

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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homeless connect*

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New

FILLMORE

SAN FRANCISCO ■ DECEMBER 2006



Rose is a rose

Photograph by
TINA MODOTTI

When the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art decided to mount its “Mexico as Muse” exhibition of photographs by Edward Weston and Tina Modotti, the curator had only to come across town to our neighborhood to borrow some of the finest examples of their work. Usually these photographs hang in collector Susie Tompkins Buell’s aerie on Alta Plaza Park. Through January 2, they will be on view at the museum, at 151 Third Street.

Jazz District Condos Go On Market

Complex includes a
Fillmore heritage center

THE 80 condominiums in the new Fillmore Heritage Center at Fillmore and Eddy Streets go on sale this month as the complex nears completion.

The condos, 12 of which will be priced below market rate, offer floor plans featuring one, two, and three bedrooms.

The entire project pays homage to the area’s history. The complex is called the Fillmore Heritage Center. The condo portion is called Heritage on Fillmore. Also within the complex is the Jazz Heritage Center, along with Yoshi’s jazz club and restaurant, the Blue Mirror restaurant and lounge and a public parking garage.

The complex is the final major project of a half-century of demolition and reconstruction of the Western Addition under the aegis of the Redevelopment Agency.

The Jazz Heritage Center is developing educational and cultural exhibits and interactive kiosks that inform the public of the history of jazz in San Francisco and the Fillmore district. It also plans lectures and alliances with the Northern California jazz community.

In the new year, the Jazz Heritage Center will conduct community outreach focus groups twice monthly to present plans for the project to the neighborhood and compile an oral history.

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Holiday Spirit Begins to Shine

JUST AFTER the Thanksgiving weekend, a kind of magic took hold on Fillmore Street.

Part of it is the look of the place. Trees began sprouting in store windows. Garlands and lights were strung. Announcements of holiday specials started showing up as shop owners unpacked cartons of new merchandise. The first wreaths of the season arrived in the flower shops. And Marc Jacobs

staffers began arranging thousands of red and white roses in the latest over-the-top window display on their prime corner.

A lot of it is the feel, too. When asked for their favorite gift ideas for this holiday season, most shop owners responded unhesitatingly and enthusiastically — urging a pat of their coveted cashmere, leaping up to demonstrate the fun of a favorite toy,

puppeting a glove to show its fit, swirling a favored glass vase to catch the light.

That doesn’t happen in the big department stores at the mall.

Some merchants feared that Union Square, with its bright new Bloomingdale’s, would make it tougher on local businesses this holiday season. But the contrast between the megastores and our neighborhood — with its small shops and diverse offerings — offers hope for the season and visual delight for shoppers and strollers alike.

As the Fillmore puts on its festive face for the season, may it renew our appreciation for our own front yard: one of the most interesting and varied shopping streets in the city. And a neighborhood with heart.

FILLMORE
GIFT GUIDE

PAGE 9

Browser Books Publishing
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a pre-publication party
for

There's a Hole in Your Sky
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by Bob Scher
with illustrations by Peter Szasz

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take 2-minute limerick challenges from the audience.

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This Month

IN & OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD



JERRY KATZ

FILLMORE HOLIDAY STROLL
Saturday, December 9

The annual Fillmore Holiday Stroll brings jazz to the street — plus special sales and holiday cheer. Members of the Contemporary Jazz Orchestra have become regulars at Fillmore's periodic strolls, and they return once again.



CALIFORNIA AS MUSE
The Art of Arthur & Lucia Mathews

KIMOCHI SILVER BELLS
ARTS & CRAFTS FAIRE
Sunday, December 3, from 10 to 5
Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post Street

FAMILY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION
Sunday, December 17
Jewish Community Center
3200 California Street
www.jccsf.org or 292-1200

Earlier this year, when the deYoung Museum presented its international exhibition on the Arts & Crafts movement, some of the finest works came from the Bay Area — especially the creations of Arthur and Lucia Mathews, whose studio was at California and Van Ness. Now the artistic couple is the subject of a major retrospective at the Oakland Museum. www.museumca.org or 510/238-2200

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SAN FRANCISCO
SHOP
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FIRST



SHOP LOCAL FIRST WEEK DECEMBER 4-9
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Japantown Building Gives Way for New J-Pop Center

A NEW Japanese-language movie theater in Japantown moved a step closer to reality November 7 when the Redevelopment Agency approved the replacement of the building at 1746 Post Street with a new J-Pop Center focusing on Japanese popular culture.

Viz Media plans to demolish the two-story building and replace it with a three-story structure with a 150-seat theater in the basement. About 60 per cent of the films will be Japanese, with the remainder split between Japanese animation films and other Asian films.

The building will include a branch of the Kinokuniya book store and a cafe on the first floor. It will also have

offices for Hokubei Mainichi and Radio Mainichi, the Japanese-language newspaper and broadcaster that are the principal occupants of the existing building.

Viz Media is owned by the three leading Japanese firms in the field of Japanese manga, or comics, and animation. Viz is a leader in publishing and distributing manga and animation for English-speaking audiences.

The J-Pop Center has been welcomed in Japantown, but the demolition of the existing building is opposed by some preservationists.

Paul Osaki, executive director of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, called the

project an “important economic development” and an “exciting and valuable new entertainment center.” He said he hopes the J-Pop Center will bring a new audience to the community and create other economic development opportunities.

The building at 1746 Post was erected in 1923. It escaped the wrecking ball in the 1960s and 70s, when the Redevelopment Agency was leveling much of Japantown and the Western Addition. It was on the list for demolition, but the decision was reversed and the building was sold in 1976 to Hokubei Mainichi, which has occupied it since then.

4 STORY COTTAGE NIXED

By Don Langley

IN THE continuing fight between developers and preservationists, the latest round went to those trying to prevent the expansion of a neighborhood cottage.

By a 7-3 vote, the Board of Supervisors on November 14 sent back to the Planning Commission a proposal to turn a 1,000-square-foot Victorian Stick-style cottage at 2564 Sutter Street into a four-story, three-unit condo building with a garage underneath.

The house is listed in *Here Today*, the Junior League’s 1968 book which has been adopted by the city as an official survey of historically significant buildings.

Attorney Stephen Williams, whose appeal of the Planning Commission ruling brought the issue to the supervisors, called the plan “remolition” — a remodeling that is a de facto demolition.

The technical question presented at the hearing was whether the house is exempt from environmental review. The Planning Department’s position is that the potential impact of the rebuilding is economic, not environmental.

The debate focused on the house’s history and the extent to which major renovation projects such as this one diminish the city’s character.

The Planning Department acknowledged that the house is a historic resource. Board President Aaron Peskin admonished the department to undertake



This cottage at 2564 Sutter is identical to another one at 2982 Pine. For now they will remain the same.

a “higher analysis” of its association with important people and an important architect, who designed an identical building at 2982 Pine Street.

The cottage has been vacant for five and a half years. The developer, McClusky Construction, presented a number of contractors and engineers who testified that the plumbing and electrical systems in the house need to be completely replaced. They also said the house sits on dirt and needs a foundation.

“The house is a dump,” said Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, in whose district the house is located. “It annoys me completely that the Planning Department did not evaluate or assess the historical significance.”

Mirkarimi voted with the majority to send the case back to the Planning Commission. The neighborhood’s other supervisor, Michela Alioto-Pier, voted in favor of the developer.

The plans called for raising the house 20 inches to allow a garage underneath, with an entrance through what is now a low retaining wall and garden, turning the basement into a livable floor. Two stepped-back stories would be added and the house would be extended 35 feet to the rear. Testimony on the size of the resulting structure varied from 7,000 to 9,000 square feet.

Williams, the attorney for the preservationists, said the cottage is viable as a single family home and insisted the pro-

ject violates the city’s general plan.

But supporters said the project would further the city’s goal of increasing housing density and building in-fill projects in an area zoned for three units.

The developers argued they were making the house usable while preserving its historic aspects. They said the lower level is not historic because many architectural features have been replaced. Raising the building, they said, would bring it into conformity with its neighbors, and the added stories would not be visible from the street.

They said the building makes no economic sense in its present configuration and that nobody would rehabilitate the building without expanding it.

‘Iconic Lodge’ for the Presidio

The Presidio Trust is moving forward with plans to create a lodge at the Main Post of the Presidio that Trust leaders hope will become iconic in what they call “the grand tradition of national park lodges.”

A meeting is scheduled December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Presidio Officers’ Club to present initial concepts to the public. The concepts are a result of a request for expressions of interest issued in September. They will be incorporated, along with public comment, into a request for proposals.

Presidio Trust leaders envision a lodge of 80 to 100 rooms using one or more buildings at several sites around the Main Post. A developer will be selected by next summer.



Return of the jackhammers

Two blocks of Buchanan Street — between Pine and Sacramento — are getting new water connections this month. The work begins the week of December 11 at Buchanan and Pine (left) and continues northward through February. Street parking will be limited during construction hours — 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. — but residents will have access to their garages. There will be noise, but water service won’t be interrupted. Questions go to Robert Lopez at the Public Utilities Commission at 554-3286.



