

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

*Just a little
too scary?*

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BODY & SOUL

*Lessons from a
lipstick queen*

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HOMES

*Top price for
11th floor*

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New **FILLMORE**

SAN FRANCISCO ■ NOVEMBER 2007



A red-tailed hawk takes flight

Photograph by
WALTER KITUNDU

For months, wildlife photographer Walter Kitundu followed and photographed the exploits of a red-tailed hawk growing up — and learning to hunt for food, and growing her full adult plumage — in Alta Plaza Park. One of her favorite perches was on the cross atop Christ Episcopal Church on the south side of the park at Clay and Pierce. Kitundu returns to the neighborhood — and to the church — this month to show slides and talk about the hawk on Sunday, November 18. **Story and more photographs, PAGE 6.**

New Club, Restaurants Opening in Jazz District

A dream comes true
as Yoshi's debuts, plus
high-class soul food

YOSHI'S JAZZ CLUB & Japanese Restaurant — the long anticipated anchor of the Fillmore Jazz District — will open its doors later this month.

Yoshi's will be the final element of the Fillmore Heritage Center, the \$75 million project at Fillmore and Eddy that includes the Jazz Heritage Center, the recently opened 1300 on Fillmore restaurant and 80 condominiums.

These recent openings complete the Redevelopment Agency's efforts to reconstruct the culture of what was once known as the "Harlem of the West," leveled in the name of progress almost 50 years ago.

"The neighborhood is changing rapidly — for the better. I think it's on its way up," says Kaz Kajimura, one of Yoshi's founders. "One of the things that really excites me is that we may be instrumental in getting a really nice ethnic resolution in this area. There have been some pushes and pulls between the Japanese and African American communities. We can be a factor in pulling these communities together. That makes this project all the richer."

TO PAGE 8 ►



DAVID ISH DIES

The founder and longtime publisher of this newspaper died only a year after retiring to Thailand. **PAGE 3**



Chyna

Chyna is a vivacious youngster ready to explore the world with her new guardian. A 1-year-old German Shepherd/Labrador Retriever mix, she is a social butterfly. She's meeting new dogs each day, and she loves to play with her canine buddies once it's time to have fun. If you're ready for adventures and a friend to share them with, be sure to visit Chyna today.



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BOO!



Halloween came early to the windows of Marc by Marc Jacobs.

There's Blood on the Street

Scary store windows stir a neighbor's ire

An open letter to the manager of the Marc by Marc Jacobs store at Fillmore and Sacramento:

I MANAGE a large department at the nearby California Pacific Medical Center. As a manager, I appreciate it when others share their issues with me that can improve my department. It is with this spirit that I write this letter to you. I live and work within five blocks of your store and have been a consumer of Fillmore Street establishments for over 20 years.

I find your Halloween window display very offensive and entirely inappropriate to the flavor of the neighborhood. We have many schools in this area and many young children walk about Fillmore Street. Your window display is not something that would be appropriate for children, and even as an adult I find it disturbing.

This is not the Castro, nor the Haight. Families move to this area for a particular ambience and a "kinder, gentler" sensibility. We do not expect to see such violence thrust upon our children via a window display. This forces us to shun this particular

neighborhood out of necessity to protect our children from the visual images that your windows display. I am disappointed in the lack of judgment here. Take a look around up and down Fillmore Street. Do you see any similar type of displays in other merchants' windows?

I see that you have recently added a children's line to your store. I assume that you are trying to attract parents to your store who have the economic means to afford designer clothing for their tots. This type of graphic window display is not the way to speak to me or my pocketbook.

I would ask that you consider this poor marketing idea when it comes time for your next window display. For now, I will take my business and the business of my children to Noe Valley.

DENICE BARNES

The manager of Marc by Marc Jacobs on Fillmore said he was not allowed to respond to the letter and referred calls to corporate headquarters in New York. No one in New York returned calls seeking a response.

THE NEW FILLMORE

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YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER

Every month, 20,000 copies are delivered to homes and businesses in the Fillmore, Pacific Heights and Japantown. We thank you for your support and encouragement and we welcome your suggestions and story ideas.

An archive of recent issues is online at www.NewFillmore.com
Your comments and suggestions about the neighborhood are welcome there.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Sequoias Opposes 38-Story Tower of Condos Next Door

By DON LANGLEY

THE SEQUOIAS, the life-care facility at 1400 Geary Boulevard, has retained two firms to oppose construction of a proposed 38-story condominium complex next door.

The proposed building is far higher than current zoning permits, according to Brett Gladstone, a land use attorney involved in numerous other issues in the neighborhood who now represents the Sequoias. A change in the height limit would require a vote by the Board of Supervisors, Gladstone said.

Sam Lauter, a principal with the Barnes,

Mosher, Whitehurst, Lauter & Partners political consulting firm, has been retained to reach out to individuals and organizations opposed to the project.

The Pacific Heights Residents Association already opposes the building because of its height and the "spot zoning" that would be required to allow its construction.

The Cathedral Hill Neighbors Association also opposes spot zoning and has called for a comprehensive neighborhood plan. Lauter says homeowner associations on Cathedral Hill are also likely allies.

Japantown leaders, now developing a formal neighborhood plan, are concerned about the precedent that would be set by

a tall structure nearby. The building was mentioned often—always negatively—at a public forum about the Japantown Better Neighborhood Plan on October 18.

Japantown Task Force directors voted at their October 22 meeting to endorse Lauter's efforts to build neighborhood opposition to the proposed building.

Gladstone, who more frequently represents proponents instead of opponents, said Cathedral Hill is the wrong place for this tower. He said towers belong downtown and in South Beach. "This is the first time... a tower this big has been proposed in the northwest quadrant," he said. "It would create a bad precedent." Gladstone

said District 5 Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi shares some concerns about the project.

