

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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perfect peaches*

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# New FILLMORE

SAN FRANCISCO ■ SEPTEMBER 2006



## Sculpture on the Park

Star architect  
Olle Lundberg brings  
**MODERNISM**  
to the top of  
Alta Plaza Park

**F**OR YEARS, the dog walkers in Alta Plaza Park watched the construction site at the top of Jackson Street.

Two townhouses disappeared, essentially, and a new view of the bay opened. Then builders began constructing one house where two had been. As construction continued, the view of the bay remained, even as the walls began going up.

Last month the minimalist metal and glass double house was finally completed. Neighbors were invited for cocktails. Photographs were taken for the design journals.

Architect Olle Lundberg, the wonderboy behind the design, has succeeded in creating a see-through house that reads like a piece of modern sculpture while celebrating the views of

the bay to the north and the park to the south.

He has also managed to keep views of the bay from the park.

“The simple gesture, beautiful executed” is Lundberg’s mantra.

He describes his design process as a search for simplicity dictated from the beginning by the site.

“This is an extraordinary site,” Lundberg says, “one of the best half dozen sites in San Francisco.” Nearly every room — and there aren’t many in this 7,000 square foot house — has views all the way through, from the park on the south to the bay on the north.

“That was the idea of the house: to capture a sense of transparency,” Lundberg says.

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# This Month

## IN & OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

### PLANTS AND INSECTS ▶

An exhibition of photography  
Wed. to Sun., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Presidio Officers Club  
50 Moraga at Arguello  
[www.presidiotrust.gov](http://www.presidiotrust.gov) or 561-5500

### THE TEMPEST

by William Shakespeare  
weekends, Sept. 2 to 24  
Presidio Main Post parade ground  
[www.sfshakes.org](http://www.sfshakes.org) or 865-4434

### TRIBUTE TO FILLMORE BLUES LEGENDS

Labor Day, Mon. Sept. 4, 1 to 6 p.m.  
100 Drake Ave., Marin City  
332-8316

### ANNIVERSARY PARKS GALA

Wed., Sept. 13, 6 to 9 p.m.  
Mountain Lake Park  
[www.sfnpc.org](http://www.sfnpc.org) or 821-9693

### MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

Thursdays, Sept. 14 to Oct. 12, 6 to 8:30 p.m.  
California Pacific Medical Center  
2333 Buchanan  
[www.cpmc.org](http://www.cpmc.org) or 600-0504

### PARKS CLEANUP DAY

Sat., Sept. 16, 9 a.m. to noon  
Kickoff at Alta Plaza Park, Jackson & Scott  
[www.sfcleancity.com](http://www.sfcleancity.com) or 552-9201



PHOTOGRAPH OF LADYFERN  
BY ROBERT BUELTEMAN

### ■ FROM THE EDITORS

Just after our third issue as the new editors hit the streets last month, we witnessed a warming sight while riding home on the 1-California bus: a woman enrapt in reading the New Fillmore — so enrapt, in fact, that she kept on reading even after the bus broke down and most other passengers had stomped off.

An elderly gentleman sitting next to her, dapperly dressed, became captivated by the historic photo on the front page. He leaned over and said, “You know, I remember when Fillmore Street looked like that.”

And so began a spirited discussion of the neighborhood: the arches that once adorned the street, jazz clubs past and present, favorite spots now. This little paper hit home for them, and helped spark a connection.

There were additional reasons we were smiling last month:

- The New Fillmore was nominated as the Best Bay Area Community Newspaper in the 10th Annual Media Excellence Awards. After only three issues with our fingerprints on them, it seems a bit premature for prizes. But we’re tickled to be nominated.
- Many people took up the offer of subscriptions — even, endearingly, a number who already receive the paper free.
- Merchants reported that neighborhood shoppers came in search of the shirts touted in the retail report — and our new neighbors who were spotlighted got new business.
- Best of all, many readers wrote in with opinions and ideas for stories — and several even volunteered their cursors to help. You’ll see some of their bylines in this issue, and more in the next. Please keep your comments and ideas coming. We’ll keep smiling.

### THE NEW FILLMORE

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## Fillmore Friday at Gene Suttle Plaza on Fillmore and O’Farrell Streets

August 4 - September 15

Also Appearing September 8  
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Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic

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Pete Escovedo  
Latin Jazz

AUGUST 4TH



Kenny Neal  
New Orleans Blues

SEPTEMBER 1ST



Outta No Where  
Smooth Jazz

AUGUST 18TH



Best Intentions  
Old School

AUGUST 18TH



Fito Reinoso w/Ritmo y Armonia  
Afro Cuban Jazz

AUGUST 11TH



Johnny Rawls  
Mississippi Blues

AUGUST 25TH



5 Point 0  
R&B

SEPTEMBER 15TH



Domingo  
Soul

SEPTEMBER 8TH

## FILLMORE FARMERS MARKET



EVERY SATURDAY, 9AM–1PM  
FILLMORE CENTER PLAZA@O’FARRELL  
Live Jazz Weekly







Vilma Guinto-Peoro is campaigning for the Board of Supervisors.

## Would-Be Supervisor Looking for a Miracle

BY DON LANGLEY

**V**ILMA GUINTO-PEORO concedes it would be “a miracle” if she won the election for District 2 supervisor over the incumbent, Michela Alioto-Pier.

Among other obstacles, she lacks Alioto-Pier’s name recognition and funding.

But she believes in miracles, especially since the survival of a grandson who weighed just a pound and a half when he was born three months premature.

“In my culture we believe that if you want something that much, it can be achieved,” she said.

Guinto-Peoro was born in the Philippines and came to the United States as a

child. She returned to the Philippines for her education before moving permanently to the Bay Area. She believes she is the first Filipino-American to run in District 2.

Her primary campaign issue is the safety of seniors, who are more numerous in District 2 than anywhere else in the city. She hopes to get more seniors involved in elections and gives out voter registration cards everywhere she goes.

The 66-year-old — “and proud of it” — retiree lives in a senior residence near Cathedral Hill. She began her efforts with her fellow tenants, who customarily see her in one of her 300 hats, many of them red. In one day, she gathered the required 30 signatures on her nomination papers within

the residence. To get the 1,000 signatures needed to avoid filing fees, she spent time in the Laurel Heights Starbucks.

Her family also has a home on Jackson Street near Presidio.

Her concern about senior safety extends to public transportation and auto vandalism. She said a number of her fellow senior residents have been robbed on 38-Geary buses. And the residents’ cars are regularly burgled “and the cops don’t come,” she said.

She also sees a need for affordable housing, particularly in District 2. The existing senior residences are beyond the means of most seniors, she said.

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## Neighbors Get a Say on Hospital’s Building Plans

The public will get an opportunity to comment on the planned massive rebuilding of California Pacific Medical Center’s facilities in the neighborhood at a meeting on September 19.

The session will be held at 7 p.m. in the conference room on Level A of the hospital building at 2333 Buchanan Street.

It is being organized by the Marchese Company, whose consultants are working with the hospital to plan a new acute care facility on Cathedral Hill and revamp its three existing sites.

The hospital has proposed replacing its buildings and parking lot on the north side of Clay Street between Webster and Buchanan with an 11-story parking garage and an 89-foot-tall research building. The existing garage at Clay and Webster would be replaced later by a 70-foot building — 90 feet at its west end — to provide more medical offices and parking.

According to project manager Geoffrey Nelson, the focus of the hearing is the specific needs of the hospital. He said he wants to hear from neighbors about potential alternatives.