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■ CRIME WATCH

Shooting Laguna and Eddy Streets October 31, 9:10 p.m.

Officers met three pedestrians at the scene after receiving a report that shots had been fired. The three said they had been walking to a friend's house when a black car drove up slowly behind them. Several girls in the car challenged the pedestrians to a fight. They attempted to ignore the threats, but the car circled around the block and slowed down beside them again. Again the three refused to respond to the suspects' taunts.

The car circled the block a third time, and this time, as it approached, the victims saw two guns protruding from the windows. Then came five or six blasts; no one was injured. The car sped off. The pedestrians were able to name three possible suspects.

Battery Washington Street and Van Ness Avenue November 5, 9:07 p.m.

A police officer from a neighboring city was in San Francisco to enjoy a night on the town with friends. As the group left a restaurant, a man approached one member of the party and spit on her. The woman shouted at the suspect, who vehemently denied spitting. When the off-duty officer confronted the suspect and identified himself as a police officer, the man head-butted the officer in the face. The officer detained the suspect until two more officers arrived. The suspect was issued a citation for battery.

Burglary Pacific Avenue and Laguna Street November 8, 7:08 p.m.

While walking home, a man noticed a group of three men behaving suspiciously — testing garage doors and peering into car windows while they walked down the street. The witness followed them until they entered a garage at Pacific and Laguna. The men emerged, bearing items that they had not been carrying when they entered.

The witness lost sight of the suspects when he walked away to call the police, but was able to indicate the direction of the suspects' wanderings, and officers located them within minutes.

In an effort to look inconspicuous, the three had thrown away the stolen items and began rapidly walking away as the policemen approached. As officers detained them, one fled on foot. More officers arrived and corralled the fleeing suspect. The three were booked at Northern Station.

Disrupting Bus Service Eddy and Gough Streets November 12, 4:27 p.m.

Officers received a call from a MUNI driver who reported that three juveniles were disrupting bus service. When officers located the bus, the driver insisted that they remove three young women from the vehicle so she could continue on her route. Confronted by the officers, the three were extremely hostile, using profanity. Two of them agreed to exit the bus, but one remained. When an officer touched her arm, she began shrieking and flailing her arms at him. Eventually the officers succeeded in forcibly removing her.

All three then renewed their verbal onslaught on the driver. When the driver left, they turned their fury on the officers. One shouted, "I'm going to get a gun and kill you, motherfucker." The officers then took her into custody. She refused to identify herself, then proceeded to kick the patrol car and strike out at the officers. She was booked at the Youth Guidance Center, where she repeated her threats, saying, "Yeah, that's right. I told them I was going to blast them."

Drug Arrest Geary Boulevard and Fillmore Street November 16, 11:10 p.m.

An officer returning to his car saw and heard a man loudly harassing a group of people gathered at the intersection of Geary and Fillmore. The man appeared to be heavily intoxicated. The officer called in two more officers to assist, and they arrested the man for public intoxication.

While searching the suspect, officers discovered he had secreted a bottle of Crown Royal in his pants, along with a great quantity of psilocybin and LSD. The man was booked at County Jail.

Auto Burglary Webster and Sutter Streets November 17, 2:05 p.m.

A woman and her friend were leaving the friend's residence on Webster Street when they saw a man standing near the rear of the woman's car. They watched as the man, who was just a few feet away from them, broke the rear window of the car and began removing possessions. The man was startled by their approach and fled.

The woman then called the police. The Street Crimes Unit located the man a block away. The car owner positively identified the suspect, and he was arrested and booked at Northern Station.

Assault Post near Fillmore Street November 18, 2:09 a.m.

A movie viewer at the Kabuki Theatre became agitated when patrons behind him continuously kicked the back of his seat. Turning round, he attacked the offending patrons with a taser gun. Theater security personnel responded, but were unable to locate any of the people involved in the incident.

Officers were called to the scene. They found the taser-using suspect when he returned to his seat to locate his cell phone, which he had lost during the fracas. Security personnel were able to identify the man based on the video recording of the incident and the witnesses' descriptions. The man admitted that he had used the taser gun and was released at the scene after being issued a citation.

Burglary Post Street and Van Ness Avenue November 18, 11:14 p.m.

Officers were sent to 24 Hour Fitness where an employee reported that a man was trespassing. The man had forced his way into the gym without providing acceptable identification. As officers arrived, three club members met them to report that their lockers had been burglarized. The trespasser refused to identify himself. As officers attempted to get the man to leave the building, he bolted. Two officers gave chase.

They soon caught him, and noticed at once that he had no workout clothing with him. A search yielded a large amount of cash and possessions that had various people's names on them. Several people gave detailed accountings of property they had lost at the scene; each item in the suspect's possession matched the missing possessions they described. Officers discovered that the man was carrying burglary tools. He was booked at County Jail.

Police Contact Numbers

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 553-0123
TTY: 558-2404
Tip line: 392-2623
Anonymous tip line: 885-5187

The next Community Relations Forum Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14 at Northern Station, 1125 Fillmore, at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.



**A leather muse
lands on Fillmore**

Muse Ten, a leather handbag and accessory store, opened its doors at the end of November at 1820 Fillmore.

The owner, Cindy Tse (above), says she took the name loosely from the nine muses in Greek mythology. “The 10th muse should be for shopping and style,” she says.

Tse was inspired to start the shop partially as an antidote to a distasteful stint as an analyst with a health insurance company. “That kind of business didn’t strike me as all that interesting,” she says. “I wanted to try something new — and this is a total 180 from what I was doing.”

Muse Ten offers handbags and wallets by independent designers such as Gustto, Tusk and Hayden-Harnett. Tse says her bags offer high quality and an edgy style that still includes functional components such as hidden compartments and convertible straps.

And there’s another common denominator: a sumptuous softness that makes it almost impossible to wander the shop without feeling up the wares.

“I want people to try things — even if they’re just looking,” she says. “And a lot of people have been touching this one already,” she adds, proudly patting a sack of buttery-soft mango-colored leather newly placed in the window.

Tse plans to expand the store’s future offerings to include other accessories. “But I’m a huge purse fan,” she confesses. “I only have about 15 right now, but once I spend more time here, my closet will probably look more like the store.”

‘The Digital Era Killed Us’

After 20 years, neighborhood photo shop develops its final roll of film

THE WEEKEND before Thanksgiving, an ominous letter appeared in the window at 2105 Fillmore.

And just like that, the Express One-Hour Photo shop was gone from its longtime home next door to Dino’s Pizza.

“After 20 years of serving the Fillmore community,” the letter said, “it is with a heavy heart and sadness we inform you that we are closing our doors for the final time. Significant changes in the photo industry have created very challenging obstacles for our business.”

Owner Al Wong, who opened the store in 1986 and has been a familiar fixture on Fillmore Street ever since, acknowledged on his final day that time had left his photo processing and printing business behind.

“The digital era killed us,” he said.

Blame it all on Ronald Reagan. Al was kicking about for his next career move in the mid-1980s. He got into a conversation with Jim Kong, a friend of his wife’s and a tennis buddy. Jim was a former air traffic controller — fired by Reagan during the early 80s strike — who had since learned to run a photo lab.

Al recalls that Jim proposed a partnership and said, “Let’s find a good location. Let’s do it.”

And thus began Al and Jim’s excellent adventure on Fillmore Street.

“I’m a native San Franciscan,” Al says now. “I know what the good streets are.”

Their first shop was across the street, at 2122 Fillmore, now occupied by Crosswalk Shoes. When the bed and bath shop at 2105 closed, they asked their landlord — who owned both buildings — about the larger space, and made the move.

In 20 years, they processed and printed millions of snapshots.

“We’ve seen a lot of things,” Al chuckles. “But as long as it’s consensual . . .”

He says some of the least pleasant things he saw were the before-and-after



Al Wong cleans up and closes the doors a final time at Express One-Hour Photo.

Heidi says: more shoes

“I’m conflicted, because Al is such a nice guy — I hate to see him leave the street,” says Heidi Sabelhaus, who began renovating the spot left vacant at 2105 Fillmore on December 1. “But I’m totally excited about opening the new shop.”

Sabelhaus, owner of the women’s clothing boutique HeidiSays a few blocks up at 2426 Fillmore, is converting the former photo shop to HeidiSays Shoes, slated to open in February.

She plans to stock the shop with women’s shoes ranging from under \$100 to \$700 or so for some Giuseppe Zanotti numbers with jeweled heels. Her aim is to accommodate all types of shoe shoppers.

pictures from plastic surgeons in the neighborhood.

“It’s pretty gross, some of it,” he says. “And then you recognize some of the faces.”

Al has no quarrels with the changes that put him out of business. He realizes that people now view photos differently.

“People are taking more photos than ever,” he says, “but nobody prints.”

