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New FILLMORE

SAN FRANCISCO ■ DECEMBER 2008



*Restoring the
stained-glass windows
at St. Dominic's*

A Glory of Light and Color

BY DONNA GILLESPIE | PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALVIN JOHNSON

ENTER St.
Dominic's
Church

and step from the city
into another world.

Light from above seems filtered through gemstones. There's a timeless quiet; centuries seem to fall away. You can easily imagine you've wandered into a church in Paris or Rome.

High above, the vividly colored windows are alive with details and replete with symbols of the faith. Some illustrate qualities such as Fortitude, Justice or Hope. Some depict the apostles or the saints, or prominent Dominicans.

Rain, wind and time have muted the brilliance and eroded the structural integrity of the stained glass windows at St. Dominic's, but a monumental restoration effort is now under way. Stained glass specialists are removing all 36 of St. Dominic's windows for cleaning and repair.

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FINDINGS



Studies Support Local Shopping

A NUMBER of new incentives have been launched this holiday season to encourage local shopping. While spurred primarily by the continuing downward spiral of the economy, the campaigns are supported by the findings of several recent studies which show significant advantages, economic and otherwise, to shopping near home.

Thriving local businesses create more jobs and increase income more than national companies, the studies show, while generating considerably more overall economic activity.

"Across the board, for all impact measures and all lines of goods, locally owned firms generate substantially greater local economic activity than do their chain competitors," concluded a study of retailing in San Francisco conducted by researchers at the Civic Economics consulting firm.

Independent local businesses "help maintain the unique local character of a community," the study found.

Partly in response, the city's reinvigorated Small Business Commission has recently launched a "shop local first" campaign. It



includes a new symbol (left) designating locally owned businesses, which is being distributed to independent businesses throughout the city.

The study from Civic Economics finds that a slight shift in consumer behavior — diverting 10 percent of purchases from national chains to locally owned businesses — would create 1,300 new jobs each year and yield nearly \$200 million in added economic activity.

Some of the key studies and supporting data are posted online at www.civiceconomics.com/SF and www.livingeconomics.org.



THE NEW FILLMORE

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Happy holidays to our neighbors!

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

Archive of recent issues: www.NewFillmore.com

Comments and letters about neighborhood issues are welcome there, too.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



Merchants contributed to a campaign to light Fillmore Street during the holidays.

'Peace on Earth, Goodwill on Fillmore'

Local stores offer an added incentive to shop at home

SPECULATING that the neighborhood may be as interested in giving as receiving at the end of an economically turbulent year, Fillmore's retail shops are kicking off the holiday shopping season with a benefit for the local Goodwill store.

"Peace on Earth, Goodwill on Fillmore" is the theme of the annual holiday stroll sponsored by the Fillmore Merchants Association, which will be held on Saturday, December 6.

Those who give items to Goodwill in the bins placed in stores will receive discounts and special offers from many of the leading businesses on Fillmore.

Members of the Contemporary Jazz Orchestra will be playing in combos on the street, and other special events are planned, including dance performances, personal style consultations and refreshments.

The Fillmore commercial district has remained vibrant and new stores have continued to open in recent months, including a lavish new home for Polo Ralph Lauren at 2040 Fillmore. But a sudden slowdown in shopping has left many small merchants feeling vulnerable at a time they make most of their annual sales.

Business remains brisk at Fillmore's many resale shops, including the Goodwill at Fillmore and Post, which is expanding.

Fillmore Center May Convert Apartments Into Condos

By DONNA GILLESPIE

THE 1,114-unit Fillmore Center apartment complex will be converted into condominiums if the property's owner has its way.

Fillmore Center applied to the city's Department of Public Works to begin the condo conversion process, but was turned down. Now it is suing the city.

Located at 1475 Fillmore Street and spread over four city blocks, the Fillmore Center was built on land bulldozed by the Redevelopment Agency in the '60s and left vacant for two decades. Now it is at the heart of the bustling Fillmore Jazz District, with grounds that include a large park with a waterfall and gardens. A newly redesigned plaza was dedicated in October.

In its lawsuit against the city, Fillmore Center maintains that plans for condo conversion were written into its original land development agreement with the Redevelopment Agency, and that the agreement preempts the city ordinance limiting condo conversions.

"Our agreement had very specific language that allowed for condos," says Steve Boyack, vice president of asset management for the Laramar Group, which manages the Fillmore Center. "The language is clear. This is the crux of the argument."

City officials maintain that the Fillmore Center is subject to the condominium conversion ordinance.

"This is a matter that is governed by city



Hand-crafted candles were among the offerings at the Fillmore Farmers Market on a recent Saturday morning. The market is held weekly at the redesigned plaza of the Fillmore Center.

law — the condo conversion ordinance," says James Morales, the Redevelopment Agency's general counsel. "The Fillmore Center has to follow the city process. All property owners must go through the same process."

At issue in the lawsuit are the condominium maps dividing the property into individually owned units and specifying common areas. The city says the condominium maps for the Fillmore Center were not filed within the required time.

"In the '80s, they actually started to go through the city's process to file papers,

but did not complete the process," Morales says. "It's strange that now, in 2008, they don't think they have to follow city law."

By the terms of the original agreement, the earliest date for condominium conversion was 2006. If the conversion does take place, the 20 percent of the 1,114 units reserved for low-income tenants would continue to be offered as rentals until 2017. Elderly renters would be offered lifetime leases. The rest of the tenants would be given 120 days to purchase their apartments at 90 percent of market value. Tenants who do not opt to buy would have 120 days

to vacate. Fillmore Center would provide relocation assistance and pay moving expenses.

Boyack presents the prospect of condo conversion as an opportunity for more people to become homeowners in the Western Addition, where the home ownership rate is less than half that of the rest of the city.

"This neighborhood is saddled with a sense of 'nobody got their piece,'" Boyack says. "Redevelopment hasn't encouraged home ownership. Part of Redevelopment's legacy is that they took that all away."

Of the tenant response to the conversion, Boyack says, "The tenants are excited about it — they want to own their piece of San Francisco."

Rev. Arnold Townsend, chairman of the Western Addition Citizens Advisory Committee, says the city has a case.

"There was a plan to go condo," Townsend says. "But the developers didn't submit everything they should have. And because they didn't follow through, it's now open to interpretation. Now Redevelopment believes they have a say-so. If the developers had submitted all the maps, there would have been nothing the city could do."

Townsend says many people in the community are not pleased with the prospect of the apartment complex going condo.

"Before the community could support this," he says, "Fillmore Center would have to do something unbelievable and spectacular as a benefit to the community."

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California native plants with seasonal accents:
spring tulips, summer roses



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NEW NEIGHBOR



Polo Ralph Lauren classes up the street

Ralph Lauren has opened at 2040 Fillmore just in time for the holidays, transforming the former site of Smith & Hawken with leather armchairs and vintage display cases that make it look as if it always occupied the space.

The store stocks timeless Lauren fashions, much of it polo-themed, along with a large array of holiday partywear — lush strapless gowns, opera gloves, velvet tuxedo jackets and the like.

"We're really enjoying the street," says general manager Julie Lott, who has worked for the company for 12 years and transferred here to open the new store on Fillmore. "There's always a lot going on — but it's relaxed, too."

In addition to an equestrian vibe, the store brings something to the neighborhood that's been in short supply in recent years: fashions for men — including outerwear, accessories and shirts and sweaters in dozens of colors displayed in manicured piles.