A meeting set up by the Planning Department in July, at which neighbors of all the sites vented opposition to the proposals, fulfilled a technical requirement for a public hearing, Nelson said. What was presented then, he said, was the “most intense possible use” of the land.

The planning process normally calls for a no-build alternative as well as the most intense proposal. Nelson said it is possible the Planning Department could propose alternatives, including housing.

The hospital’s present buildings do not meet the state-imposed seismic standards for acute care hospitals and must be replaced by 2013.

California Pacific plans to build a new hospital on Van Ness between Post and Geary Streets and move acute care there from its existing hospitals on Buchanan Street and California Street.

The Buchanan Street hospital would be renovated for ambulatory care.

Nelson said his company has mailed notices to 1,700 residents and property owners within a 500 foot radius of the Buchanan Street site and will make other efforts to let neighbors know about the hearing and solicit their views.

■ THE LOCAL SCENE | BILL SHIELDS



## Acupuncture for dogs? Herbs for cats? Coming this month to Pets Unlimited

**A**NEW Holistic Veterinary Medicine Center will open this month at Pets Unlimited on Fillmore Street.

Randy Bowman, a veterinarian at the nonprofit hospital and shelter, has completed training in acupuncture and is already providing treatments on Wednesday mornings. Acupuncture is also provided on Saturday mornings by Beth Schneider.

Pet owners interested in the service should see their regular veterinarians for a referral.

Herbal medicine will also be an option for both dogs and cats when the new center opens this month. Administrators are also looking for practitioners qualified in homeopathic medicine, which is a different discipline than herbal medicine.

The Holistic Veterinary Medicine center is being constructed in Pets

Unlimited’s lower level, which was previously used for grooming and boarding pets.

The pet patients are not the only creatures served by the hospital. It also supports a shelter. Last month the shelter, which holds animals until they find a home, was notified by Merced’s animal shelter that it would be forced to euthanize 42 dogs due to overcrowding. The dogs were to be put down in 24 hours if new homes could not be found.

Pets Unlimited also has space constraints, but its animal care specialist spread word of the threatened dogs. Staff, volunteers and friends responded quickly.

Most of the dogs were placed in foster homes until space becomes available at the Pets Unlimited shelter. Thirteen of the dogs were rescued by other organizations.

## Jazz District Votes to Hike Its Own Taxes

But control goes to non-property owners

Fillmore’s Jazz Preservation District is now also a community benefit district.

More than 83 percent of the property owners in the area, their votes weighted by their property’s size and sidewalk frontage, voted to tax themselves for sidewalk cleaning and beautification, special events and marketing.

The assessments are expected to raise more than \$300,000.

The Board of Supervisors followed up on August 15 with a unanimous vote of approval. The district has an initial term of five years. It extends on Fillmore from Post Street to Golden Gate Avenue, plus portions of some cross streets.

Last minute amendments to the ordinance passed by the supervisors stipulate that 25 percent of the governing board be made up of merchants in the district who are not property owners and that another 25 percent neither own property nor a business in the area.

That provision was a bow to the longstanding demand from the Western Addition community, particularly its African-American residents, that they have a greater say in what happens there.

Two residents testified before the supervisors, both saying they were neither for nor against the district’s formation.

Activist Ace Washington revived the theme that urban renewal of the 1960s was actually “Negro removal.” He said the district will help control the economic structure of the area after the Redevelopment Agency’s authority ends in 2009.

“We want to be at the table,” neighborhood resident Daniel Landry testified. “We can’t say that enough.”

Landry also questioned why there has been so much emphasis on “pushing jazz on a community that’s now on hip hop.”

Included in the plans are regular sweeping and quarterly steam cleaning of the sidewalks, graffiti removal, installation of banners and decorations, tree and plant maintenance and private security services.

Creating a district identity will include the development of a website and logo, pedestrian kiosks and a signage system, special events, a walking map, historical markers, public art and street furnishings.

The farmers market will also continue on Saturday mornings.



■ CRIME WATCH

**Making Threats, Stalking  
Fillmore and Golden Gate  
July 30, 3:01 p.m.**

A woman called police concerning a man who was stalking her and making threats. When officers confronted the suspect and told him to leave, he said he would “whoop their ass.” He asked the officers when they would be off duty, telling them he would “hurt them” if he saw them in plainclothes. He was a large man; officers had to struggle for some time to get him into handcuffs. They walked him to Northern Station, where he said to the shorter of the two policemen, “I can’t wait to kick your ass, midget.” Officers sequestered the man in a cell. The victim claimed the man had been stalking her at work and at home. The officers obtained a court order forbidding the man to come near her.

**Robbery With a Gun  
Geary and Fillmore Streets  
July 31, 1:13 a.m.**

A man called dispatch claiming he had been robbed at gunpoint at the corner of Geary and Fillmore Streets. He had been sitting at the Muni bus stop listening to his iPod when he was approached by a man who said, “Let me see what’s in your bag.” As he spoke, the suspect flashed a handgun in his front pocket. Fearful, the man allowed the suspect to look through his bag. He found the victim’s wallet and was angered it was empty. The robber then took the gun from his pocket — a black semi-automatic with a square muzzle — and pressed it to the victim’s temple, saying, “I know you have something else.” The robber then snatched the man’s iPod and told him, “Get on the ground. If you move, I’ll kill you.” The man obeyed, remaining on the ground for several minutes, watching as the suspect crossed Geary Street. The victim was able to give the police a thorough description, and after searching the area, officers detained the gunman at Turk and Scott Streets.

**Burglary  
2340 Pacific Avenue  
August 18, 4:14 a.m.**

Dispatch received a call about a “skinny male who came down a fire escape and began breaking into vehicles parked in a private parking garage.” The witness said she was awakened by the sound of someone walking down her backyard fire escape. Shortly afterward, she heard car doors opening and closing in her building’s garage. While a team of officers were searching the building, one heard a door slam in the adjacent building. They observed a man in a leather jacket leaving through the front door of 2324 Pacific. He was carrying three large canvas bags and one paper bag, and sweating profusely. Officers detained him. The witness, upon examining her Volkswagen parked in the garage, realized that items were missing. In the suspect’s canvas bags, officers found the witness’s CD case, laptop computer, radio, external disk drive and earthquake preparedness kit. Her neighbors also found many of their possessions there: a jewel case, a tote bag, a cell phone. A search of the suspect uncovered a glass pipe for smoking methamphetamine. The burglar had entered the garage through the service entrance.

**Drug Arrest  
Geary and Polk Streets  
August 7, 12:14 a.m.**

Officers saw a man throwing garbage into the street directly in front of their parked police car. When they detained the litterer to issue a citation, he became agitated and gave them a false name. The officers handcuffed him and told him they would have to take him to the station to fingerprint him for identification. During a search, they found prepackaged rocks of

crack cocaine and a quantity of cash. A computer check revealed that the man was on parole.