He notes that people are more likely now to share photos online or through e-mail attachments, rather than by sitting down together on the sofa and flipping

through the pages of an old-fashioned photo album.

“Photography is not dead,” he says, “but getting a hard copy is dead.”

He saw a lot of stores come and go in his 20 years on the street. “But the clientele — the families — are still around,” Al says. “There haven’t been a lot of changes in the clientele in 20 years.”

It is with the neighborhood clientele — which made up about 80 percent of his business — that Al and his crew made their connection.

“We’ve made many friends,” he wrote in the rueful letter posted in the window. “We’ve gone on your vacations. We watched your babies grow up, we witnessed their graduations, their marriages and even having babies of their own.”

As he cleaned out the final remains of the shop, he grew philosophical: “It’s a personal thing. They’ve trusted us with memories that are precious to them.”

Al and Jim will now have more time for tennis — which is a mixed blessing, since Al’s elbow is acting up.

But they will cherish many memories gleaned as they went about their business of processing and printing memories for others.

“Thanks for letting us be a part of your family,” the letter in the window concluded.



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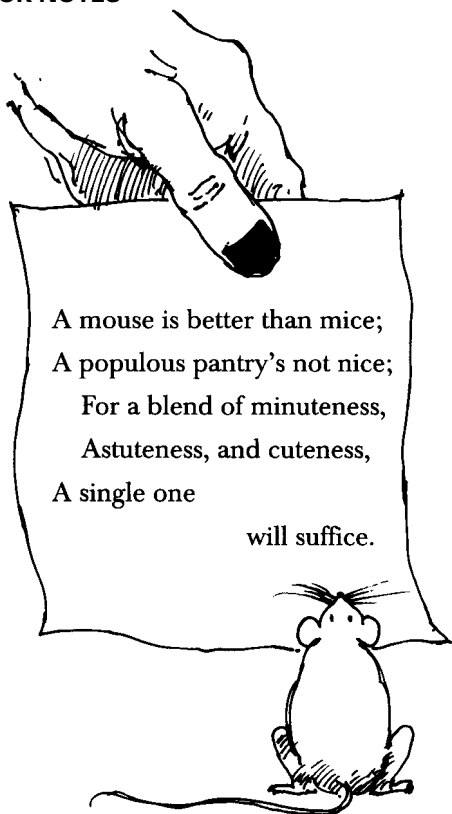




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Bawdy no more

Browser Books Publishing previews its newest poetry title this month with a pre-publication party for Marin author Bob Scher's book of limericks, *There's a Hole in Your Sky*.

The bawdier the better is the usual approach to limericks, whose rhyming five-line form Scher traces back beyond Shakespeare to St. Thomas Aquinas. He finds the bawdiness came later, and takes as his challenge George Orwell's lament that there are almost no limericks "both printable and funny enough to seem worth quoting."

Scher signs and reads from his book, with its companionable and quirky line drawings by Peter Szasz, on Sunday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. at Browser Books, located at 2195 Fillmore.

The next-door neighbors at Peet's will provide the coffee.

Resale Shop Adds More Consignment

FILLMORE STREET's Next-to-New resale shop, which has evolved with the neighborhood for almost 60 years, has just completed a major shift.

The shop's consignment boutique, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in January, has swapped space with the resale operation, moving from its small room to occupy the store's main floor space.

Catherine Fisher, president of the Junior League of San Francisco, which operates Next-to-New, said the consignment operation was started to reflect the changes in the neighborhood.

"We wanted to capture more upscale merchandise," Fisher said. "It just grew."

Even before the switch was made, consignment merchandise — especially furniture — was overflowing into the resale shop space. Fisher said the consignment shop is now getting more art, estate jewelry and furniture.

While there's more of it now, the jewelry and silver isn't new. It has been coming into the store for years as people cleared out estates.

On the now smaller resale side of the shop, the merchandise is evolving as well. There is less emphasis on

clothing, and there are often more appliances for sale.

Much of the merchandise — but not all — comes from Junior League members. Fisher said many people clean out their closets regularly and there is new merchandise in the store daily.

Items that don't sell quickly are reduced in price after 30 days and again after 60 days. After 90 days, the consignor can retrieve the merchandise or donate it to the resale shop.

The consignment and resale operations have different policies on merchandise in the windows. Items in the consignment boutique can be purchased right out of the windows. Resale merchandise in the windows

is sold every two weeks on a first-come basis. The resale operation, Fisher said, doesn't have an obligation to move products quickly.

Consignors get 50 percent of the revenue from a sale. The other half goes to supporting the Junior League.

For information on consignment, call 440-1500. Donations for resale are accepted Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Call 567-1627 to arrange for pick-up.

"We wanted to capture more upscale merchandise."

Heritage Center Brings Yoshi's Jazz Club to Fillmore

► FROM PAGE 1

The exterior of the 13-story building will be emblazoned with large photographic images of jazz greats, both local and national. The director of the center is Peter Fitzsimmons, who grew up in the Fillmore, and whose parents have been vital members of the Fillmore jazz scene.

His father, trumpeter F. Allen Smith, was featured in the recent "Harlem of the West" book and exhibition. Smith played at Bop City and many of the other clubs located in what is now called the Fillmore Jazz Preservation District. He is still an active player, performing regularly with Lavay Smith and the Red Hot Skillet

Lickers, Pat Yankee, Larry Vuckovich and others.

His mother, Pat Nacey, was assigned by the Redevelopment Agency to present a series of concerts, "The Living Legends Series," at the West Bay Conference Center. She was instrumental in promoting Bay Area jazz and spurring community support for the Jazz Preservation District.

When Yoshi's opens next year, it will be the district's fifth venue for live music, joining the Boom Boom Room, Rasselas, the Sheba Piano Lounge and the legendary Fillmore Auditorium.

More information about the residences is available at www.fillmoreheritage.com or by calling 346-8880.

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Connecting the Homeless With Care and Caring

By APRIL R. GAVIN

WILLIE SOMETIMES sits in front of the grocery store on California Street. I pass him on my way to shop.

One night in early October, I stopped to ask if he might come with me to Project Homeless Connect, an every-other-month event designed to connect the homeless with services designed to help them. Willie is 62 and does not like to talk about why he is homeless. He did say, though, "I once had a lot of things, but now they're gone."

He shook his graying head and fiddled with his dentures.

"The hardest thing is being ignored," he said. "I'm just as good as anyone else. If people can't spare a dollar, they can at least smile or say hello."

It was dark and passersby stared as we talked.

"I watch all day and I see people who think homelessness will never happen to them," he said. "I once thought that way, too."

When I asked if he would go to an upcoming Project Homeless Connect event with me, he said, "I may have other plans that day."

■

The Bill Graham Civic Auditorium across from City Hall is usually a place where people gather to applaud rock stars, but one day every other month, the homeless are given the VIP treatment there.

Nearly every city, state or federal service is offered: health care, including dentistry, vision care, instant HIV testing and methadone treatment; housing, employment and food. People can also sign up for food stamps and general assistance and get an ID card or legal advice.

There's even a story booth where people can tell their personal histories. They can get foot washing and massage, wheelchair



*Nearly every public service is offered —
plus foot washing and massage.*

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIKA CARRILLO

repair or pick up a new book to read.

An attendant watches valuables at a shopping cart parking area. Day care is available to allow parents to attend to business. There is even pet sitting, provided by Fillmore Street's Pets Unlimited.

Mayor Gavin Newsom started the project as a one-stop shop for services available to the homeless. Over the last two years, thousands of people have received services through Project Homeless Connect. The project has placed nearly 1,500 people who were on the streets into immediate shelter or housing.

An event on October 5 was the second anniversary of Project Homeless Connect. Thirty-four other cities have copied San Francisco's model, and another handful will soon implement a similar program. The federal government has declared the first week of December National Project Homeless Connect week.

■

The first thing you notice at Project Homeless Connect is the diversity of the clients, spanning race, gender, age and even economic status.

The second thing you notice is the di-

How you can help

The next Project Homeless Connect event is December 7. Volunteers are always needed to make the process flow smoothly from check-in to check-out. For most tasks, no training or experience is necessary.

A number of neighborhood residents already participate.

Margot Parke, a director of the Pacific Heights Residents Association, regularly helps by taking clients from the check-in area to their first stop on the cavernous and confusing main floor of the auditorium.

Jim Blattner, who lives on Clay Street, does the same.

Judy Langley began by doing street outreach, encouraging and assisting people in the Tenderloin to come to the auditorium. She now cares for pets, along with Pets Unlimited staff and volunteers, while their companions seek services inside.

Don Langley does data entry to help find out who the visitors are and what services they need.

Volunteers are urged to register in advance for a morning, afternoon or all-day shift at www.sfconnect.org. Or they can simply show up at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in the Civic Center at 8:30 a.m. on December 7.