There are also fragrances for all and a small offering of home accessories and books.

Bringing Brooklyn Style to the Jazz District

An off-the-beaten-path New York boutique settles into the neighborhood

GABRIEL GARCIA thought he'd left the Bay Area behind six years ago when he moved to New York to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology. He majored in advertising and design, but dabbled in fashion.

His pivotal moment came when he met classmate Ougi Theodore and formed a close friendship that blossomed into a business partnership when they launched Brooklyn Circus, a store selling street fashions in a way-off-the-beaten-path section of Brooklyn.

Now Garcia has brought the concept back home, opening Brooklyn Circus SF at 1521 Fillmore, in the Jazz District, just south of Geary.

Garcia says the name is "tongue in cheek, but flirts with danger" and captures the time, place and people involved in opening the first store in Brooklyn in February 2006. "When I started hanging out with Ougi," he says, "I saw lots of creative energy, lots of cool people, along with the bustle of New York. We wanted to showcase the talent and skills — to get that whole circus into one tent."

The Brooklyn store has become a runaway success. "And it's based in the middle of nowhere," he says, "three blocks from the projects, eight blocks from the nearest train station, with no sign on the storefront. It's a destination spot now."

The Fillmore store offers the Brooklyn Circus house brand, featuring graphic T-shirts and hoodies that speak to high school and college-age shoppers. In addition,



its offerings are of the moment, but Brooklyn Circus SF has a classic look.

tion, there's B&C, a higher-end line of polos and jeans and varsity jackets aimed at the more mature buyer.

Garcia, a young hipster with a yen for collecting antiques, says both lines borrow traditional elements he loves and are "a modern interpretation of classic style."

That shows in the store's decor and details, done up in muted tones with a dark wood floor, low tin ceiling, weathered

leather couch and ornate ashtray stocked with peanuts for those browsing the racks. The modern part hits the ears: loud hip hop music.

Garcia was reluctant to leave New York, but family back in California beckoned as did a location at Fillmore at O'Farrell that seemed a perfect fit for a second Brooklyn Circus store.

"The Fillmore is a lot like Brooklyn," he says. "It's so diverse, with colorful characters everywhere and fun energy," he says. "I also like that the store is kind of an unexpected find in this location, much like the Brooklyn store. And I love music, so all the jazz around here is another great element."

Before Brooklyn Circus SF opened its doors, Garcia operated a temporary showroom to test the merchandise, located right next store within Harput's Market, at 1525 Fillmore. He had met owner Gus Harput three years earlier on a foray home from New York. "I thought he was in the forefront of fashion," Garcia says, "and I respected how he ran his business."

Opening the store gave him the opportunity to "bring back a piece of Brooklyn." But there's a difference. "Fashion doesn't move here like it does in New York," he says. "But in San Francisco, when people go out, they're much more likely to dress up."

Garcia hopes more will go out wearing Brooklyn Circus gear. To help spread the word, he hosts a party every Thursday night at Yoshi's from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., with a day-and sample merchandise.

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Morning Prayer: 7:15 am (weekdays); 8:00 am (Saturday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 8:30 am & 6:00 pm • First Fridays: 9:00 pm (Sign-up required)

Sunday Masses:

Saturday evening: 5:30 pm (Vigil), 7:30 am (Quiet), 9:30 am (Family), 11:30 am (Solemn)

1:30 pm (St. Jude Pilgrim Mass in Spanish), 5:30 pm (Contemporary music)

9:00 pm (Taizé music by candlelight)



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Come Join Our Advent Celebrations!

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 8 (A Holy Day of Obligation)

Masses: 6:30 & 8:00 am

5:30 pm (Traditional Music), 7:30 pm (Contemporary Music)

Parish Advent Party and Caroling

Thursday, December 11

6:00 pm (Parish Hall) & 7:30 pm Caroling (Lady Chapel)

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday, December 12

1:30 pm Mass (En Español) Reception follows (Parish Hall)

A 20th Century Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 16

7:30 pm (Church Nave) St. Dominic's Solemn Mass Choir & Orchestra

Advent Twilight Retreat

Wednesday, December 17

7:30 pm (Lady Chapel) Preparation for Confession

Confessions

Thursday, December 18

12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm & 7:30 to 9:00 pm (Church Nave)

Come Join Our Christmas Celebrations!

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24

6:30 & 8:00 am (Advent Masses) 5:30 pm (Family Mass)

11:15 pm (Carols followed by Solemn Mass at Midnight)

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25

7:30 am (Organ), 9:30 am (Family), 11:30 am (Solemn), 1:30 pm (En Español)

(No confessions and no 5:30 or 9:00 pm Masses today)

Solemnity of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 28

Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am & 1:30, 5:30 & 9:00 pm

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Thursday, January 1

Parish Mass at 9:30 am (Only Mass of the Day)

(Vigil Mass on Wednesday, December 31 at 5:30 pm)

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 4

Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am & 1:30, 5:30 & 9:00 pm

The Word on Wednesday

Wednesday, January 7

7:30 pm (Lady Chapel) Sr. Pat Farrell, O.P., leads us in a prayer service to prepare our hearts and souls for the New Year

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CRIME WATCH

Resisting Arrest Van Ness Avenue and Geary Boulevard October 25, 2:30 p.m.

After a woman misplaced her car, a police lieutenant drove her around the block to help her find the vehicle. As the woman emerged from the lieutenant's car, another woman ran up and began slapping the first woman across the face. The lieutenant told the assailant to stop, but the attacker ignored the request. The lieutenant was able to subdue the suspect after a short struggle, and placed her under arrest. After an investigation, the officers learned that the assailant was the new girlfriend of a man with whom the woman she assaulted had been previously involved. The assailant was booked at County Jail.

Warrant Arrest Northern Station October 29, 8 a.m.

A verbal fight erupted between two men in the lobby of Northern Station. Officers came forward to separate them and help settle the dispute. The officers then ran a criminal history check on both men. One had an outstanding warrant for his arrest, and he was booked.

Attempted Robbery With a Gun Webster Street and Geary Boulevard October 29, 11:30 a.m.

Officers received a call about a robbery. Dispatch broadcast a description of the suspect, and officers spotted him. The suspect bolted away, but the officers chased and caught him. The man who had been robbed reported that he had been walking down the sidewalk when the suspect, who pretended to be holding a gun, approached him and demanded his wallet. The suspect is 14 years old. The man he robbed, who is 88 years old, flagged down a passing motorist for help. The man positively identified the suspect and he was taken into custody.

Aggressive Soliciting Starr King and Franklin Streets November 7, 1:30 p.m.

An officer on patrol saw a man on the sidewalk holding up a cardboard sign asking for money. The officer observed the man as he approached several cars while they were stopped for the light. It is a violation for panhandlers to approach drivers in the street. The officer had numerous prior contacts with this individual, during which he had warned the man to desist. The panhandler was cited and released at the scene.

Loitering Around a Public Toilet for Lewd Acts Lafayette Park November 8, 5:30 p.m.

Officers received a call about an act of indecent exposure taking place near the children's playground at Lafayette Park.

Holiday Lights & Sights AT THE WHARF

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The caller gave police a description of the man involved, and officers located him near the women's restroom. The witness told the police that the subject had been engaging in "solo lewd behavior." The witness then signed a citizen's arrest warrant against the man, who was taken into custody. A computer check revealed that the suspect had previously been arrested and put on probation for committing lewd acts.

