



## NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

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By Phil Faroudja

**UNION STREET UPSWING:** Defying all odds, Union Street continues to see new businesses arrive. In the last month the avenue has been joined by wellness center BioHackr Health at 1877 Union; Muesi Cafe at 2055 Union, serving coffee, snacks and muesli; Hakko at 2184 Union, featuring first-rate sushi; and a block away a clothing boutique will move into the former Ginger Elizabeth Chocolates on Fillmore. Nope, you can't claim a lot of shuttered storefronts in these here parts ... It seemed friendly mattress company Casper was going to ghost the neighborhood, as the store had emptied into what resembled a haunted house. However it is in the midst of a remodel and will rise again ... Bands thump out tunes on Saturdays, usually in front of Equinox, livening the atmosphere ... Weekends in the area are crowded, with foot traffic looking like 2018. It's surprising, but as Aunt Irma used to say, "These modern times, they never cease to amaze me." With more vaccinated, people finally have the chance to get out of the house, and they do.

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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDIO:** It's full march ahead for the Presidio's "Tunnel Tops" project, which connects the Main Post to Crissy Field & Marsh with one, continuous grass bridge. People will be able to stroll down graceful paths with dazzling views later this year. I stopped by the bottom of the Tunnel Tops, where frenetic construction of various huts, cabins, and "creative spaces" continues. It looks like Disneyland being built ... The Presidio overall appears a little run down. The Trust is short of funds and has stopped painting buildings ... Unfortunately the Arguello and Commissary eateries have closed. They lost money during the pandemic, no surprise. But Sessions at Lucasfilm is still open, and its park patio provides a pretty setting. I had lunch and it's highly recommended ... Our monthly

meeting is also suggested, so join our Zoom Wednesday, April 21 at 7 pm. See you!

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*"Have you noticed now that Biden is president, the food here tastes better?"*

**OVERHEARD IN THE 'HOOD:** "Barack Obama? I never bought a book by the guy." (conversation next to Books Inc. on Chestnut) "With his mask off, he looked totally different!" (said outside Rose's Cafe) "What on earth is THIS?! When did THIS move in here??" (spoken in front of Luke's Local Grocery)

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