



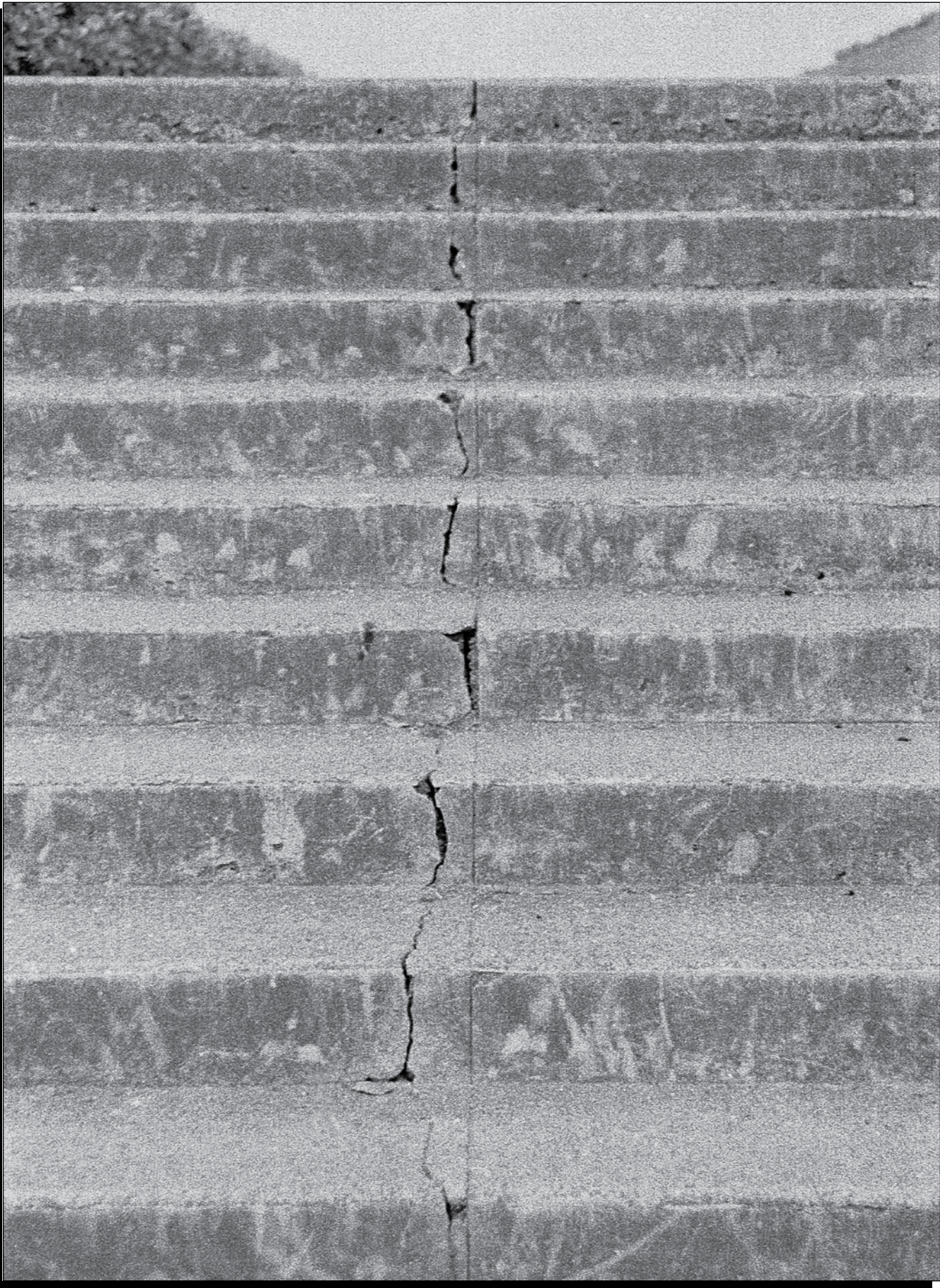
T H E

NEW

FILLMORE



October 2019

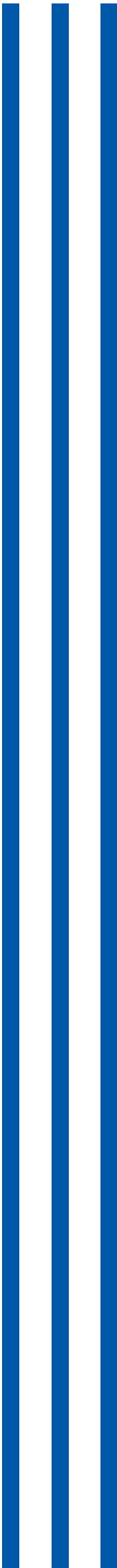


Photograph of the Alta Plaza steps in October 1989 by Ginny Lindsay

30 years ago

ON OCTOBER 17, 1989, the Loma Prieta earthquake shook the Fillmore and the rest of the Bay Area. The neighborhood was spared major damage, but felt the effects of the quake in ways large and small. The cover of the next issue of this newspaper — Volume 4, Number 7, reprinted here — told the story.

- Inside, a local recalls the scene as regulars drew together at the Pacific Heights Bar & Grill, then a key community gathering place, which never recovered from the earthquake. | PAGES 8 & 9
- The most visible local damage was at St. Dominic's Church, where the top of its tower was lost and the historic home of St. Rose Academy was razed. | PAGE 12



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FLASHBACK



Then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev stopped to press the flesh at Fillmore and California.

THE DAY GORBACHEV STOPPED AT DINO'S

IT WAS ONLY a few months after the 1989 earthquake when Mikhail Gorbachev, still president of the still superpowerful Soviet Union, made a swing through San Francisco in early June of 1990.

It was a brief 22-hour stay, which included sleeping late on Monday morning, June 4. Gorbachev and his wife Raisa had flown in late the night before, after stops in Washington and Minneapolis, and stayed in the neighborhood at the Soviet consul general's residence at 2820 Broadway. Gorbachev was behind schedule all day, but still feted like a visiting rock star in appearances at Stanford University and with the local business elite. The Gorbachevs even worked in a reunion with old friends Ronald and Nancy Reagan.

"The Bay Area basked in the afterglow of a visit by Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev," reported the *Los Angeles Times*, "happy to show the world it has rebounded from last fall's earthquake."

Late in the afternoon, Gorbachev and his retinue headed back to the consul general's mansion on Outer Broadway. Their motorcade of fierce-looking Zil limousines came barreling down the hill headed west on California Street toward Fillmore.

When he spotted a group of two dozen people on the corner, the procession came to a halt. Gorbachev bounded out of the big boxy Zil and started shaking hands like a veteran American pol.

The *Chronicle* reported the next day: *Gorbachev stopped only once to mingle with a crowd of ordinary people — at about 6:15 p.m. at California and Fillmore streets. He walked toward the people on the street,*

and they surged toward him. Others ran out of Dino's pizza parlor, the corner liquor store and the neighborhood copy center.

"Usually you don't have occasion to see somebody so important so close," said Felix Nager, who works at the copy center. "He's like a normal man."

Norm Newman, a 30-year-old ex-U.S. Marine, was so overcome he screamed, "I love you, Gorby!" Later, after he had shaken Gorbachev's hand, he said, "He's opening the doors. He's a very likeable guy."

Dino Stavrikakis, who owns the pizza shop, said Gorbachev was the most famous man he had ever met — and he's met Ronnie Lott, the famous 49er, Sleepy Floyd, the basketball player, and Jerry Brown, the politician.

"I would have liked it if he would have come in for a piece of pizza," Dino said.

Inevitably, there were T-shirts for sale all over the city. At Broadway and Divisadero, two blocks from the Soviet consular residence, shirts portrayed Gorbachev as Bart Simpson, with the words "Radical Dude" underneath.

