opened in 1939 on Third Street, where Veneta Buena Gardens is now, had a stint at 11th and Market, and then moved to Market between Sixth and Seventh in 1965. Zane Kaplan, 84, is the owner, and he works there six days a week.

Recently, I was shopping for long underwear at Kaplan’s. When I tried on a pair of underwear and took them off, Mr. Kaplan took a look at me, said I had the wrong size and found the right size, an inspiring gesture. At most stores today, the sales clerk would have sold me any merchandise I brought to the counter. If the clerk even noticed my mistake, he or she would have written me off as a bad shopper and taken my money like a thief in the night.

But Mr. Kaplan is different. He is an old-school business. Kaplan’s is a monument to the days when a small business owner had a symbiotic, instead of a parasitic, relationship to his cus-
tomers.

Read the following interview with Mr. Kaplan and learn. Or weep for the days gone past.

EB: The whistler?

ZK: Well, we have a lot of experience here. Oh, there’s the whistler.

EB: But you go out of your way.

ZK: I guess being in retail you’ve got to be patient. And he’s got to live with good and bad in this area. But it’s not as bad as it looks sometimes. Most of them who are on the streets know their space. Once in awhile they come in and you have to attend to them one way or the other. Give them advice and so forth. But you get used to it.

EB: If you had it to do all over again, would you do it?

ZK: I guess it’s part of my life. When I was young and just got out of the service, I played a lot of baseball and I asked my coach if I should go to school, college or work. And he told me it was best to go to school because you’re going to work for the rest of your life. That’s how smart he was.

EB: So you went to school?

ZK: Yeah, I went to college for 2½ years.

EB: You love your job?

ZK: I don’t think so. EB: (Laughter) But do you think that you’ll work your job until the end of your life?

ZK: Well, when I have a birthday I always say 15 more years and that’s it! In 15 more years I’ll be 99 and I say I’m not going to work until I’m 99, then I’m calling it quits. I’m giving you a warning now.

EB: Then you love your job.

ZK: Well, it’s a job. There’s a reason why I’m still here.

EB: Do you have any part-
ing advice to pass on to people who want to start a business?

ZK: If you’re going to start a business now, you’d better be careful because the conditions are actually against you. But I always say a millionaire is born every day. Every day somebody has a different thought about how to be successful. A creative person can do well if he has something novel and accept-
able.

Zane Kaplan is of a dying breed of wise businessmen from a generation that was not plugged into iPods or cell phones, and if they had friends, they talked to them in person and not on a computer. He knows how hard life can be and he knows it right from the work-
ing. But he transformed that harshness. He’s the Buddha of compassion. A compassionate man who can teach us all a lesson.

Zane Kaplan: “In retail, you’ve got to be patient. . . . Every day you see something new.”

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The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply.

The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) is a state-sponsored, volunteer-supported program that provides free counseling to people with Medicare about their benefits, rights and options, and other health insurance related questions. HICAP provides unbiased information to help you make an informed decision for your individual health care needs.

HICAP does not sell, endorse, or recommend any specific insurance product. HICAP services are FREE and include individual counseling and assistance as well as community education services.

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Contact HICAP at 1-800-434-0222 for an appointment.

San Francisco HICAP funding through Department of Aging and Adult Services
Living on Market Street:

Contd from Page 1

Coast after he graduates in June, but he has no complaints about his space. It faces Stevenson alley, rather than Market Street, so it’s quiet, the building is clean and safe, and he and his roommate have one of the building’s coveted private bathrooms. “The transportation here is great and I never feel threatened,” Quintanilla said. He’d like to have more stones open on the block — he sorely misses the Mexican food at the recently shuttered Tropical Deli — but for now, this is a good spot for him. “We moved off the State campus because he said. “We got it.”

