

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Judges Share More Than a Love of the Law

There's Marriage, Their House, The Neighborhood, and Jerry

By Matthew S. Bajko

In his chambers in the California State Building overlooking San Francisco's Civic Center, the presiding justice of the 1st District Court of Appeal's Division One, James M. Humes, administered the oath of office to one of the newest members of the San Francisco Superior Court, Joseph Quinn, in a private ceremony in early April.

Having sworn to uphold the constitutions of California and the United States, Quinn three days later reported to Department 318 at the courthouse on McAllister Street, to start presiding over civil trials and misdemeanor cases.

His first day on the bench, April 13, is believed to mark only the second time in the state's history that both members of a same-sex couple were concurrently serving as judges. Quinn and Humes, Noe

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Marriage Equality. After his recent appointment by Governor Jerry Brown to the San Francisco Superior Court, Joe Quinn (right) now shares the title of judge with his husband of seven years, Jim Humes. Humes made history in 2012, when Brown named him as the first openly gay judge to serve on an appellate court in California. The couple also share a home on the Sanchez Street hill. Photo by Beverly Tharp

Who Stole My Succulents?

Drought-Tolerant Plants a Target for Thieves

By Corrie M. Anders

The plant thief came sometime during the night. It wasn't until the next morning, as she was leaving her home for work, that Rachel Rassen noticed the empty space in her front-yard garden.

Someone had rifled through her bed of succulents, dug out a prized specimen, and escaped under cover of darkness. It was the second time in as many weeks that Rassen's succulent garden had been assaulted.

"I was devastated and felt violated,"

the Castro Street resident said after the burglary in early April.

"These are plants that I've had out there for 20 years with no problems. I think there are professionals going around and selling them," said Rassen.

Plant thefts are nothing new in Noe Valley. They have happened off and on for decades. But drought conditions over the last four years—and the growing popularity of drought-resistant plants—may have changed the nature of the raids. Now, instead of say rose bushes, thieves are targeting succulents—the kind of thick fleshy plants that store water in their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Hidden Past. You'd never know it, but the little cottage at 369 Valley St. was built from two shacks used to house refugees after the 1906 earthquake. Photo by Art Bodner

Former 'Shake Shack' Stirs Passionate Debate

Neighbors Ask New Owner to Spare 109-Year-Old Cottage

By Matthew S. Bajko

The small cottage at 369 Valley St. appears of little consequence at first glance. Yet the unassuming structure belies its ties to San Francisco history.

It is one of the last remaining earthquake shacks built to house refugees made homeless by the disastrous 1906 Earthquake and Fire. More than a century later, only about two dozen of the 5,610 temporary cottages remain standing.

The original cottages were built in three sizes and featured cedar-shingled

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



The Colors of Our Days are captured by Shalom Flash as he paints *plein air* in the streets of Noe Valley. For the full story on our visitor from Israel, see page 9. Photo by Art Bodner

Noe Docs Say Vaccinate, but Don't Alienate

Parents Who Are Wary of Shots Need Time, Not Pressure

By Liz Highleyman


Noe Valley does not appear to be a hotbed of vaccine refusal, but there is some difference of opinion about the timing of childhood vaccinations and the best way to respond to parents who might not comply with legal requirements, according to an informal sampling of neighborhood medical providers.

"We're science-based and pro-vaccine," said Judy Kivowitz, RN, the long-time advice nurse at Noe Valley Pediatrics on 24th Street. "We encourage all

patients to be vaccinated, but if a parent is wary, rather than kicking them out we do our best to have a dialogue and ultimately convince them to get [their children] vaccinated."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommend that children receive more than two dozen doses of vaccines for 14 diseases by age 12. Some vaccines—including measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR), and diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP)—are normally combined into single injections, which means fewer shots for kids and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



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Spare the Victorians

Editor:

I noticed there is a hearing on April 23 to demolish the Victorian house at 3822 24th St. (between Church and Vicksburg streets).