Although Gorbachev and his wife went separate ways for most of the day, they met again at 6:33 p.m. at the consular residence on Broadway.

The stop at Dino's had lasted only a few minutes. The return to 2820 Broadway didn't last much longer. A visit to the Golden Gate Bridge was called off.

"I always wanted to come here," Gorbachev told reporters as his motorcade started to leave for the airport. "You're very fortunate to live here. President Bush should tax the people for living in such a beautiful place."

THE NEW FILLMORE


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Connecting the neighborhood

Every month, 20,000 copies of the New Fillmore circulate 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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Browser Begins a New Era

Green Apple takes over this month

THESE STORIES almost always turn out the wrong way: the beloved neighborhood small business — especially if it’s an independent bookstore — shuts down. But not this time. Browser Books, at 2195 Fillmore, got a new lease on life October 1 when the owners of Green Apple Books took the keys. Green Apple — the new and used book-seller on Clement Street, which added a



Longtime employee Fred Martin at the front desk at Browser Books, which was rescued by supporters last year with a GoFundMe campaign.

second store five years ago on 9th Avenue — promises the Browser name and staff will stay the same and changes will be gentle. “We’re proud to help shepherd the beloved Browser Books into the future,” said Green Apple co-owner Pete Mulvihill. “We’re coming in confidently but humbly.” Green Apple will bring an infusion of operating capital and bookselling back-bone, but most of the initial changes will be behind the scenes.

“We do plan some gradual improvements,” Mulvihill said. “I hope that six months from now people will walk in and say, ‘I always loved this store, and it’s even better now.’” Browser Books was rescued by its fans last spring when a GoFundMe campaign almost immediately raised \$80,000 to pay the debts of longtime owner Stephen Damon, who has been battling a terminal illness. That kept the books coming and pro-

vided time to work out a longer-term solution. Manager Jordan Pearson led the effort, aided by local entrepreneurs Richard and Ben Springwater. Green Apple takes over the remaining seven years on Browser’s lease. Owners Kevin Ryan and Mulvihill will be in the store on Saturday, October 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a “Meet the New Owners” celebration and an unveiling of Browser’s new T-shirts and tote bags.

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NOVEMBER 2019

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Election Day!

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Robbery

Assault

**Terrorist Threats,
Exhibiting a Deadly Weapon
Sutter and Broderick
August 29, 5:16 p.m.**

Hot Prowl
Laguna and Page
August 30, 8:20 a.m.

**Armed Robbery
Clement and 9th
August 31, 7:44 p.m.**

**Outstanding Warrant
Pacific and Polk
September 5, 10 a.m.**

Hot Prowl
Geary and 38th
September 6, 3:44 a.m.

found several outstanding warrants for his arrest and he was booked at county jail.

**Armed Threat
Divisadero and Bush
September 17, 11:13 a.m.**

**Auto Break-in
Divisadero and O'Farrell
September 17, 12:41 a.m.**

Robbery
Geary and Masonic
September 17, 7:36 p.m.

**Armed Robbery
California and Baker
September 21, 4:23 a.m.**

It’s CBD All Around

By Chris Barnett

HISTORY SAYS the modern-era pizza was invented in Naples in the 17th century as street food for the poor. Now pizza pricing history may be in the making at 2043 Fillmore, where **APIZZA** opened late last month and, as heralded, is selling a full nine-inch Margherita pie for \$2.75, about the cost of a slice at most pizzerias. Congenial Frenchman and general manager **PIERRE LAUGA** says beer and wine will soon be poured and — get this — CBD oil will soon be available as a pizza topping. Also on the CBD front: While well-heeled entrepreneurs are pushing hard to turn the **UNITY CHURCH** on Bush Street into a cannabis emporium, **GARIN** opened almost overnight at 2053 Fillmore near California as a creative retailing venture selling luxury cashmere and CBD. This is no upmarket pot shop. It’s a partnership between **NEGARIN SADR** — a longtime merchant of stylish cashmere clothing for men and women who previously had **NEGARIN** in this storefront — and **PAUL CLOTAR** and **PETER STADNIUK**, who’ve developed the hemp-based **SEABEDEE** product line aimed, they say, at reducing pain, anxiety and improving sleep.

R.I.P. OSTERIA: The low-profile 30-plus-year-old Northern Italian restaurant **OSTERIA CUCINA TOSCANA**, at 3277 Sacramento has quietly closed. Chairs are upside down on the tables in a ghostly manner. There’s a broker’s for lease sign in the window, but no goodbye note on the door. Osteria was a longtime fave of Presidio and Pacific Heights regulars who went for the cuisine and family feeling. Owner **GINA GHORBANI** closed Osteria after keeping it afloat for 11 years following the death of her husband, **VAHID GHORBANI**, in July 2008. He was a Persian with a passion for Italian food. Just across the street on Presidio, **GARIBALDI’S** celebrated its 30th anniversary on September 27 and co-owners **CATE MASON**, **LLOYD SACKS** and chef **DOUGLAS BORKOWSKI** hosted a Bubbles and Bites Bash to celebrate. Founders **JOHN AND ANN HURLEY** and **JUSTIN HAFEN** showed up to party.

LOCALS ON THE MOVE: Over at **FLORIO**, at 1915 Fillmore, favorite former chef **RICK HACKETT** returns as executive chef after running his own place in Jack London Square. He brings along **NAIZER MUBARAK**, who will add Pan-American savory and spice to some dishes, but the menu remains the same, promises general manager **JOHN CASTANO**. Founder-owner **JACK KREITZMAN** is back at the helm of his 34-year-old trattoria **JACKSON FILLMORE**, at 2506 Fillmore near Jackson, as brother-sister managers **CASEY AND KELLY SULLIVAN** move on to new ventures. **KALISTA MURPHY** exits her customer service post at the **WELLS FARGO** branch at California and Fillmore and moves a block south to join **HARRY’S BAR** at 2020 Fillmore as a server. “The food and bar business is more exciting,” she explains.




Noosh chefs Laura and Sayat Ozyilmaz are heralded as rising stars — and there’s another nearby in Japantown.

STOVE WIZARDS: The neighborhood is home to three of the *Chron*’s annual listing of Rising Star Chefs, hailed for “pushing their respective cuisines forward.” One is **MEGHAN CLARK** of the long-awaited and recently opened modern Thai restaurant **NARI** in the **HOTEL KABUKI** at 1625 Post in Japantown. “Americans often think Thai food is just street food,” Clark says. “And that’s not even the best part of it. Thai food has a lot of rich history of beautifully prepared meals.” Also honored is the husband and wife team of **LAURA AND SAYAT OZYILMAZ**, whose eastern Mediterranean cuisine is packing the house daily at **NOOSH** at Fillmore and Pine — “a stylish restaurant on Fillmore that redefines so much about Bay Area restaurants, from both culinary and operational points of view,” the *Chron* notes.

THE TRIBES IN THE GROVE: The rustic and familiar coffeehouse-restaurant **THE GROVE** at 2016 Fillmore is known for its diverse menu and smart servers. Now it has added greater diversity to its staffing. A trio of Native American women from three different California tribes have joined, bringing their smiles and swift service skills with them: **MONIQUE VALADOR-PINEDA** from the Ohlone Tribe in San Jose, **CIERRA OSCAR** from the Yurok tribe and **JENA MARSHALL** from the Hoopa tribe east of Eureka, one of the very few Indian nations in California not to have its lands seized by the U.S. government.

SWEET TREAT: Nestled among the storefronts at 1840 Fillmore is the **PHILMORE CREAMERY**, a family owned gelato emporium. Handmade on the premises in small batches, the gelato flavors, a rotating list of 40, are so intense they make your taste buds dance. Dad **PHIL MALIK** and son **JORDAN MALIK** source ingredients globally. The chocolate comes from Caffarel in Torino, Italy, reputedly the world’s oldest chocolate company. Prices range from \$5 for a small cup up to \$20 for 32 ounces to go. Try the espresso gelato. Mom **MONA MALIK** designed the place and is the real boss. Uber Eats, Door Dash and Postmate deliver for those with cravings. During the day, Jordan hawks sidewalk samples.