**Discharging a Firearm in a  
Grossly Negligent Manner  
1152 Turk Street  
August 14, 9:03 p.m.**

Officers heard gunshots in the area of Turk and Laguna Streets. At the scene, they discovered three males involved in a shoot-out. The officers requested backup. The gunmen ducked into 1152 Turk Street while police secured the area. When the three emerged from the building, one collapsed to the ground, exclaiming, “I’ve been shot.” Officers cut off his bloody shirt and discovered a gunshot wound to his back. While waiting for paramedics, they administered first aid. At the hospital, the man was treated for a grazing gunshot wound and released. Officers searched the area and found a black jacket with a gunshot hole in the back and numerous expended casings scattered down half the block. A motorcycle and a Ford parked in the area sustained gunshot damage. Two handguns and one shotgun were found in the back yard of the residence at 1152 Turk Street. A resident there said that when she’d heard gunfire outside her apartment, she hit the floor. She said she had no idea how the firearms came to be in her back yard. All three participants in the gun battle were booked. The wounded man had a no-bail warrant for his arrest.

**Battery of a Police Officer  
Franklin and Golden Gate Streets  
August 18, 12:13 a.m.**

An officer was stopped at a traffic signal when he heard a man shouting loudly enough to be heard over Franklin Street traffic. The officer observed a shirtless man with a tattoo standing near the loading dock of 601 Van Ness Avenue. A woman was lingering nearby. When the officer approached, the man shouted, “What the fuck are you looking at? I’m just having an argument with my girlfriend. Leave me alone.” The officer attempted to determine whether the woman needed assistance. The man shouted, “Fuck you, faggot.” With his right fist, he struck the officer squarely in the chest; the blow contacted the shock plate of the officer’s bulletproof vest. The shirtless man then backed away, keeping his fists clenched. The officer told him he was under arrest, but the man ignored numerous verbal requests to surrender. The woman then approached and said, “Lavon, be cool.” But the man strode out onto Franklin Street while challenging the police officer: “You want some? Come and get it!” Then he bolted off into the traffic lanes. The officer returned to his vehicle and cut the man off on Van Ness Avenue. The suspect had attempted to disguise himself by putting on a shirt with long sleeves and pulling an item of clothing over his head. When confronted by the officer, he said, “The guy just ran up Franklin Street.” The officer then grasped the man’s left arm and executed a frontal leg sweep. Policeman and suspect fell to the sidewalk together; the officer held him down. The man continued to struggle, refusing to put his hands behind his back. The officer then punched the man in the right rib area and got the suspect’s right arm in a wristlock. The man was finally put under arrest. The woman informed the officer that the suspect was her former boyfriend, whom she’d recently broken up with because he had anger problems.

**Police Contact Numbers**

Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: 553-0123  
TTY: 558-2404  
Tip Line: 392-2623  
Anonymous tip line: 885-5187  
Community meetings are held at Northern Station, 1125 Fillmore, on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.



**NCPHS Foundation Raffle**  
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# *A Night to Remember*

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■ SHOPPING

Belts are back, and so is punk

While protesting she’s “not a belt person,” the sales associate at **Cielo**, at 2225 Fillmore, had to admit that they’re back with a vengeance: thinner ones cinching the waist; wider ones slung low on the hips and paired with those still ubiquitous tunics; big-buckled ones giving new definition to overcoats that are flopped open at the lapels. “What’s new again about belts is they’re looking a little more punklike,” she said. “They have kind of an 80s feel.” At Cielo, you’ll find belts by European designers festooned with jewels, embossed with grommets, even some with zippers up their middles. They range from \$205 to \$504.

Hand-tooled hipsters

Subtler are the hand-tooled beauties at **Margaret O’ Leary**, at 2400 Fillmore. These belts are crafted by Calleen Cordero, formerly in Oakland but now in North Hollywood. They are elaborately studded designs stamped in Cordero’s trademark vintage look. Meant to be worn at the hips, they range from \$185 to \$240, depending on the amount of actual tooling involved. They’re available in a variety of colors, including metallics, oxblood and peacock.

The flexibility factor

One bane of belting can be finding one that fits your waist without pinching or sliding. And waists have a wondrous way of expanding and even occasionally contracting. **De Novo**, at 2413 California, offers the perfect solution: Waisted Belt, a line of stretchy numbers for \$18. “People really like stretchy,” said a sales associate. “They like sparkly, too.” Combining the best of the stretchy and sparkly worlds are a couple of gold and silver belts that would keep anything black from being too basic.

Gently preworn

Many fashionistas who didn’t sense the return of the belt donated theirs. You can find a large array of slightly worn belts in various sizes and styles at the Junior League’s newly reordered **Next to New Shop**, at 2226 Fillmore — and they’re priced at just \$4.50 each.

RETAIL REPORT

Soho Comes to the Low ’Mo

ONE BLOCK SOUTH of Geary Street, just inside the doors of 1525 Fillmore, is a new and unexpected retail oasis: a hip emporium of clothing, shoes, accessories, jewelry and fragrances.

Harputs Market feels more Soho than Lower Mo, with its sandblasted cement walls, exposed beams, thick glass display shelves and French pop soundtrack. The decor is chic and decidedly black and white — the display tables, the furniture and especially the clothes.

Gus Harput launched the upscale boutique earlier this year next door to Harput’s, the family store devoted to Adidas sneakers that his dad, Turk, opened more than two decades ago. That business — staffed by Turk, sons Gus and Matt and other family members — quickly made its name selling vintage Adidas, much coveted by shoe collectors.

In 1984, they relocated to 1527 Fillmore. That was the former site of the Progress Theatre, which flourished from 1911 to 1925, survived the redevelopment wrecking ball, then was converted to three retail stores.

Harput’s became a fixture in a neighborhood that was changing rapidly all around it.

“The store was urban — a sneaker store that survived during white flight,” Gus Harput says. By the 90s, people had begun moving back to the neighborhood.

“When we came, Bush Street was considered the dividing line on Fillmore,” Harput says. “By the 90s, it was Geary. Now it’s Eddy. But that’s changing, too.”

In fact, it was the diversity of the neighborhood and its potential that spurred him to open the new store.

“If you step outside now, you’ll find a person of every kind on the street,” Harput says. “When you have a little bit of everything in the way of people, you can sell diverse things to them, too.”

“I couldn’t be more excited by the roughness on these streets,” he says. “This block has more potential because it’s raw.”

Harput, who is also president of the Jazz Preservation District Merchants Association, is hustling to put his mark on neighborhood development. He says he’s currently “twisting arms on both sides” to get the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance to locate a block down the street.

“Imagine this neighborhood with a storefront full of little ballerinas learning to dance,” he says. “Very Degas.”

Inside, Harputs Market is slick and sleek, with warming touches. Wood from



Harputs Market is slick and sleek, with warming wooden touches.

More markets within the market

Harput’s Market features extensive offerings by Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto, who does sleek footwear for Adidas and fashion-forward lines of clothing for men and women. The market also stocks some select European designers, including A.P.C. and Bless.

But there’s even more than clothing nestled within a number of boutiques inside the store.

▪ Local jeweler Ritsuko Yagi, of Chariots on Fire, shows an extensive line of vintage jewelry, many of them featuring jet beads.

▪ Juliana Elliott is a consultant for the Perfumerie in Fiore, which offers limited-edition fragrances.

▪ There’s also a vintage eyewear collection by Curtis Hawes.

Harput plans to add a chocolatier and bookstore — and possibly other boutiques — in the coming months.

mirror to reveal a former bank vault that leads to a sun-drenched bathroom tiled in white.

The store opens onto a magical backyard space: a huge Zen garden of palm trees and greenery which Harput shares with the Fillmore Center apartment complex.

“I have plans for this,” he says. “I’d like to put a retractable ceiling on the patio and make this into a little restaurant and serve lunch.”

Harput, a self-confessed “collector of things,” cut his teeth in retail while rummaging at flea markets. But he recalls that his teenage foraging ground was not your average flea market.