Another tenant at 1049, preferring anonymity, is a 26-year-old City College student who’s lived there for two years. “There may be some stigma about living in this neighborhood, but there’s also an appealing hipness about its aluminnness,” he said. For “somewhere under $700 a month,” he gets clean bathrooms, friendly neighbors, privacy when he wants it, plus “it’s cool,” he said. “I don’t know how long I’ll stay, but I’m not running to get out of here.”

Jen, 36, a self-described bachelor, got his room at 1005 Market St. three years ago, tipped about the upcoming vacancy from a friend who lived at 1061 Market. His live-work space is great for his job as a freelance video photog­rapher, he said. “I like city life. I don’t want the hassle of a car, and I can reach my clients South of Market pretty easily.”

It’s a big improvement from his previous address on Taylor Street, where “people sleep and urinate in the building entryway.” Here, he said, the security is good, the landlord is attentive; the entryway is cleaned daily, and crime in the building is low. The communal bathrooms are rarely a problem. “Hey, I’m a bachelor. I never bothered to clean my bathroom very much any­way,” he said.

At 1005 and the other three buildings managed by Earle, the bathrooms are cleaned daily. Eric Parra, 34, and Jessica Laurent, 24, share a unit at 1007 Market. They’re artists, and she also works as a telephone operator. They’ve lived in the building since August. They heard about it from a friend, and so far their experience there, they say, has been “great.”

“Other than the fact that it’s commercially dead, it’s fine,” Parra said. “It’s easy to get to everything in the city, but it would be nice if there were places to eat or get coffee.”

Their building, Laurent said, is clean, and they’ve had “no problems with neighbors, no bugs, no bedbugs or roaches.” As for the mid-Market neighborhood, she said, “There’s never a dull moment.”

Josue Zul, 26, a Mexican immigrant, appeared at the door of the building with his bicycle, on his way to work at a restaurant. He, too, heard of the building through a friend. He’s been there a year and says that so far it’s all been good.

The dot-com boom brought in the live-work population and the first residential con­dos on these blocks. The Marriott Group bought the six-story Garfield Building at 942 Market and converted the offices into 28 four­to six-room condominiums, with the first owners signing their deeds in 2001 and their assessed values ranging from $322,000 to $745,138. An architectural gem, the building was built in 1907 by the Reid Brothers, who also designed the Fairmont Hotel.

The property also has three ground-floor commercial condominiums, all currently for sale, though two are occupied by long-term lease­hold tenants Subway and Radio Shack. The Garfield is all but full. According to Paragon Real Estate agent Suzanne Gregg, four residential units are for sale, ranging from $385,000 to $450,000. There may be more bargains in the building. Last year, the assessor’s office showed eight deed changes at the build­ing, all assessed at $200,000 and below.

Told that The Extra was writing a story about the efforts to revive mid-Market, Gregg said “God — I hope it becomes a revival.”

So, too, do Garfield condo owners Martina and her husband. When real estate prices dropped last year, they bought a two­bed­room overlooking Hallidie Plaza.

The vibrancy of the mid-Market scene pleases them. “It’s easy to reach work and shopping,” said Martina. “At least we walk Powell and Stockton and Grant. The streets have life.”

Sometimes, though, the lack of stores on these streets have too much of a 24-hour­ers communal kitchen life. The girls sell drugs and themselves.

When we ask them to stop, they say, “This is the Tenderloin. Why did you move here?”

Troublesome, too, is the loud music and the wee-hourscomings and goings at the Power Exchange several doors up Market Street, which prompted the condo association to ask the city for stricter code enforcement.

Still, Martina and her husband believe street life is improving around the Garfield. The Power Exchange has relocated to Jones Street. the sidewalk chess players and kibitzers have moved farther west on Market Street and, Martina said, the value of their condo is holding steady.

Condos are the high end of living on Market, but even at the low economic end, in an SRO for formerly homeless adults, residents give the street kudos.

Community Housing Partnership’s San Cristina Residence is an attractive, 1913 structure at 1000 Market that wraps around the corner to Golden Gate Avenue. Its lobby and ground-floor offices have cheerful yellow walls and art all around. Security is tight — visitors must first show IDs, then wait outside for the person they’ve come to see.