Tax-deductible donations are also welcome online, or by checks or money orders payable to SF Connect Inc. and sent to 60 Spear Street, 9th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105.

versity of volunteers. They range from student groups to retired people and working folks who take the day off to help. Many are San Franciscans. Others come in from surrounding towns to lend a hand.

A number of businesses send employees to help out on company time, or donate cash, or provide products and services.

Since its beginning, more than 18,000 volunteers have participated in Project Homeless Connect.

■

The next time I caught up with Willie, I shared my experience at the October event for Project Homeless Connect. He gave me a slow and thoughtful stare.

"I might go next time," he said. "Be sure to remind me."

April Gavin, a San Francisco resident for 14 years, lives near Japantown.

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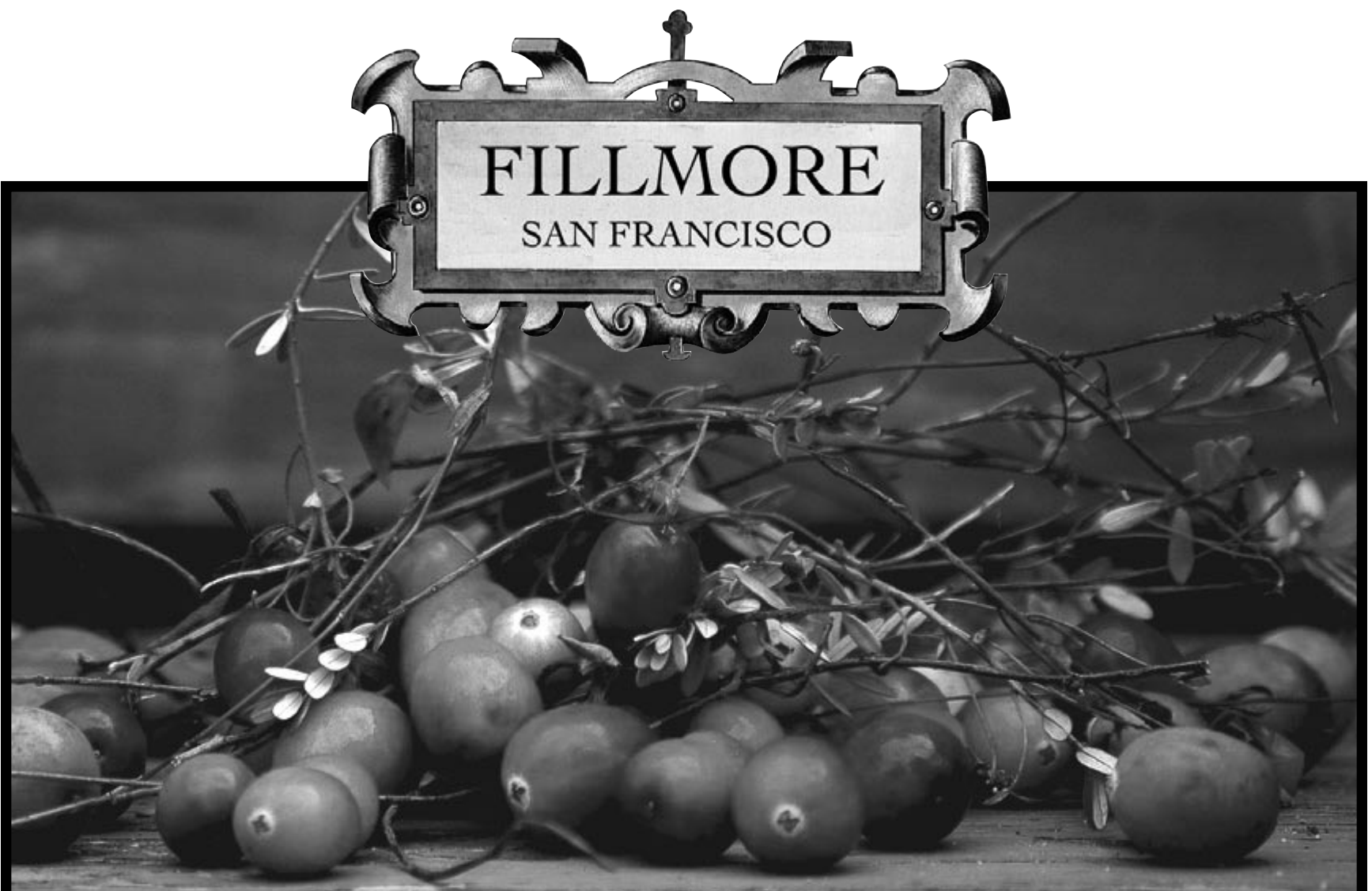


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Enjoy holiday shopping in the neighborhood.

FILLMORE HOLIDAY STROLL Saturday, December 9

Enjoy strolling, shopping, and sipping your way through Fillmore, while listening to the sweet sounds of live jazz .

10am – 6pm

Chouquet's

2500 Washington

This fabulous French bistro is giving out little bundles of its namesake pastry.

12 – 3pm

Kiehl's

236 Fillmore

Melody Sams, a practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine, is offering Chair & Hand massage with wonderful Kiehl's products.

12 – 3 pm

Studio D

2184 Sutter

Grabs some deals at the furniture sample sale while nibbling on wine, cheese and crackers. Enter to win a free leather ottoman, drawing at 2pm.

12 – 5 pm

Timeless Treasures

2176 Sutter

Save 20% on vintage signs and darling letters.

12 – 5 pm

Margaret O'Leary

2400 Fillmore

Preview new Holiday styles from the Jill Platner jewelry 2006 collection while enjoying holiday snacks.

12 – 5 pm

Jonathan Adler

2133 Fillmore Street

Pick up your pre-wrapped gifts in all price ranges from \$22 and up!

12 – 5 pm

Vivande

2125 Fillmore

Will feature Italian seasonal foods and yummy Christmas specialties along with special gift purchases.

12 – 5 pm

Eileen Fisher

2216 Fillmore Street

Enjoy an après shopping snack of cookies and sparking water.

12 – 6 pm

Zinc Details

2410 California

Enjoy hot apple cider and holiday treats while strolling through their Holiday-themed Design Boutique.

12 – 5 pm

The Junior League of San Francisco's Next-to-New/Consignment Boutique

2226 Fillmore Street

Enjoy cider, cookies and in the late afternoon wine and hors d'oeuvres.

12 – 6 pm

Gallery of Jewels

2115 Fillmore

Come by and enter to win a drawing for a \$100.00 gift certificate.

12 – 5 pm

Benefit Boutique

2117 Fillmore

Get warm with a cup of hot apple cider and cookies while the team at Benefit beautifies you. Receive a complimentary gift box with any purchase.

12 – 6 pm

Flicka

1932 Fillmore Street

Stop by for a cup of Glogg, traditional Swedish mulled wine, and yummy holiday treats.

12 – 6 pm

Fit-Lite

2434 California

Receive a FREE Fitness Start Up Kit and bring your cameras to take pictures with Fit-Lite's Santa Claus.

3 – 5 pm

The Elite Café

2049 Fillmore Street

Will be serving fresh baked scones and coffee in the afternoon.

12 – 6pm

International Orange

2044 Fillmore

Step inside and enjoy a sparkling glass of champagne, they are also offering FREE gift wrapping.

3 – 5 pm,

Thomas Reynolds Gallery

2291 Pine

Stop by the opening reception honoring Dana Hooper, whose paintings of Sonoma County are featured in the gallery's 12th annual "Small Treasures" holiday exhibition this month.

Gifts for Grooming



To butter up any giftee, snag the Softness Set, which includes shea butter body cream, foot cream and the handsdown number one bestseller here and abroad: the 20% shea butter hand cream in a cool silver tube — all packaged in a festive holiday tin, for \$54. Like the other pre-made gifts, it's 10% off through December 10. At **L'Occitane**, 2207 Fillmore.

Eight ounces of hand and body lotion in the lavender scent reputed to calm even the most angstified souls, made from all organic ingredients grown on herb farms in South Australia. Hydrating and healing—and paired with a healthy 8.4 ounces of lavender shower gel. \$35 for the duo. At **Jurlique**, 2136 Fillmore.



Named after the street on which Kiehl's original store is perched and representing its first



foray into a limited edition fragrance, the Pear Tree

Collection quickly became a staff favorite. It's worth it to elbow the swooning staffers out of the way and sniff the fresh pear scent — or buy it to enjoy on friends and family. Bottled in 8.4 ounce sizes: \$19.50 for lotion, \$15 for cleanser. At **Kiehl's**, 2360 Fillmore.

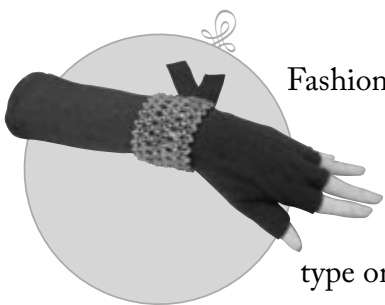
Gifts for Good Sports

Merino wool tops by Icebreaker for men and women — in orange and gray, blue and gray, and orange and taupe. Not made of your father's wool: they're soft, not scratchy. And they keep the wearer warm and dry by wicking men's sweat and women's glow to the outside. Two styles: A basic crew neck sweater for \$99, and an "afterwear" shirt with a little zipper at the neck and a finger hole at the cuff for \$120. At **Arch Rival**, 2426 California.