Petty Theft Fillmore and Bush Streets November 8, 6:30 p.m.

Officers responded to a call from Walgreen's regarding a shoplifting incident. As the police arrived, the suspect was being detained by store employees. The employees told the officers they had found the man hiding in the stock room. He told them he was looking for the bathroom, then he took off at a run. But he tripped and fell, and pens fell out of his pockets. The employees managed to hold the man until police arrived. One employee signed a citizen's arrest warrant. The stolen items were returned to the store. When officers searched the suspect, they found a crack pipe. A computer check revealed that the man had had a prior arrest for shoplifting and had served time for the offense. He was booked at Northern Station.

Vandalism to Vehicle Pine and Franklin Streets November 9, 2 p.m.

Officers received a call regarding a citizen who was detaining a suspect who had "keyed" his car. A witness at the scene who had been sitting in her car observed the suspect as he took an object out of his pocket and scratched the side of a car. The witness caught the attention of the owner of the vehicle, who chased the suspect and caught him. The owner of the vehicle signed a citizen's arrest warrant, and the suspect was booked at Northern Station.

Malicious Mischief, Resisting Arrest Geary Boulevard and Gough Street November 10, 10:45 p.m.

Officers patrolling in the area of St. Mary's Cathedral observed an individual who was kneeling on the steps of the church, busily writing. When the man saw the police, he threw the pen into an unoccupied baby stroller, then took off at a run, pushing the stroller. Officers quickly detained him. They discovered he had written obscene words on the stairs of the church. During a search of the suspect, officers found drug paraphernalia and Sharpie markers. As officers investigated the grounds around the church, they found more obscenities written in various locations. The suspect, who was booked at Northern Station, told police that God had told him to write graffiti on the church.

View the Fisherman's Wharf Fishing Fleet decorated with lights for the holiday season.

Feast at Wharf Restaurants for traditional holiday dining.

Join us on Friday, December 19 at 6:00 pm for the Holiday Lights Boat Parade presented by the Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District and the St. Francis Yacht Club. Viewing will be along the waterfront from Crissy Field to PIER 39.

LOCALS

DOWN AT THE P.O.

They see everything
and everybody
at Jet Mail

By DONNA GILLESPIE

THERE'S a place in the neighborhood where you can hear a ripping yarn, linger for the latest news and rub shoulders with other locals as maestro Michael Tilson Thomas, director Wayne Wang and a Getty or two—all while shipping holiday gifts to the relatives back home.

In small towns across the country, that place might be the local post office. In the Fillmore, it's Jet Mail, at 2130 Fillmore Street.

Owner Ed Tinsley and manager Kevin Wolohan probably hear as many personal stories as most bartenders or barbers.

"There's an atmosphere of conviviality,"



Manager Kevin Wolohan and owner Ed Tinsley create an atmosphere of conviviality at Jet Mail.

Tinsley says of a typical day at Jet Mail. "People open up. The mailing's often an afterthought."

Jet Mail is also home to more than 300 mailboxes, many used by people as business addresses. "Mailboxes are really the anchor of the store," Wolohan says. "People need a safe place to receive packages or mail. There's something very personal about it."

It sometimes seems the Jet Mail staff knows everyone on the street. Walk a block up Fillmore alongside Wolohan and he'll wave to at least five people.

"People tell me it's part of the matrix

of their lives," says Tinsley, who strives to stay abreast of changes in people's lives so he can anticipate the services they'll need. "It's like an old relationship," he says. "They don't have to say what they want."

And the relationship doesn't always end when a customer moves away.

"A lot of people who've moved out of the neighborhood still come to us, even if they've moved out of San Francisco," says Wolohan. "We're good at making people feel secure. We've had the same people working here for years," including Tinsley, Wolohan and Ashley Ho, all of whom have been with the store since the early '90s.

They seem to love what they do, and they do it—mostly—without computers.

"We're not high-tech," says Wolohan. "We're horse-and-buggy. We will custom-make a box. We have a computer only for labels and email. Everything else we do by hand."

Wolohan believes this low-tech philosophy offers advantages for customers. "With a computer you can charge a lot more. It calculates how much Styrofoam—everything," he says. "We don't need fancy machinery. We keep it simple."

TO PAGE 8

SMALL Treasures



WE'RE PLEASED to present our 14th annual holiday group exhibition of small paintings, featuring recognized artists at reasonable prices. This year we are especially pleased to introduce work by an artist new to the gallery, Joe Ceballos.

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Jet Mail

► FROM PAGE 7

Jet Mail opened in 1990 on a Friday the 13th. "My consultant begged me not to open then," Tinsley says. "But I'm not superstitious." And it does seem that Jet Mail's luck has mostly been good.

Getting a poignant glimpse of turning points in people's lives is almost an everyday occurrence.

"We see the noblest behavior and the basest," Tinsley says.

Hardly a week goes by that Tinsley doesn't witness a show of uncommon care and concern. "People will do things as a sacrifice," Tinsley says. "It happens with surprising frequency — with AIDS victims, or suicides — people, out of pure goodness, will mail all their things home. We also get lots of care packages for people who have an injury and are immobile. And we'll get people who are dying and want to disperse their worldly goods."

Not everyone with a package to ship is in a benevolent frame of mind.

"We get couples after a divorce or breakup," Tinsley says. "One will be sending the other the last of their stuff. 'Send it the cheapest way,' they'll say. 'No tracking, no insurance.'"

Then there are the encounters that continue to haunt, even after the passage of years.

"Once, two MDs came in," Tinsley recounts. "They were from Shanghai. They were nervous, sweating — they said they'd just missed their connecting flight to Stockholm. They told me they wanted to mail 'human tissue' — it was packaged in dry ice, sealed and ready to go. It had to



KATHY O'LEARY

The staff at Jet Mail provides supplies, shipping and a secure place to receive mail — along with quite a few good stories.

be in Stockholm the next day. I told them it would take two days, and there were no guarantees. It cost them \$1,200. I warned them, 'I think Swedish customs will ask for more info.'

"No, it's OK," I was told. "Four or five days later, they called. 'The patient died,' they said. 'We're suing you.' That was when they told Tinsley the box contained a human heart."

"They wanted \$2,000 for the heart. I laughed and threatened them with U.S. Customs, Homeland Security and immigration." Tinsley never heard from the pair again.

But those aren't the oddest customers he's ever encountered.

"A man came into the store," Tinsley says. "His hair was piled up three feet high on his head. It looked like a

ziggurat. He had lots of things in his hair — twigs, leaves, earrings, credit cards, contraceptives. Things were moving in there. A woman standing next to him couldn't talk; she was frozen with her mouth open."

He asked questions and was loud and demanding.

"Finally he got around to what really concerned him," Tinsley says. "He asked me, 'Do you see any birds in my hair?' He was worried about the birds. Were they OK?"

Tinsley remains mostly unfazed by such encounters.

"You have to treat people with dignity," he says. "They're human beings."

Jet Mail has not been immune from the occasional, inevitable theft. Neither

Tinsley nor Wolohan takes it lying down. They always give spirited chase.