There is good on the street,” said resident Mark Anthony. “From our communal kitchen, one can look out at everything coming and going, a 24-hour peep show, with marches and parades and concerts. Everything’s in walking distance and the public transit can’t be beat.

Anthony, a CHP community organizer who also on the San Cristina advisory board, sometimes does banquet set-ups for Local 2 in downtown hotels and Moscone Center, all within walking distance from his home. He cooks his own meals a couple times a week in the communal kitchen and sometimes even cooks for fellow residents.

What’s bad about living on Market is what Anthony calls “some of everything not good —
Many now, more soon

When he’s not busy with advocacy work, Sierra’s in his room at the San Cristina, which doubles as his atelier, a place to create his paintings and sculptures. He painted the lobby mural, has made gifts of his works to the S.F. Mental Health Association and the Homeless Coalition, and teaches art classes in the San Cristina. He used to be able to walk half a block to Pearl Art & Craft for supplies. Of it’s demise in February: “A real loss,” Sierra said.

At the other end of mid-Market, one of the biggest housing changes coming to the area will happen at Eighth Street, site of the area’s oldest, still-occupied living spaces: Trinity Plaza.

Opened in 1960 as Del Webb Townhouse motor lodge, developer Angelo Sangiacoimo bought the building in 1977 and turned it into 377 studios and one-bedroom apartments. Sangiacoimo, who has had a stormy relationship with housing rights advocates and the Planning Department over this and other properties, has managed to pull off phase one of his huge Trinity Place development, three towers with 1,900 housing units.

Jan. 20, Trinity Properties started moving tenants from rent-controlled apartments in the old building into the just-completed 440-unit tower at 1188 Mission. The exact number moving is uncertain, said Trinity Chief Financial Officer Walter Schmidt, because some people are opting to leave Trinity entirely. Still, he estimates that tenants in about 800 units will relocate in the new building.

One tenant who’s doing the move is Barbara Knutson. At the end of February, she left her rent-controlled studio in the old building, where she’d lived 14 years, for a comparable unit in the gleaming new tower.

There were wonderful things about living at Eighth and Market, she said. “The library was right across the street, Walgreens was just a block away, and, until I retired, I just walked over to my job.” Knutson was a budget analyst for the U.S. Marshal Service in the old Federal Building.

The old building had its fine points, too. “Not many people knew that there was a swimming pool and a little grocery store in the old building,” she said. “I already miss that.”

Schmidt said there are “no immediate plans to demolish the old building at this time.” When it’s razed, construction will start on the other two towers and their 1,400 new market-rate studios and apartments — they’ll house the biggest single infusion of mid-Market residents.

The six-story 1005 Market was one of three mid-Market office buildings converted to live/work spaces.
ROBERT MORGAN
Boxer of the Elm

Robert Morgan earned his “Batman” nickname by keeping a vigil over the neighborhood while sitting at the window of his fifth-floor Elm Hotel room.

The hotel staff said the self-appointed protector claimed to know many of the shopkeepers below and would tip them to any untoward activity in their vicinity.

“He had this idea,” one told the Richmond Free Press, “he said he was the Batman of the Elm.”

Mr. Morgan was one of the city’s first Care Not Cash beneficiaries and became an Elm tenant five years ago.

“I saw him Monday, the day before he passed,” one of his neighbors said. “I knew him well — I saw him Monday, the day before he passed.”

Mr. Morgan in the lobby where tenants gather to get their mail, was described as “the last of a breed,” a man who lived in the building’s first memorial — for Ramona Lucero, 40, a resident of the Senator Hotel.

Glenda Hope has officiated at hundreds of funerals for central city residents, always mixing a sense of humor with a tone of kindness.

She helped Mr. Morgan perform his stories, and she did it every month.