Gifts That Prove Accessories Are Everything

This obi style Tomo belt reverses from understated ultra suede to shimmery satin and comes in an array of colors — including teal, black, red, navy, brown, forest green, merlot and butter. Striking over a simple white shirt or over a jacket, it can be tied and swirled in as many ways as an imagination allows. For \$88. At **sunhee moon**, 1833 Fillmore.



Fashion forward fingerless gloves in several different styles — including versions with simple long wrists, cashmere with ribbing and sparkled flecks, suggestive black leather and sequined for evening. Some people reportedly type on computers while wearing them; some just command others to type for them. In prices ranging from \$25 to \$190. At **Mio**, 2035 Fillmore.

Hardly a San Francisco day goes by that necks don't need a scarf to keep the chill off them. And for the less practical, scarves provide that little bit of luxury to wear with anything. Here you'll find a stunning variety in varied sizes and shapes: in embroidered wool, cashmere and silk with sequins, at prices ranging from \$100 to \$250. At **Erica Tanov**, 2408 Fillmore.

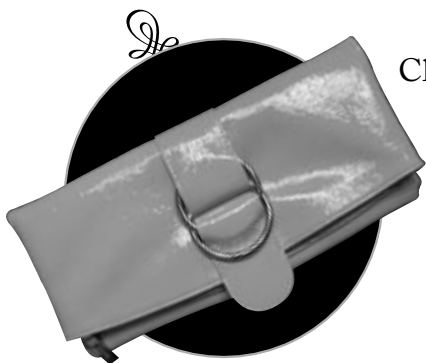


More scarves — these handwoven in lush jewel tones, flown in from Maine. Long enough to wrap and drape, not long enough to cause that Isadora Duncan problem of getting caught in the spokes. In silky viscose for \$65 and snuggly chenille for \$105. At **Winterbranch Gallery**, 2119 Fillmore.



Gifts to Help Them Tote Tastefully

This pleated purse in the softest mango leather has a secret compartment and designer Anana's signature hardwood trim buckles, priced at \$375. At **Muse Ten**, 1820 Fillmore.



Clutches by Hobo International are especially good for gifting, since it's the rare bird who buys a clutch for herself. Hardwearing Hobo wallets are available, too. In red, black, brown, off-white and gray. All stylish — and affordable, priced from \$60 to \$130. At **De Novo**, 2413 California.

Still more proof that you can take it with you — in style. Shiny totebags in various sizes in seasonal red and green hues, from \$12 to \$92. At **Marc by Marc Jacobs**, 2142 Fillmore.

Messenger bags in sturdy canvas, emblazoned with bold warnings including “High Voltage,” “Danger” and “Police Line.” Separate small pouches, for secret messages. For \$48. At **Fillmore Hardware**, 1930 Fillmore.



Gifts to Warm the Coolest Maidens

Cashmere robes in a wearable $\frac{3}{4}$ length — with tie belt and pockets. Snuggly. Cozy. And so soft, she won't be able to stop patting herself on the back. In black and oatmeal, for \$296. At **Toujours**, 2484 Sacramento.

In a city where you need a sweater every day, this brown wool number with a gently draping train and notched collar is not your everyday sweater. Its pin fastener can be manipulated to change its look and feel: to layer on top of girly attire or wear underneath a jacket. It's \$895. At **Cielo**, 2225 Fillmore.

Designed in Scotland, where cashmere grows and flourishes, these private label cashmere sweaters come in a variety of styles and neck treatments: V, crew and turtle.

An array of colors are available — including black, ivory, blue and grape. For \$210. At **HeidiSays**, 2426 Fillmore.



The Tree Trim looking severe by swirling

Comes in teal, navy, chocolate, cream, black and red, for \$375. Doubly luxe when paired with the coordinating camisole for \$195. At **Margaret O'Leary**, 2400 Fillmore.



Cardie cashmere sweater — saved from ruffles around the neck and button front.



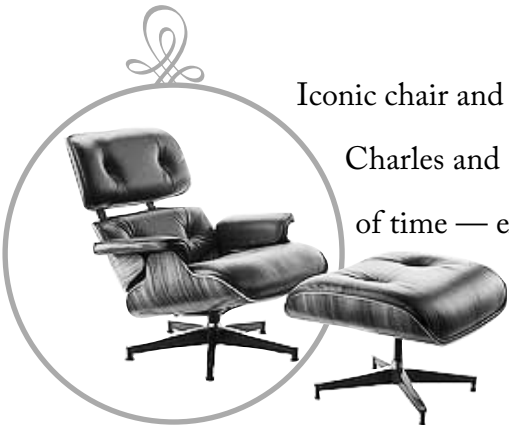
Striped, V-neck, long-sleeved tees in pumpkin and gray or navy and gray — by Splendid. One style is thermal and another is gathered at the neck. Both in soft but durable fabric and figure-flattering shapes sure to shake that bad wrap given to horizontal stripes. For \$68. At **Her**, 2053 Fillmore.

Gifts to Get You Out of the Doghouse

The CD player, amplifier, digital radio and FM tuner that comprises the Arcam Solo distills all listening needs in a single sleek and slick unit. Strong, but sensitive as a New Age Guy, it promises to deliver “real power with finesse, loud enough for parties, yet sensitive enough for more complex music.” Just add a speaker. Equally at home in an office or living room and equipped with mini-jacks for headphones, when you’re not in a sharing mood. For about \$2,000. At **Music Lovers Audio**, 2285 Bush.

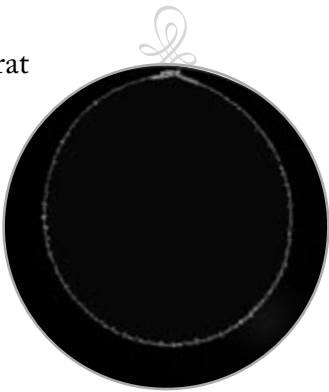


Billed as “the bed your back has been aching for,” Dux beds from Sweden are also billed to last — 40 years or so. The DUXmotion model allows lazy recliners to press a remote control and levitate the top half of the mattress upward to do the sitting up for them. A special power reserve ensures you won’t get stuck upright and in a seated position in case of a power outage. Queen size with a cotton top is \$8,715. At **Duxiana**, 1803 Fillmore.



Iconic chair and ottoman with wood frame and leather upholstery by Charles and Ray Eames in a design that has lounged through the test of time — exactly 50 years, in fact. Subject to A Serious Sale through December 17. \$3,125 for the pair. At **Design Within Reach**, 1913 Fillmore.

A delicate necklace of diamond faceted beads on 18 carat handwoven wire link. In all, it sports 10 ½ carats of diamonds on its 16-inch chain — which can be adjusted to fit necks of all sizes. It sells for \$2,600. At **Linco & Co.**, 1908 Fillmore.