Once, two women working as a team came into the store. Wolohan was completing a transaction with the taller of the two. Twice she dropped her change, attempting to create a distraction. Quarters rolled behind the counter. Simultaneously, a smaller woman who had been lingering near the greeting cards shot over to the register. "She was incredibly fast," recalls Wolohan. "She reached all the way around and took all the twenties. I yelled to Ed, who was in the back, and told him we'd been robbed and I was going to chase the woman."

Wolohan pursued the woman to the corner of Fillmore and California, shouting at her all the while. When he planted himself in front of her and wouldn't let her pass, she finally relented. "She pulled all the money out of her top," says Wolohan. "She even gave me an extra twenty."

It turned out to be no bonus, however — the extra twenty was counterfeit.

Jet Mail has been affected by the downturn in the economy, but perhaps less than some. People continue to send packages, and someone always needs the services of a notary, which both Tinsley and Wolohan provide.

Through the holiday season, Jet Mail is offering a concierge service to ease the difficulty of parking. Just call ahead, pull up in front of the store and they'll come out and get your packages. If you have a large number of boxes to be shipped, they can arrange a pickup.

Jet Mail is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — better hours than the post office.

Peace On Earth

Goodwill on Fillmore

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2008



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In return, enjoy a day of shopping events, discounts, and live jazz.

Donation bin locations



1700 Fillmore

Neja Cosmetics
1850 Fillmore Street

Music Lovers Audio
2285 Bush Street

Shu Uemura
1971 Fillmore Street

Thomas Reynolds Gallery
2291 Pine Street

Hlaska
2033 Fillmore Street

HeidiSays Shoes
2105 Fillmore Street

Jurlique
2136 Fillmore Street

LIMU
2237 Fillmore Street

Next to New Store
2226 Fillmore

Gimme Shoes
2358 Fillmore Street

Kiehl's
2360 Fillmore Street

HeidiSays Casuals
2416 Fillmore Street

HeidiSays
2426 Fillmore Street

Nomadic Outfitters
2426 California Street

Special events and discounts just for you at these participating stores after your donation

Design Within Reach
1913 Fillmore Street
\$50 off an order of \$500 or more.
CODE: FILLMORE
Enjoy pastries and organic coffee from Boulangerie Bay Bread

Elizabeth Charles
2056 Fillmore Street
10% off new resort collections

Gimme Shoes
2358 Fillmore Street
10% off the purchase price of non-sale items

Donate at any
HeidiSays location:
HeidiSays
2426 Fillmore Street

HeidiSays Casual
2416 Fillmore Street

HeidiSays Shoes
2105 Fillmore Street

Get 15% off any item with a clothing/shoe donation, i.e., donate a lightly worn pair of shoes and get 15% off a new pair (or jeans, coats, sweaters etc.)

HeidiSays will be serving champagne and cupcakes and have stylists on staff to help customers outfit themselves for all of their upcoming holiday events (at all three stores).

HER Boutique
2053 Fillmore Street
20% off any regular priced item

Hlaska
2033 Fillmore
10% off of purchases and enjoy champagne, hot chocolate and donut holes.

International Orange
2044 Fillmore Street
10% off full priced retail items. Code GWHS2008

Jurlique
2136 Fillmore Street
10% off any purchase

Donate at Kiehl's
2160 Fillmore Street. Automatically enter a raffle to win a box of Kiehls worth \$150 and get a personalized consultation and two deluxe samples.

LIMU
2237 Fillmore 10% off all non-sale merchandise

MIO
2035 Fillmore Street
10% off all non-sale merchandise

Music Lovers Audio:
2285 Bush Street
10% off most purchases.

My Boudoir:
2029 Fillmore Street
20% off any regular-price items

Donate at **Nomadic Outfitters** and attend a free yoga class at 12pm or 3pm.
2426 California Street

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Donate at **Shu Uemura**
1971 Fillmore Street. Automatically enter to win a gift box valued at \$150 from Shu Uemura and get \$25 off any \$100 purchase.

Studio D
2184 Sutter Street
\$150 off any furniture purchase of \$1,000 or more

Thomas Reynolds Gallery
2291 Pine Street
20% off any original oil painting. Holiday reception from 3 to 5 p.m.

Timeless Treasures
2176 Sutter Street
10% off any purchase

Zinc Details Design Store
1905 Fillmore Street
10% off full priced retail items

Zinc Details
2140 California Street
10% off full priced retail items

Other activities on the 6th

2 pm and 5 pm: Lowell Dance Company performing curbside and in the studio at Nomadic Outfitters at 2426 California along with a baked goods sidewalk sale.

www.fillmorestreetsf.com



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Telling time in style

Jacqui Chazen is a PR pro-turned-designer so local she lives, works and breathes right here in Pacific Heights. Four years ago she launched a company producing unique watches with bands of soft leather or long silk ribbons. Word spread fast: They've already been spotted on the wrists of celebs — including at least three of those Desperate Housewives. You can snag one for that head-turner on your list for \$180.

At **Limu, 2237 Fillmore**



It's in the bag

Members of a local design team so taken with San Francisco that they named themselves 49 Square Miles has specially produced the Pushover — a handbag made of soft lambskin. Exterior pockets with minimal hardware give it "a distinct organic, artisanal feel — a direct reflection of the San Francisco Bay Area, its people and its culture," they say. It's equipped with a zip top to keep valuables secure, and detachable straps that convert it from a shoulder bag to a messenger bag. In grey or wood colors, for \$595.

At **Muse Ten, 1820 Fillmore**



Five French films at the Clay

Now that the French no longer hate us, it's the perfect time to give film buffs easy entree to the foreign films that screen at the Clay, our treasure of a neighborhood theatre. A five-ticket discount card is

available for \$40 — that's \$10 off the usual ticket price. But the more you buy, the more you save: The 25-ticket packer

sells for \$156.25 — a savings of \$100. The cards are honored at all Landmark Theatres, but they're most conveniently used at the landmark Clay, which has been in operation on Fillmore for nearly a century — although the popcorn is made fresh daily.

At the **Clay Theatre, 2261 Fillmore**



Necessity and passion, right here in Mayberry

More than just a grocery store, Mollie Stone's is also in many ways the heart of the neighborhood. Catch up with neighbors in the produce aisle before getting checked out by the friendliest cashiers in town — especially James in the express

line. The store stocks everything from can openers to caviar and offers gift cards from \$20 to \$250 that tout they're to be used for "necessity and passion shopping."

At **Mollie Stone's, 2435 California**



SHOPPING AT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This year, support the good things in your own front yard: neighborhood merchants offering unique gifts by local designers.

One of a kind — really

Hlaska, stocked with leather goods by local designer Anthony Mazzei, recently opened its flagship store in the neighborhood. And for those who hate to see themselves coming or going, there's a 1/1 line — one-of-a-kind pieces ranging in from \$75 for a zippered pouch to \$575 for a weekender bag. For those lucky enough still to be working stiffs, the line includes two sizes of padded computer bags in unusual fabrics, including some manly offerings in pinstriped wool. Touted as "a fun way to carry a laptop," they're all lined and zippered and built to last.

At **Hlaska, 2033 Fillmore**



Good all under

With attention to drape and detail, the Sausalito-based designer Birds aims to produce the "best-fitting, most comfortable boxer shorts ever made." Details such as mother of pearl buttons and single-stitch tailoring set them apart, if anybody's looking. Available in blue or white 160-thread

count cotton in traditional and classic cuts, they're \$75. And the shorts, especially the traditional varietal, are ambisexuous.

