

Hope retires after 41 years of serving TL

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on picket lines in demonstrations and gone to jail for peace and justice.

As she strolls grimy Tenderloin streets it's not uncommon for a homeless person to ask her for a prayer or blessing, a request she cherishes and what she says she'll miss most, "the people."

Rev. John Hardin, a Franciscan priest long associated with St. Anthony Foundation, said that in the early 1980s, when he was looking for a project to join, someone told him about "a little piece of dynamite" that might have his answer, his description of Hope drawing the crowd's knowing laughter. Hope didn't greet him with open arms, he said. She told him, "If you're here to convert people, get out." More laughter.

Hardin stayed on, though, and they created a ministry in a room in the Ambassador Hotel — managed by the "Teresa of the Tenderloin," Hank Wilson — for what Hope called "drop-in chaplainizing." Memorials were sorely needed.

"A hundred died in a year," Hardin said. A room called the Listening Post still exists at the Ambassador. Hope remained available to residents during afternoons, weekly, for many years.

"I think she's a saint," Hardin concluded. "I'll canonize her any day."

Sister Rosina, SafeHouse co-founder, said the "feisty redhead" is known for her "faith, vision and courage. Who among us is not inspired by Glenda?"

In her "Reflections" during her night in the spotlight, Hope talked of the many ventures she has undertaken in her career, often referencing "the love of God" as the sustaining spark for action. A retrospective slide show brought a round of smiles when early photos showed her sweet face and dark red hair at her ordination at Old

First Presbyterian Church where she became assistant minister in 1970. Two years later, she created San Francisco Network Ministries because of need she found in the Tenderloin. She was then married to Scott Hope, a San Francisco State professor, who died in 1997.

Now, Network Ministries will be no more. "People often ask what I'm going to do in retirement," Hope said. "Listen to what God has in store for me."

She will continue her 35 year practice of going on semiannual meditation retreats south of Carmel to the House of Prayer run by the sisters of Notre Dame. She'll stay active in the Older Women's League, about 200 strong in San Francisco. She chairs its 15-member political activity committee and tackles, for example, issues surrounding Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

She is also involved in a campaign to organize "community living" in her Cayuga Terrace neighborhood as an alternative to assisted living. Community living gets neighbors knowing each other, their needs and resources in a caring network.

"It's entirely residential," Hope says. "I've been working on it a year. We barter and trade. Like, someone does yard work for me in exchange for using my front load washer."

Some things will not fall far away from the Network Ministries tree as the doors close at 559 Ellis St. The Tenderloin Tech Lab at 150 Golden Gate Ave. that she started with St. Anthony Foundation to give homeless and low-income access to now 38 computers will be taken over by St. Anthony's.

San Francisco Night Ministry will organize and lead Hope's annual Dec. 21 interfaith memorial for homeless people who die on the street each year that has grown into a Bay Area-wide



The evening ended with the song "Let There Be Peace on Earth." From left, Mary Russell, June Keegan, Jane Martin, Trilla Jentzsch, Glenda Hope and Gail Kennedy.

event. Hope started the moving ceremony more than 20 years ago after being startled to read that 16 people had died of exposure. She organized a memorial that walked to each site where someone had died. Now, starting in Civic Center Park across from City Hall, a list of the deceased is read, prayers from many denominations are said, a bell is struck for each name announced and at the end the list is burned. Lists have grown to 100 names, as homeless who died in other cities get included.

Rev. Paul Trudeau of City Church will be available to do memorials in the Tenderloin and SoMa.

Hope conducted more than 1,000 memorials in SROs, dating to 1977. She began after a chronically depressed, diabetic woman she knew jumped out of a fifth-floor SRO window to her death. Hope and a nun and a priest held a memorial in the lobby. It was well attended and appreciated.

In recent years, The Extra has covered the memorials. Last year a selection of 99 obituaries, plus four features about the neighborhood, were published in "Death in the Tenderloin."

June Keegan of Network Ministries will keep the Ambassador chaplaincy going at the Listening Post. "If she stops, TNDC will take it over," Hope said.

The Network Journal, a collection of news briefs and Hope sermons or es-

says with limited circulation, will cease publishing after the October issue.