“It was stocked by people from Marin who were cleaning out their closets,” he says. “You can imagine the treasures.”

“That’s how I got started. My dad would give me shoes that didn’t sell in the store. I’d hustle them at the flea market to make money to travel — and to buy more things.”

He clearly still revels in the retail dance.

“I’m a salesman. That’s what I enjoy. I’m on the floor everyday — my office is right here,” Harput says, waving at the sales counter.

“The thing about retail,” Harput says, “is that you have to shake it up. Give the customers something new all the time.”

One thing is clear: Gus Harput is giving something new to this stretch of Fillmore.

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# BACK TO SCHOOL

Learn new things and make new friends  
— all right here in the neighborhood

By JOAN O'CONNOR

SEPTEMBER HAS ALWAYS been synonymous with going back to school. A fresh box of No. 2 pencils, new notebooks and a clean slate with new teachers await as the first bell rings after Labor Day.

This fall, even if your school days have long since ended, you can rekindle your passion for exploring new subjects right here in the neighborhood. At venues diverse in scope and subject matter, you can take classes that will allow you to make new friends as you learn about subjects that appeal to you.

For people who get pleasure from creating something handmade, the instructions in soap making at **Hydra**, at 1919 Fillmore, classes in needlework and embroidery at **Stitch Needle Arts**, at 2799 Sacramento, and knitting and crocheting at **Atelier Yarns**, at 1945 Divisadero, can provide an early start on holiday giftmaking.

As an added bonus, you can work on your creative projects as you kibbitz with someone likely to live within a few blocks.

Lovers of the lindy hop and swing dancing can find lessons and a dance party at the **Russian Community Center**, at 2460 Sutter, on Thursday nights, where a group of 150 or so regulars meets for friendly fun and casual dancing.

If your tastes are more formal, the San Francisco Waltz Ball takes place at the Russian Center on Friday, September 22. An introductory waltz class will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m., followed by dancing until midnight.

Russian folk dance classes are offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Beginning on September 13 and continuing for 12 Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m., the **HoopGirl** workout series will offer a high-energy workout using hula hoops from 8 to 10 pm at **Dance Ground Keriac**, at 1805 Divisadero. For details, go to [www.hoopgirl.com](http://www.hoopgirl.com).

Just up the block but worlds apart in physical rigor, you can participate in classes for people of all ages and stages of life at the **Yoga Studio**, at 1823 Divisadero. On Tuesdays from 7:45 to 9 p.m., restorative yoga instructor Rosey Kobliska-Becker offers an ideal remedy for daily stress: a quiet session of stretching and breathing. It's what one student calls "yoga for people who don't want to have to even get up off the floor."

Even some commercial transactions offer the opportunity to learn.

Whether it's a personal make-up lesson at **BeneFit Cosmetics**, at 2117 Fillmore, or master classes in applying lashes at **Shu Uemura**, at 1971 Fillmore, there is something for everyone who wants to learn the finer points of putting on a fabulous face. And the folks at **Kiehl's**, at 2360 Fillmore, are fastidious about skin care, and happy to show you how to moisturize and protect your skin from the effects of global warming, heavy fog and whatever else you might encounter.

*Joan O'Connor is a neighbor and the proprietor of Timeless Treasures at 2176 Sutter Street.*



Nessa Sander and Kathryn Kalabokes own separate but complementary businesses — now located on Fillmore.

## ■ NEW NEIGHBORS

### Two Businesses Make a Marriage

You might say they were a perfect match.

An invitation designer and event planner became friends and started separate but complementary businesses — and now they have relocated together from Divisadero to Fillmore Street.

Nessa Sander is the Cardgirl, crafting custom invitations, programs, save the date announcements and other nuptial necessities.

"We love this spot," she says, waving around the sunlit room, with its second-floor windows overlooking the bustling scene at Fillmore and Pine. "We wanted to move to a more action-packed location."

Sander says that what catapulted her into business was planning her own wedding and not finding any invitations she liked. That's the beauty and challenge she faces.

"Some people have an exact idea of what they want when they come in here,"

she says. "Some don't. But everyone wants something special. And we get to sit down with them and design that."

Kathryn Kalabokes is the owner of Dream a Little Dream Events, which specializes in wedding and event planning. She also pens custom calligraphy. She's been in the business for almost four years.

"Before that, I was in real estate," she says. "But I was always planning events for friends."

Originally, Kalabokes says, her niche was "lower budget weddings that don't look low budget. But now I've branched out to all types of customers. One of my strengths is that I'm a good organizer."

And sometimes a saver of psyches. "I still can't believe how smooth it went," enthused one recent, very relieved groom.

Cardgirl, at 674-8574, and Dream a Little Dream Events, at 931-8366, are both now located on the second floor at 2001 Fillmore.

### Jigsaw Coming From London to Fillmore

A new clothing store is coming to Fillmore Street this month.

Jigsaw, which will be located at 2121 Fillmore, will feature clothing and accessories for women and girls.

The company is completely renovating the space that most recently housed Bindi, which sold womenswear. Previously it was home to L'Uomo, which sold menswear.

Jigsaw has its own designers in London and describes their work as "acceptable to both daughter and mother." The spring and summer collection featured mid-priced casual clothing with bohemian influences.

The company is also opening a shop in Beverly Hills this month. Its other two U.S. stores are also in California, in Santa Monica and Pasadena.



## Slider

Slider is an incredible survivor with an amazing spirit. Despite having had a broken pelvis (his back legs are immobilized—thus the name Slider!) he instigates playtime with his condo mates and is always happy. Slider has such a great personality and is thoroughly looking forward to sharing cuddle and playtime with his new special person or family. Please introduce yourself to him—he's bound to leave a huge smile on your face!



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# Waste Not, Pledge the Food Runners

By MARY RISLEY

EVERY FRIDAY, Pacific Heights resident Frances Vernhagen goes to the back door of the corporate cafeteria at Williams-Sonoma, on Van Ness Avenue, and picks up cartons of fresh food to take to the Next Door residential home on Polk Street. This has been her weekly run for almost 10 years.

Bill Nocetti picks up masses of food in his truck every Saturday at Traders Joe's on Masonic, as he has for years, and takes it to Walden House, a drug and alcohol treatment center on Buena Vista Park.

Lydia Ainsley, of Vallejo Street, walks to nearby Starbucks outlets, picks up their excess muffins and takes them to neighborhood group homes.

These are your neighbors, the Food Runners.

Every day, people in our neighborhood pick up food from businesses that have more than they can sell and take nourishment to a school, a group home or a senior center where it is put to good use. They volunteer one hour a week to help feed their fellow San Franciscans.

You too can become a Food Runner. Call 929-1866 to volunteer with the organization. Nancy Hahn, director of operations and volunteer coordinator, will match



Barbara Deutsch, a board member of Food Runners, picks up bread from the Boulangerie Bay Bread.

you with a route and a schedule that suit you.

You may choose to be on call, like Kip Altman from Clay Street; or you may choose to have a regular run, like Charles Metzler from Jackson Street.

In addition to directly helping others in need, you can also become part of a community kept in touch by a lively monthly newsletter. You will also be invited twice a year to a party with your fellow Food Runners.

Many of your neighbors in Pacific Heights and the Fillmore prefer to become a Friend of Food Runners, donating money rather than time. Food Runners welcomes your donations online at [www.foodrunners.org](http://www.foodrunners.org).

