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THE NEW FILLMORE

SAN FRANCISCO ■ JANUARY 2011



"Fats,"
by Mark
Ulriksen

"AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'" DEBUTS AT YOSHI'S

FATS WALLER is coming to Fillmore this month. The rollicking rhythms and exuberant lyrics of the Harlem stride piano master will be celebrated in the musical revue "Ain't Misbehavin'," which makes its San Francisco debut from January 7 to 9 at Yoshi's on Fillmore.

The show — named after one of Waller's most popular songs — is a tribute to the Harlem Renaissance told through his music by five singers from the Irving Street Repertory in lower Manhattan, plus a rhythm section with piano, bass and drums.

It's a new kind of show for Yoshi's.

"Ain't Misbehavin'" will be Yoshi's first foray into musical theater," says artistic director Jason Olaine, "although given this Tony Award-winning musical is culled from the great jazz pianist Fats Waller's songbook, it's not so much a stretch as an extension of our jazz programming."

Olaine said Waller's rowdy, raunchy and humorous songs reflect his view of life as a journey meant for pleasure and play.

Local talent in Yoshi's lounge

PAGE 10

Olaine took on the role as the top talent booker of Yoshi's 400-seat club nearly two years ago vowing to keep the focus on jazz. But he has been forced to diversify the club's offerings to attract a wider audience, especially as the economic downturn has worn on.

"I think it's clear that Yoshi's San Francisco is not strictly a jazz club anymore," he says. "We don't want to fly too far afield, yet we do want to broaden our patron base."

But he adds, "We are by no means abandoning our roots." Olaine points to the New Year appearance of Dianne Reeves — "the pre-eminent jazz vocalist of our time," he says, whose performance was broadcast worldwide on public radio — and trumpeter Roy Hargrove, who will appear at Yoshi's January 19-22.

"We'll always have jazz in our hearts and minds, so we'll program as much of it as we can," he says. "But we'll also be augmenting the calendar with as many diverse, high-quality offerings as makes sense."

A Year of Change and More to Come

BY THE END OF 2010, more than a few favorite Fillmore shops and restaurants had fallen victim to time and economic circumstances. But eager successors always seemed to be waiting in the wings. Now a wave of new openings suggests continued vitality for the neighborhood's commercial corridor in the new year.

Change was — and still is — in the air for many local institutions.

HOSPITAL EXPANSION: California Pacific Medical Center is marching forward with plans for a new high-rise hospital on Cathedral Hill, plus an expanded presence at its current headquarters in Pacific Heights. Eventually the hospital's complex of buildings out on California Street is to be closed and sold. Vigilance is vowed on all sides, but the plan appears likely to proceed.

THE CLAY THEATER: Single-screen neighborhood theaters everywhere are closing. Still, it seemed startling to many local residents when a sign appeared in the box office window announcing that the 100-year-old Clay would close at the end of August. When the San Francisco Film Society expressed interest in making the Clay its home, a solution seemed at hand. But an agreement has been elusive. Negotiations continue between the Film Society and the owner of the building, who hopes to be permitted to construct townhouses above the theater to fund its renovation. Meanwhile, its historic neon marquee sits dark, awaiting attention.

MAN UP ON FILLMORE: Long a mecca for women shoppers, Fillmore has become a place for fashionable men, too. Brooks Brothers' Black Fleece line and James Perse joined Ralph Lauren and Marc Jacobs. Hlaska, from the founder of YouTube, shifted its focus solely to menswear and accessories, and the sports-minded Clary Sage Organics added a men's line, too. For the edgier hipster, Brooklyn Circus continues to shake things up south of Geary.

LET US EAT CAKE: Vivande's farewell last New Year's Eve began a year of losses of local tastes and treats. Also closing in 2010: Bittersweet, Patisserie Delanghe, Tango Gelato, Maruya Sushi, Cassis and Neecha Thai. But new restaurants and bakeries soon opened — including the much-anticipated Citizen Cake — and Tacobar settled in on the key corner nearby. An effort was launched to remove a 25-year ban on additional restaurants on Fillmore after new dining spots helped revive an ailing Union Street.

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WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

We welcome new voices this year with the ability to tell interesting stories about faces and places in the neighborhood. Email editors@newfillmore.com.

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Aubrey & Sabine

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FURTHERMORE



FILLMORE HARDWARE CLOSSES — After 49 years of serving the neighborhood, Fillmore Hardware closed on the day after Christmas and longtime manager Phil Dean delivered eggs for the final time from his henhouse in Pacifica.

 newfillmore.com | "Farewell, Old Friends," a video from the final days

COMMENT FROM NEWFILLMORE.COM:

Sometimes it was a plunger, sometimes a 17-cent fuse or a component for one of my quirky inventions that never quite worked out. It was the hardware store.

I watched Phil's kids grow up. Patti and the girls were dear to me. Their father, Jim Hayes, and I would sit in Pacific Heights Bar and Grill and study DOS together — he with his martini, I with my wine.

Long forgotten now, Father Don Martin, who was a clerk there, somehow wrangled from Rome to get his small order of brothers recognized. Dominicans. OPD (Order of Priors Disconnected). He will always be a part of my living history. At the "House of St. Joseph" so many times I attended masses. I lived there for a few months when no choices remained. Phil Dean lived there, too.

So this is a salute to the likes of something that we shall never see again. Thank you girls, thank you Phil and Father Martin — and thank you Jim Hayes. You never meant outright to make the world a better place — but you did.

RONALD HOBBS

TO THE EDITORS:

The article and photographs in the December issue about the cable cars ["The Washington-Jackson Line"] brought out some interesting connections in the archives of Calvary Presbyterian Church. The "Jackson cable car" was featured on the cover of the church's Sunday bulletins every week as an important way for people to get to Calvary's services and other events.



We also have a copy of a 1948 photograph (left) which shows the Jackson cable car, a Fillmore street car and a bus all at the intersection of Jackson and Fillmore, with Calvary in the background — three modes of transportation that served the area.

One of the photos in your December issue included a large Carnation ice cream sign hanging outside what is now Tully's Coffee. Calvary's archives include a 1939 *Milwaukee* program that has ads from some neighborhood businesses, including George's Fountain, which was where Tully's is today, and The Den Coffee Shop, which was across the street where the Jackson-Fillmore restaurant has been for many years.