Women who admit to wearing gents' boxers on occasion — and apparently, there are more than you might think — report that the narrower hip shaping does away with that unsightly "bunched diaper" look.

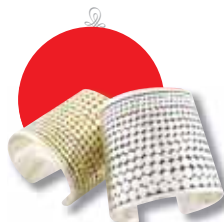
At **Elizabeth Charles, 2056 Fillmore**



Bali by way of Marin

Kathy Kamei's jewelry designs incorporate the wisdom and culture of Bali, where she spent nearly a decade before setting up home and shop just across the bridge in Marin County. This season's life circle design includes earrings, necklaces and bracelets in a dotted armadillo pattern, with each dot representing life experiences. Most meld glimmery gold and silver, and range from \$65 to \$300. Meet the designer all day December 13 and overcome your shopping inhibitions with an infusion of champagne and chocolate from 3 to 7 p.m.

At all **Heidi Says locations: 2105, 2416 and 2426 Fillmore**



Cooking up local flavor

For the foodies on your list, Fillmore restaurateur Carlo Middione recently published two small cookbooks — *Pasta* and *Panini* — complete with simple-to-follow instructions and mouth-watering photos. They're \$14.95 each. The neighborhood porta via owned by Carlo and his wife Lisa also stocks and sells the ingredients needed to produce autentico fare, such as mandorina pizzuta d'Avola — or "Sicilian almonds that explode with flavor." For those who want to group the books and makings for a grand gift, they even stock the basket for the presentation.

At **Vivande, 2125 Fillmore**



Free parking — no tickets

Here is the perfect gift for urban dwellers in hard-to-park neighborhoods like ours — no, not rolls and rolls of quarters, but a prepaid parking meter card, good at just about every meter in the city. Available for \$20 or \$50 — less than the price of one ticket.

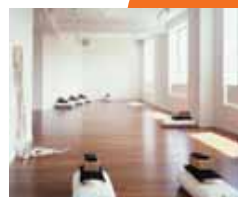
At **Pacific Heights Chevron, 2500 California**



A spa for spirit and skin

Give the gift of wellness by combining yoga, skin and body care into a single stop at the neighborhood spa and yoga studio, International Orange. With windows overlooking Fillmore Street, it offers a range of daily yoga classes and includes a serene back deck. Limited 30 percent off specials allow you to snag a one-year membership including three weekday spa treatments and unlimited yoga for \$329 per month. Or mention you read it here, and you can get a presale of an unlimited yoga-only membership for \$85 a month.

At **International Orange, 2044 Fillmore**



Support a local artist

Transplanted from Thailand to San Francisco 16 years ago, renowned artist Veerakeat Tongpaiboon now makes the neighborhood his home — and his work captures the color, vibrancy and motion of the place, often with a slightly skewed perspective. His original oil paintings range from \$500 to \$9,500.

At **Thomas Reynolds Gallery, 2291 Pine**



True grits and neighborhood history

Walking through the big brown door of this seriously classy local eatery lends a look back into neighborhood history: photos of Fillmore's first jazz era line the lounge and a collection of early street scenes spool on a screen in the bar. But what brings the locals back is the camaraderie and good food offered by owners Monetta White and David Lawrence. The couple lives upstairs and descend daily to serve dinners featuring delicacies such as grits and shrimp. Gift certificates are good for a soulful dinner — or to gain admission to the gospel brunch held the first Sunday of every month.

At **1300 on Fillmore, 1300 Fillmore**



Rooms at the inn

When you want to be close to visiting friends and family for the holidays, but not too close, book them into one of the 48 rooms at the Queen Anne Hotel. This superbly restored 1890 building is outfitted with elegant Victorian heirlooms that will make them know they're not in

Kansas anymore — along with tea and sherry, served every afternoon. Request the neighborhood rate for a special reduced price which varies, depending on room and availability, but is often under \$100.

At the **Queen Anne Hotel, 1590 Sutter**




The gift of eternal youth

It's hard to miss the loud praise for yoga butts — not to mention its loftier benefits to soul and spirit — but Berkeley-based chemist and aesthetician Marie-Veronique Nadeau swears yoga can take years off your



face, too. Her book, *The Yoga Facelift*, offers a series of exercises designed to put chicken necks on the run. At \$19.95, it's a painless gift investment for a furrowed friend or relative. She also recently launched a line of skincare products, Marie-Veronique Organics; they're natural, chemical-free and loaded with fish oils, vitamins and plant extracts to regenerate, moisturize and protect. From \$35 to \$200 for a Basic Care Kit. Nadeau will be at Clary Sage on December 17 at 6:30 teaching a class in how to keep faces fit, naturally.

At **Clary Sage Organics, 2241 Fillmore**



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FOOD & WINE



A discerning shopper examines the new fall crop of walnuts at the Fillmore market. Winter will bring more nuts, greens and citrus.

JARED MARCHEDON

This Year, the Farmers Market Keeps Going During the Winter

SOMETHING unusual happened this year when Thanksgiving week arrived at the Fillmore Farmers Market: business as usual.

For the first five years of its operation, the Saturday before Thanksgiving was the final day of the season, and the market went into hibernation until the spring. But due to popular demand, it's now a year-round market that will continue on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"This would have been our last day," said manager Tom Nichols, surveying the bustling scene on a bright sunny morning. "It's been 180 Saturdays now, and I haven't missed one yet."

The market has become a steady source of farm-fresh produce and something of a Saturday morning institution where neighbors greet each other and pause to hear the music — live jazz is a weekly feature.

"It's more than just a farmers market," said Nichols. "It's been very satisfying.

We've seen it change and grow, just like the neighborhood."

More changes are in the works, with the addition of a number of additional farmers and vendors — including a purveyor of fresh seafood, who will be joining the market in a couple of weeks, just as crab season is hitting its stride. Golden Gate Seafood, a wholesaler based in South San Francisco, will offer "cod, crab, petrale — the local stuff," Nichols said.

There will be more nuts and dried fruit, and more apples, oranges and greens.

"We lose tomatoes, but we gain greens," Nichols said. "We're

fortunate. A lot of the year-round markets get smaller in the winter. Here, just about everybody will be staying. This market's gonna stay vibrant."

Nichols recalled that some of the farmers were "struggling to make gas money" when the Fillmore market first started. "Now it's one of their best markets."

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FILLMORE ICONS



THOMAS KUHN

The Neighborhood Cat

*It's really Boomer's turf
— we just live here*

BY DONNA GILLESPIE

SOME CATS live out their lives relaxing at home in patches of sunshine. Many others won't go near strangers; you're lucky if you see a blur of fur as they streak off and scuttle under the furniture.

But one neighborhood cat has such an insatiable appetite for human company he goes door to door, wandering in and out of stores and offices, visiting old friends and making new ones.

Walk past Boomer when he's in owner Gretchen Barley's yard on California Street and he'll follow you up the sidewalk, shamelessly angling for an ear scratch. Park nearby with the car window down and he might jump in. Give him the least bit of attention and you'll never get rid of him. At a glance, he's a typical orange tabby, largish with long hair and round yellow eyes. But he's startlingly friendly — and so eager for human contact that he makes his rounds in the neighborhood to seek it out.

"He's a wanderer," says Barley. "When he was about a year old, he started going out." Now, she says she can't even count exactly how many local offices and stores are on his rounds.