Hope will step down as chair of the Tenderloin Futures Collaborative, which meets monthly in the police station Community Room. She started it in September 2001 to share information about issues affecting the neighborhood. As chair, she was blunt and fair, notorious for running a tight meeting, enforcing time limits with a firm if not iron hand, and allowing only questions, no rambling. Several bouquets at her seat greeted her when she arrived at the September meeting. "Thank you for tolerating me being your moderator, even when I stepped on your toes," she told the group of 25. Several people showed interest in succeeding her.

SafeHouse will continue under the aegis of Network Ministries Housing Corp. Hope expects to increase her time spent with the graduates.

"Regrets?" she repeats the question. "Of course. How much time do you have? There is so much work to do. Political priorities need to be changed. Redirect our money from military to peaceful — we could end poverty, we just don't have the will as a nation. It's money for bombs, not people."

"And, you know, instead of putting prostituted women in prison, fund things like SafeHouse."

Where there's a will, there's hope. ■

So much to see. For free.

San Francisco Neighborhood Free Days at the Academy!

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES Golden Gate Park

SF ZIP CODE	FALL FREE DAYS
94110, 94114, 94117, 94127, 94131, 94132	October 4, 5, 6
94116, 94122	October 11, 12, 13
94108, 94109, 94115, 94118, 94121, 94123, 94126, 94129, 94133	October 18, 19, 20
94102, 94103, 94104, 94105, 94107, 94111, 94112, 94124, 94130, 94134, 94158	November 1, 2, 3

Come see how all life is connected at the world's only aquarium-planetarium-rainforest-living museum. We invite San Francisco residents to enjoy free admission on the dates designated by their zip code. Full schedule and info at calacademy.org.

Free adult admission with valid photo ID and proof of residency. Up to 6 children free per adult.

Generously sponsored by

City and County of San Francisco

Outreach Advertising

Newspaper Outreach Advertising Survey

The Board of Supervisors is evaluating the effectiveness of Outreach advertising. Was the information in this ad helpful and/or interesting to you? What types of articles would you like to see? Please provide your comments at (415) 554-7710 or email board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org. Please include the publication name and date.

A project of the S.F. Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Mayor's Office on Disability

"Tell the City where curb ramps are needed most!"

Do you use a wheelchair, walker, or scooter? Do you have trouble getting to the nearest transit stop? The DPW needs your help in identifying sidewalks and paths of travel with missing or damaged ramps. Upon your call, we will send investigators out and collect findings based on your information. Just jot down the intersection and tell the friendly 3-1-1 operator how a curb ramp would increase access for your neighborhood. We appreciate your help!

San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT)

The SFPD has developed a volunteer citizen disaster preparedness program. The Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) is modeled after and works in partnership with the San Francisco Fire Department's (SFFD) Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT). The ALERT program will train members of the public to assist law enforcement in essential tasks after a major disaster. Such tasks may include: traffic control, foot patrol of business and residential areas, and reporting criminal activity. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age and live, work, or attend high school in San Francisco.

Volunteers will receive training from both the SFFD and the SFPD. ALERT volunteers will first complete the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training (www.sfgov.org/sfnert), and then graduate into an eight hour Police Department course specifically designed for ALERT team members. For a comprehensive overview of the ALERT program, please visit our webpage at www.sanfranciscopolice.org/alert

For additional information email sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or call Sergeant Mark Hernandez (SFPD, Ret.), at (415) 401-4615.

Like us on Facebook, at SFPD ALERT (<https://www.facebook.com/SFPDALERT>).

Do you need free expert advice about money?

Come to the San Francisco Financial Planning Day, hosted by the CCSF Office of Financial Empowerment, the Financial Planning Association and Consumer Credit Counseling Service on Saturday, October 19, 2013, from 9am-4pm at UC Hasting School of Law.

Certified Financial Planners and Credit Counselors are volunteering to offer free one-on-one counseling and financial workshops through the day. Visit: www.sfsmartmoneynetwork.org for more information and to reserve your spot.

San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)

Looking for the right public school for your child? Come to the SFUSD enrollment fair and find out what each school has to offer. Meet principals and teachers, and talk to other parents about what they love about their school: Saturday, November 2, 2013 from 9:30am-2:30pm at the Concourse Exhibition Center, 620 - 7th Street. For more information, including transportation to the fair, visit www.sfusd.edu/enroll or call (415) 241-6085.

The City and County of San Francisco encourage public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

CNS#2536373