JOE BEYER

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Connecting the neighborhood

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

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Lafayette Park Upgrade Gets Green Light

Extra funding sought for playground some find 'a little over the top'

AMBITIOUS PLANS for a \$10.2 million renovation of Lafayette Park received enthusiastic support from neighbors and a unanimous thumbs-up from the Recreation and Park Commission on December 16.

In addition, a fund-raising mechanism was put into place to allow park supporters to solicit contributions to supplement available bond funding to create a more elaborate 13,000 sq. ft. playground. It may include vibrantly colored play areas for children of various ages, along with boulder climbing, a tunnel slide, a creek, a tower and what landscape architect Jeffrey Miller called "the world's longest monkey bar."

"We think it's going to be full of fantasy and fun," Miller said.

The conceptual plan for the park makeover was developed by city staffers working closely with the Friends of Lafayette Park and other local residents. Many of the people who participated in the planning sessions appeared before the Rec and Park Commission to praise the process and support the plans for what several called "the crown jewel of the park department."



A conceptual plan for renovating Lafayette Park was endorsed by many neighbors and the Rec and Park Commission.

But some concerns were raised.

Bill Marlow, who lives next to Lafayette Park, endorsed upgrades to the two tennis courts, but urged that they not be turned into multi-use courts. He also called plans for the expansive playground "a little over the top" and said he hoped it could remain more natural with less vivid colors.

Phil Durfee, who also lives across from the park, opposed changes to the existing plaza and picnic areas.

"I think there's some serious flaws in

this redesign," he said. "Redesigning the park was not part of the original deal."

One disputed element of the plan would create an expanded meadow with terraced grass seating that could be used for community gatherings and public performances.

Support for the public gathering place came from the San Francisco Mime Troupe, which claimed a historic connection to Lafayette Park. Legendary rock promoter Bill Graham — then the mime troupe's business manager — staged a fund-raiser

in the park for the troupe's legal defense fund in its early embattled years.

Support among the members of the Rec and Park Commission was unanimous, although chair Mark Buell, a neighborhood resident, acknowledged, "The playground looks ambitious." Debate over the playground "will settle itself," he said, when fund-raising begins.

Construction is to begin in the spring of 2012 and be completed by the summer of 2013.

Participating Artists:

- Victoria Brooks
- Drew Fagan
- Mark Farns
- Teri Ford
- William Hock
- Timothy Horn
- David Jenks
- Paul Kramer
- Jeanette La Grue
- Richard Lindenberg
- Kim Louchter
- Gage Ophelandhouse
- Camille Prazmolek
- Carole Rafferty
- Michael Reardon
- Lori Robinson
- Stacy Schlatter
- Julia Munger Seelos
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CRIME WATCH

DUI, Assault on Police Officers Buchanan and Bush Streets November 14, 3:40 a.m.

Officers were asked to check on the well-being of a man who had passed out in a car while it was running and was stopped in a lane of traffic. When they arrived, they noted that the man appeared to be unconscious. The car's doors were locked, so they knocked on the windows. While the officers were speaking to the man, he started to drive off and hit one of them with his car. The officers banged on the car and yelled for the man to stop, then struggled to take him into custody. Both officers were slightly injured. The suspect was charged with assault on the police officers and driving under the influence.

Felony Theft Van Ness Avenue and Jackson Street November 19, 11:50 a.m.

A man and a woman lingered outside a drugstore and retrieved sales receipts from the garbage as customers left the store. Then they entered the store with an empty bag, picked up items that matched those listed on the receipts and brought them to the counter for a refund. Store employees became suspicious when they noted that the suspects had numerous receipts using a variety of types of payment. Then they realized these same individuals had been caught on tape during a previous shoplifting spree. Both were charged with felonies.

Bank Robbery Fillmore and Clay Streets December 1, 3:20 p.m.

Several officers responded to a report of a bank robbery. One officer had noticed a man behaving strangely just before he committed the crime. On a day that was not particularly cold, he wrapped his head in a scarf before entering the bank. Afterward, the man changed his clothes, dumping the clothing he had been wearing, then got on a bus. He immediately got off again and started walking away. Officers took the suspect into custody at Geary and Laguna, and retrieved all the money he had taken from the bank.

Battery of a Police Officer Fillmore and Eddy Streets December 2, 11:30 p.m.

An officer in a patrol car heard a woman's screams and stopped to investigate. He found a couple engaged in a violent argument. The man had the woman in a bear hug and she was struggling to push him away. The officer attempted to pull the man off her. Suddenly the suspect grabbed the officer's genitals. The officer called for assistance while he continued to struggle with the man, who maintained his grip. Finally, additional officers arrived and disengaged the man from the officer. The suspect was charged with battery of a police officer.

Felony Fraud Van Ness Avenue and California Street December 6, 4:20 p.m.

Officers were called to a bank regarding a man attempting to cash a bad check. First to arrive was a plainclothes officer, who met with resistance when he identified himself to the suspect. As the officer tried to handcuff him, the suspect fought to get away. Additional officers arrived and took the man into custody. He was charged with numerous felonies, including possession of drugs.

Prostitution Van Ness Avenue and Sutter Street December 13, 3 a.m.

An officer was patrolling the area because it had been plagued with prostitution. She witnessed a known prostitute standing near a car, leaning into the driver's

side window. The officer detained both parties, advised them they were engaging in criminal activity and asked them to leave the area. Several minutes later, the officer spotted the same car in the neighborhood. This time, she conducted a traffic stop. A search revealed that the driver did not have a valid license. He was cited for the misdemeanor and his car was towed.

Robbery Eddy and Buchanan Streets December 13, 2:38 p.m.

On December 10, a woman was robbed at gunpoint and her purse and cell phone were stolen. Three days later, plainclothes officers noticed local gang members behaving suspiciously. When they investigated the group, they found a cell phone lying in the grass directly behind them. Though it was raining and the grass was wet, the cell phone was dry. The officers seized it and discovered the cell phone belonged to the woman who had reported the earlier robbery. With the help of station investigators, they determined that one of the detained gang members was responsible. Officers located the suspect the next day and arrested him.

Prostitution Washington and Franklin Streets December 14, 12:28 a.m.

An officer on patrol recognized a car as it passed and knew the man driving was a parolee she had previously contacted for prostitution-related offenses. She watched as the driver stopped to drop off a woman, who then began loitering on Franklin. The officer contacted the driver. He had a suspended driver's license and marijuana in his possession. He was arrested for these offenses, as well as for pimping. Later the officer arrested the woman for prostitution.

