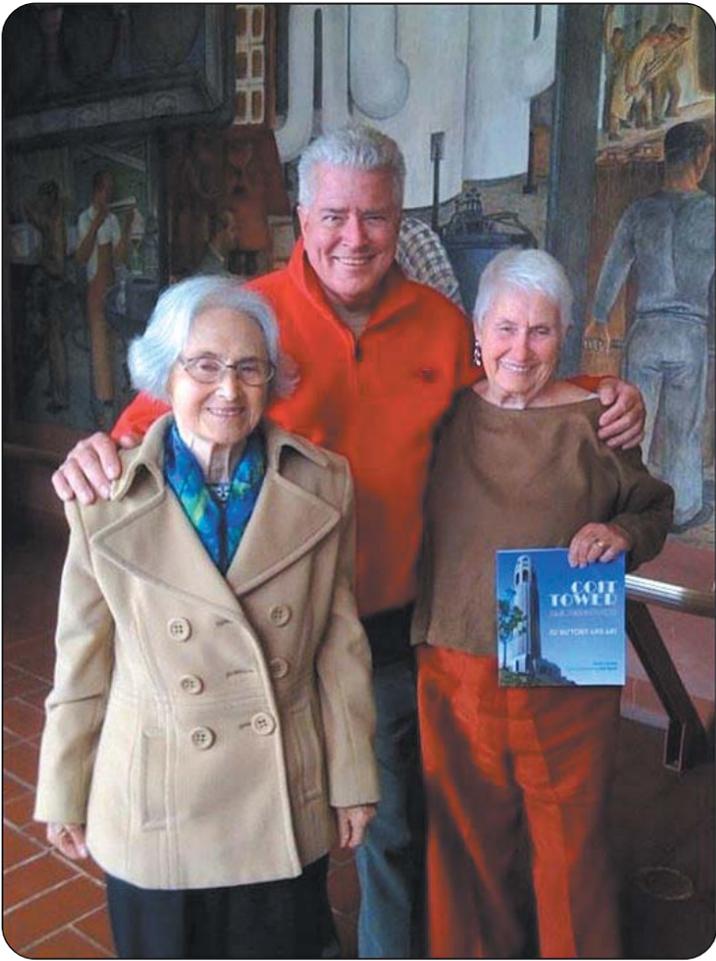


# M a k i n g A D i f f e r e n c e



The late, great Huell Howser is pictured here with Masha Zakheim (L), author of the book "Coit Tower San Francisco: Its History and Art" along with her sister and publisher, Ruth Gottstein (R) who published the first edition of the book in 1983 when the Tower turned 50. In this photo, she is holding the updated edition which came out in 2009, then the Tower's 75th Anniversary. Photo courtesy to The Gold Country Times

## Coit Tower San Francisco - Its History and Art

By Masha Zakheim with photos by Don Beatty

An updated release of COIT TOWER SAN FRANCISCO: Its History and Art, by Masha Zakheim, coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the Tower, is now available. First published in 1983, the 2009 edition includes newly discovered information, as well as insightful essays by leading art historians Francis O'Connor and Linda Bank Downs. Jeffrey Tilman, author of a book on the architect Arthur Brown, Jr., contributes a detailed account of the construction of the tower.

Since the Tower was first opened to the public during the turbulent times of the 1930s, there's been increased interest in the Public Works Art Project (PWAP), recognized today as the most significant collection of New Deal art. The influence of renowned Mexican artist Diego Rivera has focused additional attention on the murals, since some of the 26 Tower artists had studied with him. Author Masha Zakheim, daughter of one of the Tower muralists, had the unique opportunity to interview many of the artists in

the 1970's, all of them gone now, making this a stand-alone connection to the past. In 2008, the Tower was placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources. "A vital and enlightening history that is a tribute to the legacy of the New Deal – a time when both government and individuals worked for the common good to create a matrix of municipal buildings, infrastructure, and public art that we still benefit from and enjoy today."

Lisa Eriksen, California Historical Society, Living New Deal Project.

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## Kicksville Vinyl & Vintage opens alongside MediumRare Records

Music lovers and vintage addicts will get a kick out of two shops teaming up for a new endeavor downtown: Kicksville Vinyl & Vintage and MediumRare Records are set to open side by side in February, offering collectors a broad, eclectic selection of old and new records and unique vintage items inside the Warehouse Artists Lofts project in the heart of the up and coming R Street Corridor.

