



THE NOE SELFY VOICE

The Great Tech Shuttle Disaster!

Eyewitness Account of Horrific Bus Collision, No One Hurt

By Oven Baked-Flan

April 1: Tragedy struck in Noe Valley today, as a self-driven Google shuttle bus flipped over the new bulb-out at Church and 24th streets just as a genetically engineered Genentech bus slid through the intersection on a banana peel dumped by a passing food truck. Pandemonium ensued, as wild pandas were released from the Genentech bus.

The Google bus, manufactured by Tardy Ltd, LLC, Inc., landed gently on top of the Genentech bus, its anti-gravity thrusters easing the impact of the collision. Still, there was extensive damage and panic as one bus lay partially on top of the other, blocking the entire bus stop.

A Google passenger reported he lost his wifi connection for almost two minutes. He said he had never been so alone, so cut off from civilization, so cold, so very cold, since his last trip to Seattle. The on-board masseuse injured her shoulder and was unable to give back rubs to those in need. The vehicle’s hot tub spilled its water, and pool table balls rolled everywhere. Employees fretted as Chardonnay and Riesling wines turned room temperature. Dylan Baked-Flan, 16, who was at the scene, squirmed inside the bus and shouted, “Quick! Help! There’s somebody over 25 in there!”

Chaos reigned on 24th Street as the genetically modified pandas wandered in and out of shops, ordering burritos, having their nails done, and in one case ac-

Dog Survives 13 Months at Sea in Local Park

By Sal Iva

A thin, shivering chihuahua was reunited with his Noe Valley loved ones April 1, after surviving more than a year adrift in “the swamp” at Upper Douglass Dog Park off 27th Street.

“I ate a pigeon” were the first words tweeted by the famished sailor as he washed ashore on the tree-lined eastern coast of the park, a recreation area long plagued by drainage problems.

The 3-year-old male, Laddie Ellison of Dunkin Street, went missing in March 2012, around the time the city closed the park to install a new irrigation system and wishing well. While digging the well, construction crews accidentally hit the legendary McElligot’s Pool, which bubbled up into the crater-like park.

Ellison said the first few weeks of his ordeal he just swam around looking for his favorite stick. Eventually he built a raft made of non-biodegradable plastic bags, eucalyptus leaves, and Philz Coffee stirrers. After exhausting the park’s fish supply, he turned to the gophers, who had survived the flood by clinging to frisbees. They told him to leave them alone and to



Bus Stop Rivals? The Voice was first on the scene Sunday, April 1, when two shuttle buses crashed near a bulbous bulb-out on 24th Street, scattering bitcoin as far as GrandView. The local Tech Search Party is on the hunt for the cause. Photo by Beverly Tarp and Jack Russell

tually qualifying for a home equity loan. Animal Care & Control rounded up the bears, but was briefly stopped by a Google employee yelling, “Wait! That one’s not a panda! He’s a Furry! He works with us!” A panda with a particular fondness for electronics landed a job at Radio Shack.

The real cost of the tragedy has yet to be tallied, as the walk-in refrigeration unit on the Google bus lost power, leaving hundreds of gallons of Mitchell’s Ice Cream melting in the street.

Hours after the crash, the local Tech Search Party was still looking for clues. However, Doug Upstreet of the Department of Public Wonks told this reporter the bulb-out had recently been installed.

“Our workers had the plans sideways, and they inadvertently constructed a bulb-UP,” he said sheepishly.



Lucky Survivor. Laddie Ellison is grateful for the kindness Noe Valley residents have shown him, following his grueling ordeal at Douglass Dog Park. Photo by Claudia Arbus

tack toward the dumpster. By taking the gophers’ advice, staying positive, and constantly retooling his catamaran, Ellison was able to stay afloat until the city unchained the perimeter fence and reopened the park (for a brief inspection).

“I’m so happy to have all my feet on the sidewalk,” said Ellison, shaking his head vigorously. “Now take me to Drewl’s Meats!”

Was It 13 in Dog Months?

Though some people questioned whether it was possible to survive 13 months at sea with no lassie, Ellison said he was just glad to be home and in her paws again.

He said he hoped to compete in next year’s America’s Pup sailing race in San Francisco Bay.

Noe Valley Migrating to Cloud

Upper Noe Left Behind

By Jack “Flash” Storage

Citing the need for more security, streamlined transportation, and shorter lines at the Whole Foods parking lot, Noe Valley leaders agreed last month to begin preparations to move San Francisco’s most precious neighborhood to the Cloud. Gone will be the hanging flower baskets of the Noe Valet Association, the toddlers and dogs of Noe Courts, and the vegetable-slinging vendors and campaigners who brought us the Saturday FarmVille Market.

“This is beyond exciting, I mean it’s way, way up there,” exclaimed Rob Bod-dick, who heads the Noe Valley Merchants and Secessionals Association. “There’s no parking problem in the Cloud. And it’s open 24/7. You can shop from your bed in pajamas and slippers!”

“It’s one giant step for Noe Valleyans,” agreed neighborhood busy-bee Davey Todd. “I can’t wait to set up a card table, once I find out where this place is.”

Neighborhood beat officer Lucy Ricardo said she was looking forward to the peace and quiet. “No more honking contests between cars and pedestrians, and those darn Canadian geese,” she said, staring into space. “I hope some merchants will reconsider the move. I’d miss my substation at Bernie’s.”

The first meeting of the Noe migration committee, La Webbia, has been set for April 1 at St. Cumulus Church on Diamond Street. “I don’t foresee many difficulties,” said Pastor Aaron Water. “The Cloud is somewhere between here and heaven, and most of the faithful have already renounced the brick-and-mortar world.”

What this will do to the neighborhood’s most valuable commodity, real estate, remains to be seen.

Loco realtor Jay Gatsby said pricing for the Cloud location had yet to be determined. “You would think that the view would be a big selling point,” said Gatsby. “But that’ll depend on whether we’re talking a nice white puffy area or somewhere over the rainbow.”

Resident Makes Left Turn Out of Whole Foods

Hundreds Cheer As Driver Gets Last Wish

By Hidee Ho

Holding high his takeout container of Hhot macaroni and cheese, P.T. Cruiser was greeted with applause as he walked to his car in the Whole Foods parking lot.

The Noe Street resident had just been granted his dying wish: to make a left turn out of the lot and onto 24th Street.

As Cruiser wiped tears from his eyes, he struggled to make sense of this enormous gift. “I was diagnosed with No-Parking Disease two years ago when I moved to Noe Valley from L.A.,” said Cruiser. “It’s been excruciating every day, not being able to drive and park where I want to.”

He choked back a sob as he started his engine. “My therapist says I have about six months to live. Or else I could move to Pleasanton.”

Even though all the proclamations from all the organizations in Noe Valley couldn’t cure Cruiser in real life, the Make-a-Left Foundation, with the gracious support of Whole Foods, certainly could help him live his dream for just one day.

Beginning with a police escort to head safely east on 24th Street, Cruiser drove just a few feet to discover that every parking space from See Jane Run to the Dubliner was open just for him. Cruiser held his cell phone to text and Instagram his good fortune while checking his online-dating apps. Police looked the other way while pedestrians cheerfully scrambled out of the crosswalks.

“Oh, it just warms my heart to see someone so broken by this disease finally having what for him should be a normal life,” said bystander Stan Still.

The rest of the day brought even more surprises, including a “press conference,” where Cruiser’s every thought was recorded by Voice astrologer Zookma.

Exhausted, Cruiser finished the day back at the Whole Foods parking lot, where a ceremonial key to the lot—and a roast chicken for half price—was presented to him.

“Half price? That’s it,” wept Cruiser. “I can die now.”

COVERED NOE VALLEY: IT’S THE LAW

By Obamacarol

It has become such a familiar sight that we Noe Valleyans barely notice the total nudity all around us anymore. Entire families, wearing not a stitch, parade down 24th Street with no hint of shame—from bare-bottom tykes to golden-agers with every wrinkle and fold in view. There are naked sun bathers at the Farmers Market, bare shoppers in the designer boutiques, and salespeople in their birthday suits in the party goods store—it’s become the norm throughout the neighborhood.

But not for long. On April 1, the new Covered California law will ban these public displays. Residents throughout the state will be required to swaddle themselves, at least from neck to knee, in some sort of garment, or

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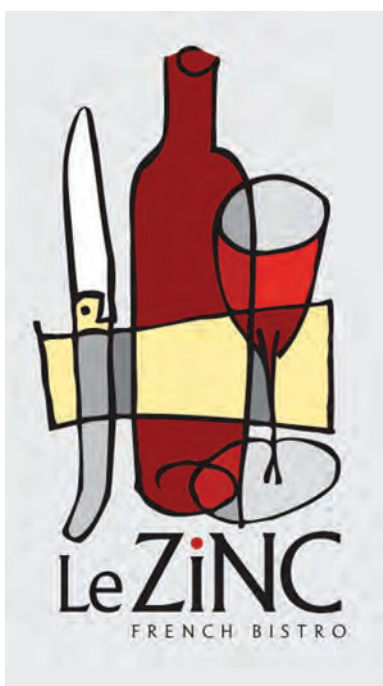


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gallery of jewels

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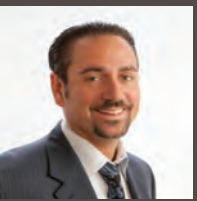


featured Jewelry by corey egan

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An Open Letter to Catholics



Four months before Pope Francis became pope, I, after serving as a Catholic priest for 40 years, was expelled from the priesthood because of my public support for the ordination of women.

I am among the many in the Catholic Church who have been inspired by Pope Francis’ humility, love, and compassion.

Our beloved pope has said, “I see the Church as a field hospital after a battle. The Church must heal the wounds.” Therefore, I respectfully ask that we tend to the many women and gay people in our Church who have been seriously wounded by Church teachings that demean and discriminate against them.

1. Women in the Church Our Church teaches that men and women are created equal. Catholic priests say that the call to be a priest comes from God. However, devout Catholic women who believe God is calling them to be priests are rejected because of their gender. How can men say that their call from God is authentic, but God’s call to women is not? Let’s face it. The problem is not with God or women, but with an all-male clerical culture that views women as lesser than men.

2. Gays in the Church In answering a question about persons who are gay, Pope Francis said, “Who am I to judge?” While we are grateful that the Pope does not judge people for being gay, our Church certainly does. The official teaching of the Catholic Church states that homosexuals are “objectively disordered.” For millions of gays and lesbians, this teaching instills shame and self-hatred. It has contributed to their being expelled from their families, fired from their jobs, and even killed. The teaching has contributed to suicides, too, especially among teenagers. Let’s face it. Being gay is not a problem with our all-loving God who has created everyone of equal worth and dignity. The problem is with Church leaders who view homosexuals as lesser than heterosexuals.

When there is injustice, silence is complicity. As Catholics, let us stop making God our partner in discriminating against women and gay people. I ask that you contact Pope Francis and your local bishop and priests. Request that our Catholic Church ordain women, accept LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) people as equals, and recognize gay marriage.

In Solidarity,

Roy Bourgeois

Fr. Roy Bourgeois and friends
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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Noe Storefinder

ACROSS

- Dead-car-battery need
- Pay a visit
- Network seen on KQED
- End in ____ (come out even)
- Chauffeur to Navarette’s, most likely
- Offering at the Dubliner
- Signal that someone is to be offed, in the Mafia
- ____-Xers (boomers’ kids)
- John who sang “Rocket Man”
- 2007 honor for Hugh Laurie: Abbr.
- Alight
- Depp role: *Edward* ____

- Iraq-war justifiers that were MIA
- Word above the Toast sign
- Little drink
- Envisioned
- Palindromic address
- Clothing stick-on after a haystack pizza?
- One site of the 2013 World Series
- Addams Family member
- Street that parallels Leavenworth
- With “Peasant,” 24th Street shop
- Fib or form ender
- He has the “Good News” on 24th
- “Fuggedaboutit!”
- “Exactly right”
- Dress-for-less retailer
- Like some wintry stares, or wintry stairs
- Tip Top ____ (Church Street shop)
- Electric guitar need

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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68					69						70			
71					72						73			

- Bill Murray title role: *The Undersea World of* ____
- Date
- Bread for tamales?
- NYPD Blue* actor Morales
- QVC competitor
- Mom’s words after “because”
- Old walk-light word

DOWN

- Gyllenhaal of *Brokeback Mountain*
- PG&E, briefly
- Heavy fog
- 69-Across, in Mexico
- Sunscreen letters
- Tiny amount
- Creme-filled cookies
- Bryson who paired with Celine on *Beauty and the Beast*
- Lewinsky was one

- High degree?
- Like Druids and Wiccans
- Bean mix at Bernie’s
- Emits
- Fairy tale start
- What Castro Computer may remove spyware from
- “____ Said” (Neil Diamond tune)
- Stoner’s supply
- Radiator sound
- Toward Twin Peaks, from Noe Valley
- Birther’s claim, basically
- Noe Valley ____: Griddle Fresh predecessor
- Happy ____
- Comedian Poehler
- Central position
- Demolish
- Geometry calculation
- Word before list or bone

- Homely fruit
- Char
- The way things now stand
- J-Church operator
- It goes in the black bins
- Great Lakes acronym
- Vail rival
- Extended aria
- Kvetch’s cry
- Relaxed, as restrictions
- 24th Street store...which you can find within each of this puzzle’s five longest entries
- Umpqua Bank offering
- Purchase at Sean on 24th
- Star Wars* letters
- Critical hosp. areas
- Madhouse, so to speak

Solution on Page 27

A Long Ride for Cable Car Conductor

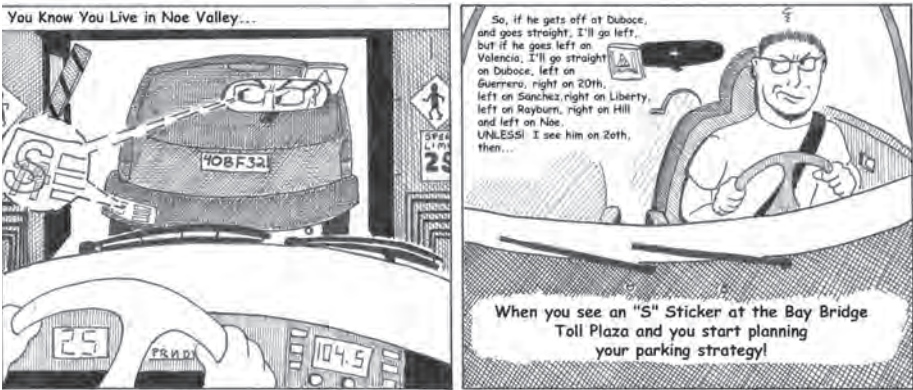
Editor:

I have two answers to the quiz that was offered on page 33 in the March *Voice* (“Rumors Behind the News” by Mazook), from my memories of growing up in the Noe Valley:

#5. The name of the butcher shop that had to move out when Real Food Company expanded was Gadd’s. Before Real Food took up the food part of the store [at 3939 24th St.], Gadd’s had a grocery store in the same space. Gadd’s was both a butcher and grocery store before Real Food moved in.