3rd annual Christmas Tree Sale
benefiting Pets Unlimited
2343 Fillmore Street

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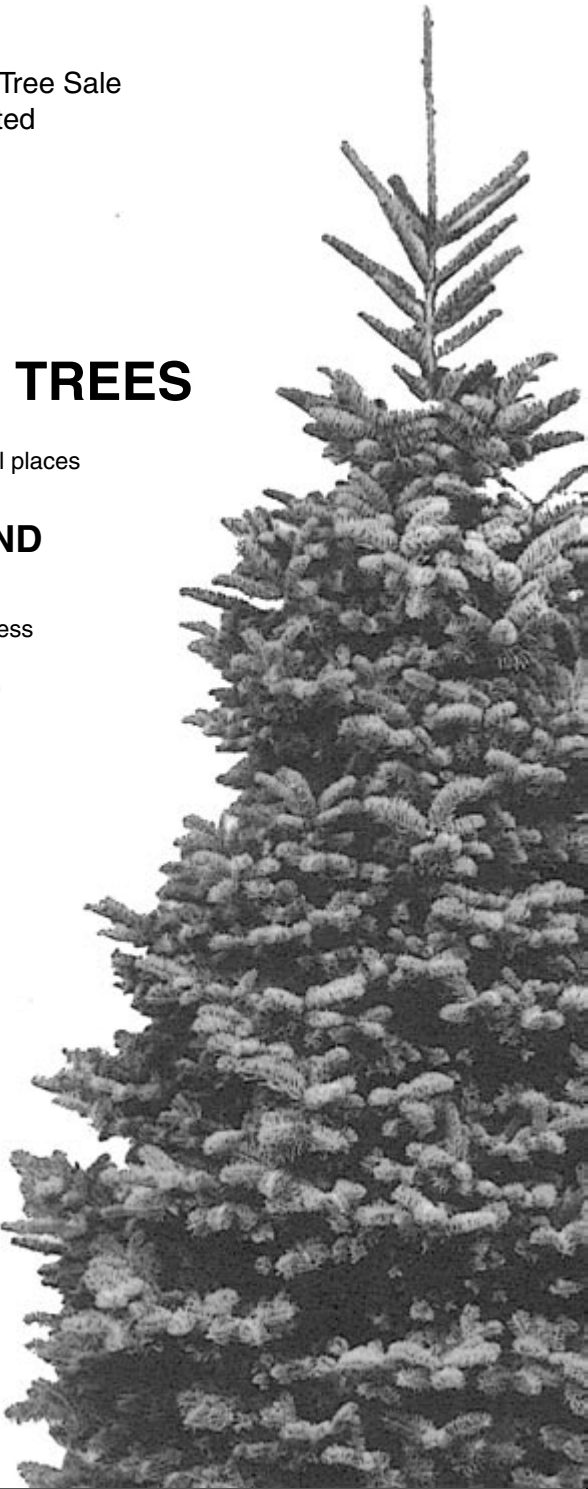
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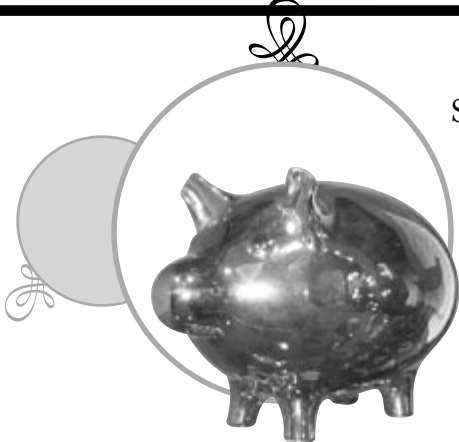
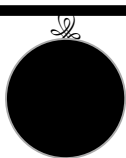
Pixie

Pixie is such a sweet, goofy gal. She along with many other dogs were rescued right before they were about to be euthanized at the Merced Shelter. Pixie is such a kind soul who is looking for her forever home, and a family or someone who can take her on daily walks or runs to the park. We can’t say enough wonderful things about Pixie and her gorgeous smile. Be prepared to have her melt your heart. It’s already worked on our staff...

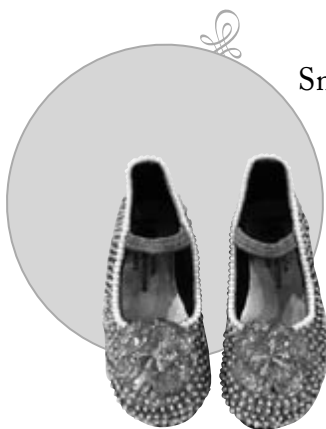


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Adoption Center: (415) 568-3058
Visit us at: www.petsunlimited.org

Gifts for the Smaller Fry



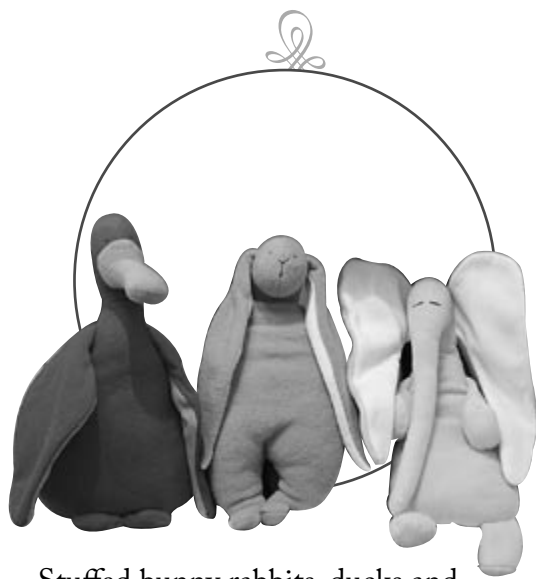
Shiny piggy bank with a rich gold glaze and a wizen look on its face. Perfect for inspiring frugality at a young age. For \$130, without any cash added. At **Jonathan Adler**, 2133 Fillmore.



Snazzy sequined shoes in red and silver. Reminiscent of Dorothy’s ruby slippers, without all the bother of Oz. \$24 for the smaller slipper style; \$48 to \$52 for the ballet style up to size 12, which fits older kids to age six or so. Pity the poor seven-year-olds on your list. At **Yountville Children’s Clothing**, 2416 Fillmore.



The white and cranberry flowered dress (\$76) is ideal for little girls with big fashion senses. Topped by a gauzy tie shrug (\$65), it makes an ensemble that gavottes easily from desk to apres school holiday events. At **Jigsaw**, 2121 Fillmore.



Stuffed bunny rabbits, ducks and elephants handmade by Israeli manufacturer Manuella. Enchanting all on their own; irresistible in pairs — or flocks or herds. \$39 each. At **Zinc Details**, 1905 Fillmore.

S M A L L
Treasures



WE’RE PLEASED to present our 12th annual holiday group exhibition of small original oil paintings — recognized artists at reasonable prices. This year we are especially pleased to feature work by the noted Sonoma painter Dana Hooper.

LOCATED JUST steps off Fillmore Street, our small gallery has quietly established a national reputation for excellence, while remaining firmly in and of the neighborhood.

OPENING *during the FILLMORE HOLIDAY STROLL*
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*New Year Wishes
for the Neighborhood*

Soon it will be the start of a new year. As you begin to ponder your personal resolutions, we invite you also to consider what would make our neighborhood an even better place to live.

What is it about the Fillmore, or Pacific Heights, or Japantown, that makes you happy to live here? What changes, or additions, or improvements, would make it better still?

If you have a wish for the new year — a resolution for the neighborhood, perhaps — we invite you to share it in our January issue.

THE NEW FILLMORE

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SOUL FOOD...

What is Freedom?

In your presence, God, I know that I am free, for my soul is rejoicing with a freedom of spirit that cannot be denied.

I am free to think the highest and most positive thoughts about myself, my experiences, and my loved ones. I am free to explore and shape the world in which I live.

From this moment on, I am free, and I live my freedom, for I am giving expression to the Christ within.

CELEBRATION SERVICES

Sundays, 9 am & 11 am

HEALING SERVICE

1st Wed. of month, December 6, 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

December 20, 27, 6:30 pm

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 pm

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Gifts for Your Finned and Furry Friends

Identification tags — personalized with Spot or Kitty’s moniker — for the new puppy or kitten who doesn’t quite know where home is yet. Small or larger for \$15 and \$20, which includes engraving. At **George**, 2411 California.



No matter the political proclivities of pets, they’ll love to sink their teeth into the cat and dog chew toys in the likenesses of George Bush and Arnold Schwarzenegger. For \$8.99. And for the politically ambivalent that have taken their angst elsewhere, there’s a larger “Ex” Boyfriend, Husband or Other for \$16.99. Both by Doggy Hoots. At **Barry for Pets**, 1840 Fillmore.

A Win/Win Wish List

The elves behind the counter at the women’s clothing store sunhee moon on Fillmore have instituted a plan for eliminating the growing trend of regifting.

Customers are encouraged to browse and target items for which they lust, then compile a Wish List and supply the email addresses of friends and family members likely to be buying them holiday gifts.

The folks at sunhee moon will send out prompting email messages to your admirers and will also do the math to be sure you don’t get duplicates.

“People are tired of just getting more stuff—things they don’t want and can’t use,” explains a sales associate. “And this is much more personal than a gift certificate.”

All you need is fish and water to let the school begin. This small round aquarium complete with gravel, water filter, air pump and light does the rest. For \$149. Add a heater to make tropical fish feel more at home. This shop also stocks the requisite fish — including a Siamensis Algae Eating Fish for \$2.99 and a Red and Gold Honey Dwarf Gourami, cousin to the Kissing Gourami, for \$3.99. At **Aqua Forest Aquarium**, 1718 Fillmore.



Calvary Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Historic
Calvary Presbyterian Church
INVITES EVERYONE TO CELEBRATE
Christmas at Calvary

Friday, December 15, 8PM

Christmas CONCERT BY Chancel Choir, Soloists & Orchestra

“Amahl and the Night Visitors” by Menotti

“Magnificat” by Durante

Audience carol singing with the orchestra

Free admission (offering will be received)

Sunday, December 17

10AM • *Children’s Christmas Pageant*

Sunday, December 24

8:45AM & 11AM • *Morning Worship Services*

5PM • *Family CANDLELIGHT Service*

11PM • *Traditional CANDLELIGHT Service*

Carol Singing on the Church steps after both services

Monday, December 25

11AM • *Christmas DAY Worship*

Saturday, January 6

5:30PM • *12TH NIGHT Supper*

7PM • *Epiphany SERVICE*

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www.calvarypresbyterian.org

St. Dominic’s Catholic Church

Saint Dominic’s Parish warmly invites you to celebrate the Advent & Christmas Seasons in our beautiful church...