“I knew him well — I knew him for a half hour, as a simple kindness, and talked to him,” she said.

| LAVERNE JOANNE SMITH |

Legal secretary

Laverne Smith, a former legal secretary and two-year resident of the Essex Hotel, died of respiratory complications four days after she happily returned to the hospital following a three-month hospital stay.

The twice-married Mrs. Smith, mother of four sons, died Feb. 8. She was 55.

“We all knew him,” said Libby, another tenant who knew Mr. Morgan well.

Mr. Morgan was one of the city’s first Care Not Cash beneficiaries and became an Elm tenant five years ago.

“I knew her when I was 19 and she lived behind the hotel,” said Glenda Hope, a local funeral director who officiated at the memorial. “I knew her when I was 19 and she lived behind the hotel.”

She knew Mr. Morgan well — he was a frequent visitor.

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| LEON BRADSHAW |

Touched people deeply

Leon Bradshaw, a resident of the Senator Hotel, 519 Ellis St. for 14 years, died in the hospital Dec. 14. He was 64.

“Leo was really a constant and always a sweet person,” said one of his old friends.

He had “thousands” of encounters with Mr. Morgan and “95% of them were unappreciable. He could be a monster,” he said.

Mr. Morgan, apparently ignoring his failing health, died in bed with his newspaper Dec. 22. He was 55 and from Oakland.

Mr. Morgan was one of the city’s first Care Not Cash beneficiaries and became an Elm tenant five years ago, right after the hotel was renovated.

He soon earned a reputation for being humorous, friendly and generous.

“I saw him Monday, the day before he passed,” said a man named Bicky. “He came by and gave me a dollar, sometimes it was two. He had a good heart.

You don’t see many like him.”

As he was the mother of the eight mourners, Mr. Morgan wanted her to be his girlfriend and told her he was going to marry her. But it was hard to know when he was kidding or on the level, she said.

Services Manager Scott Ecker said one time he was trying to catch a taxi in pouring rain.

Mr. Morgan was outside and held an umbrella over him for a half hour, as a simple kindness, and talked the whole time.

“His story-telling was crazy and it was hard to lose him,” said Libby, another tenant who knew Mr. Morgan well.

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“His story-telling was crazy and it was hard to lose him,” said Libby, another tenant who knew Mr. Morgan well.

Mr. Morgan was one of the city’s first Care Not Cash beneficiaries and became an Elm tenant five years ago.

“I saw him Monday, the day before he passed,” said a man named Bicky. “He came by and gave me a dollar, sometimes it was two. He had a good heart.

You don’t see many like him.”

As he was the mother of the eight mourners, Mr. Morgan wanted her to be his girlfriend and told her he was going to marry her. But it was hard to know when he was kidding or on the level, she said.

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Kevin Sharps, Episcopal Community Services’ housing director, “She was part of this community but we had a chance to hold that life for a minute only.”

“Mona was my ex-girlfriend, the person who took care of me when I couldn’t care for myself,” said Kimby Faires, crying. “Thanks to all of you for the love you gave Mona — she felt your love. What we all need to do is take care of one another and stop this taking of lives.”

Cassie Maxwell, who attended the memorial with her 4-year-old son, said she met Ms. Lucero when “my son was a baby. I was in a bad place. I wanted to die. I’d lay my head in Mona’s lap and she would comfort me.”

Desk clerk Quentin Hoskins found Ms. Lucero in her apartment, unresponsive. His efforts to revive her failed.

“Look to your right and left, and say hello,” Hoskins told the mourners. “You’ve got your life and health and a beautiful community here. If you ever have a problem, come and talk to me — you’re my family. You make me smile and you make me worry. I was worried about Ramona Lucero — I wish she had talked to me.”

Ms. Lucero was born in San Pablo and lived in San Francisco for 20 years, estranged from her family. Faires told The Extra later. She was on the board of directors of the S.F. Latino Commission, an addiction treatment program, and often volunteered at women’s shelters. “But she was troubled,” Faires said. “She tried to kill herself many times.”