The Beat goes on. Send newsy local items to chris@cbarnmedia.com or call 415-921-5092.



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October 2019 NEW FILLMORE 5



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOAN HOCKADAY

Three recently opened San Francisco businesses retained the entry tiles from their past as Shumate's Pharmacies. From left, Pearl 6101, Blue Bottle Coffee and AltoVino owner Claudio Villani.

Tiles a Reminder of a Pharmacy Empire Based in the Neighborhood

By JOAN HOCKADAY

ON THE southwest corner of Fillmore and Jackson, the modern new home of Blue Bottle Coffee serves long lines of coffee lovers from early morning through late afternoon. Customers enter by stepping over vintage black and white tiles that spell out Shumate's — a reminder that this was once a Shumate's Pharmacy, one of 30 that for a time were spread throughout the city. Each of the Shumate family pharmacies was located on visible corner sites in the city beginning in 1900, when the state issued a business license to Dr. Thomas Shumate. The first pharmacy was at the corner of

Divisadero and Sutter, only three blocks from the Shumate family home on a large corner lot at Pine and Scott Streets. The restored Shumate home and garden still remain at 1901 Scott Street. Thomas Shumate's son, Dr. Albert Shumate, lived there until his death in 1998 at age 94. The firm grew quickly after the 1906 earthquake and fire. "Father was only a struggling doctor, so to speak, a physician, and owned one drugstore," Dr. Albert Shumate said in an oral history recorded in 1978 for the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley. "The fire and earthquake in a way aided him. His store was not touched. Some of the drugstores downtown that were well established were

destroyed. Some of them didn't rebuild. Father said the earthquake really helped him financially because Divisadero Street, like Fillmore, became quite a center of the city after the earthquake." By 1933, the city directory listed 30 Shumate pharmacies on corners throughout the city, with a general office at 1640 Divisadero. All have since closed. Recently two more new businesses have opened with vintage Shumate's tiles intact. At the southeast corner of Mason and Pacific, along the cable car line, Italian wine connoisseur Claudio Villani recently purchased the corner site and christened his restaurant AltoVino. He soon connected the Shumate legacy in the tiles on

his doorstep to his own mission. "We give you medicine and pleasure, too," Villani said while watching cable cars grinding uphill outside his shop. "Food — that is medicine, and good and healthy, too." On the southwest corner of California Street and 23rd Avenue, another new eatery also retained the Shumate tiles on its doorstep. Inside Pearl 6101 — the name a convenient reminder of the address at 6101 California Street — the decor is a throwback to the 1930s and 1940s. A wooden balcony remains from the original pharmacy. "We designed it that way," co-owner John Heffron said. As for saving the Shumate tiles, he says: "We liked it as a reminder of the history of San Francisco."

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'An Exceptional Pie at a Very Low Price'

Apizza launches a revolution on Fillmore Street

By Shelley Handler

AT 2043 FILLMORE, a few hundred yards from his original La Boulangerie on Pine Street, baker and entrepreneur Pascal Rigo and his partner Nicolas Bernadi on September 24 launched Apizza, a fast food pie shop with an eye toward becoming the “In-N-Out of pizza.”

“The field was ripe for disruption,” says Jason Thompson, Apizza’s chief development officer. “Nobody has done anything new with pizza in decades.”

The team’s revolutionary approach has been far from high-tech. “Pascal and Nicolas started with this familiar product, and changed the game by critically honing production so waste is at an absolute minimum,” Thompson says. “From there, they put the savings into great ingredients, allowing Apizza to sell an exceptional pie at a very low price.”

An example is the Margherita, made on an ultra-thin nine-inch organic crust topped with quality Mozzarella, organic cherry tomatoes and basil, which rings in at a door-busting \$2.75.

Enthusiasm for this ground-breaking concept carries from the top down.

“Life is too short to work at something you don’t love — and we’re all having so much fun,” says Bernadi.

An avid kite-surfer, his energetic joy is

palpable. And it’s obvious among the staff members, too, whose smiling charm and willingness to serve add a level of polish that goes far beyond fast food. Though the prices are low and the delivery quick, this feels like a full-service restaurant.

From the clean, bright feel of the space to the wall graphics that spell out what’s in the crust and sauce, the quality is out in the open.

“There’s nothing to hide,” says Bernadi. “We are completely transparent with what we serve and how we make it. We use the best organic flour and organic produce from local farms. The pizza crusts and tomato sauce are prepared by us in our own plant, under controlled production. That way the quality is 100 percent consistent, no matter who’s making the pizza. We freeze the crusts, and they’re ready to go into the oven from there. If we make the dough from scratch in our restaurants, it’s too hard to monitor the outcome.”

Bernadi points to his experience with Starbucks as the inspiration for offering upscale pizzas at drive-thru prices. When the megalith bought Rigo’s 23 La Boulange bakeries for \$100 million, it kept Rigo and Bernadi on to upgrade Starbucks’ pastries and breads. Creating quality baked goods

for 70 million customers a day opened the partners’ eyes to the wild potential of scale. They began to ask themselves: “How can we force lots of people to eat well?” Taking a universally loved product like pizza and turning it into a healthful dish at a “crazy affordable” price became their mission.

Apizza’s priorities also play out in its packaging. Rather than use bulky, pricey pizza boxes, the takeout pies are folded into compostable take-

away containers.

“I hate waste,” says Bernadi. “So everything is completely biodegradable, down to our hay-based drinking straws.”

Thanks to the carefully selected, mostly organic ingredients, the nine-inch pies punch far above their price in value and flavor. A \$5.99 sausage pizza serves up Creminelli heritage pork sausage and roasted red bell pepper. The roasted seasonal



PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUZIE BIEHLER

Apizza’s menu offers a variety of upscale pizzas at drive-thru prices to eat in or take out, served up by an enthusiastic crew. More locations are in the works.



veggie (\$5.79) offers organic vegetables at their peak, drizzled with a garlicky, caper-rich Italian salsa verde. And \$4.99 brings a straightforward cheese and pepperoni.

One fun departure from the classics is La Royale With Cheese (thank you, *Pulp Fiction*) — a \$5.99 deconstructed cheese-burger pie that includes the feel-good bonus of a 25 cent donation to the Learn-Up reading program. Those who are not meat eaters can substitute the ground beef or sausage with Impossible Meat’s options.

With a choice of three crusts — organic wheat, organic sprouted wheat and gluten-free — the pies are a healthy choice from top to bottom.

The sweet side of the menu is refreshingly “clean,” but not oppressively so. Housemade natural drinks, using unsweetened fruit purees and sparkling water, come

with the option of simple syrup to add at the table. As an incentive to lower single-use waste, a 30 cent discount is offered for those who bring their own cups. Coke and Diet Coke are also offered.

Crisp chocolate chip cookies are the first thing out of the pizza oven daily, before the pies begin to crank. For a mere 75 cents, diners may order them neat or as a mix-in with Apizza’s Loving Cup frozen yogurt. Rigo and partners acquired the company last year, and Loving Cup’s nonfat, probiotic-rich yogurt matches Apizza’s good-and-good-for-you intent. Other mix-in offerings, such as Nutella, Oreos, chocolate chips and Junior Mints are right there next to the strawberries.

Because a little splurge goes so well with everything else.



Apizza is now open at 2043 Fillmore Street.