Missing Person Van Ness Avenue and Clay Street December 17, 1:28 a.m.

An officer on patrol noted a young woman standing in a bus kiosk in an area where prostitutes often loiter. It was a cold, wet night, and she was wearing a short miniskirt, black high-heel boots and a tight sweater. The officer continued to observe her, noting that she did not get on any of the passing buses, nor did she hail any taxis. Believing she was a prostitute, the officer detained her for further investigation. A computer check revealed the woman had outstanding warrants for prostitution in Los Angeles. She was also listed as a missing person. The young woman was arrested.

Auto Burglary Van Ness Avenue and Olive Street December 26, 12:40 a.m.

Officers responded to a call concerning a man breaking into a car. As the officers approached, they saw a man sitting inside a car; both the man and vehicle matched the witness's description. When the man saw the police, he got out of the car and ran. Additional officers arrived and detained the suspect. The car's owner identified the items found in the suspect's pockets as property he had left inside his locked car. The suspect was charged with possession of stolen property and auto burglary.

Felony Theft Webster Street and Geary Boulevard December 28, 1:40 p.m.

A shopper entered the Safeway store and loaded his pockets with batteries and skin care products. When he walked out of the store without paying, store security detained him and called the police. Because the man had seven prior convictions for petty theft, he was charged with a felony.

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New York Jewelry Star Opens on Fillmore

BRINGING more bling to the neighborhood, New York jewelry designer Alexis Bittar opened a stylish new boutique in mid-December at 1942 Fillmore, the spot recently vacated by fashion designer Calvin Tran.

The Fillmore boutique is Bittar's sixth. There are three in New York and two in Los Angeles; another is slated to open in Chicago this month. His work is also available in upscale department stores.

Inside the new Fillmore store, sleek cabinets showcasing Bittar's creations line the walls. Sales associates encourage browsers to open them and fondle and model the rings, necklaces, earrings, bracelets and pins inside. What they find are designs that Bittar aims to "speak to all generations." To deliver on that promise, he offers three distinct collections each season.

■ His trademark Lucite line features delicate-to-chunky designs handcarved and handpainted in Bittar's New York studios.

■ The Elements collection, described as "slightly bohemian," includes woven wristbands and cascading earrings, many in hammered gold or silver and set with semi-precious stones and beads.

■ The Miss Havisham line is the edgiest, with angular and geometric shapes often set with Swarovski crystals and cut stones.

There are also a few "editorial pieces" nearly guaranteed to stir up a conversation, including an oversized necklace made of wood and antlers and set with jewel-encrusted fobs.

Many of the designs are organic, incorporating feathers, skulls, coral and shells. Another of Bittar's signatures is the



Duck! There's a new jewelry store — Alexis Bittar — in the neighborhood.

taxidermy created by Frank Zitz — zebras, wolves, penguins and javalinas — perched in his retail shops. Many of those, too, have an unexpected twist. One of the L.A. shops boasts a zebra-wildbeest hybrid, a New York boutique houses a two-headed ram. The Fillmore store currently has tamer game: a duck, an owl and a grouse.

A large case in the center of the shop features a selection of antique pieces for sale — tie tacks, gold and mesh evening bags and pins among them — with elements and shapes that have clearly inspired Bittar's own designs.

Bittar's fascination with jewelry design and antiques was fostered by his parents,

both avid collectors, who surprised him on his 13th birthday with a tangled mass of antique jewelry to sort and dissect. His entrepreneurial roots were stoked with stints selling flowers from a cart across the street from his house as a young boy to a later turn peddling vintage jewelry and clothing in lower Manhattan.

The first of his big breaks came when Bergdorf Goodman's fashion director noticed his creations on the street and invited him to sell inside the store. Other exclusive retailers — including Harrods, Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom and Fillmore's own Mio — were among those that later stocked his creations.

■ STREET TALK

Athleta almost ready to open its doors

A handsome new brick facade has now been unveiled at 2226 Fillmore and the first full-scale Athleta store will make its debut January 13.

Athleta — the women's sportswear catalog and Internet company birthed in Petaluma — was acquired by the Gap a couple of years ago. A starter store in Mill Valley paved the way for the first fully realized storefront operation. The company has worked closely with the Junior League, which owns the building and for decades operated a resale shop in the space.

WATCH FOR GUPIES: A new preschool called Golden Gate Cuppies will open this month at 2426 California Street, formerly a retail space housing Nomadic Outfitters. The school bills itself as "a play-based program based on the philosophy that a child's development occurs through the innate sense of exploration and experimentation." Nearby Alta Plaza Park will provide the playground.

FAREWELL, LINCO: Brothers Linco and James Kwuan will close their jewelry store, Linco & Co., at the end of the month after 13 years of business at 1908 Fillmore.

BYE BYE BANKER: A familiar face in the neighborhood is missing: Sharon Oullic, the longtime anchor of the Fillmore-California branch of Wells Fargo, has left. Don't be completely surprised if she resurfaces later in the year at the new Chase Bank now in the works at the old Eskik Cleaners space at 2429 California Street.



Paris When It Swizzles

Finding love with the locals at Florio's bar

By CHRIS BARNETT
PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUSIE BIEHLER

BARTENDERS come and go at Fillmore Street saloons. But at Florio, at 1915 Fillmore, the shot glass is rarely passed to a newcomer.

Tara Burke, a ponytailed, all-American, girl-next-door type with a soft voice and swift hands, has worked the plank here for six years. Noble Harris, who seems aloof



"We stick with the absolute classic cocktails," says bartender Noble Harris, who's been behind Florio's intimate bar for five years.

initially but warms up quickly, has been crafting cocktails here for five years. As Florio's only two bartenders, they work solo with no backup.

Burke likes it that way: "There's no room back here for anyone else," she says with a smile.

Indeed, the small L-shaped bar only has 12 stools — and that's a big part of its appeal. Florio is essentially a neighborhood bistro, its bar an oasis for

the locals who come to meet, drink, dish and frequently dine on woven placemats over vintage wood without having to move to a table.

■ Florio's regulars and even first-timers have strong opinions about the bar.

"It's cute and comfortable," says Dani, a smartly dressed woman sitting alone, catching up on her email and chatting with Harris, who's behind the bar this

night. "It doesn't feel confrontational here."

Paola Perez, new to the neighborhood from Chicago, came to Florio after work just steps away at Design Within Reach. "I was craving a martini and this place looks so charming from the outside — reminds me of Paris," she says. "Funny, I thought it might be a little stuffy inside, but it's really cozy."