At the end of the memorial, a Bishop Swing resident recalled meeting Ms. Lucero only once, the day they moved into the building. “She seemed happy. That tells us that we need to listen to each other.”

Whittaker closed with the hymn, “How Great Thou Art” — “I see the stars and I hear the rolling thunder . . . ”

—MARJORIE BEGGS

OBITUARIES

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OBITUARIES
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS
Unveiling of “Windows into the Tenderloin,” a mural by Mona Caron. Mar. 5, 3-5 p.m., corner of Jones and Golden Gate Avenue. Project initiated and supported by TL Community Benefit District, with funding from the city’s Community Challenge Grant Program, the Mayor’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and donations from local supporters. Mural depicts neighborhood history and idealized locations, many suggested by community members. Indoor reception at 164 Golden Gate Ave. follows unveiling.

Operation Restore Deenestration, fundraiser and solo show by Brian Googin, opening reception March 5, 6-10 p.m., 1 AM gallery, 1000 Howard. The exhibition, through Apr. 3, celebrates the 13th anniversary of the Sixth and Howard project. Gallery hours: Tue.-Sat. noon-6:30 p.m. Info: 861-5089.

Woman Hood, art works by 19 women who live or work in the Tenderloin, through May 31, 1344 Golden Gate Ave. Reception March 20, noon-3 p.m.-Sponsored by TL Community Benefit District. Gallery hours: Fri. and Sat.: noon-3 p.m. Info: 292-4812, or Rick Darnell, exhibition curator, tenderloincommunityartpro-jects@gmail.com.


159th annual Saint Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival, March 13. Parade of more than 100 floats, Irish dance troupes and marching bands begins at Market and Second streets at 11:30 a.m. and proceeds up Market to Civic Center Plaza. Plaza events, include Irish cultural and retail booths, food, bars, children’s activities and live music. Info: sfpatricksdayparade.com.

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULED EVENTS
Supportive Housing Network, 3rd Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Contact: 421-2926 x304.

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

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH
CBHS Consumer Council, 3rd Monday of the month, 5-7 p.m., CBHS, 1300 Howard St, room 537. Call: 255-3995. 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 Assoc., 870 Market St., Suite 928. 421-2925 x306.

Healthcare Action Team, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 5:30-7:30 p.m., City Hall, room 378. CBHS advisory committee, open to the public. Call: 255-3547.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-S.F., 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Family Service Agency, 1010 Gough St., 5th Fl. Call: 905-6254. Family member group. open to the public.

SAFETY
Neighborhood Emergency Response Team Training (NERT). Central city residents can take the S.F. Fire Department’s free disaster preparedness and response training at neighborhood locations. See www.stguy.org/nert/, or call Lt. Arteseros, 970-2022.

SoMa Police Community Relations Forum, 4th Monday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m. Location varies. To receive monthly e-mail info: Mental Amira, 538-8100 x202 or mamitra2001@gmail.com.

Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting, last Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m., police station community Room, 301 Eddy St. Call: 421-2936.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
Alliance for a Better District 6, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., 230 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or sf_dist6cf@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. Info: 339-VOTE (8683).


Community Leadership Alliance. Monthly meetings and informational forums. Tenderloin Police Station community room. David Vila-Lobos, admin@communityleadershipalliance.net.

Community Leadership Alliance 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. Info: 538-8100 x202.

North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District. Call District Manager Eaine Zamora for times and dates, 292-4812.

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, 634-4039 or jim.meko@concast.net.


Tenderloin Futures Collaborative. new info to be announced.

SENIORS AND DISABLED
Mayor’s Disability Council. 3rd Friday of the month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, room 400. Call: 554-6799. Open to the public.

Senior Action Network, general meeting, second Thursday of the month, 9 a.m.-noon. Universal Unitarian Church, 1137 Franklin St. Monthly programs, 965 Mission St. #700; Senior Housing Action Committee, third Wednesday, 1:30. Call for info on health program and Senior U, 546-1333 and www.shau.org.

Applying today!