Come Join Us in Christmas Celebration!

Tuesday, December 19: “A Renaissance Christmas” Concert
7:30 pm

Sunday, December 24: **CHRISTMAS EVE**
(4th Sunday of Advent) **Advent Masses:**
7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am & 1:30 pm
Christmas Eve Masses:
5:30 pm (*family*) Christmas Family Mass
11:15 pm Carols followed by Mass at Midnight (*solemn*)

Monday, December 25: **CHRISTMAS DAY - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**
7:30 (*organ*), 9:30 (*family*), and 11:30 am (*solemn*);
1:30 pm (*en espanol*)
(No confessions and no 5:30 or 9:00 pm Masses today)

Sunday, December 31: **NEW YEAR’S EVE**
(Solemnity of the Holy Family) Masses at 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am; 1:30, 5:30 & 9:00 pm

Monday, January 1: **NEW YEAR’S DAY**
Mass at 9:30 am — *Only Mass of the day*



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Gifts to Help Her Strut Her Stuff



The very stuff that stops shows: The Caberet Collection by Millesia — a G-string, boy shorts, bra and waist cincher in red with black lace trim. To wear alone or mix and match, the pieces range from \$101 to \$283. Every stitch made in France, not Morocco. The bustier, for \$491, makes respectable outerwear, too. At **My Boudoir**, 2029 Fillmore.



This silk coat hand-embroidered with Birds of Paradise is elegant and versatile. It can make an entrance as an evening coat over formal duds, be paired with jeans and a tee — or convert to a dress once its front opening is pinned at the bottom to ensure modesty on windy nights. In gold or grey. For \$350 at **Jim-Elle**, 2237 Fillmore.



The fitted red and black patterned dress with asymmetrical hem and scooping surplice top makes a swooping entrance and exit. Has all the signposts of its Italian designer Vassalli, known for blending fabrics and textures in innovative modern styling, but with a classic endurance. For \$349. At **Metro 200**, 2116 Fillmore.



This kneelength opera coat with rhinestone buttons and gathered sleeves is fashioned with a collar that can be flipped up to form a bell around the head, pulled down over the shoulders to form a shawl or pinned with a brooch for a more prim, ladylike closing. In tiger print for \$575 or solid black for \$425. At **Betsey Johnson**, 2121 Fillmore.

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Every year, Zephyr sponsors a holiday food and toy drive to benefit kids and families in need throughout our community. This year, more than ever, we invite you to participate by bringing unwrapped new toys and non-perishable foods to any of our offices, November through December. Working together for our community is a wonderful gift.

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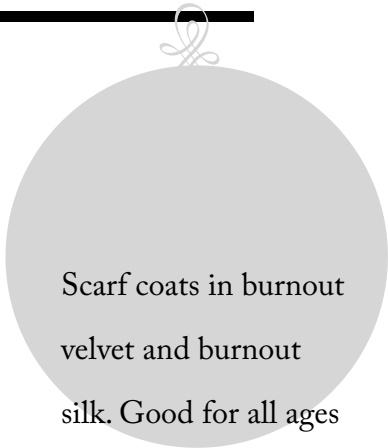
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A shirt jacket that satisfies the holiday craving for black velvet, with touches of silk at the front edges and knotted silk buttons. Wearable with dresses, jeans, pants and skirts. Easy to picture at the office holiday party — with or without a lampshade on the head. Available in regular and petite sizes. For \$218. At **Eileen Fisher**, 2216 Fillmore.



A black wool poncho/vest concoction for women by Yohji Yamamoto with zipfront and stand-up collar. Reminiscent of a baseball jacket — only with a crow done in ruby Swarovski crystals perched on the left front. For \$1,500. At **Harput's Market**, 1525 Fillmore.



Scarf coats in burnout velvet and burnout silk. Good for all ages and stages, they're similar to stoles, but armed and dangerously flirtatious, with silky ruffled collars and long fringes trailing the tail end. For \$250. At **Starlet**, 1942 Fillmore.

Gifts for the Green of Thumb

Bulb kits are the perfect way to get others hooked on your gardening obsession, or give city dwellers a touch of the back 40 on their tabletops. Amaryllis and narcissus bulbs waiting to bloom, pleasingly packaged in lovely containers: keepsake boxes, little square fabric-covered boxes, rustic ones made of pine cones. Prices range from \$26 to \$50. At **Smith and Hawken**, 2040 Fillmore.



The art of the deal?

After 20 years managing deals in the art world, the co-founder of the Ivory/Kimpton Gallery has developed an unerring eye for spotting potential and recognizing opportunity before the rest of the world. For 17 years Jane Ivory has used that same trained eye and instinct to become



a top agent for buyers and sellers in San Francisco real estate. As a resident of San Francisco since 1971, she brings an intimate knowledge of the area, its culture and community, to uncover local masterpieces and bring them to the world.

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Action Jackson.

It's the smell of Tully's coffee at the corner of Fillmore. The secret delights of that tucked-away B&B around the block on Pacific. The jumble of kids near Lyon when University High lets out.

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12 Brand new homes are going to be available in the newly developed Fillmore Heritage Center, the new jewel of the Fillmore Jazz District. The homes are available to those whose income levels fall within the range of incomes shown in this ad.

Interested parties may obtain an application by mailing a written request including your name and address to the sales office at:

1294 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 or by calling the following 24-hour free recorded message: 888-586-2251 x 106.

To learn more about the Fillmore Heritage's SFRA Equity Share program, attend the workshop: Saturday 12/9/2006; 10am - 12pm at the African American Arts and Culture Center @ 762 Fulton Street in San Francisco.

www.hsmf.com

Completed applications must be received or postmarked no later than 2/3/07. Receipt by regular mail only - Certified or Registered mail cannot be accepted. Applications will be opened only after the application deadline of 2/3/07. Applications received will be selected using a lottery process and will then be dated, numbered and logged into a bound notebook in the order they are opened. First preference will be given to San Francisco Redevelopment Agency Certificate of Preference holders. Second preference will be given to San Francisco Residents.



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Household Size	Maximum Household Income		
	95%	105%	120%
1 person / 1 bedroom	\$60,658	\$67,043	\$76,620
2 person / 1 bedroom	\$69,303	\$76,598	\$87,540
3 people / 2 bedrooms	\$77,995	\$86,205	\$98,520
4 people / 3 bedrooms	N / A	\$95,760	N / A
Price	90%	100%	115%
1 bedroom	\$169,685	\$193,889	\$230,268
2 bedrooms	\$228,623	\$259,626	\$309,329
3 bedrooms	N / A	\$290,864	N / A

Note: Income limits are subject to adjustment to reflect the 2007 area median income data when published by HUD.

Gifts That Tickle the Tastebuds



Three roly-poly snowpeople clad in hats and scarves made of Nirvana dark, white and milk chocolate. Guaranteed to melt in the mouth. \$17.95 for the trio. At **Bittersweet**, 2123 Fillmore.



Vivande’s private label extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar from Modena, Italy, gets a kitchen two steps closer to Carlo’s. Both in graceful Bornioli glass flasks; \$17.50 for the small and \$25 for the large size. Great as individual gifts, or paired for the future dressing-makers on your list. At **Vivande**, 2125 Fillmore.



Also for the dedicated foodies on your list: the Vinaigrette Set. Includes everything needed to make a perfect viniagrette: premium balsamic, olive oil, fleur de sel, black pepper — and a steel pourer and salad tongs to help with serving once the whisking is done. For \$82.50. At **Oliviers & Co.**, 2208 Fillmore.



A cabernet by J. Daniel Cuvee, Lail Vineyards, hailed by at least one person who swigged it as “pretty incredible.” Big and full-bodied. Doesn’t need to be sized to fit — and certain not to collect dust. For \$105. At **Vino!**, 2425 California.



The gift set from Perrier Jouet contains a bottle of top-of-the-line 1998 Perrier Jouet Fleur de Champagne in a hand-painted bottle, along with two hand-painted tulip glasses — perfect for smashing on the hearth, for \$110. For something less cher, the Charles Heidsieck gift set includes a bottle of the non-vintage Brut Reserve and two plain tulip glasses, also hearth-smashable, for about \$30. At **D & M Wines and Liquors**, 2200 Fillmore.

Fillmore Hardware



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Duct Tape Wallet \$8
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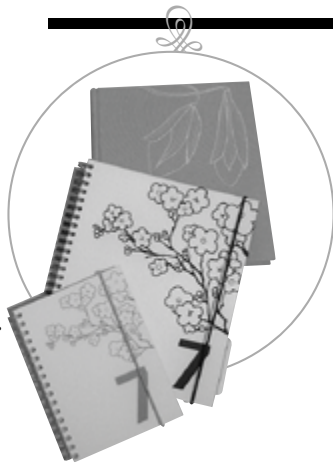
* exceptions: Brooks Addiction and Adrenaline, Asics 2120, Superfeet, socks, Life is Good, Icebreaker at list. MBTs 10% off



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Gifts for the Hearth and Home

Help organize a life or class up a shelf with the clothbound journals, portfolios and calendars designed by the Swedish company Bookbinders Designs. In a variety of colors, shapes and sizes ranging from \$15 to \$49. At **Flicka**, 1932 Fillmore.