## Needed: more food

What Food Runners really needs — in addition to volunteers to deliver food and donate money — is more food.

If you run a business that has excess food, please do not throw it away. Just package it in food-safe containers and call Food Runners at 929-1866. A volunteer will pick it up the same day if you call in the morning, or the next day if you call in the afternoon.

Volunteers can also pick up extra food from events at your school or church.

If you are an interested consumer, please tell every caterer, bakery, restaurant and grocery store about Food Runners.

Some businesses throw food away out of habit, but habits can be changed. Some businesses throw away food because of fear of liability. However, there are now both state and federal laws protecting donors.

Most businesses that throw away food probably just don't know about Food Runners. They'll find it easy and simple to donate.

Just ask the bakers at the Boulangerie Bay Bread on Pine Street. They've been donating excess bread to Food Runners since they opened.

org, or by telephone, or by sending a check to 2579 Washington Street, San Francisco, 94115.

Those who donate \$500 or more will be invited to an elegant annual dinner in a private home in the neighborhood cooked by a well-known San Francisco chef. For many, the annual donor appreciation dinner is a highlight of the year. Each year, the flowers are donated by Bloomers, on Washington Street, and the wine is donated by the Jug Shop on Pacific.

This year's dinner on July 20 was exceptional. Forty-three people enjoyed the cooking of Stuart Brioza and the desserts of Nicole Krasinski, executive chef and pastry chef of Rubicon. Stuart and Nicole

are so warm and charming that it was a thrill to hang out in the kitchen with them, eating hors d'oeuvres and sipping glasses of pinot grigio.

Then we all sat down to savor chilled golden beet soup with smoked hamachi, padron peppers and ginger-buttermilk froth. This was followed by roasted guinea hen breast with chanterelles, eggplant and apricot-brioche butter.

The warm chocolate hazelnut crepes with raspberries and Szechuan pepper sabayon were the perfect dessert.

Mary Risley, a neighbor, runs Tante Marie's Cooking School in North Beach. She founded Food Runners in 1987.



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## Supersweet

Part barker, part budding businessman, 16-year-old Cirilo Chavez draws the biggest crowds at the Fillmore Farmers Market on Saturday mornings. He sells produce from the J&J Ramos farm in Hughson, near Modesto.

As the market begins at 9 a.m., it's all priced at \$1.50 per pound. As the morning wears on, the savvy marketer cuts the price — with a Post-It note — to \$1.25 per pound.

A star on his high school track and cross country teams, Chavez is fast with the banter, too, gliding easily from English to Spanish and back.

"Want to try a white peach? It's supersweet," he coaxes, holding out a sample on tongs. "How about you, ma'am? Try one. It's really sweet, sweet and crunchy. What about you, sir? Every try a pluot?"

To more than one buyer he says, "That's \$2.75. Want to add one more and make it \$3 even?" Few passersby can resist the samples. And few buyers can resist the gentle upsell.

## Avoiding Accidental Inebriation

By MARK J. MITCHELL

**A** FEW WEEKS AGO I was making myself a light lunch. It was a warm day, so I poured a glass of a lovely sauvignon blanc.

After finishing both the lunch and the glass of wine, I stood up and realized I was much more affected by the single glass of wine than usual. I examined the bottle. After searching the tiny print, I discovered that this white wine weighed in at 14.5 percent alcohol by volume.

You don't expect that much alcohol in a white wine.

In my boozy haze, I recalled a recent news report that global warming, if it continues, may render Napa Valley and Sonoma County incapable of growing grapes for wine. That's one good reason for wine lovers to be concerned about the world heating up. But there's another reason, too.

Global warming is, in fact, part of the reason for higher alcohol content in wine. Higher temperatures mean higher sugar levels in wine grapes. Higher sugar levels mean higher alcohol content. It's as simple as that.

Add to that the federal law that allows a variation of 1.5 percent from the stated alcohol content, and it's easy to get ahead of yourself with a glass or two of wine.

Some winemakers say they're only trying to make balanced wines. They talk about hang time and ripeness, but they are bluffing their way out of a hard place. There is a certain wine critic — one Mr. Robert Parker — who insists on overripe, powerhouse wines, and much of the international

wine industry has chosen to please him.

It is entirely possible to make wines that are both balanced and high in octane, but it is difficult. I've had merlots from Mendocino that seem well made, yet weigh in at 15 percent alcohol by volume. I've also had zinfandels, from which I expect high alcohol, that burn the back of my throat with the heat of the alcohol.

So, what should you do to avoid accidental inebriation?

- Be informed. Look for the tiny print on every bottle of California wine that gives you the alcohol content. It can be difficult to find, but you are better off knowing what you're drinking. In restaurants, don't hesitate to examine the bottle of the wine you order, even if you only order a glass.

- Consider more imported wines, especially from France and Italy. Wines from the south of France are slightly more powerful than the wines of Bordeaux and Burgundy. Another tip: In 2003 it was especially hot in Europe, and because of that the alcohol content in that vintage spiked.

- Drink bubbles. Champagne remains a reliable option, usually clocking in at a modest 12 percent alcohol.

While alcohol content may not matter much if you're just walking home from Via Veneto or the Fillmore Grill, it makes a world of difference if you're getting behind the wheel of a car. Even the French are cutting back on wine with meals because of stricter drunk driving regulations.

We should learn from their example.

*Mark J. Mitchell is the manager of D&M Wine and Liquor on Fillmore Street.*



# Peaches Are Perfect Right Now

By Carlo Middione

ALMOST NOTHING is better than a perfect peach. The combination of color, aroma and texture all bound together with intense fruit sugars is beyond alchemy. It is nature's triumph.

There are many varieties of peach, each with its own ideal way of being consumed. White ones, cool and fresh, are best eaten out of hand. Yellow clings, the first of the season, are terrific for making preserves or stirring into ice cream.

Medium-sized yellow freestones are my peach of choice. The ones I like have just begun to arrive. Sure, peaches have been around for a few weeks, but by the end of August they become important, showing their virtues as they do at no other time.

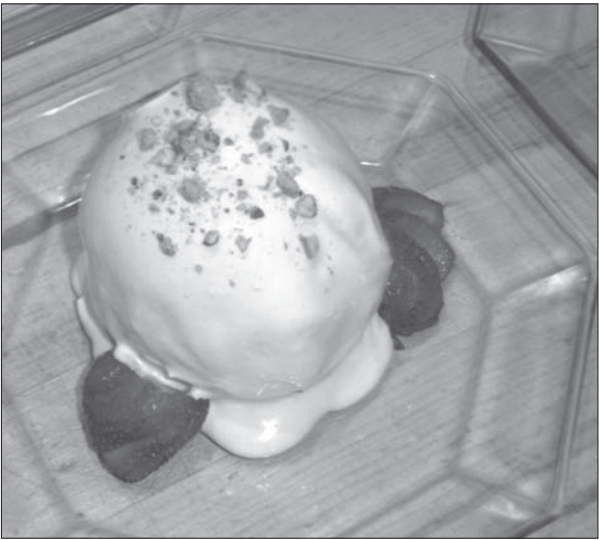
Some of my patrons have been needling me about how good the peaches are this year, and how they have already been enjoying them for weeks. They want to know why they can't have *pesche reale*, the royal peaches I have been making for more than 50 years, and for 25 years at Vivande.

Well, they have had to wait. I was ready, but the peaches weren't.

The natural sugars have to be at the right level, the color has to be just so, and the texture must allow for a softness and suppleness that turns the juice into peach-flavored sugar.