#10. True or False: Cable cars used to run in Noe Valley. True. There was a cable car line which ran from about Jersey and Castro, up and down the Castro Street hills to about Market Street. Until fairly recent repaving of the street, you could

LETTERS 49¢



see the lines on Castro Street where the cable car tracks ran.

Michael McCarthy, a delightful and kind Irishman originally from County Kerry, who raised his family on the north side of the 3700 block of 22nd Street, was a conductor on the Castro Street Cable Car Line. With the twinkle in his eye, the bits of blarney and storytelling he could tell, I’m sure he delighted many a commuter and other rider while he worked as a conductor of this line.

Mr. McCarthy lived to the age of over 100. Active almost until the day he died, he continued to walk regularly down the hills to 24th Street and along 24th Street. He would then wait at 24th and Castro, joking with the people near him. He would take the 24 bus up the same hills where he was once a conductor on the cable car. He would then walk one and a half blocks down 22nd Street and nearly run up the steep front steps to his front door.

Olive Quilter
Alameda

Bulb-outs or Dim Bulbs?

Editor:

I ask that the San Francisco Department of Public Works and Noe Valley street planners *please* weigh into your consideration for street improvements in Noe Valley these statistics from the San Francisco Department of Public Health: http://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/traffic_safety/SWITRS2010/SWITRS_0408_NoeValley.pdf

There were apparently only 1-2 pedestrian-car incidents over a four-year period from 2004 to 2008 on 24th Street, at each of the three main intersections.

I don’t believe these stats warrant bulb-outs. To the contrary, I believe bulb-outs may potentially add to driver aggravation and urgency when cars stack up (even more) along 24th Street. As it is, 24th is not a “speeders” corridor—it’s a congestion corridor—and when you wait three minutes to creep up to a stop sign, people do irrational things, like dart through the intersection between pedestrians in my experience (yes, I’ve done this, and expe-

rienced this as a pedestrian—both!).

If you have an opinion on this, please contact John Dennis, the director in charge, at john.dennis@sfdpw.org.

Please carefully weigh these statistics when determining the changes to 24th Street. Thank you.

Brian Smith

Word Week Wouldn’t Have Happened Without...

Editor:

The Friends of Noe Valley Word Week 2014, held March 16-23, was—in a word, or three—fantastic, fascinating, fun!

We’d like to thank the extremely generous local merchants who supported Word Week.

First up are Olive This and Olive That, Cliché Noe, Folio Books, Omnivore Books on Food, and the Noe Valley Library, for hosting Word Week events in their spaces! We would not have been able to have events were it not for their generosity. *Thank you!*

Next, we would like to thank the following local businesses for donating items and services used for drawings, prizes, and refreshments. Can you say Wow! What neighborliness!

Video Wave of Noe Valley
St. Clair’s Liquor
Terra Mia Ceramic Studio
Noe Valley Bakery & Bread Company
Valley Tavern
Mitre Box
Bernie’s Coffee
Chocolate Covered
Holey Bagel
Peasant Pies
Noe Valley Wine Merchants
WinkSF
Just for Fun & Scribbledoodles
Button Box
The Animal Company
See Jane Run
24th Street Cheese Company
Easy Breezy
Martha & Bros. Coffee
Little Chihuahua

Thanks also go out to Cliché Noe, Small Frys, Umpqua Bank, Folio Books, and DavidsTea for “hosting” the book

bins used to collect kids books for donation to the Children’s Book Project.

Lastly, a great big Friends of Noe Valley thanks to Umpqua Bank for their generous donation and sponsorship of Word Week!

So, if you visit and/or patronize any of these establishments, please thank them and let them know how much their support is appreciated in helping to make Word Week truly a neighborhood event!

Peggy Cling

Friends of Noe Valley Word Week

Pro-Choice for Vegetarians

Editor:

Regarding La Nebbia, the new restaurant at 1781 Church St.: Meat should be a choice, not an obligation. One look at La Nebbia’s menu suggests Sardegna is devoid of plant life.

Thanks to the flexibility of Henry’s Hunan Restaurant and Tataki South, not to mention Regent Thai, we can still go for a group dine with friends who just might be vegetarian (or, God forbid, vegan).

Kudos to Pomelo, which will do most any dish in a veggie format.

While *New York Times* columnist Mark Bittman praised La Ciccia, he might backtrack a tad when he sees the La Nebbia choiceless choices. Thanks to the fog, he might not notice.

William Segen
Noe Valley

CORRECTIONS



Photo by Pamela Gerard

The *Voice* made several mistakes in the March 2014 issue. First, our story about the death of Drewes Meats owner Josh Epple misspelled his first name in a headline. We sincerely apologize for this error. Then, we misidentified the street pictured by Najib Joe Hakim on the front page—it was 25th Street, not Clipper, that was blanketed with fog. Somehow we gave credit for a photo of Urban Putt’s Steve Fox (see above) to the wrong photographer. We should have said it was taken by Pamela Gerard. Finally, in the Word Week story, we mixed up a few of our own words, causing confusion about an event’s date. Again, we apologize for these errors, and have corrected them on our website at www.noevalleyvoice.com.

CORRECTIONS



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Google Buses to Be Replaced by Blimps

What’s Next? Drones?

By J.T. Snow

Responding to complaints from city residents, Google has retired its fleet of shuttle buses and will now ferry employees to and from Silicon Valley in blimps. Modeled after the famed Hindenburg and Zeppelin airships of the past, the air transports will still make use of Muni stops but will drop ladders and ropes enabling tech workers to climb to a quiet, comfortable cabin, complete with wi-fi, touch screens, and e-cigarette lighters.

“We’ve heard your complaints,” said “Big Data” Thornton, spokesperson for the consortium of corporations that currently transport employees via private coaches from Muni stops in Noe Valley. “We’re eliminating those vehicles that you say cause traffic problems in your little village,” Thornton said. “And we’ll still pay the \$1 charge per bus stop.”

Neighbors were skeptical.



Safe Transport? Noe Valleyans have mixed feelings about the vehicle that Google plans to use to shuttle employees to and from its campus in Mountain View. The proposed model, built by Led Zeppelin, has a rocky track record. Photo courtesy Paul von Hindenburg

“The blimps could darken our skies at commute time,” said Sarah Sensodyne, an unemployed conspiracy theorist. “And they’ll make it harder to spot the alien invasion when it comes. Besides, what if they lowered one of those surveillance-type things with a missile on it that can zero in on you wherever you go any time of day or night, whether you’re at the park or at home or the store like I was last night trying to get some borecole,” she droned. “But if it makes it safer for one dog to cross 24th Street, I’m in favor.”

Personal Shopping Comes to Whole Foods

By Oven Baker-Flan

Shopping no longer means schlepping, announced Whole Foods regional manager Basil Cardamom as he unveiled the Noe Valley store’s latest effort to please: Sherpa Shoppers.

“Whole Foods customers have helped us spare the environment by bringing in their own shopping bags,” he said. “Now we want to help them be even more green. For the next year, we’ll be dispensing with our plastic shopping carts and baskets and using a sustainable, earth-friendly alternative.”

Starting April 1, shoppers can request a personal Whole Foods Sherpa Shopper. Dressed in traditional Himalayan garb, the Sherpa Shopper will accompany store patrons through the aisles, carrying their goods as they go. Each sherpa will be equipped with crampons, stakes, and rope lines, to help customers reach items on high shelves and under the plastic roof of the salad bar.

Cardomom said the store’s Sherpa Shoppers had undergone a six-week

training, which included learning skills in tote-bag repair, salsa-tasting, and wine and sheep pairings.

The pilot program, known in the company as Sherpon, was expected to be a huge success, Cardamom said.

Asked if the sherpas’ jobs would come with benefits, Cardamom said, “The idea of benefits is so old school, and keeping track of all that was like herding cats. The beauty of this project is that technically the sherpas will be independent contractors, and ironically, or coincidentally—I never can keep those straight—many of them have experience in herding cats. Actual cats!”

Cola Giant Gives \$\$\$ to Town Square

By Hedda Earth

Soft drink maker Kooka Kola has donated \$20 million to the Noe Valley Town Square in return for naming rights.

The new Big Soda Square will feature toilets, recycling bins, trash cans, and soda fountains dispensing Koke, Sprite, Mug Root Beer, Cherry 7-Up, Mountain Dew, and Red Bull.

“What a jolt!” said local physician Ima Pepper, who had pledged \$19.9 million in hopes of winning title to the square herself.

Organizers had tried to keep the donation a secret, but files released by Edward Snowden showed the deal had been in the works for months.

“You guys should feel lucky. The Russian airport only has Leninade,” said Snowden.

Neighborhood activist David Todd assured square supporters the fountain would be taxed.

“But we still need donations from Noe Valley residents to pay for the 32-oz. plastic cups.”

Three New Schools Open Their Doors

By Karin Temockya

Interested in new ways for your children to learn? Look no further: three new elementary schools will open in Noe Valley this September.

Hands Off Learning is based on the time-honored principle that children should look but not touch.

At Hands Off, students learn by watching teachers read, write, paint, sculpt, solve math equations, and exercise in the gym. Team sports, including touch football, will be played by teachers while students observe their actions.

Each teacher will be supplied with an iPad 4 with retina display, Google Glasses, a Leica microscope, a Celestron NextStar telescope, Swarovski binoculars, and a puppy.

“We spent a lot of money outfitting this school with the latest gizmos,” said school principal Mario Nontocare. “We don’t want these kids breaking things.”

First-grade teacher Sin Manos believes that when children learn by doing they tend to share...germs. “Sharing leads to illness, disease, pestilence, epidemics, and possibly extinction,” he said.

At Hands Off, the only safe physical activity approved for children will be thumb-twiddling.

Just Google It: This school, founded by Nikolai Gogol, is a favorite among tech-savvy parents and students.



Rash of Tickets: A scofflaw Noe Valley mother tries to make a clean getaway with her stroller-bound child as a city meter minder approaches the library steps April 1. CMA photo by June Buggy

New Fees on Toddler Parking

By Common Core

A year and a half ago, the city began charging parking fees to park in San Francisco on Sundays—that is, in addition to every other day of the week. Unable to mount a resistance, Noe Valley drivers loaded up on quarters—or joined the long line outside the Walgreen’s parking lot.

But City Hall went too far this month. On Tuesday, Feb. 30, meter-minders began slapping tickets on strollers parked outside the Noe Valley Library while their child owners were inside enjoying books, rhymes, and music. Even fashionable strollers like Maclarens, Phil&Ted’s, and Bugaboo Bees were tagged.

The parking fee was a mere \$100 for the half hour that the kids were engaged in “Toddler Tomes,” the library’s gifted and talented program. However, the fine for parking past 30 minutes was a stunning \$10,000 in stock options, payable to the city no later than 2033.

Toddler David, not about to let the city siphon off his future earnings, hired attorney Atticus Finch and fought back. Mentored by longtime Lollipop Guild President Dona Taylor, Finch strong-armed Mayor Lee Ed into rolling back the Stroller Parking Ordinance—and he even rescinded the Sunday parking fees for adults. “I’ve always liked lollipops,” Mayor Ed said.

At Just Google It, every child will sit in a hermetically sealed white room equipped with a state-of-the-art iPad programmed with Google’s latest search tool, Google Penguin. Upon arrival in the morning, each child will receive a list of questions to answer and problems to solve. They may only use Google to complete their assignments. Any child caught with a pencil or paper or who attempts to access Bing will be released in the wild without GPS.

“Eventually you will use Google for everything,” said teacher Al Gorhythm “Why not start now?”

Extreme DIY School: Parents and children who prefer to learn by doing will find a comfortable home at Extreme DIY School.

Youngsters will be required to build their own desks, write their own textbooks, sew their own school uniforms, and grow their own food.

One of the founding parents credited her childhood DIY school with solving a dental problem—uneven front teeth. “I had to make my own chair. Without having the strength to operate a saw properly, I gnawed on the chair legs to make them even,” said Polly Dente, displaying her perfect incisors.

A co-founder also learned valuable skills at a DIY school. “In third grade, I told the teacher I couldn’t read the blackboard. She told me I needed to report to shop class to grind the lenses for my own eyeglasses,” said Ms. Ne Pas Voir. “I’ve saved tons of money on eyewear ever since.”

Clown Shortage Impacts Noe Valley

The nationwide clown drought has finally trickled down to Noe Valley, and the consequences are not funny.

Here in Noe Valley, we do have idiots. In fact, we have nitwits, nincompoops, ninnies, imbeciles, and even a few morons. We have our share of lum-moxes, louts, oafs, clods, and chuckle-heads. You know who I mean. Turn any corner and you’re eventually bound to run into a bonehead or a harebrain. Not to mention a number of jokers, jesters, bozos, bumpkins, and galoots. Buf-foons? Dime a dozen.

But no clowns. And the clown shortage, here and across America, is nothing to laugh at. If you are reading this, and you are a clown, please contact this newspaper.

And if you know of any clowns out there, send ’em in.

—Editor Ross Pierrot

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Grades 6 – 8: All Day Around the Bay, Cooking Classes, Spa Oaks, Mosaics, Comic Writing, Indie-Rock-Pop Band, Basketball, Tennis, and Volleyball.

Dates and Times

Grades K – 5: June 23 – August 15 (8 weeks)

Grades 6 – 8: June 23 – August 1 (6 weeks)

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Lunch Break: 12:00 noon – 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Session: 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (3:00 p.m. for K – 1)

Extended Care: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Weekly Cost

Grades K – 1: \$160 morning; \$300 all day

Grades 2 – 8: \$150 – \$200 per course (\$300 All Day Around Bay)

Extended Care: \$100 per week prepaid or \$12 per hour for drop-in

Non-Refundable Deposit: \$75 ea. week attending, due with registration

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SHORT TAKES

Going Native in Noe

Three Noe Valley gardens will be featured in the 10th annual San Francisco Native Plant Garden Tour Sunday, April 27. Organized by the Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, the free tour is self-paced and runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Most of the gardens are private, with varying degrees of native plants.

The Noe garden on 26th Street houses a native fern garden. One on 27th Street has natives chosen to thrive in a range of light from shade to full sunlight in clay soil. The other 27th Street site was once a lawn and concrete parking island that is now planted with native plants.

Detailed descriptions of these and other gardens, which are spread throughout the city, can be found on the Society's website at www.cnps-yerbabuena.org or by calling 415-513-8314.

In other garden news, volunteers are needed to staff two-hour shifts at the Friends of Noe Valley Garden Tour, arriving on Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Those who'd like to sign up are asked to email Friends member Linda Lockyer at LindaLockyer3@gmail.com.