"We lost a couple good record stores [in Sacramento] in the last few years, and I always wanted to have a store that has two distinct vibes," says MediumRare owner Marty DeAnda, who is moving his operation from its former Downtown Plaza digs (soon to be the site of the new Kings Arena) to its new shared space at 11th and R streets. "I wanted to attract all types of age groups."

To bring his vision to life, DeAnda will collaborate with Kicksville co-founders (and husband-and-wife team) Tim and Laura Matranga. Tim, who has run his weekly radio broadcast "Kicksville 29 BC" on the UC Davis radio station KDVS for the last 22 years, will bring to the enterprise a sizable collection of obscure vinyl records from the last half-century, with genres ranging from underground rock to jazz to R&B and reggae.

Laura, a graphic designer and vintage collector, says she has spent recent years scouring estate and garage sales in a quest for mid-century modern finds like vintage Eames chairs, quirky furniture and other home goods to add a stylish, funky vibe to the shop.

"We are making it our own," says Laura, who adds that the trio plans a showcase that emphasizes the vintage indus-

## Cat Town Café

The nation's first cat café in downtown Oakland, 2869 Broadway, to serve coffee and promote feline adoptions, is wildly successful. The Cat Town Café is split into two rooms, the Café and the Cat Zone. There are 6 - 20 free roaming cats who are available for adoption. Cat Town Café serves extremely good pour over coffee from Bicycle Coffee, bagels from Authentic Bagel Company, and various treats from Rolling Sloane's. And there in this comfortable and sprawling space filled with armchairs and rugs are the cats. There is limited indoor and outdoor seating, and viewing windows into the Cat Zone should they reach capacity.

Cat Town began as a foster based rescue organization in 2011. As shelter volunteers, they saw that some older or traumatized cats rarely made it into adoption and were even less likely to be taken by a rescue group, so they devised a plan.

Since founding, they have helped over 600 at-risk shelter cats get loving foster and permanent homes. For a \$10 donation to the organization when your reservation is made, visitors get one hour of kitty company in the new Café, where they can play with the felines beneath the colorful painted murals of cats. The Café cats are being adopted at a rate never imagined and the owners are overwhelmed by the interest, kind words, encouragement, press, and good cheer of their customers, volunteers, employees, and adopters.

Although there are many such places in Japan, The Cat Town Café is the first permanent cat cafe to open in the United States. (San Francisco is set to open a café called KitTea around the first of the year, and Purina temporarily put together a similar pop-up in New York earlier this year.) The Cat Town Café is open Wednesday through Sunday, 8am to 7pm, with the Cat Zone open 10am to 7pm. <http://www.cattowncafe.com/> Request to re-print



The Cat Town Café is split into two rooms, the Café and the Cat Zone. Courtesy Photo to The Gold Country Times

trial surroundings of their R Street building as well. "I've been buying and selling since I was a kid. It started when I was a teenager buying vintage clothes, getting immersed into me. You just develop an eye for it over time. It just jumps at me now."

Together, they say they aim to create a unique setting that serves not only as a hot spot for music and vintage lovers to hunt for the perfect record or collectible, but also a place where people can come in and lose themselves for a few hours.

"It's not just a record store. It will be almost like going to a small museum," says DeAnda, who discovered and previously managed celebrated Sacramento singer-songwriter Jackie Greene. "It's a place to come hang out and talk music with people who have been [in the industry] for a long time." 1104 R St., Suite 140. [kicksvilleshop.com](http://kicksvilleshop.com)

Sutter Amador Hospital launched a new orthopedic program to continuously improve care for patients and enhance the services it provides within the community. Surgical Affiliates Management Group, a medical group that also provides emergency surgery care at Sutter Amador Hospital, is now providing orthopedic care coverage for patients coming to the Emergency Department, along with post-operative care in the Sutter Amador Outpatient Services Center.

In support of the orthopedic service, Surgical Affiliates has recruited two additional experienced orthopedists to its local group. Dr. Mark Endicott, and Dr. Jerry Labson. Sutter Amador Hospital's orthopedic surgeons Dr. Paul Metzger and Dr. Peter Sfakianos continue providing services. For information and scheduling, call 209-257-5838.

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