Now, at last, my peaches are ready.

*Pesche reale* are truly fit for a king. The perfectly fresh peaches are skinned and cut in half. Their stones are removed and re-created with a special blend of marzipan



*Pesche reale* — royal peaches — are fit for a king, and available only for a few weeks.

### You want peaches?

It is widely held that China is the original home of the peach. From China the peach found its way into Persia (now Iran), which provided the basis for its scientific name, *Prunus persica*. The botanical name is also the basis for our Sicilian word for peach, which is *persico*.

In Italian, peach is *pesca* and the plural is *pesche*. In Italian, *che* is pronounced "keh," so "pes-keh" is peaches. It is really hilarious to hear an American ask an Italian for *pesche* and give it the soft French sound *pêche*. Everybody wants to be French, you know, and sound so elegant. Italians think, "Oh! you want fish." It's our little joke.

and walnuts. Then the halves are reassembled and draped in a mantle of Marsala-laced zabaione cream and dusted with fresh unsalted chopped pistachio nuts. We add fresh ripe strawberries as a garnish, which helps make this a stunning dish to see. But eat it with your eyes closed, blocking out everything but the sensation of taste and texture in your mouth.

This is my favorite peach dish.

But I also love peaches chilled, then sliced thinly and doused in a big wine glass with a stout red wine and eaten with amaretti cookies. This is an elegant way to end a meal, and so tasty and simple.

A variation is to pour Prosecco, a dry sparkling Italian wine from the Veneto, on sliced peaches. This is festive for an afternoon snack, and some like to use it as an aperitif.

Another favorite is grilled peaches. Peel the peaches, cut them in half, remove the stones and lightly rub them with a little melted butter or extra virgin olive oil. Place them on a medium-hot grill — wood is best — and grill about three minutes on each side. Serve hot or at room temperature with roast pork or roast chicken — or, for a light lunch or supper, serve them with thin-sliced prosciutto or speck. Add toasty bread and a medium-bodied red wine and you have a perfect meal.

I mostly prefer peaches with the skin on, but peeling them is easy and makes for a fancier presentation. The simplest way to peel peaches is to boil equal amounts of sugar and water for 10 minutes. Plop the peaches in for about 30 seconds, lift them out with a slotted spoon and then gently peel away the skin. The sugar in the water helps maintain an even, natural color and heightens the built-in sugary goodness of the peach.

Peach heaven lasts for only a few more weeks. Get them while you can.

*Carlo Middione is the owner and chef of Vivande Porta Via on Fillmore Street.*

### ■ ONE GREAT THING

#### 'Ear me now: Try this late summer treat

All year long I dream of my favorite dish at Jackson Fillmore Trattoria, at 2506 Fillmore. But I have to wait for tomato season before I can enjoy it.

This month is prime time.

On the menu it's called *orecchiette d'elefante* — literally, elephant ears — an invention of Jackson Fillmore owner Jack Krietzman.

It's made with veal or chicken cutlets, pounded thin, then breaded and fried to a crisp. The golden cutlets resemble the shape of elephant ears. They cover mixed greens and are topped by a cornucopia of colorful sweet heirloom tomatoes, gorgonzola cheese and balsamic vinegar. I am particularly fond of the chicken ears.

You'd better hurry if you want to try elephant ears this year. The dish is available only while heirloom tomatoes are in season, and will probably disappear by the end of the month.

— JERRY KATZ



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In 1896, Jackson Street between Scott and Pierce had stately homes in varying styles. Designs by noted architects Willis Polk (center) and Ernest Coxhead (right) still stand.

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# Two Houses Become One on Alta Plaza

► FROM PAGE 1

From atop Alta Plaza, the park is a gently rolling front lawn leading to the house, which is located on the north side of Jackson Street between Pierce and Scott.

The exterior is covered in panels from Japan made of a combination of crystal and glass. The framing and railings are steel. The walls are mostly glass.

On the front, a stainless steel beam holds up the roof, but it seems more a piece of sculpture than a working support. Lundberg’s design studio includes a metal shop, and sculptural metalwork appears repeatedly in his work.

Enter from Jackson Street through slatted steel gates, along a stone walkway, up the steps to the red front door.

Inside, the bay immediately demands your attention. The windows are huge — the ones facing the bay are, in fact, larger than any available in this country. These were made in Germany and shipped to San Francisco.

The main floor consists of only two rooms. The entry and living room combine into one vast space, the bay on the north, the park on the south. The other half of the main floor is the kitchen, dining room and family room, all open to each other and to the views beyond.

Another metal sculpture — a circular



Today, new and old stand side by side on Alta Plaza Park.

stair made in one piece and dropped into place with a crane — leads to the top floor. It too consists of basically two rooms, with ceilings that slant upward like wings to embrace the view. On one side are separate his and hers offices, both open to views north and south. On the other side is the master suite. The bedroom looks out onto the bay. The closets in the center are commodious. A stone tub in the expansive bathroom overlooks the park.

The clear glass in the bathroom can be obscured at the flip of a switch, and hidden curtains and shades can be drawn. Some might feel overexposed in such a space, but Lundberg insists the bathroom, like the other rooms, was designed to provide privacy even when open to the views.

Back down the circular stair and down to the lower level, there are two bedroom suites overlooking the bay, plus an exercise room, a wine cellar made of stainless steel rods — more metal sculpture — and two garages. Even at the ground level, the

house, sitting on the crest of the hill, offers magnificent bay views.

Lundberg first put his mark on the neighborhood 10 years ago when he created a high-tech modernist mansion for Oracle boss Larry Ellison amid the classical manors on Outer Broadway.

Currently in the neighborhood he is designing a combination residence and restaurant for Slanted Door chef Charles Phan near Fillmore Street and another new restaurant, the Presidio Social Club, that is to open in the Presidio later this year.

“Three things matter most to an architect: site, budget and client,” Lundberg says. “Here all three came together.”

The Jackson Street clients — a venture capitalist and a historian — knew they had a special site. They had lived there for 17 years. When their next-door neighbor decided to sell, they bought the house and hired Lundberg to take on the audacious

job of combining the two into a single home.

It took a good deal of money and political muscle. But the clients had the means and the will to do something significant.

“It was a big fight,” Lundberg says of the drive to combine the two houses into one modern space, “a huge deal.”


Activists in the neighborhood association were aghast at what they saw as a design out of place in Pacific Heights.

Lundberg’s plan kept the scale of the neighboring houses. It also kept slightly more than 50 percent of the original floor plate of the two houses, which made it a remodel rather than a teardown. The loss of a housing unit was a contentious issue, but the combination was allowed to proceed.

“Sometimes the process sours things,” Lundberg says, “but that didn’t happen here.”

Not even for the dogwalkers in the park, who still get a glimpse through Lundberg’s transparent creation to the blue beyond.

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# Nation's Largest Architectural Festival Starts Here

A MONTH-LONG SERIES of events focusing on Architecture and the City returns to San Francisco this month for the third year, and it starts right here in the neighborhood.

Zinc Details will host the launch party for the month's events on Friday evening, September 1, at its new store at 2410 California Street.

"It's like minds coming together," says Zinc owner Vasilios Kiniris, "and a chance to show off the neighborhood."

It seems appropriate that a series focusing on design should start here, given Fillmore Street's resurgence in the past year as a design mecca.

Host Zinc Details opened its California Street showroom for modern furniture mid-year to complement its original location two blocks away on Fillmore. Jonathan Adler and Simon Pearce have also opened design boutiques in the neighborhood in recent months.

