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# Extra

## Central City

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### "Harry"

with guests Chris Dittenhafer and Denise D'Anne!



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# Supe gets off to a fast and eventful start

Supervisor Chris Daly's first three months in office have been action-packed, and not just because the cops were called to a fund-raiser for him, he got into a shouting match with the mayor, and a crowd of angry African American leaders chastised him on the City Hall steps. He's been busy.

Through the end of March, Daly has officially submitted, either alone or with other supervisors, 40 items: resolutions, hearing requests, ordinances and motions. Though many of these matters still await committee or city department action, the new supervisor wasted no time pushing his agenda forward.

Acting in concert with the community, Daly responds to appeals for help from workers in his district, champions the homeless side by side with the



## DALY'S FIRST 90 DAYS

by Stan Hutton

Coalition on Homelessness. Daly community volunteers are working out of 476 Eddy, at the Tenderloin SRO Collaborative office, and he has established a process for regularly soliciting neighborhood input and feedback.

He stomped Chris Dittenhafer in the December runoff because Daly was a well-known quantity. People knew which side he was on: theirs. It is not the sort of relationship most

supervisors of boards past have had with their constituents.

He has to act fast. As a two-year supe, Daly's term is already one-eighth done. He has set much into motion; it will take quite some time for all of it to play out.

### Calls for 16 Hearings

Public information compiled and supplied to *The Extra* by Daly's aides shows he has called for 16 committee hearings, nearly a fifth of the supervisors' 78 hearing requests since the new board was sworn in Jan. 8. All but one of Daly's hearing requests are pending. He withdrew the one that would have explored whether the Grant Building owners had received special consideration from the city after the owners — Seligman Western Enterprises — reached agreement with the Tenants' Association.

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## LOTTERY SALES

### TL tops in city

by Stan Hutton

Lottery sales in the Tenderloin topped all other San Francisco neighborhoods last year. Thirty stores — in blocks bounded by Polk, Post, Mason, McAllister, plus the north side of Market Street between Jones and Mason — sold more than 7.5 million chances to get rich quick.

A *Central City Extra* analysis of state lottery sales data shows that with 7% of the city's outlets, Tenderloin lottery sales made up 11% of the nearly \$68 million collected during 2000 in the city from Super Lotto and scratch off tickets.

The Tenderloin's \$7.5 million in gross sales topped the \$7 million figure in the 94133 ZIP code area of Chinatown and North Beach and was 25% more than third-ranked

Mission District's \$6 million. San Francisco's 453 lottery outlets each averaged nearly \$150,000 in sales last year. The Tenderloin's per store average, \$250,000, was topped only by the Chinatown/North Beach average of \$295,000 per store and matched, surprisingly, by West Portal's \$250,000 average. The West Portal average, however, is mitigated by the fact there are only eight lottery outlets in the neighborhood.

But averages are deceiving. Two outlets on Market Street, for instance, generated \$2.7 million in sales in 2000, 37% of total Tenderloin sales. Taking those stores out of the equation drops the average sales for the remaining stores to \$169,186, nearer to, but still

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# New Catholic middle school to open in September

When it opens in September, De Marillac Middle School's greatest challenge may be getting people to pronounce its name correctly. It's French — say di-MAR-ee-ak — named for St. Louise de Marillac, the 17th century founder of the Daughters of

PHOTO: CARL ANGEL



Site of the new middle school next to St. Boniface church.

Charity who is the patron saint of social workers.

"I know everyone's going to forget, but there's a space after the 'De,'" said Catherine Ronan, executive director of the project to establish the Tenderloin's first middle school. Essentially tuition-free, this

Catholic middle school will start small: one 6th-grade class of no more than 22 students.

"In 2002, we'll add 7th grade and, in 2003, 8th grade, about 80 students total," Ronan said. They'll be taught in the former St. Boniface School, adjacent to the church on Golden Gate Avenue, which closed in the 1960s after 85 years.

When De Marillac is fully operational, classes will be small — 12 to 15 students per classroom — and the school day and school year longer, though how long is still undecided, Ronan explained. "The first year, we may not even have a principal," she added. Teaching staff is up in the air, too.

To a curriculum of reading, writing, math, science, religious instruction, arts and computer science will be added after-school tutorials, and weekend and summer programs.

Also planned: extensive collaborations with Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory school, on Ellis between Gough and Laguna. De Marillac's sponsors, the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and San Francisco District of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, also direct Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep.

Together, the Daughters and Brothers have pledged

more than \$2 million for seismic upgrading and De Marillac's start-up costs. They wanted the school to be in the Tenderloin because the neighborhood children's social, educational and economic needs are so profound — the most profound in San Francisco, according to

## ONLY STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK

by Marjorie Beggs

a demographic survey conducted last year by Project Coordinator Jim Day. Despite its location, De Marillac enrollment is open to all needy San Francisco students.

"Our goal is to enroll at-risk students," Ronan said. "Many of them will be far below grade level in basic skills, but in three years' time, we want to bridge their educational deficits so they can compete in San Francisco's most demanding high school programs. For these children, education is the door to the way out of poverty."

The cost to parents? They'll be asked to contribute \$30 to \$40 a month per child, but if the fee is a hardship, it will be waived, Ronan said.

Ronan started taking student referrals from school and com-

munity organizations and applications from parents in March. [For inquiries, call the school, 552-5220, or go to the Web site: [www.demarillac.org](http://www.demarillac.org).] Does she expect a deluge? "Yes," she said, based on the number of calls she's received since the Jan. 10 press conference

announcing the school. Will Tenderloin children get priority? Ronan wasn't sure. "I know we're going to base our admissions on need and risk levels, but we're not really certain of the admissions policies yet," she said. "There are 40 other schools in the United States using this model [religious schooling for poor, at-risk children that also features comprehensive educational and social support outside of traditional school hours]. I'm sure we'll rely on their experience and expertise in guiding our policies."

Ronan estimates the new school's annual operating costs at \$500,000. Much of it is expected to come from interested individuals like venture capitalist and philanthropist B.J. Cassin, "who wrote a check for

\$100,000 for this project after spending less than an hour touring the site," said Gery Short, director of the Christian Brothers West Coast Office of Education.

De Marillac never would have become reality, Short added, without the efforts of two local Catholic businessmen, investment advisor Norm Berryessa and investment banker and attorney Lou Giraudo.

"In 1995, I saw an article about Jesuit nativity schools in Harlem," Berryessa told *The Extra*. "I got excited and thought, 'Why not in San Francisco?' and made a lot of calls right away. I was thinking of Bayview as a school location at first."

Berryessa tried to stir up interest but got nowhere for a few years. Then, discussing his efforts with TNDC Executive Director Kelly Cullen, he found out that Lou Giraudo liked the idea of a school, too, but wanted it in the Tenderloin. Countless meetings and a year later, Coordinator Day was hired and the project was launched.

"The Tenderloin," Short said, "is a place where hope and opportunity are hard to come by. . . . De Marillac will change and save the lives of countless young people." ■