Boomer's first stop is usually next door at Thomas Kuhn's dental office, just up California from Fillmore. "He's at the dentist's office almost every day," Barley says. "I think he gets in through the back door. I'll look in and one of the women working there, Barbara, will be sitting on half her seat, with Boomer on the other half. Dr. Kuhn has told me that whenever

they hire someone, they have to like cats."

Kuhn's office manager, Barbara Schroeter, keeps a container of cat kibble beneath her desk for Boomer.

"Patients feel deprived if they don't see him," says receptionist Shannon Johnsrud.

Also on Boomer's regular route is International Orange, the yoga studio on Fillmore near California. "Boomer waits until someone opens the door, then goes in," Barley says. "Then sometimes he'll cross California, to a doctor's office there, and he'll go on over to Sacramento, to

the chiropractor's office." Barley says she regularly gets calls from the chiropractor, who'll say, "We want to go home now. Can you come and get your cat?"

When the Smith & Hawken garden store was on Fillmore, Boomer was a regular. And locals got used to seeing him curled up with a mannequin in the sunny window of the still-empty vintage clothing store next door.

Barley adopted Boomer from Pets Unlimited 11 years ago after his mom died giving birth. "He was handled and

fed by people from the beginning," she says, which might explain Boomer's extraordinary ability to relate to people.

But Boomer's peripatetic lifestyle has not been without its perils. Twice this year, his excellent mousing skills cost him dearly. The first time, Barley says, "It was a Sunday afternoon. He was lethargic. He didn't look good. I took him to emergency at Pets Unlimited. I gave him the medicine, but he got worse. That night he was in his pet box, moaning."

She rushed him back to Pets Unlimited, where vets diagnosed rat poisoning. "The poison causes anemia," says Barley, who advocates that neighbors use humane traps and then call the city to pick up rodents, rather than poisoning them. "It takes three days for poison to kill a rat. It could have done the same to Boomer. He needed vitamin K and a transfusion."

During Boomer's most recent hospital stay at Pets Unlimited — also from ingesting rat poison — the gregarious patient had so many visitors the staff was moved to put up a sign proclaiming, "No more visitors for Boomer."

Even though Boomer has used up several of his nine lives, Barley says she won't consider keeping him in the house all day. He's just not that sort of cat.

"If I tried to keep him in, he'd be unhappy," she says.

He has friends looking out for him. Now Boomer mostly wanders next door to the dentist's office. "We try to keep him inside when he comes, since his troubles," Johnsrud says. "And now, we hand-carry him home."

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A Year Later, Yoshi's Has Made a Scene

Its presence has helped the Fillmore Jazz District dream become a reality

By ANTHONY TORRES

AS ONE YEAR COMES to a close and another is about to begin, it's a good time to reflect on how much the neighborhood seems to be shifting culturally — and how much Yoshi's has contributed during its first year to the development of the music scene in the Fillmore Jazz District.

The other night as I walked down the street toward Yoshi's I passed by **RASSELAS**, and it was pleasing to see the diversity of the audience listening to a Latin-based jazz combo. I crossed the street to see what was happening at **SHEBA PIANO LOUNGE**, and couldn't help thinking about two local treasures — singer Jesse Foster and pianist Ricardo Scales — who appear there regularly. I recalled the great time I had over the Fourth of July weekend at the **FILLMORE JAZZ FESTIVAL**, when the street got totally loose in front of Sheba's, with people dancing the electric slide to Bobby



Eddie Palmieri and his Latin orchestra will salsa in the new year at Yoshi's.

Webb's band, salsa dancing to Louie Romero's band, Mazacote, and throwing a full-blown party facilitated by Sila's Afro Funk Experience.

Recently, a friend visited from Cleveland and we went to Yoshi's to see Bela Fleck. Before we walked in, we stopped next door at **1300 ON FILLMORE**, where a hip jazz trio played in the lounge, as one does most nights. Later at **YOSHI'S**, as we took in Bela and the Flecktones, my friend was so enthralled with the space and the music that he was hanging over the upper balcony rail, bobbing his head, completely locked into the music. What we take for granted, living in this

neighborhood, is a rare treat, and maybe we should give thanks for the year that Yoshi's has been here.

Having recently seen a show at Yoshi's in Oakland, I began to compare the difference between the two spaces, and came to the conclusion that it's like comparing architectural apples and oranges. How hip it is that this major cultural resource is right here, in the heart of the Fillmore, just a few blocks from Pacific Heights. The crowd inside Yoshi's for Bela Fleck seemed to take for granted that this cultural treasure is now an integral part of the neighborhood. In fact, it is one of the top contemporary musical

venues in the tradition of Bop City, Birdland and the Village Vanguard.

To close out 2008 and bring in 2009, Yoshi's will feature **EDDIE PALMIERI** during the last week of December, leading up to its New Year's Eve celebration.

A seven-time Grammy Award winner, Eddie Palmieri is easily one of the premier bandleaders of salsa and Latin jazz orchestras. He is a recognized innovator in fusing the rhythms of his Puerto Rican heritage with the influences of jazz giants Thelonious Monk and McCoy Tyner. This perhaps accounts for his playing style, which can be both discordantly percussive and equally fluid and thunderous.

Palmieri also revolutionized the character of salsa music by infusing jazz, blues and classical elements, departing from the traditional Caribbean sources of salsa instrumentation. He shifted the instrumentation from music that had relied on flute and violins to emphasize a mixture of trumpets and trombones — and more recently he has subdued the trumpets and relied heavily on two trombones and a flute.

As a result of Palmieri's everlasting experimentation and innovation, his is a hybrid Latin-based music that is at once sophisticated and rhythmically dense, at times subtly beautiful and romantic, yet relentless in its driving ferocity and capable of working an audience into a frenzy.

The New Year's Eve party at Yoshi's, like so many other nights during this first year the club has been open on Fillmore, should be a night to remember.

LEGENDS



Ruth Bernhard still offers a few surprises

As she charmed her way through her 100th birthday party in 2005, some doubted the great photographer and longtime neighbor Ruth Bernhard would ever die. In some ways, they may be right.

Even though she went to "fly with the angels," as she called it, the next year, her work lives on, and new discoveries are still being made. This month the Robert Tat Gallery presents "Ruth Bernhard: The Small Pictures," a group of vintage contact prints made mostly in the '60s that includes images not seen before.

Each is only 2 1/4 inches square. Some have crop marks or other touches that offer insights into the working style of one of the 20th century's most important photographers. The images were taken in the studio behind her Clay Street flat and printed upstairs in the darkroom near her kitchen.

The contact prints come from a photographer who assisted Bernhard and was paid with prints, rather than money. Some were later printed in a larger format, while others exist only in the contact prints.

The exhibition continues through January 17 at the Robert Tat Gallery at 49 Geary Street.

'Children of the Fillmore' Series Unveiled

DOG-EARED photographs of jazz joints and street life have become happy totems of the revitalization of the Fillmore Jazz District.

Harlem of the West, the 2006 book of Fillmore photographs and oral histories masterfully produced by Elizabeth Pepin and Lewis Watts — which grew out of Pepin's earlier public television documentary on the Fillmore — set a high standard of artistry and scholarship. So did the exhibition of the photographs and related material at what was then known as the Performing Arts Library and Museum.

One of the photographers whose work was included in the book and exhibition, David Johnson, is still on the scene. A wall-size print of his 1946 photograph of the corner of Fillmore and Post is the centerpiece of the sepia-toned heritage lounge lined with historic photographs at 1300 on Fillmore, the soulful restaurant in the Yoshi's building where, it is said, Harlem nights meet Pacific Heights.