"It's showing that Fillmore is receptive to design and forward thinking," says Kiniris, who is himself an architect. "We have discerning shoppers who are educated and worldly. They are early adapters who appreciate quality."

The Architecture and the City series is billed as the country's largest architectural festival. It is the creation of the San Francisco chapter of the American Institute of Architects and its new Center for Architecture and Design.

The series continues through September 30. It features architectural home, studio, and restaurant tours, film screenings and lectures. The events are intended to engage architects, designers, design enthusiasts and



## A design from the past, with improvements

During a month in which the city's architects and architecture are being spotlighted, the winner of a top architectural honor is also coming to Fillmore Street.

In a sense.

Brazil's Paulo Mendes da Rocha was named earlier this year as the winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, architecture's highest honor. He is largely unknown outside Brazil, despite a distinguished career stretching over six decades. In 1957 Mendes da Rocha created chairs to furnish his first project, a private athletic club in Sao Paulo. The chairs were made with raw carbon steel that oxidized over time, implementing the architect's belief that the charm of furniture resides in its "unpermanent" character. The chairs furnished the club for many years, but few were manufactured, and only 350 or so now exist.

Now Design Within Reach is bringing back this design from the past, but in a more permanent solid stainless steel that will not oxidize. For the purists, a limited quantity of the chairs is available in the original carbon steel used in 1957.

Mendes da Rocha's Paulistano armchair (pictured above) is now on display at Design Within Reach at 1913 Fillmore Street.

members of the public and foster a greater appreciation for San Francisco's rich architectural heritage.

A number of events in the series have a neighborhood connection.

- On Thursday, September 7, Zinc Details will host a reception and talk celebrating the life and work of Isamu Noguchi, one of the most critically acclaimed artists and designers of the 20th century. The reception is from 6 to 9 p.m. at 2410 California and admission is free. Doug De Nicola, of the Noguchi Museum in Long Island City, New York, will speak at 7:30 on Noguchi's life, his work and his continuing influence.

- "A Walk Along Broadway" on September 9 at 1:30 p.m. is a walking tour that covers a number of Victorian home styles as well as numerous Classical Revival buildings.

- "Beyond Union Street: A Walk Through Cow Hollow" on September 16 at 1:30 p.m. revisits the dairy farms from the early years of Cow Hollow and the houses and apartment buildings that replaced them.

- The "Architect and Designer Face Off" on September 19 at 6 p.m. explores the interaction between architects and interior designers. The program includes architect Olle Lundberg and client Charles Phan, owner of the Slanted Door restaurant. Lundberg designed Slanted Door's sleek new home in the Ferry Building and is collaborating with Phan on his new restaurant and residence now under construction in the neighborhood on Bush Street.

For more information about the series, contact Erin Cullerton at 362-3948 or visit [www.aiaf.org](http://www.aiaf.org).

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■ PART 4

# RETURN OF THE DETAILS

Progress is slow, but it's coming



By DAVID LANDIS

IN MY heart of hearts, I honestly thought by now we'd be breaking out the champagne, throwing parties and showing off our newly renovated Victorian home in Pacific Heights.

Fat chance. While I can't say enough good things about our contractor, Andrew McHale, he has now pushed our completion date back from early August to September 22. And my 50th birthday, with the ensuing

festivities, is about a week later.

I have always been an optimist. I have never understood those who see the glass half empty — and I believe in the goodness of the human spirit and the potential for world peace.

Still, living in a plastic-covered living room for nearly five months is not my idea of a good time. Not being able to open the front windows, hang the art, use the front bedroom — it takes its toll.

The balustrades are still to come, the Victorian columns have not arrived and

the widow's walk on the balcony is merely a two-dimensional illustration.

And yet my partner, Sean Dowdall, and I are ecstatic. If you drive or walk by our house at 2032 Scott Street and take the time to stop and look, you will see beautiful details beginning to emerge. Ornate scrolls, vibrant sunbursts and three-dimensional details are all starting to peek out from behind the black gauze that covers the scaffolding.

The artisans who built these Victorian charmers back in the 1880s really knew

what they were doing. The craftsmanship calls out to the observer and seems to say, "Beauty surrounds the human experience, if you take the time to look and appreciate it." Perhaps that's a message we need to hear more these days.

The results of our renovation are beginning to show handsomely. As for my 50th birthday party, it may — or may not — happen at home.

*David Landis lives and works in the neighborhood.*



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HOUSES	Address	BR	BA	Sq Ft	Sale Price
	1825 Beach St	2	1.25		\$1,200,000
	245 Alhambra St	5	3.50	2865	\$2,695,000
	3778 Clay St	3	2.50		\$2,826,000
	3957 Sacramento St	4	3.50	3060	\$2,950,000
	2555 Filbert St	4	3.50		\$3,500,000
	2023 Pacific Ave	4	3.50	4697	\$3,600,000

CONDOS	Address	BR	BA	Sq Ft	Sale Price
	2415 Van Ness #302	0	1		\$387,500
	2999 California St #605	0	1	615	\$420,000
	2999 California St #203	0	1	613	\$425,000
	2415 Van Ness Ave #606	1	1	558	\$585,000
	1738 Lombard #2	1	1		\$585,000
	2009 Divisadero #2E	1	1	825	\$599,000
	2701 Van Ness Ave #604	1	1	894	\$650,000
	1701 Jackson St #207	1	1		\$655,000
	2875 Jackson St #4	1	1	1208	\$849,000
	2804 Clay St	1	1	940	\$850,000
	1701 Jackson St #206	2	2	1108	\$857,000
	1755 Filbert St #1S	2	2		\$925,000
	2806 Union St #1	1	1.5		\$928,000
	2016 Pacific Ave #401	2	2.5		\$945,000
	1734 Lombard St #3	2	2	911	\$979,000
	2016 Pacific Ave #402	2	2		\$983,000
	2112 California St	2	2	1261	\$1,021,000
	2295 Vallejo St #PH-2	2	2	1075	\$1,030,000
	1835 Franklin St #901	2	2		\$1,135,000
	2320 Divisadero	2	1.5		\$1,180,000
	3294 Clay St #6	3	2	2006	\$1,385,000
	3653 Buchanan St #3	2	2	1400	\$1,500,000
	1525 Beach St	3	3	2660	\$1,500,000
	3733 Clay St	3	3.5	2300	\$1,850,000

Condos Stronger Than Homes

By KEN BOERI

Although it is premature to declare a trend based on just one or two months of sales activity, the market for homes in our neighborhood is definitely showing signs of cooling.

Sales of both single family homes and condos in Pacific Heights, Cow Hollow and the Marina have leveled off since June. Monthly sales of single family homes dropped from 14 during June-July to 5 in July-August. The average sale price has fallen from \$1,130 per square foot to \$893 per square foot.

Condominium sales have slowed, but less dramatically. Monthly sales from June to August fell from 33 to 26 to 31.

Of note, however, is that during that same period the sale price for condominiums rose from an average of \$783 per square foot to \$980 per square foot. The average number of days it took to sell a

property dropped from 33 to 26 days.

This may indicate that the market for condos is stronger now than the market for single family homes in the neighborhood. When the market changes, different segments are affected in different ways.

The market correction that everyone has anticipated has arrived. As always, a drop in demand will result in a price correction. Property has been over-priced and the demand no longer supports prices in some market segments.