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Among Friends When the '89 Earthquake Hit

BY MARILYN FISHER

I LEFT THE OFFICE about 4:35 that afternoon — October 17, 1989 — to get a decent seat at the Pacific Heights Bar & Grill to watch the third game of the World Series. I had been there about five minutes when the earthquake hit at 5:04 p.m.

It started with a slight jolt and a rumble, similar to a bus going by. Then someone near me yelled “earthquake” and it was apparent it wasn’t just a bus.

I dived under a nearby table and a girl sitting next to me dived there, too. We held on to the pedestal table as it jerked up and down. There was an incredible roaring sound. I thought the walls would come tumbling down. But they didn’t, and then it was over, with no damage at all, not a single broken bottle or glass.

Like the vast majority of people in the area, we had no idea how bad it was and at first assumed the game would soon continue, although the power was out and the television, obviously, dark.

A large transistor radio was brought out from the kitchen and a group of us stayed glued to it for several minutes. The first reports were sketchy and confused. People ordered drinks and were in a crazy, scared but almost cheerful mood — until we heard on the radio that a portion of the Bay Bridge and a freeway in Oakland were down.

Next we heard about a terrible fire and buildings collapsing in the Marina. People who lived out of the city began scampering for pay phones, many of which were not working, although some were.

As it got dark, Susie and Craig Bashel, the owners of the PacBag, closed to non-regulars and locked the door. They brought out candles and served drinks to the regulars. Eventually most of our crowd who had gone to Candlestick Park for the game knocked on the door and filtered in.

The PacBag was such an integral part of our neighborhood community, a place so many of us knew we would always see friends, beginning with Susie and Craig — a natural place to gravitate to in good times and bad. I think we all felt a little more complete that night when the contingent that had been at the ball park arrived and joined us in the candlelight.

We all left about 11 p.m., and I was fortunate that a friend who lived in my building had arrived with a flashlight. Another friend drove us home, through streets pitch dark and quiet. I know I slept some that night, but sleeping was not easy in the aftermath of the earthquake.

The next day, Wednesday, October 18, was a strange day. Most of us in the neighborhood still had no electrical power. Some of the commercial establishments on Fillmore or nearby did have power —



The oyster bar in the window of the Pacific Heights Bar & Grill at Fillmore and Pine bustled with regulars and offered an extensive selection.

Those Were the Days

The Pacific Heights Bar & Grill was the neighborhood gathering place

BY THOMAS REYNOLDS

BEHIND THE CROWDS queueing up outside the hot new restaurant Noosh, on the corner of Fillmore and Pine, is a small brass plaque recalling an earlier incarnation of the space when it was home to the late and much-lamented Pacific Heights Bar & Grill.

The PacBag, as it was known, was a pioneering restaurant that reigned as the neighborhood’s living room for a decade.

“It was the neighborhood Cheers,” the bar on the television show where everybody knows your name, says Marilyn Fisher, a lawyer who lived nearby and was a regular.

“It was like Cheers,” agrees co-owner Susie Bashel. “People came in almost every day.”

Before the PacBag opened in 1984 — and definitely before the Elite Cafe opened on the same block in 1981 — California Street was the dividing line between upper and lower Fillmore.

“People farther north started migrating down,” says longtime neighborhood resident Ronald Hobbs, who ran Spectrum Exotic Birds next door to the PacBag and became one of the regulars. “Before, anything south of California Street was sketchy.”

Hobbs says the new restaurant, with its extensive oyster bar in the front window, was several cuts above most of its neighbors. “It was!” he says. “I put on a white shirt. I’d clean my fingernails.”

IT ALL STARTED when a runaway Muni bus plowed through the front door one afternoon and knocked the building off its foundation. The repairs offered the opportunity to do seismic work and upgrade the interior, too, which had previously housed an antiques shop and a plant store.

“We got a little more ambitious,” says Bashel, who ran the restaurant with her husband, Craig.

They had come up from Southern California to open a restaurant in Santa Rosa, or perhaps Sonoma. Instead they decided

to partner with a friend who had a restaurant on Polk Street.

“Then this idea bloomed,” says Bashel. “Honestly, we were so young and so green. It just took off.”

The oyster bar in the front window was a visible draw, and operated on a scale seen nowhere else in town, and few other places anywhere.

“We had a terrific selection of oysters — sometimes 20 kinds a day,” says Bashel. They were sent by UPS. “We’d go down to the airport to pick them up. Nobody was doing what we were doing.”

And there was a long new drinking bar visible from both Pine and Fillmore.

“It had that huge bar — 22 seats,” Bashel says. “We had all kinds of regulars. It turned into a neighborhood place, but with a little glamour.”

Herb Caen helped. The legendary *Chronicle* columnist reported one day that the seafood at the PacBag was so fresh that chef Lonnie Williams had “reached into the refrigerator for a piece of fish and was bitten on the index finger by a quite live 30-pound halibut.” Caen added: “The fish aren’t taking this lying down.”

Williams and server Karen Warner wrote a book — *Oysters: A Connoisseur’s Guide & Cookbook* — that capitalized on the restaurant’s claim as one of the best-stocked oyster bars in the nation. The beautiful little book remains a collector’s item.

AS THE RESTAURANT’S reputation grew — Orville Schell in *California* magazine called it “the best seafood this side of a sandbar” — people came from all over. But the locals considered it their own.

“We were patronized by people who lived nearby,” Bashel says. “And so many people knew each other! You’d walk in and talk to four or five people on your way down the bar.”

The San Francisco International Film Festival was then held every year at the swanky new Kabuki cinemas on Post Street, and would always buy out the PacBag for a party. Robert and Magrit



Susie and Craig Bashel owned and operated the PacBag from 1984 to 1994.

► THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Mondavi took it over to promote their winery.

“Robin Williams lived nearby and would always come in and get take-out for 15 or 20 people,” says Bashel. “It was wildly expensive.”

One of the most regular regulars even got married at the PacBag — to someone he’d met at the bar.

The restaurant had a personal and carefully crafted wine program, too. Bashel herself was in charge of choosing the wines.

“Anthony Dias Blue lived in the neighborhood,” Bashel says. “His *Bon Appetit* wine tasting panel met upstairs at the PacBag for a couple of years. He let me taste with them — tasting, and just listening.”

Many of the regulars were baseball fans, so once or twice a season the PacBag would rent a bus and provide the food and drinks for a tailgate party at a Giants game. “Those were a blast,” Bashel remembers.

It all seemed like something of a dream.

“I never thought we would have a restaurant like that,” she says. “Our goals and our vision were much smaller. It was thrilling.”

THEN CAME THE Loma Prieta earthquake on October 17, 1989. Some of the regulars were at the World Series game at Candlestick Park, and others gathered at the PacBag to watch the broadcast of the game.

“I was cleaning out the cages in the bird store and it started shaking,” recalls Ronald Hobbs. “When things settled down, I went into the PacBag and took somebody’s

drink — I couldn’t wait for my own.”

The quake signaled the beginning of the end for the PacBag.

“It was a great business, until the earthquake hit in 1989,” Bashel says. “It was never quite the same. We never quite recovered from the earthquake.”

Locals still came in for a cocktail after work, but the Bay Bridge was closed, cutting off fans from the East Bay. The owners hung on for a few more years before finally calling it quits in 1994.

“We were getting close to the end of our 10-year lease,” Bashel recalls. “Business had declined to the point that we felt we should let it die a natural death. It was super-hard. It was really sad.”

Eventually they made their way north to Oregon.

“We made a conscious decision to get out of seafood and do something more affordable — something with a bigger audience and more potential customers. The Portland restaurant scene was just starting and offered a lot more opportunity.”

They found success of a different kind when they opened Pastini, a casual Italian restaurant, in Portland. Now, 25 years after they left Fillmore Street, they have three Pastinis in Portland and five more in the suburbs and other parts of Oregon.

They have fond memories, but no second thoughts about closing the PacBag.

