

# Hotel Bayview's new incarnation

By KEITH MURAOKA  
Sentinel staff writer

APTOS — The historic Hotel Bayview in Aptos Village has been sold and will reopen today as a seven-room bed-and-breakfast inn.

Capitola attorneys Howard Marcus and Ed Newman head the partnership that bought the 118-year-old hotel for \$750,000, which includes the bar and restaurant. Former owners Gail Costello and Pat Toney-Thompson have owned the Aptos landmark since 1942, although different operators have leased the bar and restaurant.

While Costello said she is a little sad to sell the hotel, she also feels good about it "because we know we're selling it to people who will make it right."

Marcus said his partners' primary interest is to bring the Bayview back to its former prominence as a "first-class operation." Plans also call for major improvements and expansion.

Renovation and cleanup have been going on for five weeks, Marcus said.

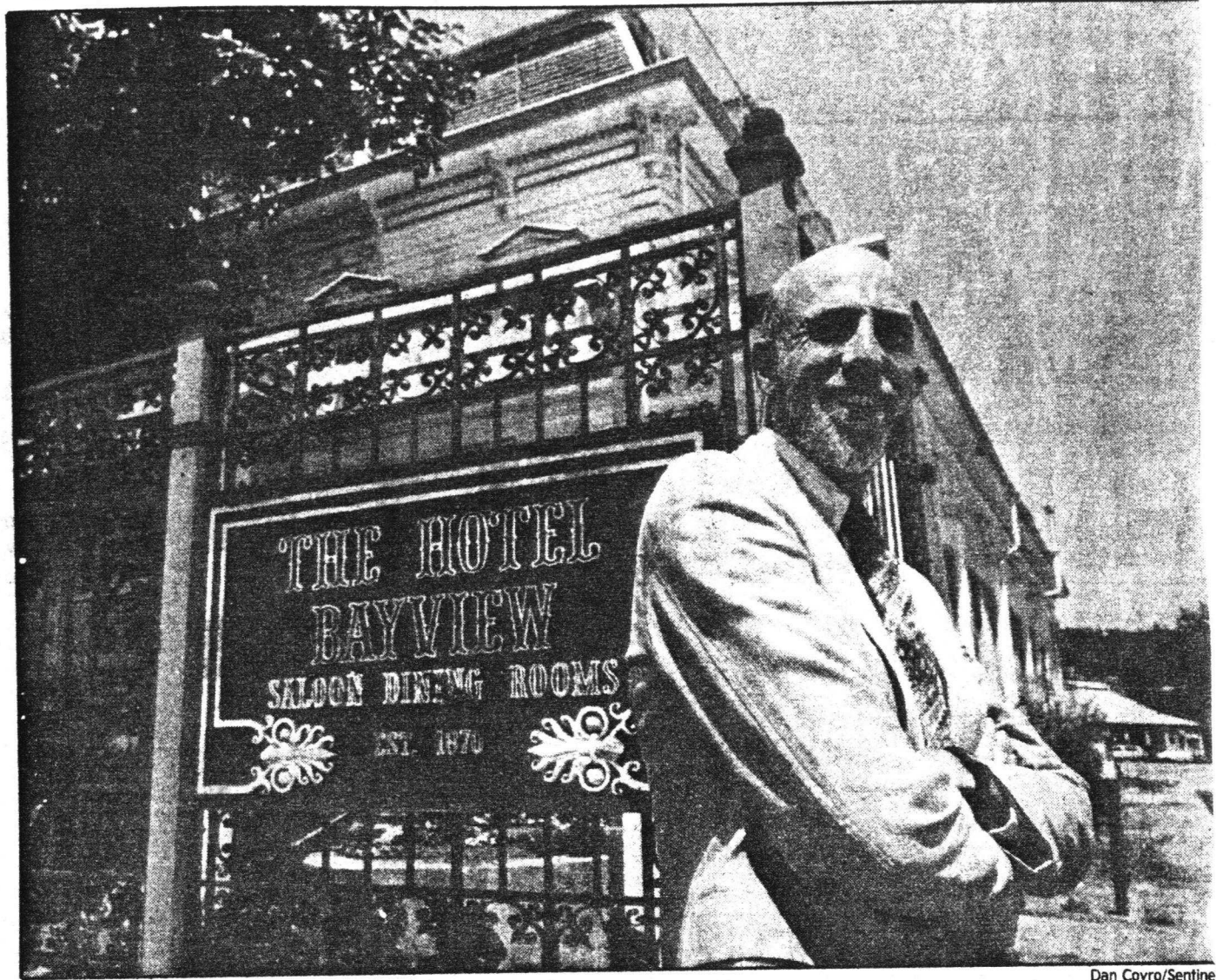
While the bed-and-breakfast inn will open today, with the dining room serving those guests, the 125-seat bar and restaurant is a "few months away" from reopening to the general public, he added.

The new owners are negotiating with possible restaurant operators to lease the bar and restaurant.

Future improvements and expansion include renovating the now-vacant third floor of the hotel into five additional rooms, Marcus said. Capitola architect Doug Messini is preparing plans.

James and Katya Duncan are the new operators of the bed-and-breakfast inn. Having recently moved here from England, James comes from a family of British innkeepers and has worked in construction, while Katya was a teacher and has experience operating a small business.

Marcus, Newman and partners are only the third owners in the 118-year history of the Hotel Bayview. The 11,000-square-foot hotel was built in 1870 by Joseph Arana, a French immigrant who married the daughter of Gen. Rafael Castro, owner of the 6,800-acre Rancho Aptos.



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

Howard Marcus is one of the partners behind the Bayview's new life as a bed-and-breakfast inn.

It has been popular with wealthy and prominent people in the past, including Lillian Russell and King Kalakaua. At one time, the Aptos Post Office was housed there.

Costello and Toney-Thompson's father, Fred Toney, bought the hotel in 1942. In 1944, he moved it 50 yards west to its present location.

Toney also gained notoriety in 1968

when he took on the Southern Pacific Railroad, which had put up a barricade on its tracks, blocking the entrance of the hotel and other properties. Portions of the barricade were torn down by angry residents and the tracks were blocked by mounds of gravel. Mrs. Toney was arrested in a later incident when, sitting atop the mound of gravel and drinking a cup of coffee, she defied

authorities.

"It's nice to be able to do something that contributes to the community (by renovating the hotel)," Marcus added. "It's amazing how many people have fond memories of the place. One woman called and said she spent her honeymoon in room eight, and they were coming back and wanted that same room."