ADCO, the project developer, already owns and operates the Cathedral Hill Plaza apartment building at 1333 Gough Street. The 1481 Post Street tower would be built on land now occupied by the Cathedral Hill Plaza's swimming pool and tennis courts.

The sleek oval tower, angled toward St. Mary's Cathedral across Geary Street, is designed to minimize wind and shadow in the area, ADCO leaders said. The developers maintain the alternative to their proposal is a lower but bulkier building that would be less attractive.

■ PUBLISHER'S PREAMBLE

*From the Start,
a Focus on the
Local Scene*

By DAVID ISH

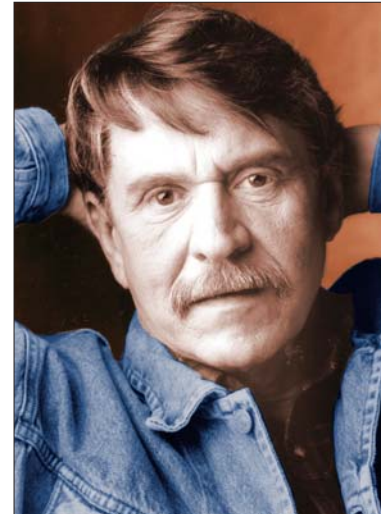
AMBLE SEEMS like a reasonable pace with which to pre this first issue of the *New Fillmore*, although it was not, unfortunately, the pace at which it was created. "Preface" seemed a bit stuffy for what I wanted to convey here, and besides that's my face you see up there and not my preface. Nobody sees my preface this early in the morning. So amble it is.

I got the idea for the *New Fillmore* in a way so many good ideas happen for so many people—over a drink in a bar. I was in the Pacific Heights Bar & Grill, talking to Ronald Hobbs, owner of Spectrum Exotic Birds and the only one of my advertisers to qualify for my authentic poet's discount off the rate card.

The talk got around to alienation, as talk frequently does when it involves poets, and there leapt forward this notion of a neighborhood newspaper—probably not a cure for profound alienation, but at least a palliative for local alienation, if not fun besides.

It got very clear in that conversation, despite the fact that it occurred somewhere between the third and fourth glass of wine, that a neighborhood paper could increase and heighten the sense of community that is beginning to emerge here, or reemerge here, depending on your sense of historical perspective.

I have lived in this neighborhood



Publisher David Ish helped build a sense of community in the Fillmore.

for more than seven years and I think it is currently evolving as the best neighborhood in the city, with particular thanks to the merchants who have helped to make it that way. And yet, as long as I've lived here, I realize that I've known only a very few people well enough to feel comfortable saying hello when I run into them on the street.

A neighborhood newspaper can develop our awareness of each other and increase our sense of belonging to this neighborhood. I hope the *New Fillmore* will provide us with a way to get to

know each other a little better, both as individuals and as the larger community which we all belong to.

What about what's happening right here, right now, right where we live? This is the only game in town—or, more accurately, in the neighborhood. Let's keep playing it because it's fun and we enjoy living here. It may also give us the opportunity to become better acquainted with each other.

Excerpted from Volume 1, Number 1, of the New Fillmore published in May 1986.

■ DAVID ISH | 1937-2007

New Fillmore Founder Dies in Thailand

By SARAH EDELSTEIN

PAI, Thailand—Pai resident David Ish, better known here as Rainbow Heart, died of cancer October 9 at the age of 69.

Ish was the founder of the *New Fillmore*, which he published for 20 years until he moved to Thailand last year.

In the year he lived in Pai, he met his partner, Nissorn Sornmet, known as Dang, and became friends with many Pai residents. Rainbow Heart enjoyed what he described as "having discourse" during their afternoon gatherings over chai at the Muslim shop.

Ish was born in Rutherford, New Jersey, on December 7, 1937. He started his first newspaper in grade school and worked in communications for much of his life.

After attending the University of Chicago, he was on the staff of *Playboy* magazine in Chicago, then worked in advertising and marketing firms, and finally in community newspapers.

He also had stints as a cowboy, a radio show host and a practitioner of watsu, a form of aquatic bodywork.

He founded the *New Fillmore* in 1986, then created or bought several other neighborhood newspapers in San Francisco, selling them all when he decided to retire to Thailand last year.

TO PAGE 14 ■

Fillmore-Pine Crosswalk Claims a Life

A PEDESTRIAN was killed last month while crossing the street at one of the neighborhood's most nettlesome intersections, Fillmore and Pine Streets.

Susan Ali Shepherd, 53, of Larkspur, was walking within the crosswalk with her husband, Jim, and a group of friends after having dinner at the Elsie Cafe when she was hit by a car turning left from Fillmore onto Pine.

"One person was pulled away by one of the other pedestrians, but the victim was hit, and the motorist rolled over her," police spokesman Sgt. Neville Gittens said.

Steve Marchette managed to pull his wife Laura

out of the path of the car, which witnesses say was traveling slowly. But Shepherd was hit directly and pronounced dead a short time later at San Francisco General Hospital.


Shepherd helped launch KSOL-FM, the Bay Area's largest Spanish language radio station, featuring Mexican music and talk shows. She became general manager in 1996. She left that post in 2004 to co-found the Latino Group, an advertising partnership aimed at the Hispanic market.

The driver of the Volkswagen Jetta that hit Shepherd, a 90-year-old San Francisco woman, stopped and was questioned at the scene, but was not charged. Her name was not released.



Mourners placed a wreath at the site of a pedestrian's death.

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CRIME WATCH

Loaded Firearm Arrest Scott and O'Farrell Streets September 5, 9:55 p.m.

Officers observed three individuals standing in a courtyard preparing to light a marijuana cigarette. As they approached, one suspect hastily dropped the cigarette. When the officers questioned the three, the encounter became hostile. Two suspects lunged at the officers and had to be subdued.

A crowd began to gather at the scene and started shouting threats at the officers, who then noticed that one of the three suspects was carrying a loaded 32-caliber handgun. The two individuals who resisted the officers were booked at Northern Station.