“I think it was the right time,” Bashel says. “We regret only that we had to leave. It was one of the best parts of my life — all the friends I made that I still have, and living in San Francisco, which was wonderful. We have so many good memories and met so many good people. It was an amazing experience for us.”



The neon sign sign in the front window. A brass plaque with the logo remains near the entry of Noosh.

► FIRST PERSON

including the Grand Central Market — but it was sporadic. The PacBag and my apartment building had no power until Thursday morning.

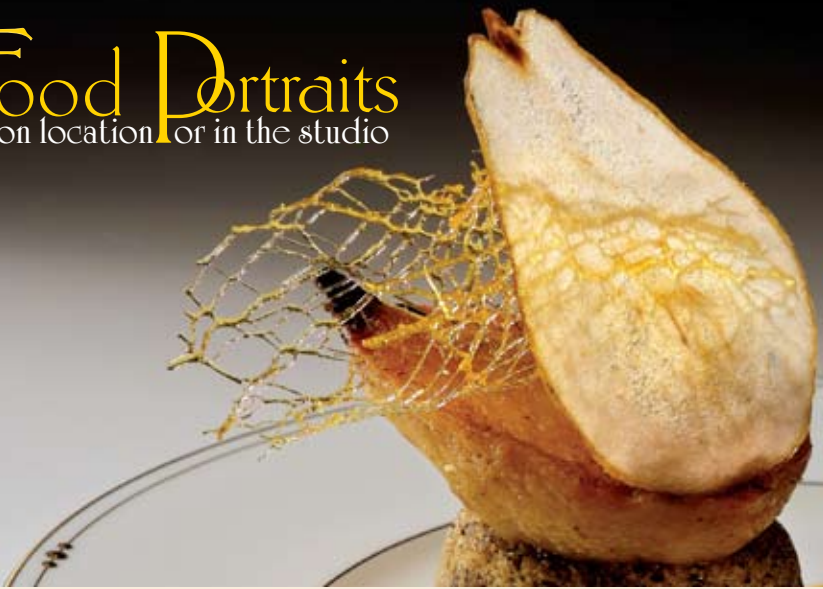
Although there was no damage where I lived at Bush and Webster, we were only 15 blocks from the Marina, which was heavily damaged. In the first several days after the quake, it seemed unfair, and made our neighborhood feel almost guilty that we were okay while there was such devastation so close by.

There were early reports of severe damage at my law office downtown, but almost nobody even attempted to call others about work until Friday, October 20, when most parts of the city had power restored.

Three days later, after the weekend, they told us it was safe to go back to work, despite previous reports about asbestos and structural damage. The old half of our building was condemned, but the new part, built in 1957, was determined to be safe.

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By ANDREA CHASE

THE JAPAN FILM FESTIVAL of San Francisco returns to the neighborhood this month for its seventh installment at New People Cinema in Japantown, featuring the latest in drama, comedy, sci-fi and documentaries — with a pair of luminaries in attendance.

The festival runs from October 4 to 13. Here are some highlights.

Opening night is Tatsushi Omori’s *Every Day a Good Day* (October 4 at 7:15 p.m.), based on a series of essays by Noriko Morishita on her quarter-century devotion to the traditional Japanese tea ceremony. As meditative as the ceremony itself, with the same attention to the smallest details that inform the whole, it features the final performance by legendary actress Kirin Kiki as the tea mistress tutoring Noriko, played by Haru Kuroki, through the art and philosophy of the tea ceremony.

The national phenomenon in Japan that is *I Go Gaga, My Dear* (October 5 at noon) hits San Francisco, with first-time feature director Naoko Nobutomo making a special appearance. The award-winning television producer turned her camera on her parents as they faced the ups, downs and contagious happiness of their 60 years together. Told with great heart but without sentimentality, it’s affecting, heartbreaking and uplifting. Note: Nobutomo’s film *Fortune in Disguise — My Cancer and Tokyo Tower* referenced in *Gaga*, screens October 6 at 5 p.m.

Suicide by fireworks and a persistent



Haru Kuroki (left) and Kirin Kiki and the Japanese tea ceremony star in *Every Day A Good Day*.

Japan Filmfest Returns

It’s back at New People in Japantown this month

time loop that thwarts the story’s four would-be suicides in Yoshio Kato’s *3-Ft. Ball & Souls* (October 5 at 3 p.m.) provides a framework for a quirky character study and a neat dissection of the ills of modern society that lead to suicidal despair. Metaphors abound, but that only adds to the surreality intended by Kato in this worthy entry into the sci-fi without special effects genre.

For historical splendor, there’s the unique offering of *Kagotsurube, The Haunted Sword*

(October 11 at 7:15 p.m.) by Hiroyuki Nakatani. Told Kabuki style, it’s a sumptuous tragedy of love gone wrong, a lapse of etiquette and blood being shed over the most fetching courtesan in the 19th century Yoshiwara pleasure district.

Contemporary discontent plays out with puckish insight in Yuko Hakota’s *Blue Hour* (October 13 at 1:20 p.m.) as its heroine, Sunada (Kaho) drifts in the urban doldrums until her uber-spontaneous gal pal Kiyoura (Shim Eun-kyung) all but

kidnaps her back to her rural childhood home and her strange, estranged family. By turns absurdly funny and poignant, the film ponders being 30 with warmth and originality.

Closing night is a comic look at love and freedom with *A Banana? At This Time of Night?* (October 13 at 5:30 p.m.) by Tetsu Maeda and based on the book by Kazufumi Watanabe. It centers on Yo (Yasuaki Shikano), a man using a wheelchair because of muscular dystrophy. He doesn’t let that keep him from a freewheeling lifestyle that includes developing a crush on his newest caretaker (Mitsuki Takahata) and being generally obnoxious to everyone around him, including her. Told with broad humor and bright colors, it manages to be joyfully optimistic despite its tough premise.

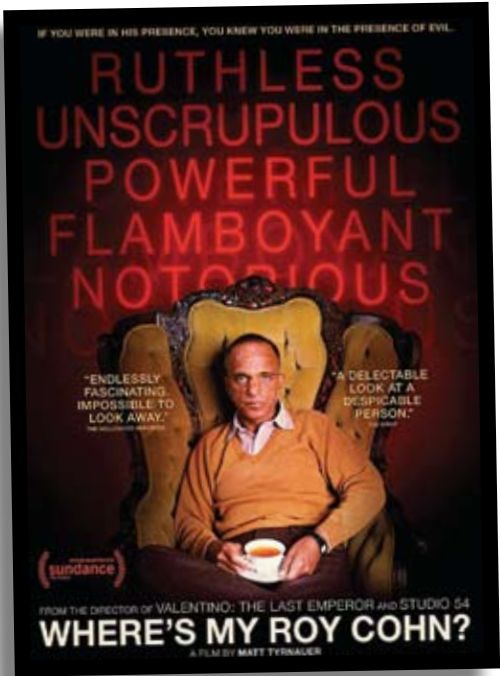
Also noteworthy:

■ Attendee Miyuki Tokoi’s *A Journey Through Genders* (October 6 at noon), which focuses on struggles with society’s strictly binary approach to gender.

■ Atsuya Uki’s *Cencoroll Connect* (October 7 at 7:15 p.m.), for anime fans, which combines a tardigrade-esque monster, a boy with a secret, a girl with a little too much curiosity and a techno beat in a much anticipated sequel to 2009’s *Cencoroll*.

■ “DigiCon6 ASIA Awards: The Wonders of Animation” (October 8 at 7:15 p.m.), a full program of anime shorts from all over Asia covering all manner of topics.

For more information about the 7th annual Japan Film Festival of San Francisco, go to jffsf.org/2019.



