New Club, Restaurants Opening in Jazz District

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

Yoshi's Jazz Club & Japanese Restaurant — the long-anticipated anchor of the Fillmore Jazz District — will open its doors later this month. Yoshi's will be the final element of the Fillmore Heritage Center, the $75 million project at Fillmore and Eddy that includes the Jazz Heritage Center, the recently opened 1300 on Fillmore restaurant and 80 condominiums.

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

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

A red-tailed hawk takes flight

For months, wildlife photographer Walter Kitundu followed and photographed the exploits of a red-tailed hawk growing up — and learning to hunt for food, and growing her full adult plumage — in Alta Plaza Park. One of her favorite photo sessions was with the steeple of Christ Episcopal Church on the south side of the park, as she learned to hunt near the church — this month to show slides and talk about the hawk on Sunday, November 18. Story and more photographs, PAGE 6.

Photograph by WALTER KITUNDU
There’s Blood on the Street

Scary window display stirs a neighbor’s ire

An open letter to the manager of the Marc by Marc Jacobs store at Fillmore and Portola.

I own a large department at the nearby California Pacific Medical Center. As a manager, I appreciate it when other clients issue their concerns that can improve my department. It is with this spirit that I write this letter to you. I look and work within five blocks of your store, and have been a consumer of Fillmore Street since I opened the department for business over 20 years ago.

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

This is not the Castro, nor the Haight-Filmore area to this area for a particular ambiance, and a “kinder, gentler” sensibility. We do not expect such displays by such a large department store, and your children win this window display. This forces us to share this neighborhood out of necessity to protect our children from the visual images that your window display. I am disappointed in the lack of judgment here. Take a look around and down Fillmore Street. Do you see any similar displays in other merchandiser’s windows? I see that you have recently added a children’s line to your store. I assume that you are trying to attract parents to your store who have the economic means to afford designer clothing for their kids. This type of graphic window display is not the way to speak to me or my pocketbook.

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

Denise Bauman


Publisher’s Preamble

From the Start, a Focus on the Local Scene

By Denise Ish

A small mom-and-pop style paper with which to publish the first issue of the New Fillmore, although it was not, necessarily, the pace at which it was created. “Profess” wised a few for what I expected to convey here, and besides that’s my face you see up here, not my prose. Nobody sees my prose, this early in the morning, this early.

I got the idea for the New Fillmore as a way to say so many good ideas happen for so many people — once a drink in a bus stop or at the Pacific Heights Bar & Grill, talking to Ronald Hobbs, owner of Spectrum Exotic Birds, and the only one of my advertisers to qualify for my authentic tea discount on the rate card. The talk got over to animation, as talk frequently does when it involves poets, and then kept forward this notion of a neighborhood newspaper — perhaps not a cure for profound alienation, but at least a palliative for local alienation, if not fun besides.

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SEQUOIA OPPONIS 38-STOREY TOWER OF CONDOS NEXT DOOR

By Don Landrey

Ten Sequoia, the life-care facility proposed to replace the Cathedral Hill’s 1409 Gough apartment building, has retained two firms to oppose current zoning permits, according to Brett Gladstone, a land use attorney involved in numerous other issues in the neighborhood who now represents the Sequoias. A change in the height limit would require a vote by the Board of Supervisors, Gladstone said.

Sam Lauder, a principal of the Benson, Mosher, Witcher, Lauer & Partners political consulting firm, has been retained to reach out to individuals and organizations opposed to the project. The Pacific Heights Residential Association already opposes the building because of its height and the “spot zoning” that would be required to allow its construction. The Cathedral Hill Neighborhood Association opposes spot zoning and has called for a comprehensive neighborhood plan. Lauder says that, in addition to a formal neighborhood plan, are concerned about the precedent that would be set by a tall structure nearby, “It building was maintained often — always neglected — at a public forum about the Sequoias Better Neighborhood Plan on October 18. Ten Sequoia Task Force directed a 40-minute discussion on issues that the University’s leader told an audience to build neighborhood support to the proposed building. Gladstone, who more frequently opposes proposed projects, says, “Cathedral Hill is the right place, for this tower. He said towers belong downtown and in South Beach. “This is the first time, however that this has been proposed in the northwest quadrant,” said. “It would create a bad precedent.” Gladstone said.

New Fillmore

Founder Dies in Thailand

By Sarah Estep

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

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

In the past he lived in D.C., he met his partner, Norman Sauder, as Diamond, and has friends in many PAI resident. Rainbow Heart enjoyed how he described as “having discussions” during their afternoon gatherings over tea at the Muslim Spa.