Upper Noe Neighbors Cover Ground

Proposed changes to San Jose Avenue (March 2014 *Voice*) and new efforts by San Francisco Beautiful to place utility wires underground are on the agenda for the next Upper Noe Neighbors meeting Wednesday, April 9.

Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. and take place in the auditorium of the Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St. For more information, email president@uppernoeneighbors.com or call 415-285-0473.

Baby Steps Toward Future St. Luke's

Preliminary work on the new St. Luke's Hospital is set to begin in April when crews will reroute utilities and build a temporary structure to facilitate construction.

Work on the seven-story, 120-bed acute-care replacement hospital, which will sit just west of the existing hospital, is slated to begin this fall. To prepare, crews will reroute electrical and communication lines and a water main. They will also build a temporary loading dock next to the parking lot at Cesar Chavez and Valencia streets, because the replacement hospital will be built in front of the existing loading dock.

The new hospital is being built by HereroBoldt Construction. At a community outreach meeting in March, the firm's director of business management, Paul Klemish, told neighbors to expect noise, dust, and periodic traffic congestion during construction.

Klemish listed measures the company would take to mitigate the problems, including use of mufflers and barriers, limited idling time for vehicles, traffic control, and periodic watering of the site to tamp down dust.

Crews will commandeer the parking lane along Cesar Chavez during the day, but Klemish promised parking for workers would be managed to reduce the impact on the neighborhood.

In the next four to five months, California Pacific Medical Center, which

SHORT TAKES CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



A San Francisco chef, played by actor Tony Denison, and his estranged son (John Patrick Amedori), try to work out their simmering tensions in *Trattoria*, a film by Noe Valley couple Jason Wolos and Dawn Rich, recently released on DVD. Image courtesy Jason Wolos

Trattoria: 'A Film for the Foodie in All of Us'

A full-length movie about San Francisco's bustling culinary scene, directed and produced in Noe Valley, has been released on DVD.

Trattoria, shot in 2011, became available for personal viewing late last year after making the rounds of film festivals. The principal filmmakers were producer-director-writer Jason Wolos and producer-writer Dawn Rich, both 46. The couple have lived on Hoffman Avenue for three years.

The fictional drama/comedy follows Sal Sartini, a celebrity chef in San Francisco, as he opens a new restaurant in the city, called Cinquecento. While he and his second wife, Cecelia, try to cope with his long hours and growing anxiety about the restaurant's success, Sal's college-age son, Vince, from whom he's been estranged, comes to visit and help out in the kitchen.

The film features interviews with real restaurateurs and chefs, among them Elizabeth Falkner (*The Next Iron Chef*, *Top Chef*), Traci Des Jardins (*Top Chef Masters*), and Craig Stoll, of Delfina fame.

It also shows glimpses of Noe Valley, including a house at Cesar Chavez and Castro streets that served as the leading characters' domicile.

Wolos notes that several hills and vistas were filmed from Noe Valley, such as the downtown skyline from the corner of Dolores Park. And he adds, "A few extras in the film, playing restaurant customers, are friends and neighbors of ours who live in Noe Valley."

To see the DVD trailer or find out more about the film, go to the website www.trattoriamovie.com.

—Corrie M. Anders

FRANKLY DUBIOUS

ValPac to Deliver Jury Notices

By Miranda Blake

Noe Valley residents who toss junk mail without opening it may regret their carelessness—and possibly land in jail. Starting April 1, direct-mail advertiser ValPac will insert official government notices in its bulk mailings, along with its standard coupons for termite inspections, commemorative plates, and Omaha Steak.

Summons for jury duty, subpoenas, and arrest warrants will be among the notices to keep an eye out for. (On the bright side, one might also find tax refunds, winning lottery tickets, and Wikileaks.)

The program, which affects only ZIP codes 94114 and 94131, was part of a deal forged by San Francisco Superior Court and Flummox Enterprises, ValPac's parent company.

"We're delighted to announce this pilot project, which, if successful, may be implemented throughout San Francisco, saving the city tens of thousands of dollars in postage," said Di Annesdottir, the court's presiding judge.

Not every ValPac envelope will contain a jury summons, of course.

"Every month, only about 10 percent of citizens get called for jury duty, 4 percent are slapped with an arrest warrant, and 92 percent need new Chinese takeout menus," said Annesdottir. "ValPac can manage the process, inserting jury notices

and warrants in the right allotments, and at least one oil-and-filter change in every mailing."

District 8 Supervisor Frank Furter endorsed the experiment. "No one likes to get subpoenaed, but it does take out some of the sting when the notice comes along with several dollars off on a large pizza from HayStack or a terrific deal on hammered-brass shower heads," he said.

However, Public Defender Flap Gonzalez was appalled at the idea. "What happens when people just throw these envelopes in the trash?" he said. "It's a crime to ignore a jury summons. This borders on entrapment!"

Neighbors Reject Noe Courts Plan

By Madder World

Tennis players, parents, and dog owners, formerly at loggerheads over the redesign of Noe Courts, have joined forces to oppose the latest plan, which would replace the tennis and basketball courts with kangaroo and divorce courts.

"They've stepped over the line this time," said tennis star Raquette String. "Taking out the tennis and basketball courts without telling us is just so overhanded."

Marcie Upial, clutching her son Joey to her chest, agreed.

"Do they really think divorcing couples will clean up after their dogs?" Upial asked. "I don't."

The plan for the tiny park at Douglass and 24th streets was announced after months of missed deadlines to bring a design before the Recreation and Park Commission.

"We wanted to give space to the People's Court, but Judge Wapner ruled

against us," emailed parks department spokesman Kent Chat.

A 10th meeting regarding the park's design is planned for April. As of press time, the department did not have a date, but promised to release it shortly after the *Voice* went to print.

49ers to Stay in San Francisco

By Jack "Hacksaw" Tipple

The San Francisco 49ers announced at a press conference April 1 that the team would abandon its new stadium in Santa Clara and return to its namesake city in the fall.

"Uh, what were we thinking?" said team spokesperson and former fullback Conn Cussion. "I mean, we are the San Francisco 49ers, and that stands for San Francisco the last time I checked, not some suburb of San Jose."

The fact that the Santa Clara facility, named for both a popular blue jeans company and a biblical tribe, was 80 percent completed did not faze team ownership. "We'll just rent it to dog and cat shows," Cussion said. "Or else it could be a great place to hold a Wine Walk."

Staying at Candlestick Park is not an option, though. "Not unless they start selling mittens at the concession stands. We can't even get them to put a roof on the place!"

"No, we're looking at a location somewhere in Noe Valley," Cussion said dumbly. "We understand you've got that Tone Square, which could be converted to a rectangle if you demolished the pizza place and a few other buildings downfield."

Cussion said the team would be holding negotiations with local leaders "at

Lovelace Tea House as soon as we confirm the Giants' move with team owner Eddie DeBartholomew."

Two Bulb-Outs Meet on 24th, Thwart Traffic

By Curb Caen

Traffic on 24th Street near Noe came to a halt on the morning of April 1, when drivers discovered that new bulb-outs on both the north and south sides of the street were built out all the way to the middle of the street.

"This is a great thing for pedestrians," chirped Walker Evans. "I wish they'd do this on every corner."

Drivers, however, were not so enthusiastic. "I just can't figure how to get from here to over there," said stymied driver Mannon Street.

Although the Office of Public Sidewalks (OOPS) denies that blueprints for the bulb-outs were read improperly, it is difficult to find anyone else to blame at this time.

WARNING

Although the *Noe Valley Voice* makes every effort to protect your privacy, under the United States PATRIOT ACT, you just never know. Federal agents may be watching your eyes move as you read this and they may be taking notes. Try to look innocent.

Betty Taisch Top Producer



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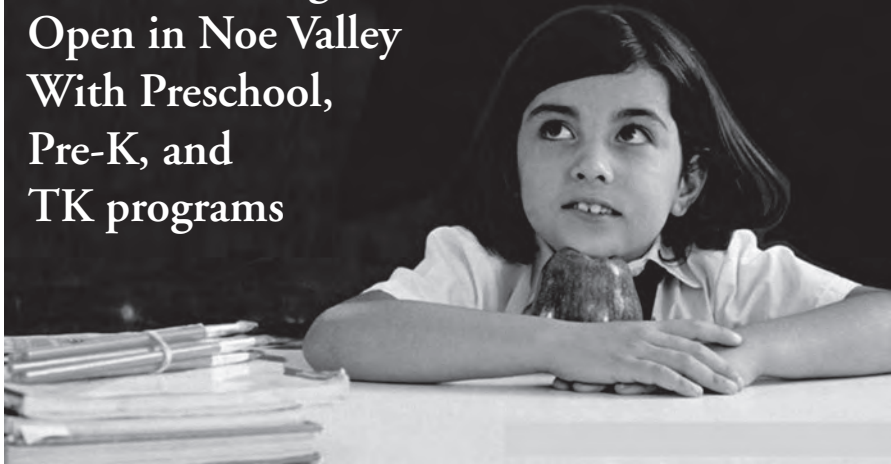


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SHORT TAKES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

owns St. Luke's, will form a community advisory group that will meet quarterly to keep project managers apprised of local activities that might be affected by construction, said Vahram Massehian, a CPMC project manager.

For more information, visit www.cpmc2020.org or call 415-373-4775.

Old Noe, Meet New Noe

Love your neighbor April 21 when Odd Mondays hosts "Beyond the Buses: Connecting the Tech and Non-Tech Communities in Noe Valley and Working Together for a Better Neighborhood and City."

"In Noe Valley we have two communities that don't know each other very well," said Peter Gabel, a local author and activist who proposed the topic to Odd Mondays organizers Judith and Ramon Sender. "There are a lot of new arrivals who tend to work in the tech world who've had an impact on housing prices in Noe Valley," said Gabel, who will be one of the evening's panelists. "Then there are a lot of people who've been here

for a very long time."

The panel will include people who work in high-tech and people connected to the art or tenants' rights world, Gabel said. "It's important to change the stereotyping consciousness that otherwise exists," he said. "We probably share many progressive values."

Two weeks earlier, on April 7, Odd Mondays will host its second Pop-Up Book Night, featuring three-minute readings by those who'd like to share an excerpt from their favorite books of poems, essays, children's literature, fiction or nonfiction. So far, readers include Linda Lewin, Patrick Monk, Peter Gabel, June Fisher, and Bill Vlach.

All Odd Mondays start at 7 p.m. at Folio Books, 3957 24th St. The evenings are preceded by a no-host supper at 5:30 p.m. at Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th St. If you're coming for pizza, RSVP to Judith Levy-Sender at jlsender@webtv.net.

Glen Evans' New Address

Glen Evans, a longtime homeless man whom the *Voice* wrote about in our February issue, no longer needs to sleep on the streets.

San Francisco homeless officials last month found lodging for Evans at the Richardson, a modern apartment complex operated by the nonprofit Community Housing Partnership.

His new address is a five-story building located in the Civic Center at Gough

and Fulton streets just two blocks from City Hall. The complex has 120 studio apartments, a courtyard, and a rooftop garden, and is near Hayes Valley shopping. Evans got the keys March 20.

"He can take a shower and he has a roof over his head—if he so chooses," said Carol Yenne, a local merchant who has befriended Evans and worked to find him housing.

"Only time will tell, but this was a big step for him, and he was given the very best the city has to offer in this situation," she said of Evans, who is frail and in his 60s.

Yenne noted that Noe Valley is Evans' home turf and it may take a period of adjustment before he feels comfortable in permanent housing. (Corrie M. Anders)

Town Square Timeline Released

Turning the parking lot on 24th Street at Vicksburg into an idyllic community gathering spot is about two years into the future, according to a timeline released by the city's Recreation and Park Department.

However, that timeline depends on whether the Noe Valley Town Square wins at least one of two grants for the site, organizer Todd David said.

The first, a federal grant, is worth \$733,000, and winners will be announced by May 1. State officials in charge of the second grant—worth \$764,000—will visit the Noe Valley Town Square Friday, April 18, at 2 p.m., and residents are encouraged to come and show community support for the project. Those grant-winners will be announced by mid-July.

"We feel we're in a very good position to be awarded one if not both of those grants," David said.

Meanwhile, organizers are also applying for money from the park department's Community Opportunity Fund, which offers awards up to \$500,000, he said.

The lot is the site of the popular weekly Noe Valley Farmers Market, which would stay if the town square becomes a reality.

The community itself has raised about \$530,000. Though the total budget for the project is estimated to be around \$2 million, that figure includes expenses that have already been donated to the project, David said. For example, Noe Valley's Alison Jones, a vice president at engineering and design firm Arcadis, will donate her time as a project manager.

The timeline allots six to eight months for design, and four to five months to put out a bid and award a contract, putting the date of groundbreaking at August 2014. Construction itself—including some basic remediation that needs to be done on the site, a former gas station—is expected to take seven to ten months.

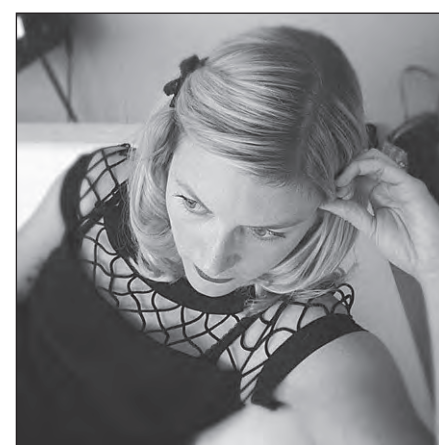
For more information, visit www.noeyalleystownsquare.com.

Lights, Camera, and Power!

Power! (Power!), a documentary about the political feats accomplished by two Mayan girls in Guatemala, will premiere Thursday, April 10, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Schwab Center. The showing will be followed by a panel featuring filmmaker and actress Jennifer Siebel Newsom, in honor of Women's History Month.

The event—Stories of Power and the Power of Story—is co-hosted by Let Girls Lead, a global campaign to empower girls, led by Noe Valley resident Denise Dunning.

The panel will explore the use of film and storytelling to empower women and girls. Sharing the stage with Newsom and Dunning will be Michelle Ozumba, the president of Women's Funding Network, and Clare Winterton, vice president of the



Erin Brazill will celebrate the release of her new CD/vinyl at Amnesia on April 12.

A Reason to Party—Brazill Meets Hitchcock

By Corrie M. Anders

Singer-composer Erin Brazill loves Noe Valley, and she loves old Alfred Hitchcock movies.

Both were the inspiration for her band's newest CD and record album, *Hitchcock Suite*, which will be unveiled April 12 during a release party at Amnesia, the Mission District bar at 853 Valencia St.

The party starts at 8 p.m., and for \$10 at the door, you can experience the unique vibe of Erin Brazill and the Brazillionaires, a six-person band the vocalist founded in 2007.

Noe Valley is familiar turf for Brazill, 41, a nine-year Dolores Street resident. She has taught piano lessons to neighborhood kids, and her band has played numerous local gigs at the Harvest Festival, Farmers Market, and Upper Noe Rec Center.