At Long Last, Roy Cohn on the Big Screen

DOCUMENTARIAN Matt Tyrnauer has covered pop culture topics such as Studio 54 and Scotty Bowers, the unpaid pimp of Hollywood stars, with both flair and intelligence. In his treatments, he gave them a gravitas and cultural context that elevated them from mere objects of celebrity gossip to substantial contributors to the times in which they took place.

In his latest doc, *Where’s My Roy Cohn?*, opening at the neighborhood’s Clay Theatre on October 18, Tyrnauer takes on a figure of legendary proportions, most of them pure evil — a persona in which Cohn delighted.

The film is more than a mere recounting of Cohn’s time as Joseph McCarthy’s minion during the infamous Senate witch hunts of the Cold War, or the later shady dealings that eventually got him disbarred. Instead, Tyrnauer carefully reflects on the dysfunctional family

that made Cohn the hard-nosed son of a bitch whose very name on a letterhead could strike enough terror in defendants that they would drop their lawsuits. The result is a fascinating *precis* on the contradictions of human nature that could allow Cohn to deny he was dying of AIDS even as he accepted the experimental treatment that his pals, the Reagans, arranged for him. Or giggle over his sex life with a relative with whom he was unselfconsciously candid.

If that was all Tyrnauer had accomplished, that would be enough. But he goes further. Tracing the mentoring relationship Cohn established with a young Donald Trump, he finds the roots of the political landscape in which we currently reside. It’s a cautionary tale about greed, corruption and wounded souls that is not only riveting, but also ominously prescient.

— ANDREA CHASE

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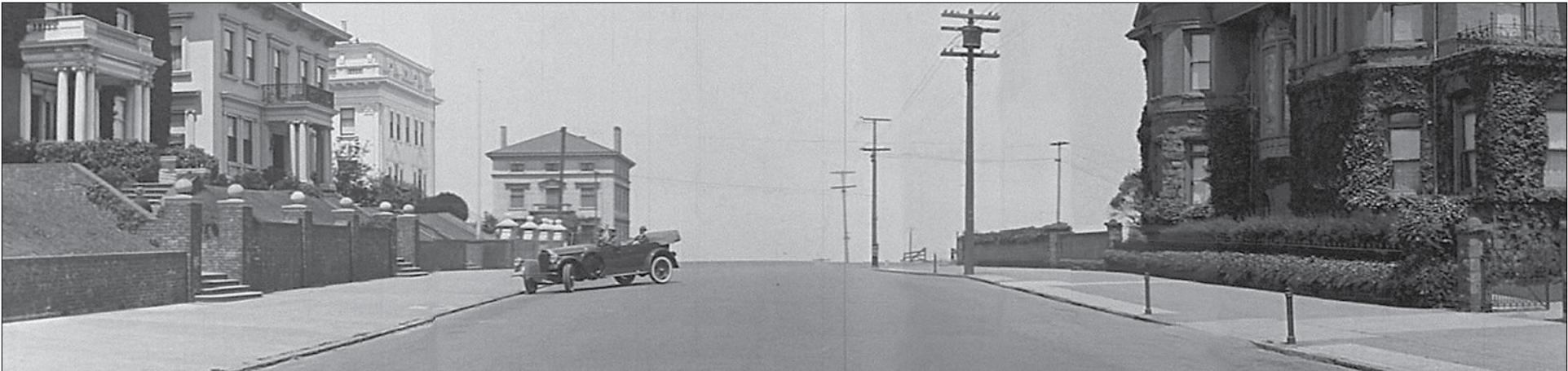


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Buster Keaton on Divisadero

ATOP THE CREST of the hill on Divisadero Street, looking north between Pacific and Broadway, a car slowly makes a U-turn, then stops on the opposite side of the street. Buster Keaton filmed almost exclusively on Hollywood lots, but traveled to San Francisco to get this one shot.

The first five minutes of *The Navigator*, from 1924, are among the funniest in the entire film. The opening gag introduces Keaton's character to us as the rich bachelor Rollo Treadway, who wakes up with the bright idea that he should get married — immediately. The caption card reads: "He had completed all the arrangements — except to notify the girl."

Treadway instructs his chauffeur to take him at once to his girlfriend's house. The car starts and does a U-turn and stops across the street. Treadway exits clutching a hopeful bouquet of flowers and marches up the brick-lined steps. His girlfriend, played by Kathryn McGuire, is caught off guard by Treadway's epiphany and rejects his offer of

"Will you marry me?" with a "Certainly not!"

Dejected, Treadway slinks back down the steps to the street below and quietly informs his chauffeur that he won't be needing the car; instead what he chiefly needs is a nice long walk to clear his mind. He then walks back across the lonely street to his own mansion.

The hilarity of this scene only works due to its extravagance. In seconds, we learn that Rollo Treadway is a young man with more dollars than sense, coupled with a keen inability to read a situation. The fact that the chauffeur is not surprised in the least to be instructed to drive his boss a mere 180-degree turn across the street paints a picture of the blissful wastefulness of the young millionaire. Keaton's brilliance was his ability to create a character no one could relate to, but with whom everyone would instantly sympathize.

The casual viewer will laugh at the scene, but the extravagance goes past the joke. Keaton picked this spot

on Divisadero Street purely because the northerly crest prevented other structures from cluttering the scope of the scene. His minimalist vision makes this scene that much more endearing. It's as if these two giant mansions and a few others exist all by themselves. That makes the fairy tale of the two young lovers that much sweeter, even when she rejects him.

The ivy-choked mansion on the right, which was meant to belong to Rollo Treadway, is now sadly long gone, demolished in the 1930s. But his girlfriend's mansion is still in place at 2505 Divisadero. Built in 1899, it was more recently known as Metallica guitarist Kirk Hammett's residence. It sold for \$10 million three years ago, a price at which Rollo Treadway might barely blink an eye.

There is something magical and unique about the top of Divisadero Street. Buster Keaton saw it in 1924, and we can see it still.

— MARK FANTINO



Hitchcock on Buchanan

WALKING NORTH on Buchanan Street crossing Sacramento, you hardly notice the home on the corner. Built in 1900, this sheepish three-story house seems to endeavor not to draw attention to itself. But Alfred Hitchcock saw it differently. It was here that he filmed climactic scenes of his very last film, *Family Plot*, released in 1976.

It may never be considered one of Hitchcock's greats. While it does include many of his trademark suspenseful moments and thrilling intrigue, Hitchcock injected a level of zaniness in this film he had not mastered. Barbara Harris and Bruce Dern play the out-of-their-element young couple dead set on uncovering the truth about an unclaimed family fortune, as well as an enormous diamond. But instead they get caught up in the sinister skulduggery of the shiny-toothed villain William Devane's murderous schemes.

The main entrance of the corner home at Sacramento and Buchanan (left) is used a couple of times in the film. Around the corner on Buchanan is the garage door (right) where some deliciously dastardly scenes take place. At the top are two shots from the film, coupled with two below I shot from the same spot where Hitchcock may have stood as he captured these scenes.

— MARK FANTINO





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The Four Corners of Pierce and Pine

Four distinguished homes and buildings once graced the intersection, but now only one remains intact

By BRIDGET MALEY

BY THE TIME the 1906 earthquake inflicted its destruction, the corner of Pierce and Pine Streets included several stately edifices by some of San Francisco's most prominent architects and builders.

On the northwest corner, at 1901 Pierce, a large Victorian terminated a row of five smaller wood-frame, Italianate houses completed by Henry Hinkel in 1882. Hinkel also built the more elaborate corner Victorian for Moses C. Ellis. Ellis was the proprietor of the North Star Flouring Mills in Tehama, north of Sacramento, though the mill's local offices were at 232 California Street.

On the northeast corner, 1900 Pierce was the home of John I. Sabine, designed by architect William F. Smith and built in 1887. [See "A Home for the Telephone King" from January 2017 at newfillmore.com.]