DUI Arrest Van Ness Avenue and Bush Street September 21, 1:51 a.m.

An officer standing at the street corner noted a car weaving in and out of its lane, at one point nearly sideswiping another officer's patrol car. The officer followed the car; the driver steered over the curb and onto the sidewalk in an attempt to negotiate a turn. Suspecting the driver was intoxicated, the officer stopped the car.

The driver admitted that she had consumed some wine. She failed to pass the field sobriety tests and was arrested and transported to County Jail. A breath test indicated that the woman had consumed more than twice the legal limit.

Robbery Eddy Street and Van Ness Avenue September 22, 4:38 p.m.

Officers received a report of a robbery in progress involving a gun. The officers were given a description of the suspect and advised

he was riding a black motorcycle.

A short time later, two officers observed a black motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed. They stopped the motorcyclist and detained him, then transported the person who had been robbed to the suspect, who positively identified him.

The words "love" and "hate" were tattooed on the suspect's eyelids; this was an aid in identification. Officers arrested the suspect and booked him at Northern Station.

Robbery Eddy and Pierce Streets September 22, 4:44 p.m.

The street crimes unit received information that a robbery suspect known to reside in the Northern District was loitering near Pierce and Eddy. The officers began their search and within minutes located the culprit. The woman was discovered to be in possession of stolen property. She was booked at County Jail.

Auto Burglary Broadway and Octavia Street October 8, 3 a.m.

Officers were alerted to a suspicious individual who was observed peering into cars with a flashlight. They located the suspect crouching between two parked cars. A search disclosed he was carrying a flashlight, a camera and a roll of quarters.

The subject was detained as officers inspected cars in the area for evidence of break-ins. They found a vehicle that showed signs of forcible entry and located the owner of the car, who informed the officers that two items were missing from her car: a camera and a roll of quarters.

The suspect was booked at Northern Station.

Next to New Shop Is New Once Again

The Next to New thrift shop and consignment boutique has reopened after a remodeling that removed the interior walls and opened the space to natural light.

The new space no longer separates items donated for resale from the shop's growing consignment business, which now fills most of the store. When the consignment operation was first added a few years ago, it occupied about one quarter of the space in a separate room. Now most of the store's inventory is on consignment.

The renovation also moved the sales counter from the back of the store to a spot near the entrance.

The Junior League shop has been a fixture on Fillmore Street for 60 years.



Simon Pearce examines his work.

RETAIL REPORT

Simon Pearce Comes to Fillmore

MASTER glass and pottery artisan Simon Pearce is coming to his Fillmore outpost this month, and will host a signing of his creations in the store on Saturday, November 10.

"It's fun for our customers because many people collect his work, and they want to meet the artist," says store manager Christine Beliveau.

Pearce, who was born and raised in County Cork, Ireland, has become widely admired for his simple and elegant glass and pottery designs. Each piece of work offered in his stores is

created by hand by master artisans. Much of his work is created in a historic wooden mill in Quechee, Vermont, now restored and operating on power generated by the Ottauquechee River.

"It's amazing how many people come in the store and say they've been to Quechee," says Beliveau, who worked in the Simon Pearce shop in Boston for 10 years before opening the store at 2223 Fillmore, one of the company's 12 retail stores.

Beliveau says Pearce's products are created using time-honored techniques and are intended for a lifetime of use.

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PATCH



Patch flies off with a gopher plucked out of Alta Plaza Park. Below, sunning on the church on the south side of the park.

A Red-Tailed Hawk Grows Up in Alta Plaza Park

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS
BY WALTER KITUNDU

FOR SEVEN MONTHS I chronicled the life of Patch, a red-tailed hawk who lives in and around Alta Plaza Park, capturing her transition from immature bird to adult.

I had heard of New York's Pale Male, a redtail that lives in Central Park and famously built a nest atop a Fifth Avenue apartment building. After concluding that this San Francisco redtail used Alta Plaza Park as a home base, I decided the bird deserved a name. Many redtails have a light spot on the crown of their heads. This hawk's spot was quite prominent, so I dubbed her "Patch."

The name still works if someday she turns out to be a he. It is difficult to accurately determine the sex of red-tailed hawks. I decided Patch was female because she is a large bird, and female hawks are generally larger than males.

While I photographed her, between January and July of 2006, she adapted quickly to the park and skillfully navigated the people, dogs, construction and other wildlife in the environment. She was hard to miss, with a broad four-foot wingspan and her penchant for perching on the streetlights. Redtails can be up to two feet tall and weigh almost four pounds. By comparison, the average pigeon weighs about a pound.

Patch's diet consisted mainly of the gophers and other rodents populating the terraced edges of Alta Plaza. She proved quite an opportunist, however, and also ate pigeons, blackbirds,



Patch goes back to church

Patch the red-tailed hawk will return to one of her favorite perches this month.

Wildlife photographer Walter Kitundu will give a talk and show slides of the hawk on Sunday, November 18, at Christ Episcopal Church at the corner of Clay and Pierce. His appearance will follow the 10 a.m. service, and the public is invited.

Many of Kitundu's photographs of the hawk are online at www.kitundu.com.

caterpillars and even the occasional worm.

Her hunting techniques included scanning from a perch, kiting in the high winds over the park, flying low and fast over rooftops and even walking on the ground to seek out insects. She once flew in from over a quarter of a mile away in a direct dive to pluck an unsuspecting gopher from under the shadow of a row of trees near the west side of the park. Her success rate hovered around one out of five attempts. Some days she never seemed to miss, and other days she flew frantically around the park and desperately low trying to find anything that resembled a meal.