TO PAGE 8 ►

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The alchemy of conversation and cocktails sparks a chemistry at Florio that creates friendships and sometimes more.



At Florio, the Locals Find Cocktails and Camaraderie

► FROM PAGE 7

While waiting for a friend, Perez was nursing a Florio martini — vodka, lillet blanc and Fee Brothers West Indian orange bitters, shaken and served up, \$10.50.

Bartender Burke, whose mixology credentials include six years at the legendary Perry's mother ship on Union, and who spent a year in the city of light, says Florio "feels more like Paris than any other place in San Francisco."

Warm, worldly, charming and intimate, Florio could seem like Fillmore's pint-sized answer to La Coupole — the bustling, Art Deco brasserie in Montparnasse, but without the sidewalk cafe, scurrying waiters and endless waves of tourists. Florio has a noticeable but

not overwhelming French Art Deco ambience: backlit backbar, checkerboard flooring, wall sconces, old-style light fixtures, dining room ceiling fan and a half dozen simple white shades suspended over the upholstered bar stools.

But what truly sets Florio's bar apart from the other Fillmore Street third parlors is its willingness to break from the herd. It's the only bar on the boulevard without a happy hour, yet loyalists are willing to pay \$10 and up for a cocktail and camaraderie. There are no gratis bar nibbles, either. But check out the salmon tartare appetizer with a quail egg. At \$13.75, it's still less than you'd have to pony up in Paris.

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that have seduced saloon owners nationwide — such as packing a giant jar with infused fruit and vegetables, pouring in three or four liquors, topping it with obscure foliage and billing it as a health drink.

"We stick with the absolute classic cocktails," says Harris. "Martinis, manhattans, sazeracs."

But with subtle variations. Example: A gibbon — a gin connoisseur's drink drier than a martini and garnished with a pickled onion instead of an olive or a lemon twist — is called the Boozely's gibbon at Florio. That's because it's made with a Boozely's pickled onion floating in three ounces of crystal clear gin. Boozely's is the product of veteran Florio waiter Brad Koester, a master pickler who runs a pickles and preserves company on the side.

Bartenders at Florio do not take shortcuts. While many of their colleagues make a gimlet with bottled Rose's lime juice, the ginger gimlet, for \$10.50, is a blend of vodka, a house-made ginger syrup and fresh-squeezed lime juice.

A cocktail that conjures up images of Hollywood whodunits and white dinner jackets is the Italian 75 — gin, prosecco and fresh lemon juice, for \$10. Or if you fancy yourself Charles Boyer or Rita Hayworth in a St. Tropez cafe in the 30s, order the original French 75, which has champagne in the place of prosecco.

Burke and Noble have added their own originals to Florio's cocktail repertoire. One such creation is the Tartini, which marries Cuervo gold tequila with crushed lime and splashes of orange and cranberry juices, \$10.50. Despite the juices in the recipe, mostly men order the Tartini — which is essentially a cosmopolitan with tequila substituted for vodka. Contents Burke: "Women will not drink tequila."

The brands of liquor in Florio's well are premium spirits compared with many other bars. For instance, a well manhattan is made with Old Overholt rye, which purists praise as one of the original whiskeys used in the drink's early years. Other brands in the well include Cutty Sark, Canadian Club, Johnnie Walker Black, Jack Daniels, Ron Bacardi and Myers rums. The house vodka and gin are the domestically distilled Gordons. You pay a top shelf price of \$10 for a Florio well drink, but in most cases, it's worth the higher tariff.

Perhaps proving that liquor really is quicker, when regulars congregate at the same small bar, the alchemy of conversation and cocktails sparks chemistry that creates friendships and encourages coupling.

One case in point is two Fillmoriens, wedding planner Kathryn Kenna and antique textile dealer James Blackmon, who met on Florio's stools. Love bloomed, albeit slowly.

"We chatted at the Florio bar for about three months," Kenna says. "At one point, my friend cardiologist Patty Caverro suggested that I ask to see his gallery." That led to a picnic near Blackmon's secluded yurt in West Marin — and the rest is history in the making.

But few saloon romances can top this one: Burke is not only a bartender, but also a real estate agent in Mason-McDuffie's Union Street office. Between her two careers, she meets plenty of people, and once in a while plays matchmaker. She pulled off her best match by introducing one of her favorite real estate clients to one of her longtime Florio patrons.

Today, they're a happy couple.

Now that's a full-service bar.

COMING & GOING

Farmers market meat maven opens SF Grill



A familiar face and schtick from the Fillmore and Divisadero farmers markets — where he sold sausage, burgers and mustard — Seni Felic (pictured in red) has now taken over the spot at 2819 California Street, near Divisadero, formerly occupied by Annie's Bistro.

Dubbed the Bistro SF Grill, the mainstay of the menu is what Felic knows and loves

best: burgers. There are more than a dozen Almost Famous Burgers on the menu — the usual beef burgers, along with chicken and turkey options, plus harder-to-find burgers of lamb, veal, boar and buffalo. The meats are all seasoned and mixed in-house and priced from \$7.50 to \$10.

There are also a few other kinds of sandwiches, including salmon, smoked trout and a vegetarian version made with mushrooms. Sweet potato or regular potato fries and a couple of salads and desserts round out the offerings.

Felic and two fellow Bosnian buddies enthusiastically serve up unexpected flavors with ample portions of philosophy and optimism. "Love is the highest intelligence," he said recently, setting a bounteous burger piled high with colorful garnishes before a diner. "You do what you love — and it will work out."

Since the bistro opened just a few days before Christmas, the menu is still a work in progress — and so is the beer and wine license. In the meantime, diners can whet their palates with a selection of sodas, spicy lemonade or Golden Star teas. A grand opening is planned later this month.



The end for Cafe Kati?

Longtime owner and chef Kirk Webber (left) is remaining mum for now, but it appears the end is near for Cafe Kati at 1963 Sutter Street. A change of ownership notice posted in the front window says the liquor license is being transferred to Gerardo Castillo and a new business to be called the Roostertail Rotisserie.

Cafe Kati was a pioneer in the world of Asian fusion when it opened more than 20 years ago. Webber overcame an often fatal skin disease two years ago and fought his way back to the kitchen.