Vintage letters. Think personal. Think the new letter for a new last name of a newlywed. Think of spelling “v-i-n-o” for those friends with the new wine cellar. Think of spelling out your embarrassing pet name for your loved one and gifting him or her with it. In varying fonts and colors and sizes, ranging in cost from \$2 to \$125. At **Timeless Treasures**, 2176 Sutter.



Add a picture of yourself to these readymade frames for a not-so-subtle reminder that you want to be remembered. French designer Delf frames are distributed exclusively by this local shop. In a delicate gold or silver patina — or a number of different muted

tones. In a variety of sizes, ranging in price from \$58 to \$110. At **Walter Adams Gallery**, 2019B Fillmore.



Resin frames featuring dear flowers and a coat of arms with a key at the top. The White Collection — in Shabby Chic’s signature hue. Small size priced at \$18; larger, at \$24. At **Shabby Chic**, 2185 Fillmore.



A handpainted cup from the shop that stocks an abundance of them — all in antique china patterns, mostly from the 1920s and 30s.

Tourists love to ogle the 100 cups stacked up in the front window. Locals do, too. Available for \$45 each. At **Mureta’s Antiques**, 2418 Fillmore.

A haribako, or Japanese sewing box, from the 1920s.

Crafted from bamboo with a delicate handpainted crane and face on its front, five



drawers and several hiding compartments. Perfect for storing baubles. Or state secrets. Priced at \$295. At **Kuraya**, 2425 California.



It’s Christmas every day at the full service pumps at Pacific Heights Chevron

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Gifts To Adorn a Table or Desk



The 2006 Charity Piece: Riverton votive candles in a contemporary design, embodying the gift that keeps on giving, since all profits from its sale will be donated to the S.F. Food Bank. For \$25. Dazzling on their own, and real statement-makers when raised off the table nestled in stoneware holders, which are priced from \$25 to \$45, depending on how high you want to raise them. At **Simon Pearce**, 2223 Fillmore.



Aromatic candles by Voluspa in scents you'll have fun pronouncing over and over again: Santiago Huckleberry, Makassar Ebony & Peach, Burmese Rosewood. Made of refined soy-based waxes that take their good-natured time burning. Priced from \$7.50 for a single candle to \$48 for a sampling set of 10. At **Pure Beauty**, 2124 Fillmore.



An assortment of stone and natural element table fountains that give off a constant soft babble of falling water designed to soothe the nerves, if not the bladder. Beginning at \$190. At **Cottage Industry**, 2328 Fillmore.



Plates, platters and paperweights by decoupage artist John Derian embellished with turn-of-the-century Victorian prints and illustrations. Ranging in size and in price from \$50 to \$250. Deemed "very collectible." And very givable, too. At **Nest**, 2300 Fillmore.



Tse & Tse, a design company founded by two Parisian women known for putting out "cool, funny, fun things," knocked itself out with this Vase de Printemps. It looks like 21 test tubes formed together in a spiral — but in a good and graceful way. The metal interlocks allow you to arrange and derange them as desired. Available for \$220. At **Zinc Details**, 2410 California.

Holiday Wrapping: Because Presentation Is Everything

A number of shops on Fillmore stock the basic necessities for wrapping gifts: paper, tissue, ribbon, tags — and those gift bags for people who cheat. They also offer hope and help for those who are all thumbs at wrapping.

Jet Mail, 2130 Fillmore, handles same day shipping — by FedEx, UPS or the postal service for those sending gifts out of town. And the representatives there will help cost out the most affordable or quickest way to ship, depending on the customer's needs. They do it the old-fashioned way — consulting a well-worn paper chart comparing

services according to cost, weight and estimated delivery times of packages for shipping.

And Jet Mail will also wrap gifts for those who ship with them — charging \$5 for small gifts, \$10 for medium and \$15 for large. Customers can choose any wrap in the store or bring in their own.

Paper Source, 1925 Fillmore, will also wrap gifts for those who loathe doing it themselves, are pressed for time or don't have the aptitude for the task.

"I just love wrapping gifts," enthused one sales associate there, who had recently returned from a seminar in the latest wrapping techniques.

At Paper Source, most gifts can be wrapped and bowed within a half-hour or so — at a cost of \$4 per package, plus the cost of paper and ribbon.

Papyrus, 2109 Fillmore, is staffed by sales associates who are true believers in the store's motto: "We can wrap anything."

The service is free to customers who become Perfect Card Members with the store by paying a \$10 annual fee. Non-members cannot partake.

For participants who purchase or supply paper and ribbon, Papyrus promises a one-day turn-around in wrapping.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ("RFQ")

The Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco ("Agency") is seeking Statements of Qualifications from independent fee appraisers and appraisal firms to establish a list of qualified real estate appraisers. The appraisers will provide a variety of real estate valuation and evaluation services to the Agency on an open contract, "as needed" basis. To inquire about the RFQ or to obtain a copy of the RFQ, please visit the Agency's website at <http://www.sfgov.org/sfra> or call Kendra Thompson at (415) 749-2448.

The deadline for submitting a response to the RFQ is 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time), Friday, December 8, 2006.

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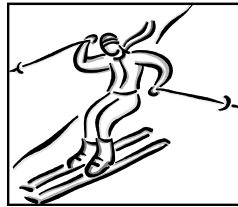
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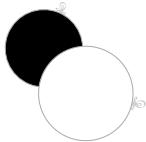


This figurine features symbols of the season — a penguin, Santa, reindeer and snowperson — all smiling and joining hands, hooves and flippers in a show of solidarity. This shop also stocks many ornaments by this designer, but those featuring penguins are going fast. It’s been another big movie year for penguins. For \$36. At **Aumakua**, 2238 Fillmore.

A handpainted Dow Empress doll from Kyoto, hailing from the Taisho Period, or “Period of Great Righteousness,” about



1912-1926. Sold paired with the Emperor doll for \$150. All items 20% off in December. At **Narumi**, 1902 Fillmore.



Saw off a slice of one of the many holiday soaps — including L’Chaim, Hot Chocolate, Frolicking Frosty, Lily the Reindeer, Let it Snow. In choosing the perfect one, let your nose be your guide: Pick up and sniff a tester. For \$1.75 per ounce, or about \$5 for a medium bar. At **Hydra**, 1919 Fillmore.

Gifts for Stuffing Stockings



This cosmetic bag fashioned in red patent leather and shaped like a pair of big lips is sure to bring a smile to all who see it. And a giftee can smile with panache after applying the bag’s contents: custom-selected shades of lipstick, liner and gloss. For \$65. At **Shu Uemura**, 1971 Fillmore.



Show her you don’t mean business with a pair of Hanky Panky panties. In a true miracle of the season, one size magically fits all, in a very sheer fabric. Fashioned with a double V that humbly and helpfully shows less of itself with low-rise jeans and available in assorted pastels for \$18 a pair. At **Elisa Wen**, 2512 Sacramento.

Small but mighty. Simple gold and silver jewelry by Lana, a designer based in Chicago, offering contemporary styling: earrings in posts or with hoops that hook, pendants in geometric shapes. In prices ranging from about \$200 to \$1,100. At **Blu**, 2259 Fillmore.



Unique Gifts, Gently Pre-Loved

One of the strengths of the neighborhood is its collection of resale shops, which keep the street from getting overly uppity and are treasure troves for those in search of unique holiday gifts.

You’ve got to be willing to dig a bit, but for the seasoned secondhand shopper, that’s the thrill. And you have to be able to decide quickly. Ponderous shoppers who hem or haw over an item risk losing it.

The challenge of thrift shopping — and part of what fuels the addiction to it — is that the shelves and racks are restocked daily.

Best of all, most of the pre-loved items are priced at a fraction of what they cost the first time around.

Neighborhood thrift and consignment shops include:

Crossroads Trading Company, 1901 Fillmore • **Goodwill**, 1700 Fillmore • **Next-to New Shop**, 2226 Fillmore
Repeat Performances, 2436 Fillmore • **Seconds to Go**, 2252 Fillmore • **Victorian House**, 2033 Fillmore

Potential holiday gifts found recently in Fillmore shops include:

- a coin purse shaped like the head of a cat in jet black beads, for \$9
- a black Prada trench coat for \$35
- a red velvet stocking with a 3-D stuffed Santa head protruding from the top, for \$2.99
- a five-drawer jewelry box with graceful silver feet, for \$20
- an ivory lace tablecloth just like grandma used to make — or at least would have wanted to own — for \$50, and
- a silver-plated candy dish with fluted edges that responded beautifully to a quick rub with polish — just \$2.50 on a 75% sale day.

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