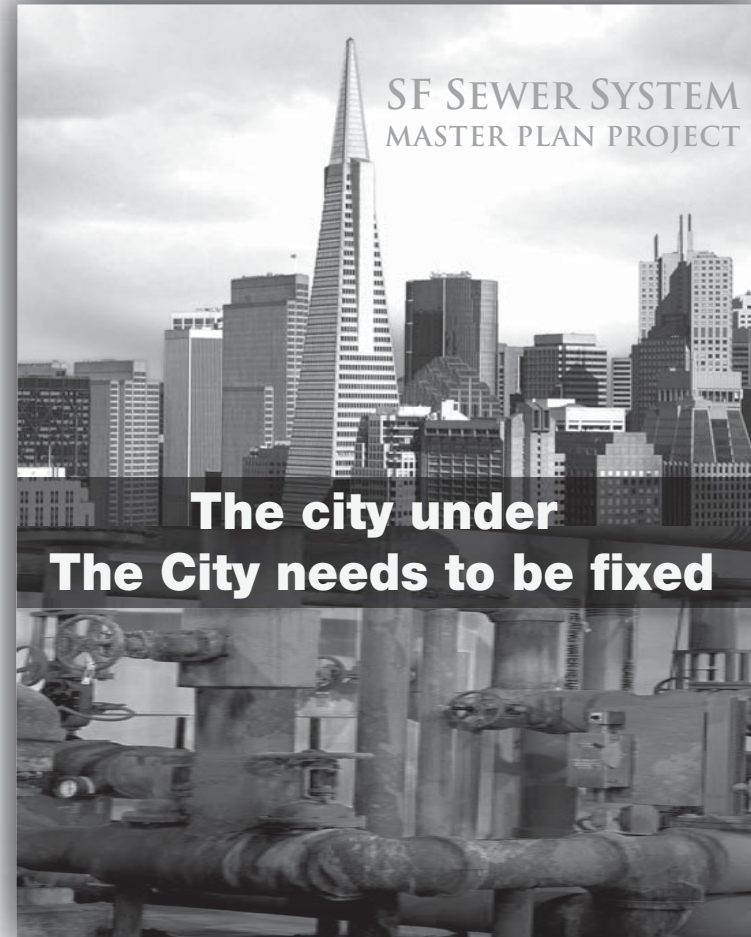
One of her favorite perches was the cross on the church opposite the south stairs. From there she had a commanding view of the park and its surroundings.

Patch began molting and almost completed her transition into adulthood before starting to take exploratory trips out of the park. Today she has her full adult plumage, with striking dark brown feathers, a bright red tail and a rusty orange underside. She is still an occasional visitor to Alta Plaza.

During the months I was photographing her, she was in the park almost every day. I was honored to have this sort of relationship with a wild hawk. A level of trust and familiarity developed, and she often landed on the ground near me — sometimes as close as five feet away. She allowed me to sit within 10 feet while she ate many of her meals.

Redtails are the most common hawk in this area. They are extremely adaptable and can be found throughout the city — especially in Golden Gate Park and the Presidio — though it is rare to find a bird as idiosyncratic and bold as Patch. Across the bay at the place where Patch was banded, on Hawk Hill in the Marin headlands, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory sees hundreds of red-tailed hawks during the fall migration.

It is wonderful to know these birds are living in our midst. And it has been heartwarming to follow Patch, and to watch her react, adapt, grow and survive in these four square blocks in the center of the city.



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Yoshi's the jazz club, at far left, is designed as a fan-shaped amphitheater on two levels. Yoshi's the Japanese restaurant, left, will be the largest Japanese restaurant in San Francisco. Both open later this month.

A Dream Comes True: Yoshi's Jazz Club & Japanese Restaurant Is Opening This Month

FROM PAGE 1

The new club in the two-level Yoshi's on Fillmore, considerably bigger and with a more modern design than its Oakland sister, will accommodate 420 people. Seating is arranged in a fan-shaped amphitheater to assure good sight lines for every seat in the house — and Charles Salter, a master acoustician, was called in to advise on sound.

The club, featuring performances seven nights a week, is sure to stoke the street's nightlife. The bar and lounge will open at 5 p.m. and will close at 1 a.m. every night

except Sunday, when it will close at midnight.

Yoshi's began in 1973 as a North Berkeley sushi bar with 25 seats. The restaurant moved to a larger space on Claremont Avenue in Oakland in 1977. Yet 20 years later, even though the club was heralded as a premier location for both good food and good jazz, the owners contemplated quitting the business. The city, however, refused to let a good thing go — and the Port of Oakland invited Yoshi's to move to Jack London Square, where its reputation continued to grow.

Kaz Kajimura and his former wife, namesake Yoshie Akiba, two of the three founders, remain as owners.

The performers on opening night November 28 will include Roy Haynes and the Yoshi's Birds of a Feather Super Band, with Gary Burton, Ravi Coltrane, Nicholas Payton, Kenny Garrett, David Kikoski and John Patitucci.

Tickets for the grand opening are \$100, available at www.yoshis.com or by calling 510-238-9200.

The next four nights will feature music by Taj Mahal and the Phantom Blues Band. The month ends with the

Count Basie Orchestra from December 26 through New Year's Eve.

Yoshi's Artistic Director Peter Williams says he intends to book many of the same artists into the San Francisco and Oakland clubs, but feature them playing with different groups.

The club's mezzanine, with its own bar, will highlight premium sake — and will serve as a gateway to the VIP section of the jazz club.

Executive Chef Shotaro Kamio promises a menu at Yoshi's Japanese Restaurant that will change with the seasons, incorporating European techniques in his own style.

Chef Sho, as he is called, became executive chef of Yoshi's in Oakland in the summer of 2006. He previously was chef at the critically acclaimed Ozumo restaurant near the Embarcadero.

His menu at the new Yoshi's will be broad and inventive to accommodate San Francisco patrons, who are gen-

erally are willing to spend more, he says, and have more adventurous palates than East Bay diners. The spot will accommodate 370 people, making it the largest Japanese restaurant in San Francisco.