"It's very comfortable playing in Noe Valley," she said.

A special education teacher who works in San Carlos, Brazill said she conceived the idea for *Hitchcock Suite* "while staring out at the neighbors" from her home and from "walking around the 'hood."

Gazing out of her apartment window one day, Brazill said she flashed on *Rear Window*, Hitchcock's 1954 suspense thriller about a housebound man whose only view of the world is out his back window.

"I could see my neighbors and we all have our separate lives and individual houses, but we are curious about each other," Brazill said. "I was exploring the concept of how well do you know your neighbors."

The result was her song "Theories About You," which Brazill and the band later made into a music video. (It was shot by Brazill's brother, 22nd Street resident Nelsen Brazill, in the basement performance space at Viracocha on Valencia Street.)

Also featured on the new CD/vinyl are songs inspired by the Hitchcock films *Frenzy*, *The Birds*, and *Psycho*, including one piece called "Mother."

The band, which has played venues in Europe and Las Vegas in addition to the local scene, has an eclectic sound that Brazill describes as vintage noir pop with a touch of the blues. The group includes bassist Dawn Mermer, clarinetist Johnny Tripod—both Noe Valley residents—Joe Willcockson on piano, percussionist Tony Corten, and Kelley Corten on musical saw and other instruments. Brazill sings and plays acoustic guitar.

To see the "Theories About You" video and to find out about performances, go to www.erinbrazillandthebrazillionaires.com.

Book on Rescue of 50 Children the Latest for Steven Pressman

By Corrie M. Anders

Steven Pressman's new book reads like a fictional tale of international intrigue involving Nazi sympathizers, helpless Jewish children, a feeble U.S. government, and an American couple willing to risk their lives to save others. But amazingly the story is true.

Pressman's dramatic account of a harrowing wartime rescue, titled *Fifty Children: One Ordinary Couple's Extraordinary Mission Into the Heart of Nazi Germany*, will be published by HarperCollins this month, in time to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day April 28.

"It's this great story of a couple, who happened to be my wife's grandparents, who embarked on this incredible mission in 1939 to go to Nazi Germany and rescue and bring back a group of 50 Jewish children," said Pressman.

Gilbert and Eleanor Kraus' journey into Nazi-controlled Berlin and Vienna, the children's hometown, came at considerable personal risk to the Jewish lawyer and his wife. The rescue occurred at a time when anti-Jewish and anti-immigration sentiment was high both in Europe and the United States.

Pressman's book is a followup to his documentary film on the subject, *Fifty Children: The Rescue Mission of Mr. and Mrs. Kraus*, which premiered on HBO last April.

"Once I had completed the film, I realized I had so much incredible material in researching the story that didn't fit into an hour-long documentary," he said, "I really wanted the opportunity to tell the much fuller, broader, detailed story in the form of a narrative, nonfiction book."

Pressman, 57, a writer and journalist whose previous works include *Outrageous Betrayal*, a book on EST founder Werner Erhard, almost tripped over the *Fifty Children* idea.

"This was a story that was kind of hiding in plain sight for years," he said. A copy of Eleanor Kraus' unpublished memoir had been tucked into an office filing cabinet in the author's Homestead Street house of 14



For his film and now book about a rescue that occurred 75 years ago, Steven Pressman interviewed the nine survivors among 50 children who were extricated from Germany by his wife's grandparents.

years.

The memoir belonged to Pressman's wife, Liz Perle, a cofounder of Commonsense Media in San Francisco. Perle, 57, was vaguely familiar with her grandparents' daring exploits. So when Pressman began casting about for a new writing project, Perle suggested that he peruse the manuscript, which was typed on thin onion-skin paper.

"I thought it was a piece of fiction," Pressman said. "I thought it was her grandmother trying to write a novel."

He traveled to Vienna, Berlin, and Jerusalem, as well as interviewed the nine surviving children—now adults living in the United States and Israel—to authenticate the story.

The Krauses had left two children at home in Philadelphia during their two-month excursion to save the children of other Jewish parents, who were giving up their children not knowing whether they would ever see them again. Fewer than 1,200 Jewish children in all escaped to America, while more than 1.5 million others died in the Holocaust.

Pressman said he often ponders whether he could make such a difficult decision to save his own children, now both in their 20s.

"I'd like to think I'd do the right thing, but who knows," he said.

"We can't really conceive either of leaving our children behind to do something dangerous like this," he said, "or on the other side, letting our children be taken away by total strangers."

The book will be available in Noe Valley at Folio Books, 3957 24th St. ■

Global Fund for Women.

The Schwab Center is located at 211 Main St. Tickets can be bought through www.eventbrite.com. General admission is \$20, and student tickets cost \$10.

Short Takes are by Heather World, unless otherwise noted.



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The Cost of Living in Noe

All-Cash Offers Hard to Resist

By Corrie M. Anders

A shortage of homes for sale and strong demand from well-heeled buyers fanned the flames of Noe Valley’s sizzling real estate market in February.

Buyers, many of them spurning negotiations and paying all cash, purchased 10 single-family homes in the neighborhood—one more than in January and four more than in February a year ago, according to sales data provided to the *Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

Eight of the homes closed escrow at \$2 million or more, including one that sold

for a trendsetting \$4 million.

The hot market has kept prices rising and would-be buyers frustrated. “First, we present them with sticker shock because prices are so high, and then we tell them we still can’t get you a property because of low inventory,” said Randall Kostick, Zephyr’s general sales manager.

Kostick said Noe Valley had a skimpy “1.1-month” supply of homes for sale in February. That’s how long it would take to empty the real estate cupboard if no new properties came onto the market, he said, noting that the neighborhood would need a three-month supply of homes to meet the heavy demand.

Still, some shoppers didn’t mind paying top dollar to live in Noe Valley, prized for its sun and walkability, and its mix of Victorian cottages and modern renovations.

The typical buyer in February paid 8 percent over the asking price for a detached home and 14 percent more to snare a condominium.

Kostick said a number of eager buyers



This newly rebuilt contemporary home on 26th Street sold for \$4 million. The hillside dwelling boasted four bedrooms, 3.5 baths, solar roof panels, a rain catchment system, and parking for three cars.

made offers without the usual contingencies—without property inspections or a mortgage loan, for example—to increase their chances with sellers. He estimated that 25 to 50 percent of buyers paid all cash.

The most expensive property sold in February was a four-bedroom, 3.5-bath home located on 26th Street between Diamond and Douglass streets. Buyers paid \$4 million—a mere \$5,000 over the asking price—and closed the deal in 20 days. Once a small fixer that sold in 2011 for \$850,000, the hillside home had been totally rebuilt and expanded to include two master suites, five skylights, 16 solar roof panels, a rainwater collection system, and three-car parking.

Nearby, a buyer paid \$680,000 more than the \$3,095,000 asking price—a 22 percent bump-up—to grab the front-door keys to a four-bedroom, three-bath house on a double lot in the 600 block of 27th Street, between Castro and Diamond

streets. The ultramodern home, built in 2003, showcased a glass walkway, gourmet kitchen, and two decks offering panoramic views of the city.

Four condominiums sold in February, compared with five sales in February 2013. Buyers paid an average 14 percent more than the asking price, and typically closed escrow in 20 days.

The highest-priced condo went for \$1,125,000, nearly 27 percent over the asking price. Buyers took 13 days to close escrow on the unit, located in the 100 block of 27th Street, between Dolores and Guerrero streets. The 1,300-square-foot unit, the top level of a two-flat Victorian, featured two bedrooms, one bath, vaulted ceilings, and one-car parking.



A home on a double lot is a rarity in Noe Valley—which helped push the price of a 27th Street manse to nearly \$3.8 million. The stylishly renovated home has four bedrooms, three baths, and two decks with panoramic views. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley Home Sales*

Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price as % of List Price
Single-family homes						
February 2014	10	\$950,000	\$4,000,000	\$2,441,000	40	108%
January 2014	9	\$675,000	\$3,550,000	\$2,011,667	43	105%
February 2013	6	\$1,130,000	\$1,935,000	\$1,501,667	28	106%
Condominiums						
February 2014	4	\$620,000	\$1,125,000	\$867,500	20	114%
January 2014	6	\$750,000	\$1,275,000	\$1,050,160	34	112%
February 2013	5	\$625,000	\$1,500,000	\$998,200	45	115%
2-to 4-unit buildings						
February 2014	3	\$1,550,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,865,000	17	107%
January 2014	3	\$900,000	\$3,499,000	\$2,136,667	107	105%
February 2013	2	\$900,000	\$1,359,000	\$1,129,500	25	96%
5+-unit buildings						
February 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
January 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2013	0	—	—	—	—	—

* Sales include all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The *Voice* thanks Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyrsf.com) for providing sales data. NVV 4/2014

Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range March 2014	Average March 2014	Average February 2014	Average March 2013
Studio	4	\$1,600 – \$2,575	\$1,969 / mo.	\$2,087 / mo.	\$1,733 / mo.
1-bdrm	29	\$1,845 – \$3,750	\$2,702 / mo.	\$2,894 / mo.	\$2,570 / mo.
2-bdrm	38	\$2,850 – \$6,995	\$4,347 / mo.	\$3,961 / mo.	\$3,870 / mo.
3-bdrm	11	\$4,500 – \$13,000	\$6,599 / mo.	\$5,968 / mo.	\$5,891 / mo.
4+-bdrm	6	\$5,000 – \$12,500	\$8,350 / mo.	\$6,917 / mo.	\$8,425 / mo.

** This survey is based on a sample of 88 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist from March 6 to 20, 2014. NVV 4/2014



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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular Voice column profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we introduce Horner's Corner, the restaurant and tavern that recently replaced the venerable Noe's Bar and Basso's Restaurant on Church Street.

HORNER'S CORNER BAR & GRILL

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Noe Valley history is on tap at the new Horner's Corner Bar & Grill at the corner of 24th and Church streets. The 49-seat restaurant is the brainchild of Ivor Bradley—creator of the Creamery and the Iron Cactus in SOMA—and partner Dave O'Donnell, an IT professional.

The two grew up together in Galway, Ireland, and reconnected in San Francisco in 1995. For the past five years, they've been scouting restaurant locations in Noe Valley. When the Basso family decided to sell the former Noe's Bar and Basso's Restaurant last fall, the partners knew they'd found the right spot. "It's a wonderful location, central to five points in the city: Glen Park, the Mission, the Castro, Twin Peaks, and Diamond Heights," says Bradley.

The bar and grill, which opened in February, is named after John Meirs Horner, the man who began developing Noe Valley in 1852 (see sidebar below). Bradley and O'Donnell have created the feel of a 19th-century tavern by painting the interior and exterior a historic Van Deusen



Friends since they were teens in Ireland, Ivor Bradley and Dave O'Donnell (right) have joined forces to create Horner's Corner Bar & Grill at Church and 24th streets. Photo by Pamela Gerard

blue and commissioning hand-painted signs by local artist Ryan Buenning. "The signs are reproductions of steam beers popular from the period—Mohawk Beer, Acme Beer, and others," says Bradley. There are also replicas of logos from old-time stores and restaurants in Noe Valley, including Herb's Diner, the Palmer Theater, and P. Gumm's Confectionery. A large photo of Hubbert's Market, which in the 1870s occupied the site of the new restaurant, hangs on a back wall.

Noe's original bar, booths, and tables have stayed, Bradley says, because "the Basso family did business at this location for nearly 30 years, and we wanted to keep parts of the place the same as it was when they had it, to show our appreciation and our commitment to maintaining a local neighborhood bar and grill." The wood floors and wood bar have been re-

finished, the bathrooms remodeled, and new equipment has been added to the kitchen and bar.

The grill serves dinner nightly from 5 to 10 p.m.—to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday—offering a menu of casual comfort food prepared with a farm-to-table approach. Line-caught fish, locally sourced vegetables, and organic meats are all made to order.

On a recent Friday night, the bar was full of locals watching NCAA "March Madness" basketball, while couples and families with small children filled the tables and booths in the two dining areas. Popular entrees included cod and chips served with red cabbage slaw; slow-braised beef short ribs with horseradish mashed potatoes and green beans; and the Contadina pizza, made with pancetta, caramelized onions, fontina cheese, and

arugula. Eight other pizza varieties are on the menu, as are steak frites, rigatoni and meatballs, the Horner's Burger (with a vegetarian option), local petrale sole, and three salads—try the Elizabeth Horner, with dried figs, butter lettuce, jack cheese, and hazelnuts.

A \$5 kids menu includes a choice of spaghetti, chicken tenders, pizza, grilled cheese, a burger, or fish and chips, and comes with a drink and a scoop of ice cream, and a coloring sheet and crayons.

Entrees are under \$20, appetizers under \$10, and draft beers \$5.25, a price that Bradley and O'Donnell claim is the lowest in Noe Valley. "The steps you take to ensure customers get good quality and good price will bring them back," says Bradley.

Horner's Corner hosts a weekday happy hour from 3 to 5 p.m., offering \$5 cocktails and \$4 drafts of Trumer Pilsner, Prohibition Ale, and Reissdorf Kölsch, among other beers. The \$3 appetizers include chicken wings, honey-glazed ribs, and pulled-pork sliders.

Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and features mimosas and Bloody Marys, along with eggs Benedict, vegetable scrambles, French toast, salads, granola, and the 24th Street Breakfast (eggs any style with bacon or sausage).

The partners say they may consider offering lunch as they head into summer, and are planning a 40-seat outdoor patio.

Horner's Corner is an informal, seat-yourself, no-reservations kind of place. Bradley and O'Donnell can often be found greeting patrons at the door. "We want families and regulars to be comfortable here," says Bradley. "I'd like this to be a place where you can sit at the bar after work and have a pizza and a glass of wine, or bring the family in for dinner."

—Pat Rose

In designing their bar and restaurant Horner's Corner, owners Ivor Bradley and Dave O'Donnell sought the aid of local author and historian Bill Yenne. Yenne provided photos from the early days of Noe Valley commerce, as well as this history of Horner's Addition, now framed and mounted in the new tavern.

When Noe Valley Was Known As Horner's Addition

By Bill Yenne
(from the book *San Francisco's Noe Valley*)

Noe Valley is named for Don Jose de Jesus Noe, who was the last alcalde of Yerba Buena (now San Francisco) and who also owned Rancho de San Miguel, which included what is now Noe Valley. However, before Noe Valley was known as Noe Valley, it was known as "Horner's Addition," after the man who turned the rolling pastures of Rancho de San Miguel into an urban neighborhood.

If Jose de Jesus Noe can be considered as the namesake of Noe Valley, John Meirs Horner was the father of Noe Valley. Born in June 1821 on a farm in New Jersey, he arrived in California in 1846 as a member of a party of Mormon settlers. In 1852, after buying and selling farmland in the East Bay, he bought a sizable slice of Rancho de San Miguel. Horner correctly predicted that this property, which came to be known as "Horner's Addition," would eventually be a desirable neighborhood within San Francisco.