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Yoshi's Brings New Acts Into Its Front Lounge

Three nights a week, a former server puts the spotlight on local talent

By ANTHONY TORRES

UNKNOWNST to many locals, Yoshi's—in addition to the concerts presented nightly in its world-class performance hall—stages a parallel music program in its front lounge area three nights a week.

Started by Robin Applewood, aka Dogman Joe, the shows spotlight the musical talent in the San Francisco Bay Area and, in particular, in the Fillmore Jazz District.

The alternate mix includes:

- **LATE NIGHT TUESDAYS**, which varies among jazz, funk, soul and hip hop;

- **WORLD MUSIC WEDNESDAYS**, which offers a wide range of music from around the world, including samba, reggae and afro-beat; and

- **SONG WRITER SUNDAYS**, which is just what the name promises: a showcase for up-and-coming song writers to present their work, with the artists rotating in three 20-minute sets.



"I try to keep it eclectic," says Robin Applewood, aka Dogman Joe, who organizes the performances.

Dogman started out as a server at Yoshi's when it opened on Fillmore three years ago and became a manager after about a year on the floor. The musical events began one night after his band—Dogman Joe—played in the front lounge for a private party. The success of that event and the viability of the space as a staging area got Dogman thinking about the possibility of doing more performances in the lounge.

The timing also coincided with the growing pains Yoshi's was experiencing as it struggled to find its place on the San Francisco music scene and become sustainable. As Yoshi's management came to realize the need to diversify the venue's musical programming beyond jazz, it became open to experimenting with other possibilities at the club.

As a result, Late Night Tuesdays was born—a night Dogman considers the "wild card" of the series.

"It spotlights local talent, and it gives me the openness to play with a diverse range of possibilities," he says. "Typically it's jazz and funk. But we've done everything

from comedy to a magic show."

As for World Music Wednesdays, he says: "It has its own equally large range of music from around the world. I try to keep it eclectic—everything from Turkish music to... whatever."

And Dogman says that Song Writer Sundays primarily serves as a forum and opportunity for young talent and musicians and functions primarily through referrals.

"Generally, I check them out and book three months in advance," he says. "That way I know they're good and professional."

A few acts to note this month are: Mark Kostrewa and Austin Jenckes, featuring acoustic guitar backing soulful lyrics on January 11; Swoon, a band offering a mix of pop and rock with hints of funk and R&B on January 18 and the Jethro Jeremiah Band, reggae with infusions of other rock influences on January 25.

Admission to Yoshi's Lounge, at 1330 Fillmore Street, ranges from \$7 to \$10.

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Thursday, February 3 – Thursday, February 10, 2011

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WWW.MOSTLYBRITISH.ORG

OPENING NIGHT



West is West

Thursday February 3rd, 8:00pm

The long-awaited sequel to "East is East" checks in with the same lovably beleaguered Manchester family living in transitional times in 1976 (five years after the original film). When the youngest son goes into crisis mode over his identity as a half-Brit and half-Pakistani and insults his immigrant father's heritage, the family patriarch (Om Puri, reprising his unforgettable role) hauls him to Pakistan to learn the customs of the country. There the two encounter the father's first wife, whom Dad must come to terms with having deserted. A surprise visit by his current wife creates hilarious turmoil. As specific as this family's situation is there is something in it that everyone will relate to. (102 minutes, UK)

"A shamelessly populist coming-of-age drama shot through with humor and bittersweet emotion,"
Screenejae.com

CLOSING NIGHT



Boy

Thursday, February 10th, 8:00pm

This spirited and wildly comic coming-of-age story is based on Maori filmmaker Taika Waititi's own childhood experience in the Easter Bay of Plenty in New Zealand. In 1984, 11-year-old Boy, a dedicated Michael Jackson fan, is put in charge of his siblings by their grandmother who is raising them. Boy fantasizes about his missing father. When the delinquent dad suddenly appears he is nothing like what his son imagined. (New Zealand, 87 minutes)

Winner Best Feature Award,

Berlin International Film Festival and Grand Jury Prize, Sundance

TICKET INFORMATION

THE HISTORIC VOGUE THEATRE 3290 Sacramento St., San Francisco
To purchase tickets visit www.mostlybritish.org or call 415.346.2288.

General Admission: \$12.50, \$10.00 *

Opening Night Screening And Reception: \$30-\$25* Just Screening \$12.50-\$10.00*

Closing Night Screening And Reception: \$30-\$25* Just Screening \$12.50-\$10.00*

SERIES PASS: INCLUDES ALL SCREENINGS AND PARTIES \$75-\$55*

*Discounts for Mostly British Film Partners: Members of the San Francisco Film Society, the JCC, The San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, Frameline, Film Noir Foundation, Fromm Institute, Cinema Club, South Bay Cinema Club, Cinema Lit Mechanics' Institute

Convenient Parking available one block from the Vogue Theatre at the Jewish Community Center, 3200 California Street.

Thursday, February 3rd **OPENING NIGHT**

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION AT BRITISH MOTORS 5:00pm – 7:30pm

West is West (UK, 87 min.) 8:00pm

Friday, February 4th

Crying with Laughter (Scotland, 93 minutes) 5:00pm

Get Carter (UK, 112 minutes) 7:00pm

The Ipcress (UK, 109 minutes) 9:30pm

Saturday, February 5th

Conversation: The Life and Work of Jack Cardiff (UK, 86 minutes) Noon

Black Narcissus (UK, 100 minutes) 2:30pm

Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls (New Zealand, 84 minutes) 4:30pm

AUSTRALIA SPOTLIGHT RECEPTION 6:30pm

Beneath Hill 60 (Australia, 122 minutes) 8:00pm

Heartless (UK, 114 minutes) 10:30pm

Sunday, February 6th

Sole (Australia, 55 minutes) 12:30pm

Contract (Australia, 79 minutes) 2:00pm

The Waiting City (Australia, 108 minutes) 4:00pm

I Love You Too (Australia, 107 minutes) 6:30pm

Blessed (Australia, 113 minutes) 9:00pm

Monday, February 7th

Gallipoli (Australia, 92 min.) 4:30pm

Samson & Delilah (Australia, 101 minutes) 7:15pm

Beautiful Kate (Australia, 90 minutes) 9:30pm

Tuesday, February 8th

Down Terrace (UK, 89 min.) 5:00pm

Glorious 39 (UK, 129 min.) 7:30pm

Derlin Gray (UK, 113 minutes) 9:30pm

Wednesday, February 9th

Skeletons (Scotland, 94 minutes) 3:00pm

East is East (UK, 96 minutes) 5:30pm

The Infidel (UK, 105 minutes) 7:30pm

Nothing Personal (Ireland, 85 minutes) 9:45pm

Thursday, February 10th **CLOSING NIGHT**

Cemetery Junction (UK, 95 minutes; UK) 5:30pm

Boy (New Zealand, 87 minutes) 8:00pm

Beneath Hill 60 (Australia, 122 minutes) 10:00pm

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(Separate Admission Required)