Chef Sho will preside over what he calls "the biggest and most expensive kitchen in America" — a 3,500-square-foot space equipped with a wood-burning oven to roast fish and cook Japanese-style pizzas and a huge robata grill.

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Come check out the Fillmore Farmers' Market every Saturday. The market fills the Fillmore with the freshest locally-grown produce and live jazz. Try the fall arrivals and their distinct tastes including sweet potatoes, persimmons, oranges, and pomegranates. Farmers' Market closes November 17 and re-opens in April.

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Now Serving: Soulful Food at 1300 Fillmore

Local ingredients, classic French techniques and the flavors of the South

ALREADY jazzing up the street is 1300 on Fillmore, a new restaurant that opened on October 25.

Executive chef David Lawrence promises "soulful American cuisine" using seasonal California ingredients.

Lawrence learned his skills early, growing up in a Jamaican family. "In Caribbean families, men always cook," he says.

He later did stints in London at the three-star Michelin restaurants Le Gavroche and the Waterside Inn before moving to the U.S. in 1988. He was most recently executive chef at the Carnelian Room atop the Bank of America building.

His new menu melds his Jamaican ancestry, British upbringing and classical French culinary education and serves it up with a Southern accent.

His wife and business partner is Monetta White, whose mother and grandmother lived in the Fillmore during its original jazz heyday in the 50s and 60s.

"I spent my first allowance on a 45 record, and since then have amassed a collection of over 4,000 albums and CDs," says White. "Music sets the mood, affects our emotions and helps us relax."

Lawrence and White have rented out their Oakland home and moved into one of the condominiums above the restaurant.

Dinner at 1300 Fillmore is served nightly from 5:30 to 11 Monday through Saturday; 5:30 to 10 on Sunday, with brunch and weekday lunch soon to be added.

A bar and lounge menu is available from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Saturday



The heritage wall at 1300 features portraits of neighborhood blues and jazz legends.

and from 5 p.m. to midnight on Sunday.

The 136-seat restaurant includes a lounge with free wireless connections, bar seating and private dining in a jazz-era setting with dark wood and chocolate walls in a sleek and modern space.

In the bar and lounge, there is club-style seating with wing chairs and leather couches, some of them facing a heritage wall — a photo gallery of 37 neighborhood portraits — and two television screens that loop images of jazz legends, period graphics and historical scenes of the Fillmore neighborhood

from the 1900s to the 1950s.

Complementing the heritage wall is a mirror above the bar that hides a flat-panel screen. When turned on, it displays historical photographs of the Fillmore and silently plays old jazz movies.

The restaurant was originally to be called the Blue Mirror, reviving a name from Fillmore's jazz era, but a dispute arose and the name was changed to reflect the restaurant's address.

Walk-ins are accepted, but reservations are recommended. Call 771-7100.

■ COMING SOON

New Kabuki Hotel gets a new restaurant

Japantown's major hotel, formerly known as the Miyako but operating since October 1 as the Kabuki, will complete its transformation November 16 with the opening of its new restaurant, **O Izakaya Lounge**.

Izakaya, the latest trend in Bay Area Japanese food, offers small plates, which originated as Japan's version of bar snacks.

The decor in the bar area of O Izakaya, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, pays homage to Japanese baseball. Antique baseball cards are embedded in the wallpaper.

The lounge at O Izakaya will feature programming on six screens from TV Japan, a 24-hour channel that broadcasts sumo wrestling tournaments, the Japanese world series and other shows that bring Japanese culture to American audiences.

Chef Nicolaus Balla is American, but has lived in Japan. His affinity for the cuisine includes his interest in pickling, which he learned as a youth from his family's business. Balla is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and a veteran of San Francisco's acclaimed Ozu restaurant.

In the renamed and remodeled hotel, Joie de Vivre Hospitality set out to create "a serene, worldly, relaxed mood" combining traditional Japanese elements and a modern sensibility in its lobby, guest rooms and public rooms. Bathrooms on the upper floors now have deep soaking tubs.

Lessons for the Locals From an Australian Lipstick Queen

POPPY KING laments the lipstick offerings on the market today, most of which are shimmery.

"Not good for people who want to be chic," she says dismissively.

To fill the gap, King has originated a lipstick line with two distinctly different leanings: Saints, a collection of sheer tints, which she calls "classic and wearable," and the more brazen Sinners, which are "earthy and decadent."

Fellow Aussie Elizabeth Charles recently brought Poppy King to the neighborhood for an evening of wine and learning about lipstick. Charles now offers the new lipstick line at her boutique at 2056 Fillmore, near California.

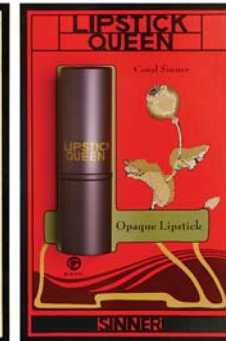
"When I was a teenager, I bought her first line of lipstick in Australia," Charles

says. "It was called Poppy. Very rich in color — and I loved it."

Years later, Charles ran into King in a New York cafe frequented by Australians.

"I recognized her at once from her trademark red lips," says Charles, who was eager to offer King's new line. "Lipstick fanatics come back and tell me how fantastic it is. They especially rave about the texture."

The sheer Saints have 10 percent



The queen is a King: Lipstick queen Poppy King (left) has created a new lipstick line now available at the Fillmore boutique owned by her fellow Australian, Elizabeth Charles.

pigment; the opaque Sinners have 90 percent pigment. King says her lipstick has "lots of grip," making lip liner, which she abhors, unnecessary. "Lip liner is an odd habit — and a habit that too often goes too horribly wrong," she says.

King, who has striking pale skin and blue eyes, wears no makeup other than lipstick. "I have no interest in any other cosmetic," she says. But she freely admits she has been obsessed with lipstick since she first sneaked a swipe from her

mother's tube while playing dress-up as a young girl.

And for the many women in search of a shade that flatters rather than distracts, King takes the guesswork from the quest.

