

SF WEEKLY

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SF WEEKLY TOP

SFOodie

SAN FRANCISCO'S TASTIEST COVERAGE



New Zealanders Are Lining Up For More Than an Hour For

By



Hudson Whiskey Releases Maple Cask Rye

By Brad



Schilling & Co. is the FiDi Cafe You've Been Looking For

By Julia

Closings

The Lexington Club is Closing Because the Mission Has "Dramatically Changed"

Posted By Anna Roth on Thu, Oct 23, 2014 at 3:34 PM

It's a sad day in the Mission as Lila Thirkield, owner of The Lexington Club, announced that she is selling the city's only remaining lesbian bar (assuming you don't count Wild Side West).

"Eighteen years ago I opened The Lex to create a space for the dykes, queers, artists, musicians and neighborhood folks who made up the community that surrounded it," Thirkield writes in a **statement on Facebook**. "Eighteen years later, I find myself struggling to run a neighborhood dyke bar in a neighborhood that has dramatically changed."

They were forced to pay market rate rent a few years ago, but she says that in of itself wasn't the death knell. It was the LGBT community's exodus to Oakland (along with everyone else) that made the business unsustainable.

"When a business caters to about 5% of the population, it has tremendous impact when 1% of them leave. When 3% or 4% of them can no longer afford to live in the neighborhood, or the City, it makes the business model unsustainable," she writes.

The comments on the post are also poignant, with many mentioning how much the bar meant to them when they were young and new in S.F.



Yelp/Marina N.

yeah, ok. @melancholera_23 Follow

the Lexington Club was crucial to me in my 20s. I've had amazing times there. thank you for Everything 🙏

6:22 PM - 23 Oct 2014

1 RETWEET 1 FAVORITE

Read Thirkield's full statement on Facebook, and prepare yourself to say goodbye to a part of the community that won't be easy to replace.

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The Lexington Club is Closing Because the Mission Has "Dramatically Changed"



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Celebrate Halloween and Autumn with Pumpkin Gnocchi in West Portal

[via SFist]

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About The Author



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Anna Roth is SF Weekly's Food & Drink Editor and author of West Coast Road Eats: The Best Road Food From San Diego to the Canadian Border.

COMMENTS (3)

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Oakland is the crime capital of California and in the top five in the country. SF high real estate prices are the only thing going for Oakland.

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0 likes, 6 dislikes like dislike

Posted by Marcy Fleming on 10/26/2014 at 2:33 PM



Jack Kerouac and his post WWII buddies would've been run out of town , most unceremoniously , by today's San Francisco.. . An Apple Store instead of City Lights . Estado Corporativo ... Mussolini's vision lived , after all !! " Beats " replaced by black arm band wearing Steve Jobs mourners ...

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2 likes, 0 dislikes like dislike

Posted by " First time as tragedy , then as farce . " on 10/26/2014 at 1:24 PM



Sad day for SF. But come on over to Oakland. Tat's where we all are.

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3 likes, 2 dislikes like dislike

Posted by oak1555 on 10/25/2014 at 4:25 PM

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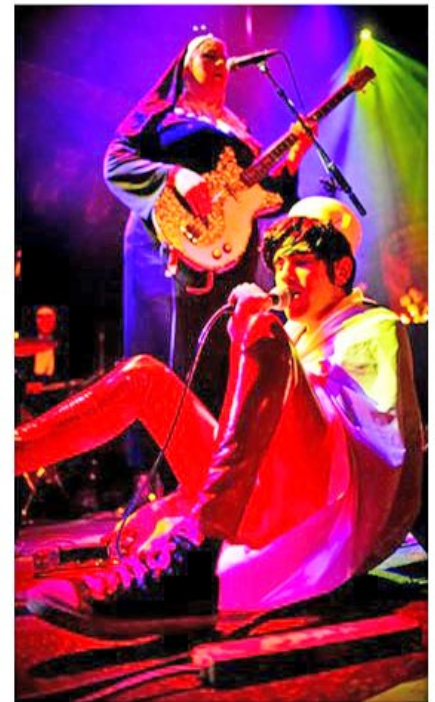


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