Monday, Feb. 7th

Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls (New Zealand / 84 min.) 7:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 8th

The Ipcress (British Noir, 109 minutes) 7:30pm

Wednesday, Feb. 9th

Boy (New Zealand, 87 minutes) 7:30pm

Thursday, Feb. 10th

Beneath Hill 60 (Australia, 122 minutes) 7:00pm

The Jewish British Motors showroom will be the site of an opening night party on February 3, starting at 5 p.m.

There will be an Australian reception at 6:30 p.m. on February 5 in honor of "Beneath Hill 60," which opens the Australian Spotlight segment. Party included in ticket price.

Closing night party will be at 10 p.m. Feb. 10 following "Boy."



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NEIGHBORHOOD HOME SALES

Single Family Homes	BR	BA	PK	Sq ft	Date	Asking	Sale
2 Perine Pl	3	3	1	2030	11/30/10	1,295,000	1,262,500
1806 Laguna St	3	2.5	2	2020	12/15/10	1,564,900	1,475,000
339 Walnut St	3	2.5	1	11/17/10	1,995,000	1,925,000	
3346 Clay St	3	2.5	2	2754	12/1/10	2,599,000	2,120,000
2755 Scott St	6	3.5	1	4210	12/7/10	3,200,000	3,150,000
130 Locust St	6	4.5	0	4490	12/9/10	2,850,000	3,300,000
2465 Pacific Ave	4	4.5	2	3936	11/17/10	3,995,000	4,200,000
50 Walnut St	4	4.5	1	4728	12/1/10	4,550,000	4,600,000
2 Spruce St	5	3.5	2	5220	12/3/10	4,495,000	4,700,000
2800 Vallejo St	6	5.5	2	11/16/10	4,595,000	4,775,000	
3108 Jackson St	5	5.5	3	5100	11/16/10	4,995,000	4,800,000

Condos / Co-ops / TICs / Lofts

1450 Post St #316	1	2	1	718	11/30/10	327,232	311,000
1450 Post St #206	2	1	1	667	11/19/10	345,000	336,000
2211 California St #206	1	1	0	615	11/22/10	479,000	450,000
1600 Webster St #405	1	1	1	805	11/19/10	599,000	599,000
3124 Laguna St	2	1	1	1045	11/19/10	679,000	662,000
880 Presidio Ave	3	2	3	1078	11/19/10	668,000	668,000
2040 Franklin St #907	2	2	1	1130	11/10/10	699,000	675,000
2341 Franklin St #1	1	1	1	1306	11/17/10	699,000	685,000
256 Presidio Ave #2	2	2	0	964	11/24/10	695,000	697,000
2945 Pacific Ave #2	1	1	1	1124	11/10/10	699,000	701,500
2075 Sutter St #215	2	2	1	1088	11/30/10	769,000	734,500
2200 Sacramento St #102	2	2	1	1139	11/23/10	799,000	799,000
2006 Steiner St	2	2	1	1420	11/23/10	849,000	840,000
2288 Filbert St	2	1	1	1345	11/18/10	829,000	875,000
2200 Sacramento St #1001	1	2	1	1130	11/10/10	899,000	895,000
3190 Scott St #310	2	2	1	1215	11/10/10	969,000	935,000
2016 Pacific Ave #204	2	2.5	1	126	11/10/10	949,000	949,000
3190 Scott St #306	2	2	1	123	11/10/10	949,000	980,000
2200 Sacramento St #606	1	1.5	1	969	12/3/10	1,000,000	1,000,000
2450 Bush St	2	2	2	1446	11/19/10	1,050,000	1,029,000
2960 Jackson St	2	2	1	1355	12/8/10	1,099,000	1,065,000
3583 Sacramento St	3	2	1	1124	11/10/10	1,385,000	1,325,000
2200 Sacramento St #906	1	2	1	1130	11/10/10	1,495,000	1,485,000
2323 Broderick St	4	3.5	1	1272	11/10/10	1,595,000	1,585,000
2530 Broadway	3	3	0	2400	11/23/10	1,675,000	1,600,000
3934 Clay St	4	2.5	1	2397	12/14/10	2,197,000	2,015,000
2121 Broadway #5	4	4	2	2722	11/19/10	2,995,000	2,825,000



Among recent local sales are several in the 2200 Sacramento tower on Lafayette Park.

Both sales and prices edged back upward in 2010

Though the prices of homes and the number of sales in the neighborhood have not returned to their pre-recession levels of early 2007, there are encouraging signs in a review of last year's sales. The average price increased by about 6 percent in 2010 compared to 2009 sales. The number of single family home sales was up around 16 percent, while the number of condo sales was up approximately 13 percent. Traditionally the holidays are a time when real estate activity slows down, and this year-end was no exception. Many sellers are waiting until the beginning of the spring market, and buyers are pausing before making a move to see where tax and interest rates will fall in the new year.

RECENT SALES: During the last month, sales and prices of local homes remained steady and homes priced to meet the current market conditions continued to fare well. Notable sales included 2465 Pacific, a home designed by architect Sandy Walker with a Thomas Church garden. This 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath contemporary home was on the market for the first time in 30 years and sold over its asking price to an all-cash buyer within 18 days. Other notable sales include three homes in Presidio Heights: 2 Spruce Street, a 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath home on an oversized corner lot, which sold over asking after six days on the market; 130 Locust Street, a 6-bedroom, 4.5-bath home on the market for the first time in more than 50 years, which garnered six offers and sold to developer-architects for more than 15 percent over asking after only two weeks on the market; and 50 Walnut Street, whose price was reduced from \$4.8 million to \$4.55 million after 23 days on the market and went into contract within a week of the price reduction.

NEW LISTINGS: Among the few new listings during the last month is 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo #401 at 1521 Sutter Street — among the first to be re-sold since construction in 2008 — listed for \$549,000. At the top end of the market, unit #5 in the C.A. Muessdorffer-designed co-op building at 2000 Washington Street is a 3-bedroom, 4-bath full-floor view apartment offered at \$6.8 million.