"The main message I want to give women is to really trust themselves. Look in the mirror and ask two questions," she says. "First, do my hair, skin and eyes look illuminated?" The wrong color, she says, will drag the natural color from a face.

"And second, ask yourself: Am I

comfortable in it? That's a matter of personal style," she says.

With these two questions as guidance, King says those testing shades will see immediately when a color suits them. And she despairs over the fixation on make-up artists who design women's faces for them, fueled by the unquenchable interest in the Hollywood stars.

"It has taken away women's self-confidence," she says.

King advises those who are game to experiment with lip color to tread lightly when applying other cosmetics.

"You can prevent looking like a drag queen by playing down your eyes," she says, noting that the current trend for those who indulge in lip color is to wear "the least amount of eye make-up they're comfortable with."

She cautions that the right lipstick shade is a moving target. "You'll feel comfortable in different things at different times," she says.

Still, even the target has practical parameters. "Take your natural lip color and amp it up," she says. "Take what you have and push it forward."

Look next year for King's book, *Lessons of a Lipstick Queen*, which she describes as a guide for how to make a business idea come true.

In the meantime, King's lipsticks are available at Elizabeth Charles for \$18, whether you're a Saint or a Sinner. You can also find them online at www.Elizabeth-Charles.com.

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505	2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Balcony	N	1,127	\$997,000
507	2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Balcony	NE	1,220	\$1,409,100
411	2 Bedroom & Den, 2 Bath, Balcony	NE	1,393	\$1,663,800
517	2 Level Town Home 2 Bedroom & Den, 3 Bath, Balcony, Roof Deck	N	1,998	\$2,128,000
112	3 Level Town Home 2 Bedroom & Den, 2 1/2 Bath, Patio, Balcony, Roof Deck	E	1,775	\$1,772,600

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NO on A—Yes on H—
NO on A—Emissions Reductions and Transit Reform
Prop A is a bit of reform and a lot of politics: it prevents parking from being built in neighborhood districts, takes away our right to vote on tax issues and planning code-parking provisions, and makes it easier for Supervisors to interfere in Muni's budget. Vote **No** on A.

YES on H—Parking Initiative
Finding a place to park in San Francisco can be difficult, time consuming and frustrating. Vote **Yes** on H for a better quality of life that includes a balanced transportation plan: transit, bikes and a place to park.

Yes on C—Public Hearings on Initiatives
Help make City Hall more transparent and accountable by requiring public hearings on measures before they are placed on the ballot. Vote **Yes** on C FOR ELECTION SUNSHINE.

Yes on I—Small Business Assistance Center
Neighborhood small businesses are the city's life blood but opening or operating a business in San Francisco is a challenge. Vote **Yes** on I to create a "one stop shop" that will help navigate the city's bureaucracy.

No on K—Street Furniture Declaration of Policy
Proposition K could kill the transit shelter, news rack and Nextbus programs, as well as cost MUNI hundreds of millions of dollars in needed revenue. Help make our streets clean and beautiful. Vote **No** on K.

Yes on J—Universal Wi-Fi Declaration of Policy
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NEIGHBORHOOD HOME SALES

Single Family Homes	BR	BA	PK	Sq ft	Date	Asking \$	Sale \$
2385 Broadway	3	3.5	2	2658	10-Oct	2,995,000	3,100,000
1981 Pacific Ave	4	3.5	1		02-Oct	3,175,000	3,300,000
2828 Jackson St	4	4.5	2	3747	18-Sep	3,595,000	3,325,000
2332 Washington St	3	4.5	3		12-Oct	4,750,000	Not Disclosed

Condo / Coop / TIC / Lofts	BR	BA	PK	Sq ft	Date	Asking \$	Sale \$
2701 Van Ness Ave #706	1	1	1	528	25-Sep	428,000	483,000
3720 Sacramento St #3	1	1			14-Sep	529,000	540,000
1701 Jackson St #604	1	1	1		20-Sep	549,000	549,000
1820 Vallejo St #301	1	1	1	785	12-Sep	725,000	700,000
2060 Union St #6	1	1	1	960	18-Sep	729,000	761,000
1915 Eddy St #C	2	1.5	1		21-Sep	699,000	770,000
2009 Divisadero St #2A	2	2	1		18-Sep	795,000	880,000
1217 Broderick St	3	2			11-Oct	895,000	890,000
1998 Broadway #1207	2	2	1	1030	20-Sep	879,000	900,000
1998 Pacific Ave #306	2	2	1	1050	10-Oct	995,000	990,000
3058 Webster St	2	1	1	1138	09-Oct	1,149,000	1,100,000
1998 Broadway #405	3	2.5	3		25-Sep	1,249,000	1,310,000
1762 Jackson St	3	2	1		21-Sep	1,325,000	1,352,000
3981 Clay St	3	2	1		27-Sep	1,369,000	1,425,000
2365 Green St	3	3	1		10-Oct	1,400,000	1,425,000
1969 Clay St	3	2	1	1852	13-Sep	1,499,000	1,500,000
2255 Washington St	2	2	1		25-Sep	1,498,000	1,510,000
1870 Jackson St #302	3	3	1	1900	09-Oct	1,669,000	1,595,000
2599 Sacramento St	2	2	1	1450	11-Oct	1,550,000	1,600,000
2684 Union St	3	2	1		05-Oct	2,050,000	2,150,000
2957 Pacific Ave	3	2	1		12-Oct	2,995,000	Not Disclosed
2500 Steiner St #11	3	3	1		27-Sep	6,750,000	Not Disclosed

The tower is taken, but mansions await



Now that we're into the heart of the fall market, we're seeing the usual increase in sales after the slower summer months.

One notable sale in the neighborhood that closed in recent weeks is **2500 Steiner #11**, a full-floor co-op just below the penthouse (left, with the Blue Angels flying by during Fleet Week). The sales price was not disclosed, but it is rumored to be substantially above the \$6.75 million listing price.