Ish was born in Rutherford, New Jersey, on December 9, 1937. He published his first newspaper in grade school and worked in communications for much of his life.

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

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

NEW FILLMORE

November 2007

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NEW FILLMORE

November 2007
Loaded Firearms Arrest
Scott and O’Farrell Streets
September 5, 9:55 p.m.

Officers observed three individuals standing in a court area, preparing to light a marijuana cigarette. As they approached, one suspect hardly dropped his cigarette. When the officers questioned the three, the encounter became hostile. The suspect lunged at the officers and had to be subdued.

A crowd began to gather at the scene and started throwing threat at the officers, when then noticed that one of the three suspects was carrying a loaded .357 caliber handgun. The two individuals who resisted the officers were booked at Northern Station.

DUI Arrest
Van Ness Avenue and Bush Street
September 23, 1:55 a.m.

An officer standing at the street corner noted a car turning in and out of traffic, at one point nearly submerging another officer’s patrol car. The officer followed the car; the driver turned up over the curb and onto the sidewalk in an attempt to negotiate a turn. Suspecting the driver was intoxicated, the officer stopped the car.

The driver admitted that he had consumed some wine. She failed to pass the field sobriety tests and was arrested and booked at Northern Station.

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

The street crimes unit received information that a robbery suspect known to reside in the Northern District was looking near Pierce and Eddy. The officer began to their search and within minutes located the suspect. The suspect was booked at Northern Jail.

Burglary
Eddy and Van Ness Avenue
September 22, 4:39 p.m.

Officers received a report of a robbery in progress involving a gun. The officer went to a description of the suspect and a

was riding a black motorcycle.

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

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

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

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

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

Simon Pearce comes to Fillmore

Simon Pearce comes to his Fillmore outpost this month, and will host a signing of his creations in the store on Saturday, November 10.

Beliveau says Pearce’s products are affordable.

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

WalterAdams.com

While he was riding a black motorcycle.

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One of her favorite perches was the cross on the church opposite the south stairs. From there she had a commanding view of the park and its surroundings. Patch began molting and almost completed her transition into adulthood before starting to take exploratory trips out of the park. Today she has her full adult plumage, with striking dark brown feathers, a bright red tail and a rusty orange underside. She is still an occasional visitor to Alta Plaza.

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

Redtails are the most common hawk in this area. They are extremely adaptable and can be found throughout the city — especially in Golden Gate Park and the Presidio — though it is rare to find a bird as idiosyncratic and bold as Patch.

Across the bay at the place where Patch was banded, on Hawk Hill in the Marin headlands, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory sees hundreds of red-tailed hawks during the fall migration.

It is wonderful to know these birds are living in our midst. And it has been heartwarming to follow Patch, and to watch her react, adapt, grow and survive in these four square blocks in the center of the city.
A Dream Comes True: Yoshi’s Jazz Club & Japanese Restaurant Is Opening This Month

The new club in the two-level Yoshi’s on Fillmore, considerably bigger and with a more modern design than its Oakland sister, will accommodate 420 people. Seating is arranged in a fan-shaped amphitheater on two levels.

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

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

Kaz Kajimura and his former wife, namesake Yoshie Akiba, two of the three founders, remain as owners. The performers on opening night November 28 will include Roy Haynes and the Yoshi’s Birds of a Feather Super Band, with Gary Burton, Ravi Coltrane, Nicholas Payton, Kenny Garrett, Sheryl Koonz and John Patitucci. Tickets for the grand opening are $100, available at www.yoshis.com or by calling 510-238-9200.

The next four nights will feature music by Taj Mahal and the Phantom Blues Band. The month ends with the Count Basie Orchestra from December 26 through New Year’s Eve.

Executive Chef Sho has written a menu at Yoshi’s that changes with the seasons, incorporating European techniques in his own style. Chef Sho will preside over what he calls “the biggest and most expensive kitchen in America” — a 3,500-square-foot space equipped with a wood-burning oven to roast fish and cook Japanese-style pizzas and a huge robata grill.

More information and a FREE online newsletter, visit www.sunriseseniorliving.com

Informational Forums
Join us to learn more and tour a new model!
Saturday, November 10
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 13
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 15
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
RSVP to 415-929-0200
Space is limited.

