



*Delivering hope to  
homebound seniors.*

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Meals On Wheels of San Francisco  
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...for your support

FALL 2006



**MEALS  
ON WHEELS**

**OF SAN FRANCISCO, INC.**

*Delivering hope to  
homebound seniors.*

**A WORD OF THANKS  
FROM THE CEO**



Thanks to the continued support from the

community, the past year has been a tremendous success for Meals On Wheels of San Francisco and the homebound seniors we serve. With the generosity of donors, corporate sponsors, foundations and volunteers, we were able to exceed our annual goal and increase the number of meals we serve.

With your help and support, we can continue to aim higher, to exceed our goals, and to meet the needs of San Francisco's homebound seniors. On behalf of the over 1,200 frail, homebound seniors we serve, thank you for your ongoing support.

—Sima Dahi  
Chief Executive officer

**STAR CHEFS & VINTNERS GALA**

Meals On Wheels celebrated our **19th annual Star Chefs & Vintners Gala** on Sunday, **May 21, 2006**. This year's event raised a record breaking **\$780,000** to help Meals On Wheels accomplish our mission of deliv-

ering meals and social services to homebound seniors. The event was set against San Francisco Bay's dramatic skyline and over 60 Star Chefs and 40 Stellar Vintners made this special event a night to remember.

*...Continued inside*

**The event...  
celebrated the  
contributions  
seniors make  
to our  
community.**



**CORPORATE MATCHING**

**Make your contribution  
count twice as much!**

*...more details inside*

**Hector and Miriam Martinez** started on the Meals On Wheels program in March of 2006. He is from Puerto Rico and she is from El Salvador, but they met in the US and have lived in the same home in the Sunset neighborhood for 50 years. They take great care of each other but turned to Meals On Wheels when their health status made it difficult to prepare meals. They love to share stories with visitors about the exotic trips they were able to experience when they were younger. ◀

**CLIENT CREATIVITY**

To showcase the talents of an often hidden population, Meals On Wheels presented our first-ever Client Art Show in November of 2005. The event was funded by a generous grant from The San Francisco Foundation, and celebrated the contributions seniors make to our community. The exhibit was held at the Meals On Wheels Dorrwin B. Jones Senior Center and featured works of art from fifteen elderly clients. Artwork included pen and ink drawings, paintings, needlework, fashion design and poetry.

Through artist biographies, seniors shared with the community some of the things that inspire their creativity as well as ways in which Meals On Wheels has impacted their lives. The event was attended by Meals On Wheels clients and family members, as well as community leaders and supporters. The inaugural Client Art Show was an inspiration and a success, and we look forward to making it a tradition. ■





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## FOCUS – KENNETH TONCREY



Every senior Meals On Wheels serves has a unique story but an especially colorful one is of Biloxi, Mississippi native Kenneth

Toncrey. Mr. Toncrey provides lively anecdotes in a Southern drawl that makes it easy to forget the challenges he faces every day.

Mr. Toncrey came to San Francisco from New Orleans 25 years ago to pursue his career as an artist. Soon after his arrival, health issues began to plague him, including colon cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, arthritis and severe cellulitis of the legs.

Luckily, Meals On Wheels is able to provide Mr. Toncrey with daily nutrition to help combat his ailments. Since 2002, Mr. Toncrey has been receiving meals that meet his diabetic requirements; he also receives regular calls from Meals On Wheels' social worker, Kristy Makarawicz to ensure he has access to the services he needs.

Receiving proper nutrition remains difficult since Mr. Toncrey lost his teeth 12 years ago. He has

tried to get by with dentures, but the gum shrinkage caused by diabetes does not allow them to stay in place. According to his dentist, permanent implants are the only solution. For Mr. Toncrey, a set of teeth is not just a matter of appearance; his health issues require a diet low in sugar, which is difficult to maintain without proper chewing.

Meals On Wheels submitted Mr. Toncrey's story to the San Francisco Chronicle's Season of Sharing Fund; the Chronicle printed Mr. Toncrey's story and the Season of Sharing Fund provided the expenses needed for permanent teeth.

"I can't believe I am gonna get them; I am overwhelmed," he said after hearing the news.



Makarawicz, who was instrumental in linking Toncrey with the Season of Sharing Fund, is delighted that the fund has been able to help her client and friend. "Everything about

him is so special," she says. "Even through all of the hardships and being homebound, he has such a positive spirit and is so uplifting to be around." ■



**Elizabeth Santos** is 84 years old and has been a meal recipient since 2004. In addition to the meals we provide, Meals On Wheels also linked Ms. Santos to a volunteer who visits with her regularly. When she was younger and more mobile, Ms. Santos did a number of activities, including serving as a crossing guard, reading to children in schools and caring for seniors at a nursing home.



**Dorothy Spooner** is 79 years old and has been a Meals On Wheels recipient since 2000. She lives in the Bayview/Hunter's Point district and her sweet demeanor has made her a favorite of the Meals On Wheels' staff. Ms. Spooner is especially grateful for the meals and company we provide since her daughter recently moved to Texas.

## CORPORATE MATCHING

Ask your employer's HR Department about matching gifts and the proper submittal forms. The following corporations will match charitable gifts for employees:

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General Mills	Verizon
General Motors	Wal-Mart
General Electric	Wells Fargo Bank
H&R Bock	Xerox Corporation
Hewlett-Packard	

## STAR CHEFS & VINTNERS GALA

*Continued from front cover*

The evening featured Gala Chef Chair, **Nancy Oakes** of Boulevard and celebrity emcees **Cheryl Jennings** and **Don Sanchez** from KGO-TV. An exciting live auction was led by auctioneer David Reynolds and featured a once in a lifetime opportunity to have Bradley Ogden, Jan Birnbaum, Todd Humphries, Laurent Manrique and Daniel Humm, the alumni chefs of Campton Place, prepare a special private dinner for 10 guests.

As always, the true winners of the evening were the 1,200 seniors Meals On Wheels serves each day. During a portion of the live auction, guests were given an opportunity to contribute directly to the home-delivered meal program. In just a few minutes, donors raised their paddles to pledge over \$150,000 to fund Route 100. This generous support will ensure that our city's most vulnerable citizens will receive the meals and care they need for the coming year.

"The generosity of the chefs and vintners is overwhelming," said Sima Dahi, CEO for Meals on Wheels. "Their participation ensures the success of the Star Chefs and Vintners Gala."

The Gala is generously sponsored by Viking Range Corporation, The Gene Schick Company, Valley Services, American Airlines, PG&E, Hartmann Studios, Taste Catering, Kaiser Permanente, BMW of San Francisco, San Francisco Magazine and Macy's. ■



*Gala Emcees Cheryl Jennings and Don Sanchez from KGO-TV Channel 7*



*Renowned Chef and restaurateur Cecilia Chiang poses with Chef Arnold Eric Wong from EOS and bacar*



*Guiding Star Patron Louise Noroian with CEO Sima Dahi and Chef Jan Birnbaum*



*Stephen Chess flashes his winning paddle during the live auction*



*Gala Co-Chairs Hillary Clausen and Patrick Smith*

*Chef Mitchell Rosenthal of Town Hall prepares country sausages on a Viking grill*



## EVENT SPONSORS