In addition, two noteworthy mansions in the neighborhood recently came onto the market at **2515 Scott** and **2820 Pacific**. The home on Scott was formerly a multi-family structure designed by Clinton Day that has been extensively remodeled during the past five years. It is unexpectedly expensive, sitting on two lots with 8 bedrooms, 11

bathrooms and a 6-car garage. It is listed at \$19.75 million. At 2820 Pacific is a Willis Polk home on a rare street-to-street lot between Pacific and Broadway. It has also been impressively remodeled and the tax records show it has 9,500 square feet, with 5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms and a 4-car garage. It is listed at \$17.5 million. Both properties are receiving considerable interest.

Looking for something smaller? There are tenancy in common units just listed at 2831-33 Webster Street, near Union. Four units are available in this six-unit building, priced between \$479,000 and \$699,000. The smaller units have leased parking while the larger units have parking in the building. The units are nicely renovated and priced well for the neighborhood.

— Data and commentary provided by JOHN FITZGERALD, co-owner of Byzantium Brokerage and an agent at Pacific Union. Contact him at jfitzgerald@pacunion.com or 345-3034.

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RENOVATING AN ATTIC | SECOND IN A SERIES



Last month the project began. Already there's a dismantled stair and a hole in the roof.

Let There Be Skylights

A strip skylight defines the stair and joins two floors

CONVERTING a Victorian attic into a modern master suite — as we are watching a local couple do — requires one thing above all: light.

Project architect Bruce Avico, who has lived and worked in the neighborhood for much of the last decade, knew the answer immediately: a strip skylight stretching the full width of the stairway.

"It just jumped out," Avico says, as a perfect way to define and illuminate the stairs and pull light down to the main floor. It's not just a skylight, but a strip skylight that's 10 feet long but only about 16 inches wide cut flush with the wall behind it and on both sides.

"The idea is to wash that wall with light and allow it to slip down to the lower floor and merge the spaces," Avico says. "The skylight itself is not the point. It's the light."

Museums and exhibition spaces often use the technique, putting a thin strip of light just above the wall, which provides natural lighting for the art. The approach seemed apt since the owners of the home are avid art collectors.

"This provides a good wall for art with natural illumination," Avico says. That is important to his clients, although Avico calls it "something of a conflict for me," since he'd prefer to see the double-height wall simply washed with the light flooding down the stairway and unadorned with distractions, or even art.

"Because the skylight is set flush to the wall, you catch the shadows from

the passing clouds — the mood," Avico says. "The wall actually becomes a slightly different color as the sky changes."

In this case, the rafters were left to run through the strip skylight, just as most of the framing of the attic will remain exposed. That greatly simplifies the structure necessary to frame the skylight.

"The ideal is not to have the rafters, but here they fit in," Avico says. "It's a practical matter, and it eliminates the engineering."

O'Keeffe's, an old-line San Francisco manufacturer of skylights, will build the strip. It is expected to cost about \$3,000 and take about four weeks.

Still to be decided is whether the skylight will have clear glass, which would open the view to the sky, or white glass, which would diffuse and soften the light — and block the view of the house next door.

"It depends on your exposure," Avico says. "Clear glass is more dramatic, and here, because it's northern exposure, you won't get as much glare." He tends to favor white glass because it provides a more uniform light.

His clients, a husband and wife, are not so sure they want to give up their connection to blue skies. But she, a committed Victorian, has eased her original reluctance to see holes cut through the roof.

"It scared me," she says. "I always hate cutting up an old house. I wanted to leave its old bones alone. But I trust Bruce's vision."



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Retirement Was Short but Sweet for David Ish

• FROM PAGE 3

Rainbow Heart recounted that as a young man he was impressed by *Playboy* publisher Hugh Hefner's work ethic, exemplified by the shower and sleeping area Hefner had built in his office. Sometimes Rainbow Heart would get to work early and see Hefner already at his desk, still in a bathrobe. Years later, when Rainbow Heart was running his newspapers from his home office, he was tickled to realize that he too was able to get out of bed and be at his desk immediately, just like Hefner.

Rainbow Heart loved to read and was known among his friends in Pai for his fine collection of books and exotic magazines — at least to ex-pats in remote corners of Thailand — including *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, *Harper's* and *Utne Reader*. He could rattle off a poem from memory and devoted much of his time in Thailand to writing poetry. A friend from California describes Rainbow Heart as "a major punster all his life." He liked to tell the story of passing a burned shirt factory as a child and saying, "Boy, somebody must have lost his shirt in that fire!"

He was diagnosed with chronic pancreatitis a few months after he moved to Thailand and returned to the U.S. for treatment. He went back to Thailand in August for what turned out to be the final weeks of his life.

Rainbow Heart appreciated the support he got from his partner Dang and from his community of friends in Pai. As he neared death, they gathered at his house every night to have what one friend called a "going away party." When he died, he was at the center of a circle of 12 people.

Because Rainbow Heart loved poetry, his friends read one of his favorite poems by Robert Frost just before he died and the "Four Quartets" by T.S. Elliot just after. A full Buddhist ceremony was held at a temple in Pai, followed by cremation.

He is survived by his partner, Nissorn Somdet; his son Howard Ish Prince, of Ontario, Canada; his former wife Ina Ish of Siler City, N.C.; a half-brother, a half-sister and an uncle.

Sarah Edelstein writes for the Pai Post in Thailand.



David Ish found the companionship he retired to seek in Thailand when he met Nissorn Somdet, known as Dang, above. When his health declined, she cared for him until his death. Top, Buddhist monks chant at his funeral in Pai, Thailand. Left, his body is cremated. More photographs from his funeral are online at www.davidish.shutterfly.com.

He 'Fooled 'em Again' Every Month for 20 Years

By MARK J. MITCHELL

I FIRST KNEW David Ish as a poet, and I'm sure that's how he would want to be remembered.