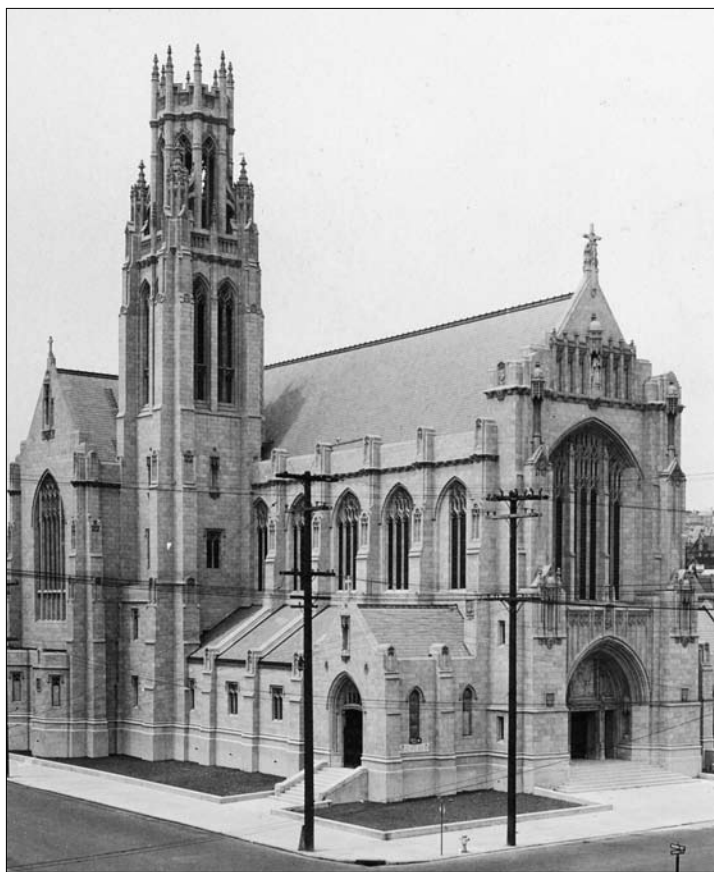
The southwest corner of Pierce and Pine was graced with the first San Francisco building designed by architect Arthur Page Brown after he moved here from New York. Completed in 1890, it was built as the Crocker Old People's Home, and reflects the influence of Brown's former New York employer, the esteemed East Coast architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White.

Brown's client was Mary Ann Crocker, then the recent widow of Charles Crocker, one of the influential California industrialists who came to be known as the Big Four. In 1889, the widow Crocker persuaded Brown to travel west to design her husband's elaborate tomb in Oakland's Mountain View Cemetery. She then became a favorite patron, engaging Brown not only to complete the Old People's Home in honor of her husband, but several other San Francisco projects as well.

Raised on the East Coast, Brown was educated at Cornell University before joining McKim, Mead & White, arguably the most significant architectural practice at the time. After an extensive European sojourn, Brown returned to New York in 1885 and established his own firm. Four years later, he relocated to San Francisco, where he remained until his death in 1896.

A bit of a social darling, Brown was responsible for numerous important San Francisco commissions during his short tenure in the city — including Trinity Episcopal Church (1892) at Gough and Bush; a collaborative effort on the Swedenborgian Church on Lyon Street (1894); the elaborate Richard Queen House at 2212 Sacramento Street (1895); and the Ferry Building, which was completed after Brown suffered fatal injuries in a runaway horse and buggy accident. Given the short window of his San Francisco practice and the devastation of the 1906 earthquake and fire, very few of Brown's built works remain.

The last architectural contribution to the intersection of Pierce and Pine was St. Rose Academy, designed by Albert Pissis and completed just a few months before the 1906 quake. St. Rose, a high school for girls affiliated with the Dominican Sisters — along with St. Dominic's



Casualties of the '89 earthquake

ST. ROSE ACADEMY (above), a Catholic high school for girls, was completed only a few months before the 1906 earthquake, but survived — only to be torn down after the 1989 earthquake when seismic concerns were raised. Friends and neighbors of the school formed a group they called Save St. Rose!, but were unsuccessful in preserving the building.

An earlier St. Dominic's Church building was heavily damaged by the 1906 earthquake and later torn down and replaced by a new Gothic building (left) in 1928. The highly decorative lantern that extended for decades from the top of its tower was damaged and removed after the '89 quake. Flying buttresses were later added to strengthen the walls of the church and support its stained glass windows.



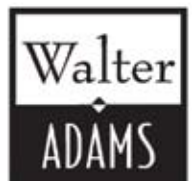



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Church and rectory — shared the block purchased by the Dominican Brothers in the 1860s. The Dominican Sisters founded St. Rose in San Rafael in 1863, but later moved the school to San Francisco. A fire in a previous building resulted in the 1906 Pissis commission for a new home.

Pissis, roughly a contemporary of Brown, was responsible for the Medical Sciences Library at Sacramento and Webster and its neighbor, Temple Sherith Israel. The July 1909 issue of *Architect and Engineer* noted that Pissis had been “responsible for more graceful, dignified and well-planned structures on the streets of San Francisco than any single practitioner in the Bay City.”

The magazine illustrated both St. Rose and Pissis’s Little Sisters of the Poor building at Lake and 4th, demolished in 1977, which also exuded classical motifs and a bell tower similar to the one that once topped St. Rose.

Of the four buildings that once graced this intersection, only Sabine’s sinuous Victorian-era house remains intact.

Hinkel’s Victorian pile built for Ellis has been completely encased in a boxy 1960s apartment building. The Dominican Sisters acquired Brown’s shingled Old People’s Home in the late 1950s for St. Rose Academy, but along the way it lost what architectural historian Anne Bloomfield called an “astonishing roof.” In *Gables and Fables*, Bloomfield’s husband and co-author Arthur Bloomfield aptly noted that the building was significantly altered, observing: “The present Rose Court is neither exactly the remains nor, of course, the original of this building whose story suggests a cake that collapsed and was put back together again by a different baker.”

Finally, the lovely and classically inspired home of St. Rose fell victim to a rush to judgment about its structural integrity after the 1989 earthquake.

Katherine Petrin, an architectural historian, San Francisco native and St. Rose graduate, class of ’81, observes: “The feeling at the start of the 1989-90 school year was that St. Rose was experiencing some uncertainty. This was spurred in part by St. Ignatius College Prep becoming coeducational a few years earlier and the desire of the Dominican order to focus its educational mission at other facilities in Marin. After the October ’89 earthquake, many St. Rose alumnae were none too pleased when the



The 1890 Old People’s Home building is still on the southwest corner of Pierce and Pine, but has lost its distinctive roofline.

Dominican Sisters claimed the building could not be seismically retrofitted.”

Soon several alumnae formed Save St. Rose!, a group advocating not necessarily for continued educational use, but that a compatible new use could be found for the building, generating income to pay for the project. Partnering with San Francisco Architectural Heritage, the Save St. Rose! group put forward a study, confirmed that federal and state funds were available and presented preservation alternatives to the city Planning Commission and the community. However, on June 26, 1991, the San Francisco Board of Permit Appeals upheld the Planning Commission’s approval of a permit to demolish St. Rose.

The building was a fine example of Renaissance Revival

architecture, with a grand exterior double stair leading to a tall portico. Capped with a bell tower and marching dormer windows, the entire composition was stately and the refined facade was one that is still missed by alumnae and neighbors alike. Only a grotto that stood behind the school remains, dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, but known among locals as Our Lady of the Parking Lot.

Recently, leaders of St. Dominic’s have announced plans to demolish the nearby St. Dominic’s School building on Pine Street. Studies are underway for a project that would replace the now-vacant school, built in 1929, and the parking lot where St. Rose Academy stood for decades.