— Data and commentary provided by VICTORIA STEWART DAVIS at Pacific Union. Contact her at vdavis@pacunion.com or call 345-3760.

ARCHITECTURE



The Osada Apartments at Fillmore and Pine, built in 1928, are meticulously maintained.

By JACQUIE PROCTOR

SOFT-SPOKEN British architect Harold G. Stoner quietly left his distinctive artistic mark on San Francisco, and one of his most important buildings stands proudly at the corner of Fillmore and Pine Streets.

The Osada Apartments — including 15 apartments and the storefronts for Paolo Shoes and The Grove cafe — were designed and built by Stoner in 1928.

Most of Stoner's work was residential. He designed numerous picturesque Storybook style homes in the city's western neighborhoods. Stoner also designed a medieval mountaintop mansion for Adolph G. Sutro and the entry to the ice rink at the Sutro Baths near the Cliff House — plus Sally Rand's Nude Ranch, the most popular exhibition at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island.

Born in Brighton, England, in 1890, Stoner sailed to Canada to pursue a career in architecture when he turned 18. According to his daughter, Joan Stoner Crandall, he was on his way to South America in 1914 when he stopped in San Francisco. The beauty of the area persuaded him to seek fame and fortune here instead.

Initially he boarded with a family in Oakland, where he met his future wife, Jeanne Legallet, a friend of the family. The Legallets had immigrated from France, where their ancestors supplied wool and leather to Napoleon's army for the invasion of Russia in 1812. They expanded their

tannery business to San Francisco's Butchertown a decade after the Gold Rush.

Both Stoner and his future wife served in World War I before marrying in 1920. Jeanne, fluent in French, volunteered to be a signal corps telephone operator and translator in France. Harold also went to

France for the U.S. Army and saw action in three battles before gaining American citizenship at the end of the war in Marseille.

Fellow veterans August and Rudy Lang gave Stoner's career a big boost in the early 1920s when they hired him as their chief architect for the speculative houses they

were building in the Forest Hill and Balboa Terrace residential areas west of Twin Peaks.

Stoner also designed a few apartment buildings. In 1928 his in-laws gave him the opportunity to create his finest multi-family building at the corner of Fillmore and Pine.

A state architectural resources survey conducted in 2007 details the ownership of the prominent corner lot. As far back as 1894, Isaac Harris owned a one-story building building at what is now 2000-2016 Fillmore that contained five shops, including a saloon and a restaurant.

Jeanne's father, Eugene Legallet, purchased the property in 1901. Around 1920, Jeanne's eldest sister, Blanche Sanders, purchased a two-story apartment building adjacent to the east on Pine Street. Eight years later, Blanche sold the property to their mother, Marie Legallet, and the two parcels were combined for the construction of a three-story apartment building with commercial spaces at the street level.

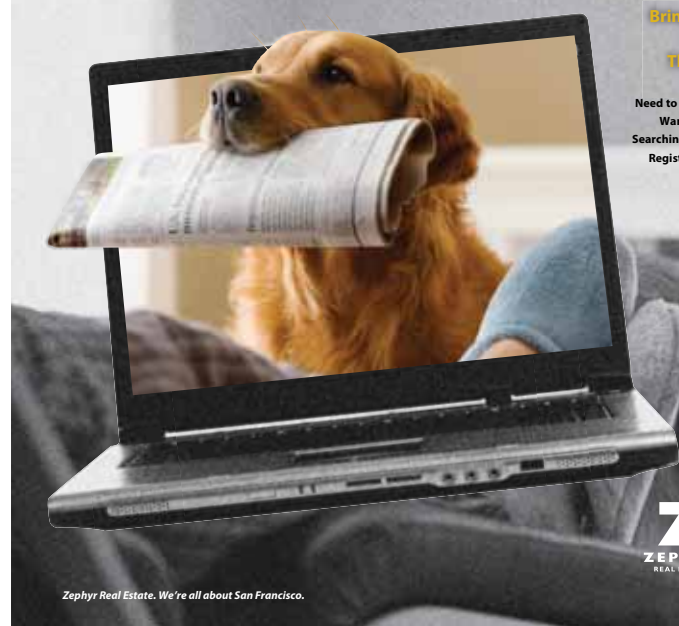
After Marie Legallet's death in 1949, sisters Satomi and Kunjige Koga purchased the property from her estate for \$75,000. It was soon resold to Joe and Amy Osada, whose descendants still own it.

The historical survey of the property enumerated its architectural details, concluding: "The building retains a high level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship and feeling, since few major alterations have been made."

TO PAGE 14 ►

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Two of architect Harold Stoner's more prominent designs were for the Suto family: the entrance to the ice rink at the Suto Baths (left) and a mansion later replaced by Suto Tower.

Prolific Architect Left His Mark on Fillmore Street, Too

► FROM PAGE 13

But its cultural significance, the report said, was its role in the development of the Japantown community after the return of Japanese-Americans to the city from forcible internment during World War II.

"The change in property ownership to the Osadas, through the Kogas, reflects patterns of postwar resettlement as Japanese-Americans sought to reestablish themselves and their community," the report notes.

"The fact that the property's first Japanese American owners were American-born ... is indicative of historic difficulties faced by Japanese, who were not able to own property due to laws like the Webb-Heney Alien Land Act, which was in effect

from 1913 to 1956 and made it illegal for 'aliens ineligible for citizenship' to own property."

The building is a rare surviving example of Harold Stoner's multi-family architecture. The Osada's son Bill has meticulously maintained the Mediterranean Revival ornamentation that distinguishes the building as among Stoner's best architectural work.

It includes his signature spindled window mullions and the sculpted coat of arms motif below each of the angled bay windows, which have been accentuated by a recent repainting. Clerestory stained glass windows divided by pillars with scalloped tops welcome customers to the two com-

mercial storefronts, which for more than two decades were occupied by the Brown Bag and the Chestnut Cafe. In earlier years the storefronts housed a furniture store, a real estate office and an insurance company.

The facade of the building terminates in a parapet adorned with green diamond tiles framed by curved moldings and a red clay barrel tile roof.

The recessed entrance to the apartments around the corner at 2280 Pine Street is decorated with one of Stoner's signature arches, elaborate sculpted moldings and ornate grillwork. Through the lobby's plate glass doors is a visual delight of colorful tiled steps, hand-crafted wrought iron sconces, stenciled beams and a tiled fountain — another Stoner trademark — bringing

a bit of Mediterranean warmth indoors.