Actually, that's not exactly true. I met David when he was a customer at Bi-Rite Liquors, located for many years at Fillmore and California, where ATMs, people needed places to cash checks. We kept a card file of people who were allowed to cash checks at the Bi-Rite. As I was getting to know people in the neighborhood, I came across David's name in our file and recognized it from a book of poems I'd seen up the street at Brower Books.

After that, we spent a lot of time talking about poetry. We would meet for coffee and talk poets and poetry. We both loved Robert Frost and Wallace Stevens, among many others.

Over the years I knew him, David continued to write poetry with growing enthusiasm. He published more than a few of my poems in the *New Fillmore*, along with more than a few of his own.

This neighborhood probably knows David best as the founder and longtime publisher of the *New Fillmore*. When he started the paper, David was already on his second act. He'd first worked in advertising with the J. Walter Thompson Agency, and left that behind to come to San Francisco. It took him a little while to find his niche here, but find it he did, with our own neighborhood newspaper.

The *New Fillmore* helped define this neighborhood and brought a lot of people together who otherwise would not have known each other. David roped in anyone he knew who could write or take pictures. He even paid a few of us.

Each month, after he'd put the paper to bed, David would throw his "fooled 'em again" party, and that's where a lot of us got together and became friends. The fact that he managed to make a living with this little paper amazed all of us, but he did, and it helped to define this neighborhood I have called home for almost 30 years.

David Ish was a generous person. He went out of his way to introduce me to



GURNEY LAUSDAY

A crusading publisher

David Ish not only made his own newspapers successful, but also helped newspapers in other neighborhoods by creating the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association, which solicited advertising for papers throughout the city.

Ish was the chief salesman — and also the chief crusader. In 1991 (above, with fist raised) he organized a protest against a new state tax levied on the production expenses of free newspapers. He and publishers of other papers staged a protest on the steps of the State Building in the Civic Center. They also enlisted the support of key political leaders, many of whom appeared at the rally, and successfully beat back the tax.

people who might be able to further my career as a poet. The fact that nothing ever came of it is more my fault than his. He would bring people together if he thought they had something in common, and he hoped the sparks would fly.

David had a genuine curiosity about life and ideas. He enjoyed both his New Age explorations and scientific thought, as well as poetry.

I last saw David the weekend of the All Star Game in July. He had come into town to visit from Thailand, the place he'd made home for his third act. I was too preoccupied with baseball, I'm afraid, and we didn't have much time to visit. Still, we exchanged email addresses, and David was excited about starting an international online poetry group that included me and other poets from the neighborhood.

Sadly, he never got very far along with that. David Ish passed away October 9 in Thailand. We got to enjoy his long second act; his third act was far too short.

A Poet Writes His Epitaph

In August, after a few days in the neighborhood on his way back to Thailand, David Ish circulated an email address to friends and poets.

He wrote:

I retired going on a year ago to a mountain village in northern Thailand called Pai, and after discovering I had a pretty bad case of chronic pancreatitis returned to the States for a couple of months for medical treatment. I've been back in Pai for a little over a month now, and am sufficiently along in the recovery process to have the energy to devote to my primary passion of poetry.

He vowed, "as a way of keeping in touch with friends and keeping some creative pressure on myself," to circulate a poem every week or so. He sent only four poems before he died on October 9. This was the first.

INTIMATIONS OF MORTALITY IN LATE AGE

It's part of life, we know that,
Are told so from the beginning.

These things happen,
Whether it's her life cut short
Or his time,
It's sooner or later you know.

Flowers and formaldehyde.

As you get on
It happens more and more.
First, when you're 10, it's Grandpa Hunt at the foot of the stairs.
Then, in junior high, a classmate's father hangs himself.
You get through high school okay but in college
There's Dave Prohaska and that fire.
Then after college, for some reason,
A lot of your Greek brethren fall
While you're all still in your forties.
It's mostly cancer of the various organs
But Bob Austin had a brain tumor
And Sonnenberg got bit by some damn bug
On a camping trip for Christ's sake,
And Walton died of phlebitis,
Who the hell dies of phlebitis?

Your Mom passes apparently
Peacefully in her sleep
And your step dad follows
Shortly thereafter,
Having had the presence of mind
In his final moments after calling 911
To lay out his will and bank statements
On the dining room table.

After awhile, perhaps impressed
By your stepfather's fearless orderliness,
You start to feel like you're getting pretty good at accepting it,

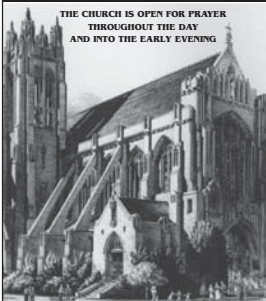
Like those Buddhist Monks who,
To remind themselves of impermanence,
Meditate open-eyed
On the charnel ground.

But then you get the cat scan and

This time it's me.

— DAVID A. ISH

St. Dominic's Catholic Church



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MASSSES

SUNDAY
5:30 pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am
1:30, 5:30 & 9:00 pm

WEEKDAYS
6:30 & 8:00 am & 5:30 pm
SATURDAY

PRAYERS & SACRAMENTS

7:40 am Rosary, 8:00 am Mass
Liturgy of the Hours (Daily)
Morning Prayer 7:15 am/Sat 8:00 am
Evening Prayer 5:00 pm
Reconciliation Sat 5:00 pm,
Sun 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am, 5:00 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Mon & Wed 8:30 am & 6 pm
Tue & Fri 8:30 pm



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1946 Fillmore 776-9878

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2043 Fillmore 928-1300

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2210 Fillmore 921-2956

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1923 Fillmore 346-6788

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2325 Pine 440-0356

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2015 Fillmore 346-3692

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2201 Fillmore 447-9733

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2213 Fillmore 441-5396

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2060 Fillmore 567-8822

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1870 Fillmore 563-2248

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2435 California 567-4902

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