On December 6, an exhibition of photographs from *Harlem of the West* opens in the lobby of the Yoshi's building. Next door, in the Lush Life Gallery, a companion exhibition includes additional photographs from David Johnson.

The gallery show also includes a name new to the Fillmore historiography: Gerald Ratto. Ratto is a widely respected architectural photographer. It turns out he and his camera also spent time in the Fillmore when he was a young man about town.

Images from his "Children of the Fillmore" series — nearly 60 of them, shot in 1952, none ever shown before — are



"It was real," Gerald Ratto says of the Fillmore he photographed in the '50s.

included in the gallery's new exhibition. "The people were wonderful," Ratto says. "I went to the Fillmore with a bottle of brandy. The adults and I sipped brandy and talked, and I took pictures."

Ratto remembers a much different place in the 1950s.

"People didn't have attitudes then," he

says. "The area was not dangerous, and it was not gentrified. It was real."

The exhibition of Ratto's and Johnson's photographs, and many others, opens with a community celebration on Saturday, December 6, from 1 to 6 p.m. at 1320 Fillmore. For more information, visit www.jazzheritagecenter.org or call 255-7745.

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Cooper Medical College, located at the corner of Sacramento and Webster Streets, became the medical school of Stanford University in 1908.

Stanford Medical School Started Here 100 Years Ago

IN 1881, San Franciscans watched the construction of the imposing red brick and stone building at the corner of Sacramento and Webster Streets, but none knew the purpose of the five-story building going up in the most thriving and fashionable area of the city.

That was deliberate. Dr. Levi Cooper Lane, who paid for construction, didn't want residents to know that the building would house a five-story medical school and clinic. It wasn't until fall of 1882 that the purpose of the new building was revealed. It would house the newly established Cooper Medical College, which incorporated the staff of the former Medical College of the Pacific.

The college was actually established in 1858 as the medical department of the University of the Pacific by Lane's uncle, Dr. Elias Cooper. It was the first medical school in the West, located at Mission and Third Streets in San Francisco. Instructors were paid \$30, in advance, to teach an 18-week course.

In 1882, none could foresee that Cooper Medical College would be the genesis of one of the world's leading medical institutions, Stanford University School of Medicine. Stanford was not founded until 1885 by California Gov. Leland Stanford and his wife, Jane Stanford, and did not open until 1891. The university actually adopted

Cooper Medical College as its medical school in 1908, making this year its 100th anniversary.

Stanford's medical school was on Sacramento Street until 1959, when it moved to new quarters on the Palo Alto campus.

On its 100th birthday, it ranks as the oldest continuously running medical school in the western United States. Its mission is lofty: to be a premiere research-intensive medical school that improves health through leadership and collaborative discoveries, and innovation in patient care, education and research.

During the first 50 years in San Francisco, Stanford's primary focus was clinical. After the medical school moved to the Stanford campus, the enlarged staff and facilities enabled it to intensify its research program. That research resulted in four Nobel Prizes being awarded to Stanford Medical School staff members.

As Stanford University School of Medicine enters its second century, it continues to be a leader in medical research and maintain its stature as an influential force in the world of science and medicine. And it all started at the corner of Sacramento and Webster Streets.

Excerpted from Panorama, the newsletter of the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society.

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St. Dom Windows Restored

► FROM PAGE ONE

Some of the windows — those of the apse, the Lady Chapel and the sides of the transepts — date to the 1920s and '30s. They were designed at the studio of Charles J. Connick in Boston. The soaring windows that line the nave were installed more recently, from 1964 to 1973, and were created in Paris by the Max Ingrand studio.

As each window is removed, it is photographed and then shipped to Hershey's Stained Glass Studio in Milton, Iowa. There, each panel is cleaned and relabeled. Some glass is broken; other pieces have small holes. These can mostly be repaired. When the windows are reinstalled, the panels must also be waterproofed.

"The process is very labor intensive," says Art Femenella of Femenella and Associates, the consultant for the restoration of the windows. "The point is to save all of the historic glass and not lose any, either in the removal or the work."

Femenella has been working with stained glass since 1968, and has attained a national reputation for expertise in historic window restoration.

"It's difficult to sit in a pew in this sanctuary, with the light coming through the windows and the organ playing, and not get religion," Femenella says. "It's just a spiritual place, and I think we need places like that in the world."

"There is a demand for stained glass work," notes Maria Vickroy-Peralta, the director of development at St. Dominic's who is shepherding the restoration effort. "There are fewer restorers out there. Lots of churches are trying to get restoration work. We're having issues with



timing, with getting on the calendar for restoration."

The most recently restored window, *Christ in Glory*, which dominates the front of the church, consists of 177 individual panels and covers an area of 646 square feet. Artisans worked for four months to clean and relabel it.

St. Dominic's was founded in 1873. Construction of its home began in 1923 and was completed in 1928. Designed by English architect Arnold Constable, the massive Gothic church dominates the block on which it stands.

Particularly striking are the nine flying buttresses, which, despite their medieval look, date only to 1992. Now as then, they were an engineering solution to retrofitting the church — and supporting the massive stained glass windows — in an aesthetically pleasing way. The buttresses rise from underground concrete piers and connect to a ring beam that girds the church at the roof.

The exterior and interior stonework of the church is being restored at the same time as the windows it surrounds. The cost of the restoration project — so far about \$8 million — is being funded by donations from parishioners and benefactors.

"We are truly blessed by the ongoing support of our parishioners, friends and neighbors," says Father Xavier Lavagetto, pastor of St. Dominic's. "Without their help, we would not be able to continue our restoration and serve the thousands of people who enter our doors every week."

The restoration is in its final phases, but may take longer than anticipated because the condition of the stained glass windows proved to be worse than originally thought.

"Much is being done to restore our church, but much more needs to be accomplished," says Father Xavier. "Our goal is not just a beautiful church, but a parish that will have a major impact in serving the larger community in San Francisco."

"It's difficult to sit in a pew in this sanctuary, with the light coming through the windows and the organ playing, and not get religion."

— ART FEMENELLA, restoration consultant



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Happy Holidays!

CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS JANUARY 12TH

Space is still available in many courses this Spring at **City College of San Francisco's Downtown Campus** located at 88 Fourth Street (corner of Mission St.). Instruction begins January 12th. Credit courses are just \$20 per unit. **Noncredit courses are FREE.** Apply now. See sampling of courses below. Visit www.ccsf.edu for a complete list.