Planning to sell lots for homes, Horner surveyed and laid out the present street grid and named the streets. Many of the names that Horner gave to the streets still remain, although in 1861, the City gave every other one a number. Elizabeth Street, named for his wife, remains, but nearby John Street became 22nd Street and Horner Street became 23rd Street.

Park Street, the economic hub of the area, is now 24th Street.

Horner's fortunes declined during the national economic downturn of 1857–1859, and he was forced to sell much of his property at a loss. In 1879, he relocated to Hawaii, where he died in 1907 at the age of 86.



Mormon pioneer John Meirs Horner, as pictured in *Rancho San Miguel* by Mae Silver

TOP 10 REASONS TO HIRE AN ARCHITECT

- 10 To keep your contractor honest.
- 9 Architects know where to find all the cool stuff.
- 8 You have better things to do than manage a construction project.
- 7 You like his shoes.
- 6 You have yet to talk to anyone who *really* knows the building code.
- 5 Your spouse has questionable taste and needs professional help.
- 4 It's more fun than therapy.
- 3 Your basement could be worth \$200,000 – if only you could get a building permit.
- 2 So you can tell your friends, "Sorry, can't talk now, I'm in a meeting with *my* architect".
- 1 You'll never know what's possible if you don't.



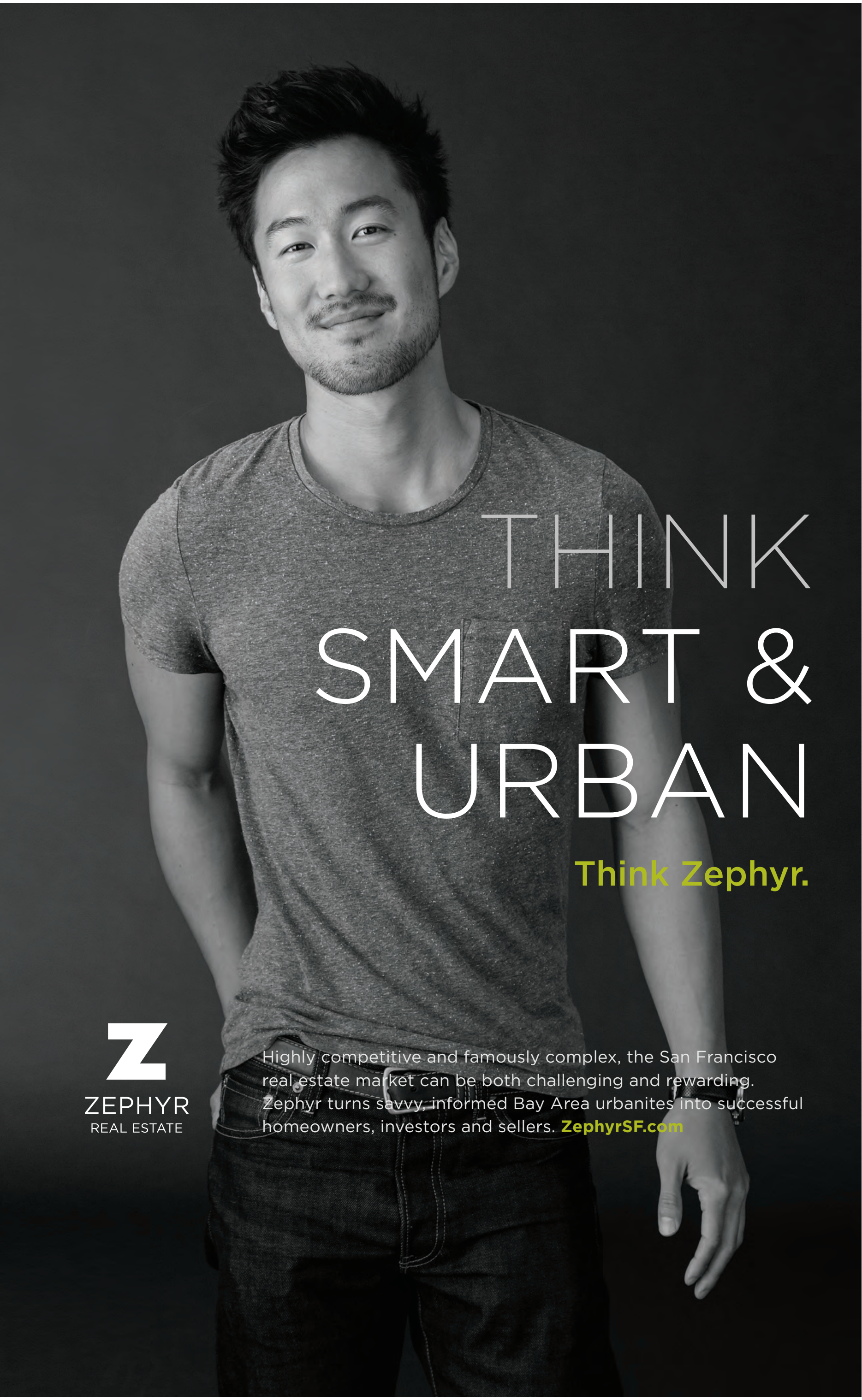
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Holy Week and Easter Events

Palm Sunday, April 13

Worship at St. Luke's Chapel, 10:30 a.m.

A Service of Joyful Noise!

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Sunday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.

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HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 13 - Palm Sunday - One service at 9:30 a.m.

April 16 - Sung Taizé service - 6:30 p.m.

April 17 - Maundy Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

Candlelight potluck banquet in sanctuary with Eucharist

April 18 - Good Friday - Noon – 3:00 p.m.

Church open for prayers

April 18 - Good Friday - 7:00 p.m.

Meditations on the Cross with music, poetry and scripture

April 19 - Holy Saturday Children's Vigil - 3:00 p.m.

April 19 - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 8:00 p.m.

Champagne reception follows

April 20 - Easter Sunday Family Eucharist - 9:00 a.m.

Followed at 10 a.m. by an Easter Egg Hunt

April 20 - Choral Eucharist

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Saint Paul's Parish

*Holy Week and Easter
Services 2014*

OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ARE INVITED
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PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY
Saturday, April 12
Sunday, April 13

Palms are blessed and given out at all masses
4:30 p.m.
7:45 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Spanish),
12:30 p.m., and 5:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY
April 17

Mass of the Lord's Supper (Bilingual) 7:30 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY
April 18

Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Confession / Reconciliation, 11:00 a.m.- Noon
Good Friday Bilingual Services, Noon - 3:00 p.m.
Confession / Reconciliation, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY
April 19

Confession / Reconciliation, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection, 8:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY
April 20

Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection
Masses at 7:45 a.m., 9:15, 11:00 (Spanish)
and 12:30 p.m. – No 5:00 p.m. Mass

Together, we shall celebrate new Life!

The Lord has risen. Alleluia!

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PLEASE NOTE: Mass Times for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday have changed.
8:00 a.m. Mass will begin at 7:45 a.m. • 10:45 a.m. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m.
12:15 Mass on Palm Sunday will begin at 12:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday Mass Times: 7:45 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.

CONSIDERING A MOVE FROM

SF TO THE PENINSULA?

Read this first.

Part 1 of 3 part series



There were many good reasons why I lived in San Francisco: the hustle and bustle, the variety of culinary and cultural activities, and the walkable community nearby. But ultimately, my husband's career drew him South and he began commuting a great distance to work each day. And after the birth of our two children we were faced with the toughest question that confronts urban parents: Where will they go to school? And finally there was the combination of a relatively small home (no storage or play room) and the cold weather (makes park-going less pleasant) that finally pushed us out of the city.

So if you're considering a move to the Peninsula for the great public schools, short commute, warm weather and space, but you still have reservations, here is my honest take on reservations vs. reality:

A CULINARY WASTELAND?

After living in San Francisco, you've probably become spoiled by the endless supply of creative, high quality food. I know I was. So I'm not going to sugar-coat this: the food on the Peninsula isn't as good as the food in San Francisco. But it's not a culinary apocalypse, either. First, there are adequate substitutes for many of your old favorites – maybe not quite as awesome as the SF original, but they certainly won't disappoint. And you don't have to circle the block for thirty minutes looking for parking either.

SF Favorite	Specialty	Peninsula Substitute
Ame	Upscale Japanese	Wakuriya (San Mateo)
Burma Superstar	Burmese	Rangoon Ruby (San Carlos & Palo Alto)
Kokkari	Upscale Greek	Evvia (Palo Alto)
Slow Club	California Comfort	Scratch (Mountain View)
Slanted Door	Upscale Vietnamese	Tamarine (Palo Alto)
Zuni Café	Rustic Café	Mayfield Bakery & Café (Palo Alto)
Firefly	Neighborhood Favorite	Flea Street Café (Menlo Park)
Little Star Pizza	Thick Crust Pizza	Blue Line Pizza (Mountain View)

Even more encouraging is the fact that as more and more former San Franciscans move down here, top restaurants are following. And Silicon Valley born gems are starting to attract the attention of culinary institutions like James Beard (Manresa, Los Gatos) and Michelin (Plumed Horse, Saratoga, Chez TJ, Mountain View, The Village Pub, Woodside).

To read the entire article, go to heathergreenhomes.com/sf2pen. For honest, straightforward advice on moving to the Peninsula, let me be your guide.



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Palm Sunday, April 13:

The blessing of the palms (outside) before the 10:30 a.m. Mass, with procession into the church. (Masses: Saturday, 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.) Palms distributed at all Masses.

Holy Thursday, April 17:

Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 p.m. Concludes with Eucharistic Procession and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m. (in the daily Mass chapel).

Good Friday, April 18:

12:00 Noon: A presentation on the Stations of the Cross by our choir and speakers including the Celebration of the Lord's Passion, which includes the reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

7:00 p.m. - The traditional Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 19: Easter Vigil begins at 8:30 p.m. with the blessing of the Easter fire and lighting of the Easter Candle

Easter Sunday, April 20: Masses: 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.



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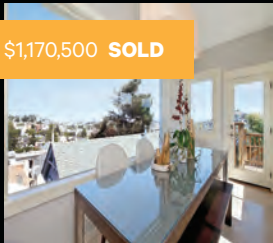
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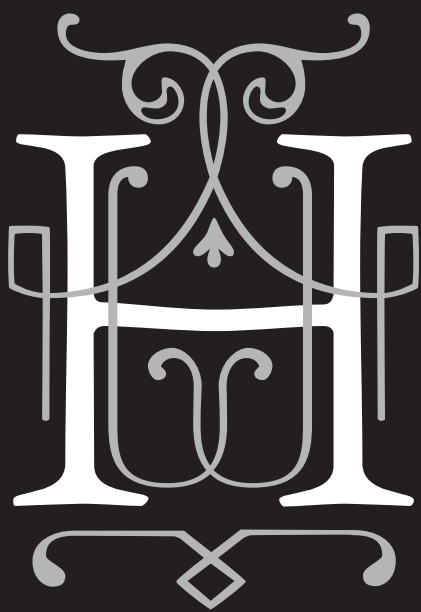
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Spring Has Sprung at Upper Noe Rec Center

The spring session at Upper Noe Recreation Center got into full gear on March 18, with classes in everything from Petite Bakers and Strollercize to Boot Camp and Shred 'n' Butter Skateboarding. There are drop-in classes in volleyball and women's futsal on Wednesday and Friday. And if you'd like to shoot baskets, the gym is available most weekday afternoons.

For a complete schedule of classes and open gym hours, stop by the center, 295 Day St. at Sanchez Street; visit the Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center website at www.noevalleyreccenter.com; or call the center director at 415-970-8061. Park hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Joby's Dog Run, at the Church Street end of the park, is open daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

UPPER NOE REC CENTER CLASSES

MONDAY	
Tennis (7-12 yrs old)	Mon., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Simply Fun (10 mos-3 yrs old)	Tues., 10-11:30 a.m.
Petite Bakers (3-6 yrs old)	Tues., 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Movin' & Groovin' (2-4 yrs old)	Tues., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tot Free Play	Tues., 1-3:30 p.m.
Indoor Soccer (5-8 yrs old)	Tues., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Tennis (8-13 yrs old)	Tues., 3:30-5 p.m.
Combat Athletics, Intermediate (8-16 yrs old)	Tues., 4-5:30 p.m.
Indoor Soccer (9-12 yrs old)	Tues., 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Tennis (adult intermediate)	Tues., 6-7 p.m.
Yoga (adult)	Tues., 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Boot Camp (adult)	Tues., 7:45-8:45 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	
Baby and Me (18-36 mos)	Wed., 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Strollercize (adult)	Wed., 10-11 a.m.
Tot Tennis (4-5 yrs old)	Wed., 10:30-11 a.m.
Pilates (adult)	Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball (5-9 yrs old)	Wed., 3-4:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball (10-14 yrs old)	Wed., 4:30-6 p.m.
Tot Free Play	Wed., 1-2:30 p.m.
Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (4-5 yrs old)	Wed., 3-4 p.m. & 4-5 p.m.
Tennis (5-8 yrs old)	Wed., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (5-6 yrs old)	Wed., 5-6 p.m.
Tennis (adult beginner/intermediate)	Wed., 6:30-8 p.m.
Food in Jars (adult)	Wed., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Volleyball (drop-in)	Wed., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Simply Fun (10 mos-3 yrs old)	Thurs., 10-11:30 a.m.
Movin' & Groovin' (2-4 yrs old)	Thurs., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tennis (adult intermediate)	Thurs., noon-1:30 p.m.
Argentine Tango (55+)	Thurs., 1-4 p.m.
Combat Athletics (8-16 yrs old)	Thurs., 4:30-6 p.m.
Yoga (adult)	Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Core Stability and Balance (adult)	Thurs., 7:45-8:45 p.m.
FRIDAY	
Baby and Me (1-3 yrs old)	Fri., 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Pilates (adult)	Fri., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tot Free Play	Fri., 1-3 p.m.
So You Think You Can Act (7-11 yrs old)	Fri., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Skateboarding (5-13 yrs old)	Fri., 4:30-6 p.m.
Future Chefs (9-13 yrs old)	Fri., 6:30-8 p.m.
Women's Futsal (drop-in)	Fri., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
SATURDAY	
Boot Camp (adult)	Sat., 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Indoor Soccer (3-4 yrs old)	Sat., 10-11 a.m.
Tot Free Play	Sat., 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (varies)
Cooking: The Art of Baking Bread (adult)	Sat., 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Tennis (5-8 yrs old)	Sat., 1-2 p.m.
SUNDAY	
Tennis (8-11 yrs old)	Sun., 12-1:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BEAT

Cake Walk Stars at School Carnival

By Heather World

The Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy hosts its annual Carnival Saturday, April 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. School artwork will be on display, amidst jumpy houses, games, cotton candy, and a balloon-twisting clown. The popular Cake Walk will run every 30 minutes.

