

**TENDERLOIN PEOPLE'S GARDEN**

San Francisco Beautiful awarded the 8-month-old vegetable garden a \$3,800 grant in September to expand its burgeoning plot at the corner of Larkin and McAllister. The gift was celebrated Oct. 14 with a Grand Re-Opening. About 40 people gathered in the hot morning sun to acknowledge the grant, then formed teams to hoe and plant while two guitarists strummed in the background. The grant paid for three 10-by-3½ foot, wood-bordered plots with new soil on the Larkin side, some tools, and five terraced planters behind the older garden section on the McAllister side. The new plots were planted with cauliflower, cabbage and lettuce on ground unused for more than 50 years, according to the Department of Real Estate. "It's always been such a terrible mess," said Jim Chappell, S.F. Beautiful's interim executive director. "I never imagined it could be a garden. But it's fabulous." The har-

vest is divvied the first Wednesday of the month. ■

**PARK REGULARS**

Open-park weekends resume this month at Boeddeker, along with free tai chi classes starting Nov. 4 and continuing every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon through February. Friends of Boeddeker Park has received a \$937 Innovator Award from the S.F. Parks Trust to continue the classes and to pay staff to open the park on weekends, when it's usually closed. During the rainy Sunday Streets in the Tenderloin on Oct. 24, tai chi instructor Chris Sequeira moved his group inside the clubhouse for their exercise, and Melvin and the Mellotones jazz group came in, too, for the "great acoustics." Friends Chair Betty Traynor said she hoped "other friends" can help hire music groups to perform, rain or shine, one Sunday afternoon a month when the Innovator money opens the park. ■



PHOTO BY TOM CARTER

**Volunteers** plant vegetables on one of three new plots at Larkin and McAllister.

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