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Alta Plaza & Beyond
Paintings of a Favorite Local Park
featuring gallery artists, special guests and historic paintings from two estates
Continuing through November 17

THOMAS REYNOLDS GALLERY
WWW.THOMASREYNOLDS.COM
2291 Pine Street at Fillmore • San Francisco, CA 94115

Count Basie Orchestra from December 26 through New Year’s Eve.
Yoshi’s Artistic Director Peter Williams says he intends to book many of the same artists into the San Francisco and Oakland clubs, but feature them playing with different groups.

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One or more names contain characters outside of Unicode.

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NEW ARRIVALS!
Comfortable in it? That’s a matter of personal style,” she says. With these two questions as guidance, “It has taken away women’s self-confidence,” she says. Lessons for the Locals From an Australian Lipstick Queen

New Kabuki Hotel opens November 16 with the opening of its new restaurant, O Izakaya Lounge. It is the latest trend in Bay Area Japanese food, often small plates, which originated as Japan’s version of fast food. The decor in the bar area of O Izakaya lounge will drag the natural color from a face. The lounge at O Izakaya will feature projection on its TV screen from TV Japan, a 24-hour channel that broadcasts sumo wrestling tournaments, the Japanese sport series and other shows that bring Japanese culture to American audiences.

Chef Nicolaus Balla is Australian, but he lived in Japan. His affinity for the cuisine includes his interest in picking, which he learned as a youth from his family’s business. Balla is a graduate of the University of Sydney and was a member of America and a veteran of San Francisco’s acclaimed Quince restaurant.

In the renamed and remodeled hotel, Jiao de Ville Hospitality set out to create a “soothing, worldly, relaxed mood” combining contemporary space and a modern sensibility in the lobby. The hotel boasts “superb public rooms. Bathrooms on the upper floors now have deep soaking tubs. One at a time are accepted, but reservations are recommended. Cat 771-7100.

The heritage wall at 1300 features portraits of neighborhood blues and jazz legends. The heritage wall at 1300 features portraits of neighborhood blues and jazz legends. From the 1900s to the 1950s, Complementing the heritage wall is a mirror above the bar that holds a flat panel screen. When turned on, it displays historical photographs of the Fillmore and identifies old jazz bars and restaurants.

The restaurant was originally to be called the Blue Mirror, a name from Fillmore’s jazz era, but a dispute arose and the name was changed to reflect the neighborhood for an evening of wine and learning about lipstick. Charles now offers Poppy King’s line of lipstick at her boutique at 2056 Fillmore, near California.

When I was a teenager, I bought her lipstick, and since then have amassed a collection of over 4,000 albums and CDs,” says White. “Music sets the mood, affects our emotions and helps us relax.”

Lancome’s and White have rented out their Oakland home and moved into one of the condominiums above the restaurant. Dinner at 1300 Fillmore is served nightly from 5:30 to 11 Monday through Saturday; 5:30 to 10 on Sunday, with brunch and weekday lunch soon to be added. A hair and lounge menu is available from 5 p.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

Chef Monetta White, whose mother and grandmother lived in the Fillmore during its original jazz heyday in the 50s and 60s. “I spent my first allowance on a 45 record, and since then have amassed a collection of over 4,000 albums and CDs,” says White. “Music sets the mood, affects our emotions and helps us relax.”

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The restaurant was originally to be called the Blue Mirror, a name from Fillmore’s jazz era, but a dispute arose and the name was changed to reflect the neighborhood for an evening of wine and learning about lipstick. Charles now offers Poppy King’s line of lipstick at her boutique at 2056 Fillmore, near California.

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

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

The tower is taken, but mansions await in the neighborhood recently came onto the market at 2515 Scott and 2820 Pacific. The home on Scott has also been impressively remodeled and the tax records show it has 9,500 square feet, with 5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms and a 4-car garage. It is listed at $17.5 million. Both properties are receiving considerable interest.

Meet Elena Asturias and Eduardo Panagia Owners, Panagia Construction, Inc.

“When Elena and I started a residential construction business in 1994, one of the first clients involved in solar power. They were a solar power development company called Titan Energy. Last year, as an investment, they began renovating a house in Corona Heights using natural materials including solar and in-situ concrete, and installing cotton-based insulation, cellulose heated floors, and polyisocyanate that produce energy to power 2 houses. When looking for an agent to sell the house, they chose an energized Dougherty Agent who published an offer over the 2 million plus asking price.

“San Francisco is our (green) home.”