Last year, the Carnival raised \$5,000, said parent Barry Schmell. This year, the school hopes to raise more by way of a raffle. Tickets cost \$5 each or a book of 10 for \$40. The grand prize is a Hewlett-Packard personal computer with a high-definition monitor. Other prizes include two Android tables, MYCube mini-speakers, and Google Chromecast.

The Harvey Milk Academy, a public elementary school, is located at 4235 19th St., across from Eureka Recreation Center.

Una Noche in April

Meanwhile, Fairmount Elementary School parents will leave the kids with babysitters on April 26 for the fourth annual Una Noche, an adults-only evening of dancing, dining, and drinking, Latin American-style.

A live auction featuring vacation rentals, dinner parties prepared by local chefs, and original art will raise money for the school's PTA. Last year's event

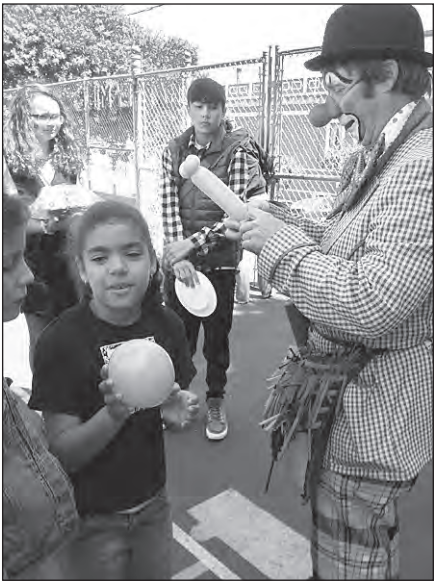
raised about \$18,000, said parent Kim Green.

Una Noche runs from 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Tickets cost \$30 or two for \$50 and can be purchased through the school's website, www.wearefairmount.com.

Great Demand for Alvarado Art

Art made by the creative students (and parents and staff) in Alvarado Elementary's 24 classrooms and two after-school programs netted more than \$48,000 at this year's March auction, boosting the fundraiser's total to about \$110,000, according to organizers.

The money helps fund the school's science, math, literacy, and physical education programs.



Jonesy Costa-Schmell awaits a balloon animal at the 2013 Carnival at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. This year's event will take place April 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Photo courtesy Barry Schmell

Friends of Flynn PTA



Flynn PTA would like to thank our generous sponsors for their support of Viva la Noche, our Spring Fundraiser. Businesses like these help us provide our students with art and music enrichment, academic programs, enhanced science curriculum, field trips, a Playworks teacher, and books for the library. Our teachers also benefit with additional supplies and support.

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Astrology and Tarot Readings: Personal and business astrology. Tarot readings too. Yvonne, 415-641-8200; www.helpfulastrology.com.

Submissions: The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions of short fiction, essays, or poetry, particularly those relating to Noe Valley. Email editor@noevalleyvoice.com or write Noe Valley Voice, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include a phone number.

How to Place a Class Ad

It's easy. Just type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **40¢ per word**, and send us a check or money order for the total. (Note that a phone number, including area code, counts as one word.) Then mail your ad text and payment, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month in which you'd like to advertise. The address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. (Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or email.)

10 for 10 discount: The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the same class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Voice* will be the **May 2014** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of February. **The deadline for Class Ads is April. 15.**

Note: The next issue will be on the streets for one month. The Class Ads also will be displayed at **www.noevalleyvoice.com**.

Advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refunds are not granted unless we have made an error. We appreciate your support.

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CHILDREN’S EVENTS

Sing Along With Charlie Hope: In celebration of “The Month of the Young Child,” Canadian singer/song-writer **Charlie Hope** will perform tunes from her CD *Sing As We Go!*, recently nominated for a 2014 Juno Award. Her melodic and interactive music will make you stomp your feet like a dino, whistle like a train, or roar like a lion! Arrive early to get a seat. Sunday, April 13, at 3 p.m.

Duct Tape Masterpieces: With tape in myriad colors and patterns, crafts maven Sophie Maletsky will guide you in making a **wallet or coin purse**. Your creations are guaranteed to be original, yet practical too. For ages 10 and up. Wednesday, April 30, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Toddler Tales: Children ages 16 to 36 months and their parents or caregivers are invited to Miss Catherine’s **story time**, which includes book-sharing, rhymes, songs, and movement. Thursdays, April 10, 17, and 24; 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Reel-to-Reel Films: An assortment of short films, geared for children ages 3 to 5, will be shown at the library’s monthly **Preschool Films**. Thursday, April 3, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

For Parents and Guardians of Toddlers
What Every Toddler Parent Should Know...About San Francisco Public Schools: Come learn about San Francisco’s public school options and get advice from experienced parents on the ins and outs of the enrollment process. For more information or to preregister, go to www.ppsf.org. Tuesday, April 29, at 7 p.m.

All events take place at the Noe Valley/ Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St. between Castro and Diamond streets. For information, call 415-355-5707 or visit www.sfpl.org.

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MORE BOOKS TO READ

Have Any Magazines to Swap?

Be “green” and give your magazines a new home. The Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library is now hosting a community magazine swap. You can bring in those magazines you’ve finished reading or the ones that you’re never going to read that are cluttering your home. And you might discover a new magazine to take home with you. You never know what you’ll find. The magazine swap cart is located on your left as you enter the library, 451 Jersey St.

Looking for a new book or film? Here are some suggestions offered by Noe Valley librarians Susan Higgins and Catherine Starr. If you’d like to have more tips, give them a call at the branch, 415-355-5707.

New Fiction

- **Dirty Love** is a collection of novellas by Andre Dubus III, author of the popular *House of Sand and Fog*.
- Fast food companies rule the world in *A Highly Unlikely Scenario, or a Neetsa Pizza Employee’s Guide to Saving the World*, a novel by Rachel Cantor.
- *The Devil I Know* by Claire Kilroy is a story of corruption during the Irish real estate bubble.
- The suspicious deaths of members of a remote Brazilian rainforest tribe are investigated in *The Ways of Evil Men* by Leighton Gage.

New Nonfiction

- *Wondrous Beauty: The Life and Adventures of Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte*, by Carol Berkin, is the biography of the woman from Baltimore who married Napoleon’s youngest brother.
- Learn what to do if your dog is poisoned, injured, or choking by reading *K9 Medic: How to Save Your Dog’s Life During an Emergency*, by Eric “Odie” Roth.
- *Stealing Sugar From the Castle: Selected Poems, 1950 to 2013*, is a new collection of Robert Bly’s works selected from more than 10 volumes of his poetry.
- J. Craig Venter explores the new field of synthetic genomics in *Life at the Speed of Light: From the Double Helix to the Dawn of Digital Life*.

Films and TV on DVD

- *How to Make Money Selling Drugs* is a satirical documentary written and directed by Matthew Cooke that includes interviews with Susan Sarandon, 50 Cent, and Woody Harrelson.
- Screenwriter/director André Téchiné’s 1979 film *Les soeurs Brontë / The Brontë Sisters* stars award-winning French actresses Isabelle Huppert and Isabelle Adjani.
- Nostalgic for 1960s TV? Check out *The Lost Archives of Candid Camera*, featuring guest stars Carol Burnett, Ella Fitzgerald, Mel Torme, and more.

- *Marketa Lazarová*, directed by František Vlácil, is a 1967 Czech film about rival medieval clans.

Children’s Fiction

- Kids who like cars, trucks, and counting will enjoy *Night Light*, written and illustrated by Nicholas Blechman. Ages 3 to 5.
- Patrick Hruby’s chunky board book *ABC Is for Circus* explores the world of the Big Top, from Acrobats to Daredevils to Zebras. Ages 4 and up.
- *The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna* by Demi is a re-telling of the Hindu story of Shri Krishna, a child sent by the god Vishnu to help humanity. Ages 4 to 8.
- *The Things I Can Do*, written and illustrated by Jeff Mack, is a “memoir” by a little kid named Jeff, complete with doodles, stickers, and magazine scraps. Ages 5 to 8.
- The pony gives his side of the Yankee Doodle story, in *Crankee Doodle*, by Tom Angleberger, illustrated by Cece Bell. Ages 5 to 8.
- Author and illustrator Nick Bruel tries to show us how he draws a book, but he keeps getting interrupted by his whiskered subject, in *Bad Kitty Drawn to Trouble*. Ages 7 to 10.
- Stick Dog and his pals Poo-Poo, Mutt, Karen, and Stripes contemplate a hamburger heist in *Stick Dog*, written and illustrated by Tom Watson. Ages 7 to 12.
- An 11-year-old girl struggles to adjust to a new hometown and a new “frenemy” living next door, in *Binny for Short*, a new series by Hilary McKay. Ages 8 to 12.
- *Handbook for Dragon Slayers*, a fantasy novel by Merrie Haskell, follows the adventures of a princess who was born with a twisted foot. Ages 8 to 12.
- In *Sorry You’re Lost*, by Matt Blackstone, Denny gets involved in a lame scheme concocted by his best friend at school, but what’s really on his mind is his mom’s recent death and his dad’s seeming inability to handle it. Ages 10 to 14.

EVENTS FOR ADULTS

eBooks and eAudiobooks: Did you know that you can borrow books to read or listen to on your tablet or other mobile device? To learn more, go to www.sfpl.org, click on the eLibrary tab, and then choose one of the eBooks categories. Or drop in to the library’s **eReader help session** on the second Tuesday of each month. Tuesday, April 8, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Tai Chi for Health with Patrick Lau: Patrick Lau introduces the **Yang style of tai chi** in a 10-week class starting April 9. Sessions will focus on improving balance, flexibility, posture, and coordination. Call 415-355-5707 to preregister for either the advanced beginner class, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., or the beginner class, 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. Wednesdays, April 9 to June 11.

Great Books Looks at Virginia Woolf: The topic at this month’s Great Books Discussion Group is “A Room of One’s Own,” an essay by British author **Virginia Woolf** (1882-1941). For a copy of the story, contact Clifford.Louie@sbcglobal.net. Wednesday, April 9, 6:15 to 8:15 p.m.

Friday Matinee at the Library screens *The Great Gatsby*, the 2013 film based on the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Directed by Baz Luhrmann, the film stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Carey Mulligan, and Toby Maguire. Friday, April 11, 2 p.m.

DIY Tote Bag: In this hand-sewing workshop, learn how to customize a plain bag into a **tote** that you can use to carry your library books or take to the farmer’s market. All materials are provided. Space is limited. Sign up at the library or call 415-355-5707. Saturday, April 12, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Opera for the People: Larry Oppenheim, president of the Kensington Symphony Orchestra, discusses and show clips from the opera *Faust* by Charles Gounod. For both novice and experienced opera fans. Saturday, April 12, 2 to 3 p.m.

The Noe Valley Book Discussion Group meets on the third Wednesday of the month. The topic for April’s meeting is Ann Patchett’s *State of Wonder*. Wednesday, April 16, 7 p.m.

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APRIL 2014

April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: The Eureka Valley Library offers its TODDLER TALES on Tuesdays, 10:30 am. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

April 1-29: Meet under the rainbow flag at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro and Market) for a City Guides walking tour of the CASTRO. Sat., Sun. & Tues., 11 am. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

April 1-29: Larkin Street Youth Services gives free HIV TESTING for youth. Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. 1800 Market. 673-0911; sfcenter.org.

April 1-29: Dogs 6 months and older are invited to the Tuesday PUPPY SOCIAL at K9 Scrub Club. 7-8 pm. 1734 Church. Online registration required: k9scrubclub.com.

April 1-29: Attend PUB QUIZ NIGHTS on Tuesdays at the Valley Tavern, 4054 24th, and Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

April 1-30: Noe Valley OVEREATERS Anonymous meets Monday through Saturday, 7 am, at St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine. oasf.org.

April 1-30: 30th Street SENIOR CENTER serves lunches for people over 60, weekdays and Saturdays. Noon and 1 pm. 225 30th. 550-2211.

April 1 & May 6: The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

April 2 & 16: At PUPPY DOG TALES, children read to Oliver, a certified therapy dog. 7-8:30 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). Signup required: 355-5616; sfpl.org.

April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30: Eureka Valley Library's Wednesday BABY RHYME and Playtime, for infants to 18 months, starts at 1:30 pm. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

April 2-30: Chris Sequeira conducts free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1-3 pm at the Bernal Heights Rec Center, 500 Moultrie. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com.

April 2-30: CANDLE SING at Holy Innocents Church includes songs from Taize and the islands of Iona and Lindisfarne. Wednesdays, 5:30-6 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. holyinsf.org.

April 2-30: AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip's Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

April 2 & May 7: The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107. GLBThistory.org.

April 2-Dec. 17: The Castro Farmers' Market has fresh PRODUCE on Wednesdays. 4-8 pm. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

April 3: Reel-to-Reel 16mm FILMS for preschoolers screen at the Noe Valley Library at 10:15 and 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 3 & 17: The Noe Valley Merchants ADA COMMITTEE meets on first and third Thursdays to discuss accessibility issues. 9:30 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. info@noevalleymerchants.com.

April 3-18: The MARSH presents Brian Copeland's *The Scion*. Thurs. & Fri, 8 pm; Sat., 5 pm. 1062 Valencia. 271-3256; the-marsh.org.

April 3 & 19: The SF Museum and Historical Society offers tours of the OLD MINT. April 3, 1 pm; April 19, 11 am. Meet on the northeast side of the Mint Building, in Mint Plaza, off Fifth Street. Reservations required: 537-1105, ext. 100; rsvp@sfhhistory.org.

April 4: SF Camerawork Gallery screens a BBC DOCUMENTARY, *The Vivian Maier Mystery*. Reception 5:30 pm; film 6 pm; Q&A 7 pm. 1011 Market, 2nd floor. 487-1011.

April 4-6: Art Explosion hosts OPEN STUDIOS, featuring more than 100 artists at two locations, 2425 17th, and 744 Alabama. Reception April 4, 7-11 pm; April 4 & 5, noon-5 pm. 323-3020; art-explosionsf@gmail.com.

April 4-25: The Friday-night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett with artists Don Prell, Jimmy Ryan, and the Third Quartet. 5:30-8 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

April 4-25: Call out "BINGO!" at St. Paul's on Friday nights at 7 pm (doors open at 5 pm). St. Paul's Parish Hall, 221 Valley. 648-7538.

April 4-25: Dolores Park Cafe hosts Friday-night MUSIC and spoken word. 7:30-10 pm. 501 Dolores. 621-2936; doloresparkcafe.com.

April 5: Jack Bishop discusses *The How Can It Be GLUTEN-FREE Cookbook*. 3-4 pm. Omni-

vore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

April 5: "Muni Diaries" features MUNI HAIKU champion Jesse James, with Peter Hartlaub and Annalee Newitz. 6 pm. Elbo Room, 647 Valencia. 552-7788.