This is healthy and, in the long term, is good news.

If you are a seller, take a careful look at your showing activity. If it has dropped recently, lower your price. If you are a buyer, congratulations. You may find yourself in a position to negotiate.

*Ken Boeri is a real estate broker with Pacific Union. Contact him at 447-6253 or ken.boeri@pacunion.com*

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Including the Family Dog  
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Built in the 1890s in the Eastlake Stick style, 2148 Pine Street occupies an incredible position in the illustrious history of San Francisco.

This house served as a base for one of the most famous parts of San Francisco's 20<sup>th</sup> century history: the 60s Love & Peace movement. The block was called the "Dog House" because many of the homes from 2125 to 2148 Pine were occupied by The Family Dog—a gathering of people, all of whom had dogs, who helped define the hippie and psychedelic movement of the 60s. The Family Dog was headed by Chet Helms and

included, among many others, Janis Joplin, then with Big Brother and the Holding Company; the Charlatans; Stanley Mouse and Alton Kelly, who were cutting-edge poster artists; and liquid light show artist Bill Ham.

2148 Pine Street was the long-time home and studio of Bill Ham, creator of the original liquid light show, and the Light, Sound, Dimension Theater so often copied in ensuing years. A set of posters designed by Mouse and Kelly for Bill Ham's most recent light show is on display in the kitchen.

Siobhan Lo, the proprietor of Phoenix Renovation Design and Staging, undertook the painstaking task of restoring this Family Dog House to its former glory. Architectural details that were damaged or missing have been custom-made by skilled craftsmen to match the originals.



This photo of The Family Dog showing some of its most famous members was taken from the steps of 2148 Pine Street looking onto an empty lot across the street that is now a nursing home.

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## Campaign Focuses on Senior Safety

► FROM PAGE 3

Guinto-Peoro spent her career in food service. She owned restaurants in Vallejo and Benicia. On the day she retired, she took out her nomination papers.

If elected, she says she will give half of her salary back to the city.

Guinto-Peoro planned to run for supervisor in the last election, but sprained her leg. She is encouraged that she is the only challenger this time around.

In 1993, while living in Vallejo she ran for the city council. She came in fourth in a large field competing for three seats.

Public life may be in her genes. She retains Guinto in her name as a connection to her grandfather, Leon Guinto Sr., the first governor of Manila. A street in the Philippine capital is named for him. She lived for a time in Japan, where her father was serving as a diplomat. Her husband, 15 years her senior, served in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a Lt. Commander. She has been a widow for 24 years.

Guinto-Peoro said her husband worked with the Public Utilities Commission while her opponent's grandfather, Joe Alioto, was mayor. At that time she was acquainted with the family.

"I like Michela," she said. "She's a good kid."

Guinto-Peoro has a son and daughter, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The youngest, at 20 months, is a model for Macy's.

### ■ HIDDEN TREASURE

#### Smallest pub in town offers a big welcome

At the risk of never again squeezing into its dark recesses, I offer my very special spot in the 'hood: the Black Horse Pub at 1514 Union Street, near Van Ness.

I happened upon this West Coast version of "Cheers" less than a year ago, and I can safely say that it has morphed this sugar-rimmed cosmo-tini chick into a Belgian beer-hoisting regular.

At first, the steamed windows and the crowd out the door make it seem like the usual Marina meat market. Au contraire! I finally gathered the gumption to stick my head in the British phone booth-red door, only to be welcomed with hearty hellos by owners James King and J.J. Dillion, who cleared one of the eight bar stools for me, as they do for all ladies who enter the pub.

That is one of the pub's 10 chivalrous tenets that help maintain the polite and friendly neighborhood ambiance in what is known as San Francisco's smallest bar. It has a maximum capacity of 22 people.

After a rousing description of their beer selections — British style on tap and a variety of Belgian or German "champagne of beers" — the proprietors introduced me to 15 of my new best friends and I was instantly adopted. Now I bring all of my out-of-hood friends there as well.

I haven't had a cosmo craving since.

— CHERYL LURIE

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# On Tuesdays, Senior Scene Is at Calvary

Quilts of Gee’s Bend,  
fellowship and lunch  
— all for \$1.50

By JOE BEYER



Some of the crowd on a recent Tuesday toast Calvary’s senior center.

THIS MONTH senior adults from all over the city will be returning to the corner of Fillmore and Jackson to enjoy a wide variety of free programs offered on Tuesdays at Calvary Presbyterian Church’s senior center.

The fall series of programs begins on September 12 at 11 a.m. with a docent’s talk and slide presentation on the de Young Museum’s current “Quilts of Gee’s Bend” exhibition. A hot lunch follows for \$1.50. No reservations are necessary.

While sponsored by the church, this neighborhood community center has been open to all seniors for nearly 50 years. In recent years attendance has grown to include from 60 to 80 people.

This month’s programs include a speaker from Kaiser on senior eye care on September 19. On September 26, “Opera Bob” Brock previews the upcoming opera season.

Coming later this fall is a performance by the Rhythm Tappers, a group of senior adult tap dancers in full costume, and a talk by Mark Bittner, whose relationship with the “Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill” was the subject of the documentary of that name recently shown at the Clay Theater.

The volunteer leaders of the senior center put considerable effort into ensuring that the programs are of a high quality that people will find worth attending. They say they program “up,” not “down” to the se-

niors who participate in the activities.

“I enjoy spending Tuesdays with the seniors,” says retired Balboa High School teacher Allen Chamness. “The programs run the gamut from entertaining to intellectually stimulating. It’s nice getting to meet people and having conversations with new friends from the wider community.”


Each year the senior center also arranges two inexpensive chartered bus trips to destinations beyond the Bay Area.

“A lot of us don’t drive anymore and have no means to leave the city,” says Sara Phillips, a retired federal employee. “The well-thought-out trips give us the travel experiences we miss — at a price we can afford.”

Marion Stanton chairs the senior center’s volunteer leadership team. Even more rewarding than the stimulating programs is seeing the friendships that develop among the people who attend regularly, she says. “Sometimes people linger into mid-afternoon, just chatting and drinking another cup of coffee or tea.”

The weekly programs on Tuesday at 11 are offered from mid-September until mid-June. All seniors are welcome. For more information, call Calvary Presbyterian Church at 346-3832.

*Joe Beyer is the historian of Calvary Presbyterian Church and a volunteer leader with the senior program.*



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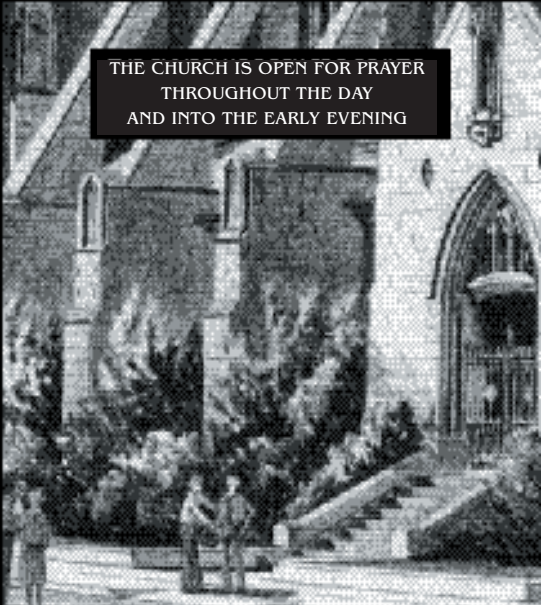
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