Neighborhood Highlights

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

If you’d like more information about Jackson Street, where the homes have a solid beauty, reflecting the upscale but friendly nature of their owners. It’s no wonder you’ll find the residences of more than a few foreign consuls in the neighborhood.

As Hill & Co., we’ve been helping people find the homes that help them realize their aspirations — in Pacific Heights, Presidio Heights, and all over San Francisco — for nearly 10 years, and we’ve helped sell all their properties. We know what it takes to make a move — even on short notice. It’s a talent of ours to strike the perfect balance between our agents and clients that comes from the value of a family-owned business.

Perhaps more information about Jackson Street — from The Embankment to the Alamo Square — or about Paris Heights, the tower at 2000 Van Ness, or 3720 Sacramento St — 1 (415) 292-1777 (office) or 1 (415) 292-1775 (Fax). Visit our website at www.hillco.com to see what the action is.

San Francisco Auto Shell Auto Service & Repair

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Retirement
Was Short but Sweet
for David Ish

David Ish circulated an email addressed to friends and poets. Every Month for 20 Years
He wrote:

but Sweetfor David Ish
devote to my primary passion of poetry.
"creative pressure on myself," to circulate a poem every week or so. He sent only four poems before he died on October 9. This was the first.

FROM PAGE 3

Rainbow Heart recounted that as a publisher Hugh Hefner’s work ethic, exemplified by the shower and sleeping area Hefner had built in his office.

Sometimes Rainbow Heart would get to work early and see Ish alchemy at his desk, still in a bathrobe. Years later, when Rainbow Heart was running his newspaper from his home office, he was tickled to realize that he too was able to get out of bed and into his bathrobe immediately just like Ish.

Rainbow Heart knew he was dead and was known among his friends in Pai for his fine collections of books and erotic magazines—albeit to no great acclaim around the world—including The New Yorker, Fanny Price Harper’s and Other Roads.

He could tell off a poem from memory and demanded proof of his time in Thailand to writing poetry. A friend from California describes Rainbow Heart as a “major nuisance all his life.” He liked to tell the story of a burned shirt factory as a child and saying, “Boy, somebody must have lost his shirt in that fire!”

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

Rainbow Heart appreciated the support he got from his partner Zheng and from his other group of friends in Pai. As he neared death, they gathered at his home every night to hear what one source called a “going away party.” When he died, they were in the corner of a circle of 12 people.

Because Rainbow Heart loved poetry, his friends read one of his favorite poems by Robert Frost just before he died in a poem called the “Fourth Quartet” by TS. Eliot after that. A full Buddhist ceremony was held at a temple in Pai, followed by a cremation.

He is survived by his partner, Nisorn Sorndet, his two sons Howard and Pickens, of Ontario, Canada; his former wife Lisa of Sidy Creek, N.C.; a half-brother, a half-sister, and an uncle.

A Poet Writes His Epitaph

Retirement
A Poet Writes His Epitaph

David Ish not only made his newspaper successful, but also helped newspapers in other neighborhoods. He was the chief salesman and advertising manager for The San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association, which solicited advertising for papers throughout the city.

Ish wrote the chief salesman—and also the chief fundraiser. In 1997 (ironic, with what money he organized a program against a new newspaper in San Francisco. He and publishers of other papers staged a protest on the steps of the State Building in the Civic Center. They also orbited the support of key political leaders, many of whom appeared at the rally, and successfully forced back the law.

When Ish was tickled to realize that he too was able to get out of bed and be at his desk immediately, just like Hefner.

Rainbow Heart loved to read and talk poets and poetry. We both had lived Robert Frost and Wallace Stevens, among many others.

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

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

The New Fillmore helped define the neighborhood and brought a lot of people together who otherwise would not have known each other. We’d imagine anyone who knew, could write or take pictures.

The New Fillmore was interested in writing about the place he’d made home for his third act. I was too preoccupied with baseball, I’m afraid, and we didn’t have much time to... was excited about starting an international online poetry group that included me and other poets from the neighborhood.

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

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David Ish found the companionship he retired to seek in Thailand when he met Nissorn Sorndet, known as Dang, above. When his Ish died, he was home for his third act.

When his Ish died, he was at the center of a circle of 12 people.

No more searching for change!

Keep your in the neighborhood

A crucifying publisher

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Not many cities can boast a vibrant section of town that is upscale but approachable, fashionable but not elitist, comfortable without being boring. San Francisco's Fillmore is all these — and, best of all, it's not striving to be original. It just is.

Gourmet magazine