April 5-26: Each Saturday, the Noe Valley FARMERS MARKET brings you fresh produce and live musicians from 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.



The Del Sol String Quartet performs at Noe Valley Chamber Music on April 6, 4 pm, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

April 6: Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC presents a concert by the Del Sol String Quartet. 3:15 pm pre-concert talk, 4-6 pm concert. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell. 928-7770; nvcm.org.

April 6 & 20: SF City Guides leads a free WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays at 1:30-3:30 pm. Meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

April 6-27: Meet at the gold fire hydrant at 20th and Church at 11 am Sundays for a City Guides walking tour of the MISSION DOLORES area. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

April 6-Nov. 23: The Glen Park Village FARMERS' MARKET is open Sundays, 10 am to 2 pm, in the Glen Park BART parking lot at Bosworth and Arlington. pcfma.com.

April 7: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts Pop-Up Book Night, with three-minute readings from favorite books by local readers. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

April 8: John C. Ralston discusses his book, *Fremont Older and the 1916 San Francisco Bombing*, at the San Francisco MUSEUM and Historical Society. 7:30 pm. 88 Fifth. 537-1105, ext. 100; sfhistory.org.

April 9: The Glen Park Library's monthly KNITTING CIRCLE continues, from 4:30 to 6 pm. 2825 Diamond. 355-2858.

April 9: The GREAT BOOKS Discussion Group discusses Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*. 6:15-8:15 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 9: UPPER NOE Neighbors discuss proposed changes to San Jose Avenue and utilities undergrounding. 7:30 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, Day and Sanchez. 285-0473; president@uppernoeneighbors.com.

April 10: The LGBT SENIOR discussion group meets at 30th Street Senior Center. 10-11:30 am. 225 30th. 296-8995, ext. 5.

April 10: Carla Hall introduces *Carla's COMFORT FOODS: Favorite Dishes from Around the World*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

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April 10, 17 & 24: The Noe Valley Library hosts Miss Catherine’s TODDLER TALES, featuring books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 11: The Noe Valley Library hosts a screening of the 2013 version of *THE GREAT GATSBY*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan. 2-4:25 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 11: Beth Howard discusses *Ms. American Pie: Buttery Good PIE RECIPES and Bold Tales from the American Gothic House*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

April 12: Thomas Edison Charter Academy holds a SAFETY FAIR, with first-aid kits, an obstacle course, information booths, and a visit from a fire truck. 11 am-3 pm. 3531 22nd.

April 12: The OPERA for the People series continues with a talk about Charles Gounod’s *Faust*. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 12: Natural Resources invites you to meet doulas (2-4 pm) and home-birth MIDWIVES (4-6 pm). 1367 Valencia. 550-2611; naturalresources-sf.com.

April 12: The Eureka Valley Library offers a discussion, “Myths and Black Holes in DOG BEHAVIOR.” 3-4 pm. 1 Jose Sarría Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

April 12: Michael Ruhlman introduces his cookbook, *EGG: A Culinary Exploration of the World’s Most Versatile Ingredient*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

CALENDAR

April 12: HOSPICE by the Bay hosts its annual Service of Remembrance to honor loved ones who have died. 4 pm. St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine. 321-7147; hospicebythebay.org.

April 12: Local band ERIN BRAZILL and the Brazillionaires celebrates the release of its CD/vinyl *Hitchcock Suite*. 8 pm. Amnesia, 853 Valencia. erinbrazill andthebrazillionaires.com.

April 13: The monthly PFLAG support group features speakers and discussions. 2-4:30 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church. 921-8850; pflagsf@aol.com.

April 13: Canadian songwriter Charlie Hope leads a foot-stompin’ SING-ALONG for all ages at the Noe Valley Library. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 13: Eaganie Yuh discusses *The CHOCOLATE Tasting Kit*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

April 13 & 27: Learn how to care for plants in a terrarium in the Moisture-Loving TERRARIUM Class at Paxton Gate. 11 am-1 pm. 824-Valencia. 824-1872; www.paxtongate.com.

April 16: The Noe Valley BOOK Discussion Group considers *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. 7 to 8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 17: COMEDY Returns to El Rio with Shazia Mirza, Maureen Langan, Victor Escobedo, Belo Cipriani, and Lisa Geduldig. 8 pm. 3158 Mission. ElRiosf.com.

April 20: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence host their 35th EASTER Celebration, “The Emerald Jubilee, A ‘Trip’ to Oz,” in Golden Gate Park’s Hellman Hollow (formerly Speedway Meadow); Oz costumes encouraged. 10 am children’s Easter Egg Hunt; festivities until 4 pm.

April 21: The ODD MONDAYS series offers a panel discussion, “Beyond the Buses: Connecting the Tech and Non-Tech Communities in Noe Valley and Working Together for a Better Neighborhood and City.” 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

April 23: Elizabeth Castoria discusses *How to Be VEGAN*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

April 25: Gallery of Jewels hosts a trunk show by jewelry maker Sarah Richardson. Noon-6:30 pm. 4089 24th. 285-0626.

April 26: The Older Women’s League (OWL) presents Fran Moreland Johns discussing her book, *Perilous Times: An Insider Look at Abortion Before—and After—ROE v. WADE*. 10 am-noon. Flood Building, 870 Market, room 1185. 989-4422; owlsf.org.

April 26: The Upper Noe Rec Center hosts a TOT CONCERT from 10 am to noon. Day and Sanchez. noevalleyrecenter.com.

April 26: The Glen Park Library screens Tim Burton’s 2010 FILM version of *Alice in Wonderland*. 3-

5 pm. 2825 Diamond. 355-2858.

April 26: Erin Gleeson introduces *The Forest Feast: Simple VEGE-TARIAN Recipes from My Cabin in the Woods*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

April 26: Laurie Lewis and Kathy Kallick perform a BLUEGRASS Spring Jubilee, featuring the music of Vern & Ray. 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian’s, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

April 27: The California NATIVE PLANT Society hosts a garden tour including gardens at 4150 25th, 1257 Dolores, 3984 26th, 158 27th, and 1514 Sanchez. 11 am to 3 pm. For a map: sfnativegardentour.org.

April 27: The Rhythm Sisters perform a CONCERT at Music on the Hill. 7:30 pm. St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine. 820-1429; musiconthehill.org.

April 28: The Porchlight STORY-TELLING Series’ theme is “Kitchen Confidential”; bring your five-minute story. 7 pm. Hemlock Tavern, 1131 Polk. 923-0923; porchlightsf.com

April 29: MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of the month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400.

April 29: Parents for PUBLIC SCHOOLS discuss school options and the enrollment process in “What Every Toddler Parent Should Know...” 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 29: Mona Garibay and Ruth Orta discuss “Customs and Traditions of OHLONE NATIVES in the Bay Area” at a meeting of the SF History Association. 7 pm. St. Philip’s Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; sanfranciscohistory.org.

April 30: Sophie Maletsky leads a class for ages 10 through adult, “DUCT TAPE Masterpieces: Wallets and Coin Purses.” 4:30-6 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

April 30: A one-time NERT WORKSHOP teaches disaster preparedness. 6:30-8:30 pm. SF Main Library, 100 Larkin. sf-fire.org.

April 30: Folio Books hosts a pop-up DISCUSSION of *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. 7 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477.

May 3: A Dolores Heights neighborhood association will hold a get-to-know-your-neighbors GATHERING on Sanchez Street between Hill and 21st streets. 10 am-2 pm.

May 3: Deborah Madison discusses *The New VEGETARIAN Cooking for Everyone*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

IF WE MAY...

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the **May 2014** issue, distributed the first week of May. The deadline for items (and your taxes) is **April 15**. Write Calendar, *Noe Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146, or email calendar@noevalleyvoice.com. Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Thank you.



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THR APR 10	CARLA HALL • CARLA’S COMFORT FOODS: FAVORITE DISHES FROM AROUND THE WORLD • 6:30-7:30P.M. FREE • For Carla Hall, co-host of ABC’s The Chew, food is a wonderful way to forge connections with and between people.
FRI APR 11	BETH HOWARD • MS. AMERICAN PIE: BUTTERY GOOD PIE RECIPES AND BOLD TALES FROM THE AMERICAN GOTHIC HOUSE • 6:30-7:30P.M. FREE • She now lives in the famous American Gothic House (the backdrop for Grant Wood’s famous painting) and runs the hugely popular Pitchfork Pie Stand.
SAT APR 12	MICHAEL RUHLMAN • EGG: A CULINARY EXPLORATION OF THE WORLD’S MOST VERSATILE INGREDIENT • 3-4 P.M. FREE In this innovative book, James Beard award-winning author Michael Ruhlman explains why the egg is the key to the craft of cooking.
SUN APR 13	EAGRANIE YUH • THE CHOCOLATE TASTING KIT • 3-4 P.M. FREE • The best (and most fun) way to learn about chocolate is by eating it, and we’ll be doing just that - join us!
WED APR 23	ELIZABETH CASTORIA • HOW TO BE VEGAN: TIPS, TRICKS, AND STRATEGIES FOR CRUELTY-FREE EATING, LIVING, DATING, TRAVEL, DECORATING, AND MORE • 6:30-7:30P.M. FREE • From the former editorial director of <i>VegNews</i> , comes a useful, friendly introduction to the vegan lifestyle.
SAT APR 26	ERIN GLEESON • THE FOREST FEAST: SIMPLE VEGETARIAN RECIPES FROM MY CABIN IN THE WOODS • 3-4 P.M. FREE Erin Gleeson moved into a tiny cabin in a California forest in order to be closer to nature. The natural beauty of her surroundings and the abundance of local produce serve as the inspiration for <i>The Forest Feast</i> .
SAT MAY 3	DEBORAH MADISON • THE NEW VEGETARIAN COOKING FOR EVERYONE • 3-4 P.M. FREE. A fully revised and expanded edition of the most comprehensive vegetarian cookbook ever published, with more than 400,000 copies in print.

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April Events

Kid's Storytime with Michelle Diaz Cannon

April 5th | 11am | *Remember When?*

Odd Monday Short Readings

April 7th | 7pm | Residents read from favorite books

Tea & Reading with Katie Hefner

April 13th | 3pm | *Mother Daughter Me: A Memoir*

Odd Monday Beyond The Busses

April 21th | 7pm | Panel discussion on changing Noe Valley

Wine & Reading with Mary McNear

April 24th | 7pm | *Up At Butternut Lake*

Arbor Day Walk with Mike Sullivan

April 26th | 10am | *Trees of San Francisco*

The Goldfinch Pop-up Book Club

April 30th | 7pm | Read *The Goldfinch*? Come chat about it with us!

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OTHER VOICES

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Snail Relocation

By Lynn Sunday

Noteworthy snail facts include the following: They are believed to be one of the slowest creatures on Earth. They can't see well, lack the ability to hear, and rely heavily on their good sense of smell. They have a tongue and rows of tiny teeth that they scrape against the foods they want to eat. They *love* succulents and so do I—something I have in common with snails.

"Riley, over this way, near the big Aloe Vera," I called across my plant-filled front yard. "Look, there's three, no, four, no, five of them, just on this one branch. Lucky for me you're visiting today—bring your tray over here."

Coming, Grandma," my 8-year-old grandson said, making his way through the yard towards me. His skinny arms were spread wide around the edges of the large plastic pan he carried, containing dozens of squirming snails of all sizes—a number of whom were climbing over one another, forming a pile.

"There they are," I said, pointing to the branch, "Go get them!"

"Ta-da! The Great Snail Hunter has arrived!" Riley announced, setting his container down on the cement walkway nearby. He reached for the snails and pried them gently, one by one, from the Aloe Vera leaves—some in succulent mid-bite—and placed them into the pan.

"The Great Snail Hunter strikes again," he said, doing a head count. "That's *fifty* snails, Grandma, in less

than an hour! I'm taking these guys to the end of the street now, and I'll be back for more in a few minutes."

He grinned, looking pleased with himself, showing a missing front tooth. "I'm going for a hundred snails today—and at five cents each, that's *five dollars* for me."

Smiling, I watched Riley's wiry little body transporting his carefully balanced pan up the street, setting it down once



or twice to prevent escape attempts, before continuing on across the narrow field to the edge of the woods beyond. I was thinking I'd never seen so many snails in one place until I moved to this foggy coastal community near San Francisco. The little critters love it here—front yard, back yard, take your pick—particularly during rainy season when they can be observed moving at, well, a snail's pace—on their way to chew through the leaves of my well-tended succulents. *Hey guys, the buffet's straight ahead!*

In my neighborhood, individual homeowners have their preferred methods of dealing with snails. One household employs a garden service that sets out snail bait to poison them—not to

mention everything that feeds off them and the earth where they die. A woman up the street has ruled out snail bait for this reason and instead entices them with a tasty trail of cornmeal that ends at the edge of a bucket, where they will then drown in beer. Still another neighbor tosses them into the street—often cracking their frail protective shells—where on warm days they shrivel slowly on the pavement, or are stepped on by passersby or run over by cars.

Snail control is handled differently at my house, since I can't see killing a fellow creature for the crime of being hungry—but really don't want them chewing the leaves off my plants. That's when I got the idea of recruiting Riley to help me remove them from my property and safely relocate them in the wooded area at the end of our street.

"That's weird, Grandma," he said when I explained my plan, but agreed to give snail relocation a try when I enticed him with cash. He's been on my payroll ever since. "They're cute little slimy guys," Riley said, returning to my yard with his empty pan. "I guess they like to live too."

Relocate, rather than eradicate, I thought, as we headed inside for lunch—a small lesson in compassion I

hope my grandson will take with him out into the world.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Lynn Sunday is a Bay Area writer who feels a strong connection to the natural world. Her work has been published, most recently, in Chicken Soup for the Soul: Think Positive for Great Health and Times They Were A-Changing: Women Remember the '60s and '70s. She also has been invited to publish in Lunch Ticket. This is her third appearance in the Noe Valley Voice.

The Noe Valley Voice invites you to submit fiction, essays, photos, or poetry for possible publication in *Other Voices*. Email OtherVoices@noevalleyvoice.com or write Other Voices, Noe Valley Voice, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include your name, address, and phone number, and a stamped envelope if you'd like items returned. We look forward to hearing from you.

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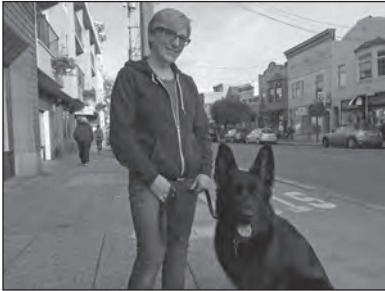
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On 24th Street

Asked on Saturday, Feb. 16, in front of Chase Bank at 24th and Noe streets:
Do you have a fitness routine?



Brad Hennig, Caesar Chavez Street: I work out at the 24-Hour Fitness five days a week. I do cardio, like the elliptical, stairmaster, and weight combo. I'll run outside one day a week, too. I am addicted to exercise.