CREDIT COURSES

CRN #	Course Title	Days	Times	Room #
37895	Catering and Events	TTh	4-8 p.m.	Dining Room
38841	Current Museum Studies	T	3-6 p.m.	821
32980	Elementary French 2	MW	6-8:45 p.m.	425
38795	Practical German (Contin)	M	6-9:30 p.m.	621

FREE NONCREDIT COURSES

CRN #	Course Title	Days	Times	Room #
40231	Accounting	MW	8-10:30 a.m.	515C
45468	Baking & Pastry (Intro)	M-F	6 a.m.-12 p.m.	Kitchen
45602	Business Math/Spreadsheets	MW	8-10:30 a.m.	515A
45521	Computer Applications	M-Th	10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	516
41960	Comp. Asst. Language Learn	M-F	10 a.m.-12 p.m.	325
45518	Computers (Intro)	M-Th	8-10:30 a.m.	516
44804	Dreamweaver for Business	TTh	5-7:30 p.m.	515C
45201	Dreamweaver for Business	TTh	7:30-10 p.m.	516
43868	English Song Lyrics	M-F	10 a.m.-12 p.m.	418
45127	English Storytelling	M-F	8:45-9:45 a.m.	418
43118	ESL by TV	Sat	10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	320
45637	ESL for Health Professionals	MW	3:30-6 p.m.	321
45528	Fireworks Business Graphics	M-Th	10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	515C
43781	Food Tech. & Dining Services	M-F	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Kitchen
44654	Food Tech. & Dining Services	M-F	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Dining Room
43780	Food Tech. & Dining Services	M-F	6 a.m.-12 p.m.	Kitchen
44818	Keyboarding (Typing)	TTh	8-10:30 a.m.	515A
44833	PowerPoint for Business	Sat	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	514
45183	Spreadsheets (Begin)	F	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	514

SHORT TERM FREE NONCREDIT COURSES

CRN #	Course Title	Days	Dates	Times	Room #
45626	Green Certification	TTh	1/13-1/20	6-9 p.m.	623
45630	Green Marketing	TTh	1/27-1/29	6-9 p.m.	623
45627	Green Cost Benefits	TTh	2/10-2/17	6-9 p.m.	623
45628	Green Supply Chain	TTh	2/24-2/26	6-9 p.m.	623
45629	Green Certification	TTh	3/5-3/12	6-9 p.m.	623

For more information call 415.267.6500 or visit www.ccsf.edu

NEIGHBORHOOD HOME SALES

Single Family Homes	BR	BA	PK	Sq ft	Date	Asking \$	Sale \$
2306 Geary Blvd	3	1		1400	17-Oct	614,500	570,000
1515 Lyon St	3	3	1		24-Oct	1,275,000	1,250,000
2683 Green St	2	2.5	1	2447	13-Nov	2,495,000	2,505,000
3711 Clay St	4	3.5	1	3600	20-Oct	3,250,000	Not Disclosed
2820 Vallejo St	3	2.5	1		21-Oct	4,900,000	4,900,000
Condos / Co-ops / TICs / Lofts							
1800 Washington St #314	1	1		476	23-Oct	281,322	281,322
2415 Van Ness Ave #601	1	1			17-Oct	495,000	505,000
3326 Washington St #A	1	1			29-Oct	550,000	560,000
2040 Laguna St #202	2	2	1	1020	10-Nov	699,000	680,000
1855 Sacramento St #11	1	1		1109	23-Oct	725,000	725,000
2230 Pacific Ave #201	1	1		730	29-Oct	749,000	730,000
1996 Pacific Ave #105	2	2	1		17-Oct	769,000	775,500
2828 Greenwich St #5	2	1	1	922	13-Nov	829,000	779,000
2329 Divisadero St #6	1	1		1150	31-Oct	779,000	780,000
2587 Post St	3	1.25	1	1432	31-Oct	815,000	825,000
2589 Post St	3	1		1576	24-Oct	830,000	860,000
1800 Washington St #616	2	2	1	1108	7-Nov	880,000	880,000
2591 Post St	3	2	1	1648	24-Oct	890,000	929,000
1880 Vallejo St #4	2	1		1289	10-Nov	1,098,000	975,000
2154 Sutter St	3	2	2	1872	22-Oct	1,179,000	1,200,000
2820 Greenwich St #2	3	2	1	1211	23-Oct	1,200,000	1,200,000
1801 Broderick St #1	3	2	1	1786	23-Oct	1,295,000	1,262,500
1890 Green St	3	2	1		29-Oct	1,395,000	1,322,500
2782 Jackson St	3	2.5	1	1958	30-Oct	1,475,000	1,425,000
3328 California St	3	2	1	1814	16-Oct	1,495,000	1,453,500
3038 Steiner St	3	2.5	1	1848	22-Oct	1,599,000	1,590,000
3861 Washington St	3	2	1		16-Oct	1,998,000	2,000,000
2030 Broadway #2	2	2	2		13-Nov	2,000,000	2,125,000
2526 Broadway	4	3		3622	21-Oct	2,500,000	2,651,000

The financial crisis finally hits home

Even as the global financial situation has continued to worsen, it seemed for a while that our neighborhood was insulated from what was happening in the rest of the country. But we are finally beginning to feel the impact.

The good news is that, while there has been a slowdown in the overall market, deals are still happening in the upper Fillmore and Pacific Heights, which is one of the more desirable areas — if not the most desirable area — in the city to live. The bad news, if you are a seller, is that the new inventory coming on the market is not being absorbed as quickly as before. In October 2007 there was a month's supply of housing — a strong seller's market. By August 2008 it was at 4.7 months, a more balanced market. By October 2008, that number shot up to a 7.1 month's supply — a buyer's market. On October 31, there were 224 properties for sale in the neighborhood, compared to 147 at the same time last year.

The upside is that there hasn't been a time in recent memory when there has been so much opportunity and inventory for buyers. However, in light of so much uncertainty, many buyers are still reluctant to enter the market. As a result, we are also seeing more price reductions than in the past. One extreme example was the grand 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home at 2736 Broderick (left). The property came on the market in mid-October at \$3.625 million, and after just 12 days, the price was reduced by \$530,000. Several days



later it went into contract — with rumors of multiple offers — and closed at an undisclosed price on November 19. In the current environment, the listing price and presentation are extremely important if sellers are to attract the right buyer.

Of recent sales, 1800 Washington #314 was part of the mayor's housing program, which comes with income restrictions for potential buyers, and so it should not be viewed as an open market sale.

— Data and commentary provided by JOHN FITZGERALD, a partner at the Byzantium Brokerage and an agent at Pacific Union. Contact him at jfitzgerald@pacunion.com or call 345-3034.

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Four notable homes will be decorated and welcoming visitors on December 6.

Holiday Home Tour in Cow Hollow

A HOLIDAY home tour down the hill in Cow Hollow invites the neighbors to stop by to see the decorations — and the real estate.

The fifth annual Home for Christmas tour on Saturday, December 6, is a self-directed walking tour that starts at St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church at Union and Steiner Streets.

All four homes on the tour are within four blocks of the church. One features a cantilevered spiral stairway to a terrace overlooking the bay. Another is a shingle-style home with Williamsburg accents. A New England-style home has a Thomas Church garden. And there's a 14-foot Christmas tree on the top floor of another.

In addition to holiday decorations, all four homes will feature abundant floral designs from local florists.

The tour "not only provides a festive way to celebrate the holiday season, but also contributes significantly to the community," says Elizabeth Duff, one of the organizers of the tour. All proceeds are donated to outreach programs. "Since its inception in 2004, Home for Christmas has provided the community with thousands of dollars in financial support for the underserved," Duff says.

Transportation will be provided for those who prefer not to walk. Complimentary child care is available at the church. Lunch will be offered, and there is a boutique selling holiday decorations.

Homes on the tour are open to the public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25. More information about the event is available at www.smvsf.org or by calling 921-3665 ext. 360.



Join us in making the holidays brighter for San Francisco kids and families.

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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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

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11pm: Traditional Candlelight Service
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 11AM

Christmas Day Worship

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

5:30pm: 12th Night Supper
7pm: Epiphany Service



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