By the end of his career, Stoner had designed more than 500 homes and other buildings known for their livability, charm and artistic detail. His work included commissions in Sea Cliff, St. Francis Wood and other western neighborhoods, plus homes and buildings in Marin County, the Peninsula and the East Bay and as far away as Lake Tahoe and Los Angeles. He died in 1971 and is buried in the Golden Gate National Cemetery.

Jacque Proctor is the author of 'Bay Area Beauty: The Artistry of Harold G. Stoner, Architect,' which is available at jacqueproctor.com.

■ SIX STEPS

Forget resolutions; instead, find joy

People make the same resolutions each year: This year I resolve to start walking, quit smoking, start meditating, take a vacation, begin an exercise program or eat more healthily. This year, for something extraordinary, try these six steps to forget about resolutions and find more joy.

1. **GET CLEAR.** You don't want to do what you've always done about New Year's resolutions.

2. **GET WILLING.** Say to yourself: I am willing to try a different approach, even if I have doubts.

3. **GET CURIOUS.** Ask yourself: What does being physically fit and healthy mean for me? What might I be doing and who might I be doing it with? Take a few minutes to answer these questions and write down your answers.

4. **GET GROUNDED.** Read over your answers from step 3. What about them is most important to you? Perhaps it is to be a loving parent, grandparent or partner. Maybe you see that being physically fit and healthy make it easier to be financially successful or to travel. Or maybe you really want to go back to school. Look for what connects to your heart. Write it down.

5. **GET GOING.** What would a person who is willing to be physically fit and healthy do today? Ask this question every morning, answer it and promise to do what you said you would do. Keep your promise small and sweet so that you can achieve it easily.

6. **GET GRATEFUL.** Every night review these steps. Then write down three things you are grateful for on a Post-it note or in a journal.

Do each of these steps every day for 30 days. You'll find more joy in your life. I would love to know what happens for you: send an email to coach@cinderernst.com.

— CINDER ERNST, a local resident, is also a certified life coach and medical exercise specialist. Ernst will speak on Sunday, January 9, at 11 a.m. at Unity Church at 2222 Bush Street, just west of Fillmore. For more information, visit cinderernst.com.

"If I had but two loaves of bread, I'd sell one and buy hyacinths to feed my soul."

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BODY & SOUL

This Year, Take Hard Times Head On

How to protect your psychological health — and wealth — in the new year

By ELIZABETH McMAHON

Hard times is here and everywhere you go. Times are harder than they've been before.
— "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues"

Turn on the television, or the computer, or open the newspaper and you find endless stories about layoffs, unemployment, foreclosures and business closings. Even in this relatively privileged and prosperous neighborhood, most of us know people who have lost their jobs, their homes or their businesses in recent years. Everyone is dealing with the effects of the recession.

Financial hard times can pack a powerful punch. Suicide, domestic violence and drug and alcohol abuse all increase during tough economic times. How can you survive hard times?

AVOID THESE STRESS TRAPS

- Emphasizing losses and negatives.
- Focusing on who's to blame.
- Thinking over and over about the worst possible outcomes.
- Making unrealistic demands, such as demanding certainty or fast, easy solutions.
- Abusing alcohol or drugs.

USE GOOD STRESS MANAGEMENT

- Good stress management techniques help protect you physically and emotionally.
- Physical: walking, yoga, qi gong, tai chi, sports, dance and other forms of exercise.
 - Interpersonal: reaching out to others for help, advice, comfort and support.
 - Spiritual: prayer, chanting, meditation, mindfulness and other spiritual practices.
 - Relaxation: slow diaphragmatic "belly" breathing, muscle relaxation, guided imagery and music.

YOUR MONEY IS NOT YOU

Remember that no matter what happens to you financially, your life is not over. Regardless of your finances, you still have worth and meaning. And you are not helpless. You can improve your mood, increase your resilience and reduce the negative effects of stress — no matter how bad things get financially.

PROTECT YOUR PSYCHOLOGICAL WEALTH

Researchers in "positive psychology" are studying what encourages happiness and mental health. You may be as surprised as they were by some of their findings. For example, after a certain point, money doesn't buy happiness. Once you meet basic needs for food, shelter and safety, more money doesn't increase happiness by very much.

Research is uncovering techniques that can protect

mental health, reduce stress and increase happiness — and cost nothing. Here are two:

I. COMPARE DOWN

We are quick to compare ourselves to those who are better off. Or to compare things now with how they used to be or what we expected: "I used to have a job and a house." "My 401K used to be twice what it is now." "We used to make a profit." "I thought I could retire."

Comparisons don't change your situation, but they do change your mood. Try this experiment: For 15 seconds, think of all the ways you are worse off compared to other people or compared with how you expected things to be at this point in your life.

Okay — time's up. How do you feel? Probably not so great. So don't do this to yourself.

If you must compare, compare yourself to people who are worse off. It's like that kid's trick where you put one hand in a bowl of hot water and the other in a bowl of cold water. After one minute, you put them both in a bowl of lukewarm water. To the hand that had been hot, the water feels cool; to the hand that had been cold, the water feels warm. It's all in what you're comparing.

What comparisons are you choosing to make? How do those comparisons make you feel? When you catch yourself thinking about how things could be better, switch and think of how your current situation could be much worse.

II. NOTICE POSITIVES

Notice the positives as you go through your day. What went well? Did you help someone, or did someone help you? Did you see something beautiful? What pleased or surprised you? What made you proud or grateful? How did you contribute to causing good things to happen today?

Every night, write down three good things that happened that day. Martin Seligman, a leader of the positive psychology movement, calls this the "three blessings" technique. It's a great conversation starter over the family dinner table.

POSITIVE AND PRACTICAL — NOT POLLYANNA

Ignoring problems doesn't work. Nor does telling yourself affirmations you don't believe — in fact, telling yourself something you don't believe can make you feel more depressed.

When facing real problems, people in better moods are more effective, creative problem solvers. So look at the facts of your financial situation. Do what you can to avoid, ease or resolve problems. Accept that some factors are out of your control. Then focus on making the most of your psychological wealth, regardless of what happens to your monetary wealth.

Elizabeth McMahon, Ph.D., a psychologist with Kaiser Permanente, is a local resident.



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