Jackie Cuneo and Argo, Chenery Street: I take an hour walk with my dog. Sometimes I walk between Noe Valley and Glen Park.



Rebecca Northen, Diamond Street: I work out at the 24-Hour Fitness on Potrero four times a week—I usually do the elliptical and treadmill. Sometimes I'll walk up Twin Peaks hill. I make myself do it to stay in shape.



Thijs Hosman, 24th Street: I run three to four miles three times a week around Noe Valley. It's nice to just run because I don't have to think about it. The gym is too much effort.



Christine and Bradley Oliver, Noe Street: We run three to four days a week, typically around the area. Sometimes we run from home to the Embarcadero, which is around 10 miles, and take public transportation home.



Johanna Carroll, Noe Street: I don't have a fitness routine. It's too expensive to go to the gym. So I walk everywhere I go. Everything I do, I do on foot. I've never driven—I have driving anxiety—so it's been that way since before being green was cool.

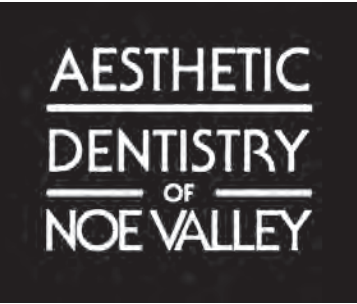


Danielle McPherson and Jason Cutter, Homestead Street: I (Jason) play soccer and basketball for co-ed leagues. Twice a week I'll play soccer, and once a week it's basketball. I don't like exercise. I like sports, and this way I can make friends and get a beer afterwards. I (Danielle) swim at UCSF outdoor pool.



Laurel Sipes, 24th Street: I do dance class once a week. Other days, I'll walk up hills like 22nd and Church Street hill.

Interviews and images by Shayna Rubin



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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Noe Fooling

By Mazook

NOE-ING YOUR 'HOOD: Thank you, readers, for your responses to last month's Noe Valley History Quiz. Here are the questions again, and at last the answers.

1. Who is the very famous neighborhood who lives in a rather large mansion filled with a \$50 million art collection? ANSWER: Robert C. Pritikin. In February, the former adman, innkeeper, and author gave *SF Chronicle* reporter Mike Kepka a tour of his 30-year-old mansion, which sits on an acre of land near Fairmount Elementary School. Pritikin told Kepka his art collection was "worth upward of \$50 million...." The title of one of Pritikin's three books (my fave) kind of says it all, autobiographically speaking: *Christ Was an Ad Man*.

2. Name the two men who bought a large parcel of land in what was called the Noe Garden Homestead (which first appeared in the 1857 patent map that gave Jose de Jesus Noe his Rancho San Miguel). ANSWER: Francois L.A. Pioche and Lester L. Robinson. According to historian Mae Silver's wonderful essay about these "Gold Rush Financiers" (found at FoundSF.org), this pair lived together and purchased the homestead from John Meirs Horner, who had acquired the land in 1852. They created a parcel map in 1868 and sold parcels of land for \$450 down and \$12.50 per month for three years. The area Pioche kept for himself, "Pioche's Reservation," was noted in the 1857 map of John Horner's Addition. It was bounded by Grand View, Elizabeth, Douglass, and 22nd streets. Do

you live in these boundaries?

3. Name the five bars that previously occupied the Valley Tavern location at 4054 24th St. ANSWER (in descending order): Coyote, Rat & Raven, Noebody's Inn, Finnegan's Wake, and before that, the Celtic Tavern. Even before that, Murphy's Bar was in the spot.

4. If Noe Valley is to my north, Bernal Heights/St. Mary's Park to my east, Diamond Heights to my west, and Glen Park to my south, what neighborhood am I in? ANSWER: Fairmount Heights, Fairmount, or the Fairmount Tract. (Thank you to Marilyn Schaumburg for sending in her best answer: Fairmount Heights.) The neighborhood was developed starting in the 1860s, as was Horner's Addition to its north. It is bordered by San Jose Avenue, 30th Street, Castro Street, and Beacon Street. Interestingly, Drewes Market, which opened in 1889, first opened a year earlier as Fairmount Meats, and outer Church Street historically was considered Downtown Fairmount Heights, if you will. Safeway built one of its original supermarkets on the corner of Day and Church, and Star Bakery opened in 1899, on the corner of Church and 29th (the storefront holds a medical clinic now). The old Star sign hangs on the side of the building as a monument to the past.

5. What was the name of the butcher shop that once was located in part of the Real Food Company building but had to move out when Real Food expanded into the whole space? ANSWER: Ver Brugge's Meat and Fish Market. The Ver Brugge family lost their lease in 1985 and wanted to move across the street to a property they owned, but they abandoned that idea and leased the space to Spinelli Coffee (now Bernie's). Reader Olive Quilter writes that a grocery called Gadd's was in the Real Food space even earlier than Ver Brugge's (see *Letters*, page 7).

6. Who is the famous Noe Valley author and historian who wrote *San Francisco's Noe Valley*? ANSWER: Bill Yenne, who has almost 100 books under his pen. His Noe Valley book, published in 2004, is a

must for any self-respecting Noe Valleyan (or Noe Valleon, as I like to say). At a celebration of Noe Valley's 165th birthday, sponsored by the Friends of Noe Valley in November of 2011, Yenne and others determined that Noe Valley's birth year was 1846, the same year Don José de Jesus Noe retired as the last alcalde (mayor) of Yerba Buena.

7. What was Lost in the Fog? ANSWER: Lost in the Fog was a world-class racehorse owned by an eccentric Noe Valley realtor, Harry Aleo, whose Twin Peaks Properties—on the north side of 24th, near Castro, where Russo Music is now—was in business for over 60 years. The colt won its first 10 races, as well as the Eclipse Award as an outstanding sprinter in 2005. Lost in the Fog went on to earn almost a million dollars in winnings, before having to be euthanized because of cancer, in September 2006. Aleo died in June of 2008. That same year, John Corey released his documentary film, also called *Lost in the Fog*, about both the man and the horse.

8. What was Douglass Park before it was a park? ANSWER: Douglass Park, a wooded greenbelt on Douglass between 26th and 27th streets, originally opened in 1928. The area where the park was built was once a rock quarry until around 1920. Back then, Noe Valleons were embroiled in a dispute with the city over plans to dynamite the hillside and start up quarry operations again. According to a newspaper clipping from April 1922, "Hundreds Join[ed] in Protest of Valley Quarry." The protest took place at the old Willopi Hall, which once stood where the public parking lot is on 24th Street between Le Zinc and Radio Shack. That lot is now named after Harry Aleo.

9. Where was McCarthy's Super Service located? ANSWER: It was a Shell gas station standing on what is soon to be the Noe Valley Town Square, at 3865 24th St. near Vicksburg Street. First opened by John McCarthy in 1932, it was demolished in 1959. A new all-steel structure was built for Dan's Gas and Diesel, which operated for decades but was demolished in 2003 to

become a parking lot.

10. True or False: Cable cars used to run in Noe Valley. ANSWER: Yes, it's true. As pointed out by the aforesaid Yenne in his aforesaid book, "Initially an electric line, the route across the steep 20 percent grade of the Castro Street Hill was converted to a cable car line in 1907, known as the White Line, which ran between 26th Street in Noe Valley and 18th Street in Eureka Valley." April 5, 1941, was the cable car's last run, and the line went back to electric. The cable car barn was where Walgreen's is now. The barn was demolished when the cable cars stopped running, and became a Safeway store soon thereafter.



SOLE MUSIC: Lots of Noe Valleons were stressed when they saw a "For Rent" sign appear in early March in the front window of Mike's Shoe Repair at 4071 24th St. The "For Rent" sign disappeared a day or so later. Whew!

The news is not good, however. "I have fallen behind on my rent, which is currently \$4,100 per month," says Mike Argueta, "and I am now going month-to-month after falling a couple of months behind.... It's pretty hard right now....so I am looking for another location."

Argueta has been our neighborhood cobbler for the past 13 years, since he took over the Wooden Heel from Patti and Barry Wood, who had been at that location since 1981. The Woods had taken over the business from Helen Weinschenk in 1977, when the shop was located where Ambiance (east) is now. Helen and her husband (he died in '64) had been the cobblers there since 1949.

Argueta says he'd like to find a "much smaller shop—maybe 250 square feet—since I need only my four small stitching machines and one 'finisher,' and shelf space for the shoes.

"Business was way down after the sign went up, even though the landlord removed it, and the store space has been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36

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RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

advertised on the Internet, so people might be afraid they will lose their shoes, which won't happen," he says.

Argueta says that of the hundred shoes he has ready for pickup, only 15 have been in the shop more than 30 days.

It seems it would help if you other 85 customers would go in and pick up your shoes and pay the tab, and while you're at it, bring in a second pair for a resole.

There must be some place in Noe Valley for our cobbler to move.



GOING, GOING, GONE: Closing forever, at the end of this month, is St. Paul's Market, a fixture at Sanchez and 29th streets since 1973, and long-famous for its giant sub sandwiches. Elias ("Alex") Louh took over for his dad, Yacoub ("Jack") Louh, several years ago. "I started working here when I was 11 years old," says Alex, "and have made many, many sandwiches for our regulars over the years."

Alex, now 51, says he's closing the store "because I got very sick and have stage four cancer now, so it has been pretty tough, so I am ready to retire now." He looked around the store at all the signs and mementos on the walls and sighed.

Alex says many of his customers have asked to buy these souvenirs, but he has declined their offers. "I will bring those home with me," he says.

"This corner was a social center and hangout for so many of us over the years," says store regular Jim Truitt. "I was born and raised here right across the street [Sanchez] and remember how all the neighborhood kids loved Jack, who sometimes wouldn't charge if they didn't have the money."

Closing after approximately three

months on the corner of Sanchez and Clipper streets would be Be Yoga. Rumors were that a dispute developed over the operational aspects of the location. I guess the Zen thing to do was to pick up the mats and leave, which is exactly what happened.

Be Yoga is currently still open in Palo Alto and according to its website has referred all locals to "Yoga Flow SF Ocean St.," which has agreed to honor the class passes sold for the Noe Valley location.

Those of you who want your money back should fill out Be Yoga's form online at Be-yoga.com, or write 440 Kipling St., Palo Alto, CA 94025.

Also closed is Incanto Restaurant after a 12-year run at 1550 Church St. The last supper was served on March 24. But according to Incanto founder Mark Pastore, the restaurant will be reborn as Porcellino. It will be open for lunch and dinner, and will also sell goods "from a sister company, Boccalone, as well as wine, olive oils, pasta, sauces, and other takeout-friendly items.

"We should be open, hopefully, in the first part of May," says Pastore of Porcellino.

Rumors that Fima Photography on Castro is closing are not true. "No, I am not closing and am quite busy," says Fima Gelman, "but maybe [the rumor was] because there are rumors that the building was sold, which is true."

You might want to check out Gelman's work on the walls of Bernie's coffee shop on 24th Street. The photographs feature 25 neighborhood newborns and infants, "and two dogs," smiles Gelman, "which is about as Noe Valley as you can get."



EVERYWHERE A SIGN: There was a "For Sale" sign on the newly renovated building on the corner of 25th and Church, which has a vacant restaurant on the ground floor. This seemed to portend the opening of yet another eatery in our valley.

However, according to the listing broker, Mark Brown, the restaurant is not cur-

Voice Readers Roam All Over



Dan Cohen and Allyson Halpern brought their daughters along to view the La Sagrada Familia cathedral in Barcelona. The building which started construction in 1882 is scheduled to complete in the year 2028.

rently for sale but rather only the three-bedroom, two-bath unit above the restaurant. Brown says the asking price was \$1.1 million and that there is a buyer and escrow has been opened. He declined to state the purchase price but said "there had been several offers on the property."

As for the restaurant, it's still on ice. The family that owns it currently operates Regent Thai restaurant on Church near 29th Street.

One of the owners, Jin Son, says they haven't really made up their minds. "We are not really sure right now what we are going to do," she says. Son explained that rebuilding the property cost them far more money than they had originally anticipated, and that they had to sell the residential unit to recoup some of their investment. "Dealing with the city was very difficult and took a long time," Son says.



SHORT SHRIFTS: The popular 24th Street women's clothing store Joshua Simon, owned and operated by Liz Klein, is for sale. Klein has decided to retire after more than 35 years on 24th Street (at 3915 24th). The shop, which was originally opened by Liz and Ron Klein as a men's store—it was named after their son, Joshua Simon—has been listed by Rachel Swann at Hill & Co. for \$239,000. Swann says that number includes \$80,000 in inventory.

Closed after a rather short run (one year) is the women's boutique Kitami Ropa at 1478 Church near 27th. It was selling modern, vintage, and new clothing.

Glen Park Recreation Center had a ribbon-cutting event March 15, to open its brand new children's playground. Around the same day, Rec and Park shut down the northern half of Dolores Park for a remodel. That move will bring the techies, hipsters, and stoners much closer together on the south end of the park. Things should become very interesting.

Congrats to Pamela Wiston of 24th Street's Successories, whose buttons were on display at the de Young Museum's Bou-

quets to Art show.

Dublin Ireland's Lord Mayor Oisín Quinn visited the Dubliner on March 9, and once he was recognized, he got behind the bar and poured drinks for customers.

Holy Kitchen (HK), serving Indian cuisine, opened last month at 4166 24th, where Swatdee once reigned.

The Valley Tavern won unanimous approval from City Planning to reopen its beer garden in back of the premises at 4054 24th St.

A huge shout-out to San Francisco-based RobotsLAB, which sells a robot kit designed to help demonstrate high school math concepts. The company won a first-place award at the recent South by Southwest conference (SXSW 2014) in Austin, and afterwards decided to hold a lottery to give away a \$3,500 robot kit. They asked educators to suggest nominations. Thanks to Helena Corda, who submitted the school's name, James Lick Middle School got lucky and was the winner of the robot!

There was a great item in Mike Kepka's March 9 *Chron* column about Noe Valley amateur safecracker Mike Wyatt, who was hired by another Noe Valleeon to open a safe that was left in the basement of the house he'd just bought. Wyatt was offered 25 percent of whatever bounty was inside, which turned out to be a quarter of the air in the empty 100-year-old safe.



SPRING HAS SPRUNG, and it's time to get involved in the neighborhood. The group Friends of Noe Valley has put out a call for volunteers to help out at the Noe Valley Garden Tour, scheduled for Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can work one of three shifts and attend a fun event for free. Those ready to spring forward should contact Friends via LindaLockyer3@gmail.com.

And now I hope to leave you laughing this April Fool's Day with a joke: Past, Present, and Future walked into a bar. It was tense.

That's all, you all. ■

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Mark di Suvero, *Figolu* (detail), 2005–11; Collection of the artist; © Mark di Suvero; photo: Jerry L. Thompson.





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