The remaining Victorians on Noe Valley's 24th Street significantly add to the character of the street, and even if the house could be preserved by lifting it up and over a new storefront in that location, it might be preferable to a demolition.

I merely live in and own a house about two blocks from this building, but as a general rule I'd prefer that San Francisco's Victorians not be demolished.

When the Victorians are gone, they are gone forever.

Mark Olson
Noe Valley resident

LETTERS 49¢

May Is Building Safety Month

To the Noe Valley Community:

This May, as the San Francisco Department of Building Inspection joins other building safety departments throughout the United States in observing Building Safety Month, we invite our customers, property owners, and tenants to look at specific ways to ensure that their buildings are safe and code-compliant.

DBI oversees the building safety of more than 200,000 buildings in San Francisco, which include both residential and commercial properties. Every day, our inspectors go out and inspect new and existing buildings for building, housing, plumbing, and electrical code compliance. In 2014 alone, we conducted over 150,000 inspections to ensure that life and property within San Francisco were safeguarded.

Our inspectors work closely with the San Francisco Fire Department after a multiple-alarm fire, to inspect a building's structural integrity and habitability, and help owners obtain the necessary permits to rebuild their fire-damaged buildings.

We are committed to assisting apart-

ment owners, and their residents, in learning and employing effective preventive maintenance around fire- and life-safety elements within these buildings.

With many of San Francisco's more than 20,000 apartment buildings over 50 years old, it is critical that building owners remain vigilant in ensuring their properties are properly maintained and safe.

Regular communication with tenants is imperative to inform and educate them on their role and responsibilities in ensuring a safe and habitable housing environment. If a tenant reports a building issue to you early on, it will save you money down the road.

If you are a property owner, here are a few items to keep in mind regarding fire safety:

- Maintain clear and unobstructed common hallways and egress.
- Maintain alarm systems and keep them certified annually.
- Maintain and inspect fire escapes and equipment, i.e., fire escape ladders.
- Maintain stairs, landings, handrails, and guardrails, and send in affidavit 604 per the city's housing code (SFHC).
- Provide smoke and carbon monox-



Demolition of the house at 3822 24th St. (see first letter) was approved by the city's Planning Commission on April 23. Owners plan to replace the house with a five-story building with five residential units and ground-floor retail space. Photo by Jack Tipple

ide alarms, and check them regularly.

- Maintain smoke barrier doors.

Tenants must also do their part to ensure safety in their building. Keeping their ears and eyes open for possible fire and building safety hazards is an important responsibility. DBI is always ready to help, and will respond to any questions you may have. Informing the building owner of the problem is the first step.

If owners fail to address the problem, residents may file a complaint by visiting our office at 1660 Mission St., filing a complaint online (<http://sfdbi.org/filing-complaint>), or calling Housing Inspection Services at 415-558-6220.

In recognition of Small Business Month along with Building Safety Month, permit fees for awnings, signs on awning replacements, and pedestrian-level lighting are waived in May. Read more at <http://sfdbi.org/small-business-month> to apply for a permit.

DBI will be hosting weekly lunchtime "Brown Bags" in May that focus on building-related topics.

Visit www.sfdbi.org/buildingsafety-month to get the most up-to-date information and safety tips.

Tom Hui, Director
Department of Building Inspection

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE VOICE welcomes your letters. Email: editor@noevalleyvoice.com. Or write Noe Valley Voice Letters, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include your name, street, and contact information. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) Be aware that letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.