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2814 Clay St	6	5	1	n/a	114	9/12/2019	3,750,000	3,200,000
2104 Divisadero St	4	3	2	2,740	38	8/20/2019	3,895,000	3,600,000
2816 Laguna St	4	4	2	2,934	78	9/6/2019	3,850,000	3,800,000
2148 Pine St	4	4	2	3,539	78	8/16/2019	4,200,000	4,150,000
3990 Washington St	6	7	4	10,000	188	9/13/2019	8,950,000	9,100,000
2561 Washington St	5	4	2	5,469	3	9/12/2019	7,800,000	9,100,000

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1620 Broadway #4	2	2	1	n/1	110	8/30/2019	995,000	1,025,000
1880 Steiner St #213	2	2	1	1,001	14	9/13/2019	1,095,000	1,225,000
2075 Sutter St #221	2	2	1	1,044	19	9/10/2019	1,239,500	1,250,000
2075 Sutter St #525	2	2	1	1,084	40	9/10/2019	1,395,000	1,325,000
1856 Franklin St #2	3	2	1	1,230	49	8/23/2019	1,500,000	1,428,000
2060 Divisadero St #1	1	1	1	n/a	1	9/13/2019	1,449,000	1,449,000
3100 Washington St #1	2	2	1	1,287	34	9/5/2019	1,395,000	1,485,000
3416 California St	2	3	1	1,365	12	8/19/2019	1,385,000	1,585,000
2200 Sacramento St #602	2	2	1	1,139	0	9/10/2019	1,700,000	1,700,000
1880 Steiner St #403	2	3	1	1,569	8	8/20/2019	1,645,000	1,720,000
2060 Divisadero St #2	2	3	1	n/a	0	9/13/2019	1,729,000	1,729,000
1950 Bush St	3	2	2	1,601	6	9/6/2019	1,895,000	2,050,000
2780 Jackson St	3	2	1	1,745	0	8/23/2019	2,095,000	2,050,000
3063 Washington St #3	4	3	1	n/a	111	8/30/2019	2,995,000	2,800,000
1924 Filbert St #2	3	3	2	2,402	7	8/16/2019	2,995,000	3,200,000
2326 Union St	3	3	2	2,550	18	9/12/2019	2,999,000	3,200,000



The home at 2561 Washington, on the block between Fillmore and Alta Plaza Park, sold in three days.

The lure of Fillmore Street

A PAIR OF recent home sales, both on Washington Street, highlight the fact that buyers are willing to sacrifice extra square footage for a highly walkable location.

The single-family homes at 2561 Washington Street and 3990 Washington Street each sold for \$9.1 million during the second week of September. Though the two commanded an identical price, they differ greatly in size, with 3990 Washington boasting 10,000 square feet of living space — nearly double that of 2561 Washington, which clocks in at about 5,500 square feet. The smaller home changed hands in a brisk three days, while the larger took more than six months to sell.

A few facts explain why a substantially smaller home sold for the same price as a much larger one — and did it so much faster. First, 2561 Washington Street, which had been in the same family for decades, features beautifully proportioned rooms and a desirable open floor plan. Also, the home needs work, which offers the new owners the opportunity to re-envision it to their tastes and specifications.

Finally, there is the classic real estate mantra of location, location, location. While 3990 Washington Street sits on the far edge of Presidio Heights, which would make it necessary for owners to drive frequently, 2561 Washington is barely half a block from Fillmore Street, an easy stroll to dozens of local restaurants, boutiques and services.

— Data and commentary provided by PATRICK BARBER at Compass Real Estate. Contact him at patrick.barber@compass.com or call 415-345-3001.



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KATHERYN ALAN-KATZ

Preparing one of the textiles for the exhibition: from left, curator Sandy Rosenbaum, collector Carol Pearlman and Rhoda Goldman Plaza staffers Candiece Milford and Emma Davis.

BY BARBARA KATE REPA

CAROL PEARLMAN and Sandy Rosenbaum are as physically close as any two neighbors can be, even in San Francisco. They became next-door neighbors when they moved into Rhoda Goldman Plaza at 2180 Post Street just shy of a year ago. “We share a wall!” they exclaim in unison, a mark of how much in sync they have become. The two also laugh together often and are quick to break into good-natured teasing. Their friendship blossomed and deepened quickly as the two collaborated on a project that culminated in an exhibition of Indonesian textiles, which Carol collected and Sandy curated, that’s now up at Rhoda Goldman Plaza and open to the public for viewing through the end of October.

“We just met each other, and we had the right combination of talents,” says Sandy. Carol continues: “Our common interests brought an immediate bond between us. I love Sandy more and more, the more I know her.” Their mutual interests include a love of travel, textiles and time spent living in Los Angeles. Carol, a self-described adventuress, lived in “the great capital cities of the world” before settling into her last roost in Vallejo — a place she found rife with political intrigue. Before that, she traveled extensively, and on a trip to Indonesia in the 1990s collected an assortment of textiles and artifacts from the Dani Tribe of Irian Jaya that are now in the exhibition. “Sandy was settled down then, married to a doctor,” Carol says, suggesting a subtle distinction with her more adventurous past. “Anything but,” Sandy replies. She was curator of the prestigious Doris Stein Research Center for Costumes & Textiles at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. “One of the big attractions of my job at the museum was I got to travel all over the world,” she says.


Collector Meets Curator

New next-door neighbors find they share mutual interests, and an exhibition is born

Now displayed on the walls of the entryway and game room at Rhoda Goldman Plaza are several treasures from Carol’s collection, many of them oblong and fringed handwoven pieces called *Hinggi* that were traditionally worn on ceremonial occasions by Dani men, their designs identifying their places in the social order. “I found them so attractive; I just loved them,” says Carol. “Indonesians make the most exquisite textiles. And they were also easy to carry home.” Sandy heaps on her highest praise: “They are slightly exotic, but not over the top, you know.” Ready the textiles for display was a labor of love. Foamboards had to be cut to size, covered in ironed muslin, the textiles allowed to “relax” before being meticulously mounted using a sufficient number of straight pins to support the weight of the fabric: 200 to 300 in each piece. “Things had to be done right,” says Sandy, the once and current curator. They got help with the task from another resident, Ron Miguel, who took an interest in the painstaking pinning. When he’d finally finished, they awarded him an honorary degree: “Ph.D. in Pinpushing.”

“Sandy and Ron did most of the work,” Carol says. “I’m just the manager — a micromanager.” Carol and Sandy are also quick to thank many of the staff members who helped make the exhibition a reality — including activities director Emma Davis, who helped secure the necessary supplies and space; marketing director Candiece Milford, who originally introduced the two of them and enthusiastically backed the project; longtime chef Kelly Dame, who baked up delicacies for the opening last month and kept them fueled all year with doses of kombucha tea; and activities assistant Joseph Jordan who fastidiously ironed the muslin before it was tacked to the boards. Covering the boards with muslin took at least an hour each. Then add another half a day each to pin the textile pieces on the boards. “It took a lot of time, but we had plenty of it,” Sandy says. Strategically placed placards explain the textiles and the tribe, with more information provided on printed sheets for those who want to dig deeper. The exhibition extends from the downstairs area to the second floor, where glass cases enclose more of Carol’s collected artifacts. Included are large carry bags made from natural fibers crafted by knotted netting that are used to hoist babies, pigs and the sweet potatoes that make up the bulk of the Dani diet. There are smaller bags for smaller cargo, plus a dried gourd worn as a penis sheath, and handwoven bracelets made especially for the wearer. “I wanted these things displayed downstairs, but Sandy felt they needed to be protected,” Carol says. “Well, I’m the curator,” Sandy deadpans.

“Indonesian Textiles & Handcrafts: Dani Tribe of the Baliem Valley” continues through October 30 at Rhoda Goldman Plaza at 2180 Post Street.



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