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The Voice welcomes your letters, photos, and stories, particularly on topics relating to Noe Valley. All items should include your name, address, and phone number, and may be edited for brevity or clarity. (Unsigned letters will not be considered for publication.) Unsolicited contributions will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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- ___ Lingus
- Floor covering at Navarretes Martial Arts (They use one!)
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- “___ Willie,” Mickey Mouses first film
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- Stubborn one
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- Giants MLB league
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- Actors words spoken to the audience
- Deserves a time-out, perhaps
- Glue that comes in two tubes
- Like nylon stockings
- “I havent seen you in ___!”
- Throw out
- “Allure” shelfmate

Solution on Page 29

How Shalom Flash Sees Noe Valley

City Streets Inspire the Palette Of Guest Painter

By Richard May

Giverny, Provence, Noe Valley? Painter Shalom Flash just might make our corner of San Francisco artistically famous. Flash, 66, is an Israeli artist temporarily living—and painting—in Noe Valley while his wife, Tamar, does research at Cal Berkeley on the brain.

Flash has been painting nearly 50 years. He calls his artistic approach “direct view painting,” akin to *plein air*. He paints outside, often in the same spot. He likes to look at the scene to be painted and “put spots of color” on canvas on the spot, so to speak. His painting style is realistic, but that doesn’t mean photorealism. His paintings look like the objects seen, but they are not exact copies of reality.

Most days, if the light is right, Flash creates scenes of Noe Valley for a couple of hours. You might have seen him at the corner of Douglass and Elizabeth streets, with his easel, canvas, and paints. So far, he has finished nearly two dozen paintings and “postcards.” A postcard is a small, 4-by-6-inch format on the back of some advertising mail-outs a friend gave him. The paintings range in size from 8 by 10 inches to 12 by 36 inches. He also paints “strips,” which he used to call “leftovers,” because that is what they were painted on, pieces of material left over after he stretched canvas for a new painting. He began to use the strips for studies and then for paintings in and of themselves.

His oil paintings of Noe Valley show scenes you may be familiar with, especially if you go to Philz Coffee at 24th and Douglass streets. Flash often paints a block away, on the sidewalk outside Noe Courts park. He says many people stop to comment on his work in progress, and to chat and take photos of him painting.

His paintings of Noe Valley, like his works of other beautiful places around the world, are primarily architectural cityscapes, although he does also paint landscapes and still life. The colors are mainly soft and subdued, punctuated by the reality of brighter colors when they are there—a particularly blue building, a red car parked on one of our streets, the intense green of sidewalk trees. The strokes are spare and smooth for the most part, like the sides of buildings. Only in Flash’s rendition of natural objects like trees and flowers does the paint seem to stop and rest on the canvas.

The Tate Was Fate

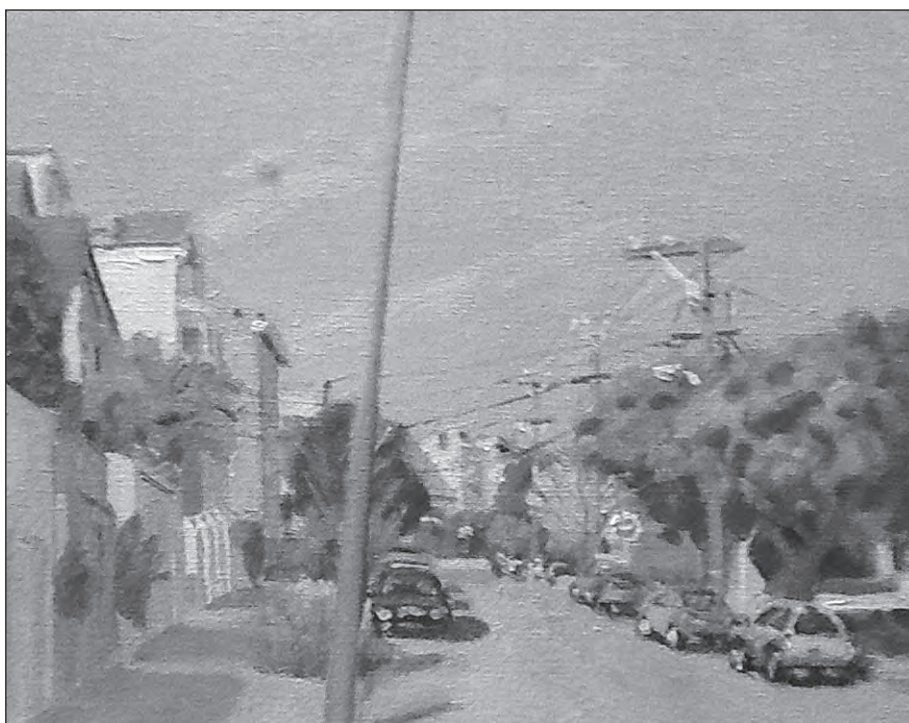
Before Flash became an artist, he was headed to Tel Aviv University as a physics and electronics major, but he took some time off before college and traveled to Europe and the United States. One day, he walked into the Tate Modern art museum in London. He had never been in an art museum before. During his tour of the Tate, he fell in love with paintings. The rest of his holiday he spent in art museums in New York, San Francisco, and the other cities he visited.

He returned to his home in Israel and began taking art classes, while working part-time in electronics to make a living. All thought of studying physics in Tel Aviv was gone.

Through time, his accidental art career continued to grow and then became more deliberate. A friend liked his paintings and sent his portfolio to what is now the Chelsea School of Art in London. The school accepted Flash for admission, unbeknownst to him. After his friend told him, Flash moved to London and studied at Chelsea for a year. Upon his return to



Shalom Flash captures his impressions on canvas. But he also uses the back of advertising mailers to make “postcard” paintings. His works depicting the streets of San Francisco and Noe Valley, such as the one shown below, will be displayed May 28 to June 18 at Cliché Noe Gifts on 24th Street. A reception will be held Thursday, May 28, 5 to 7 p.m. Photo by Art Bodner



Shalom Flash

Israel, he studied for a teaching degree in art. When his girlfriend, now his wife, was accepted at MIT in Boston in science, she told him he could just as well study art in Boston as in Tel Aviv, so he did, and received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the Massachusetts College of Art.

Recording His Travels

This began a pattern which has taken Flash and his painting all around the world. Most of the time, Flash lives in Israel and teaches painting, but when his wife goes to a conference or takes a sabbatical or receives a research grant for work somewhere—like at UC Berkeley now—Flash accompanies her and paints. Besides San Francisco, some of the other picturesque locales they’ve been to have been Paris, Portugal, and Rome.

You can see the results on his website, shalomflash.co.il. He says he especially loved Paris, and there are plenty of images to prove it. His work has been exhibited there, and in Toronto, Boston, and in Israel.

When asked who was influential in the

development of his style, Flash mentions the painter George Nick, one of his teachers at Mass Art. Flash also says he was particularly struck by the Turners during that revolutionary visit to the Tate Modern and later found resonance in the works of Corot, Delacroix, and the early Impressionists. Canaletto’s paintings of Rome and Venice left such a strong impression with him that he eventually traveled to Rome to paint his own views of that city.

Perhaps it’s no surprise, given his background, that another influence on Flash was Leonardo da Vinci. Da Vinci was a man of physics and art—like Flash. Flash says Leonardo listed “three things to get an illustration—linear perspective, atmospheric perspective, and occlusion of space”—knowing how to depict something obscured by something else. These are the elements Flash strives for in his paintings.

Asked if his name is art too, Flash says no. It’s real. His family lived in Poland before World War II. Their name was spelled Flasz and pronounced “flash.”

His father changed the spelling to Flash to maintain the pronunciation in Hebrew, after surviving the Nazis and emigrating to Israel.

Shalom may seem like an unusual name too—since it’s a common greeting—but it’s also a family name. Flash’s grandfather was named a variant of the word, Sholem, and he was named after him.

Flash mentions that he was born in 1948, “the same year as Israel.” He and his wife live in Rehovot, outside Tel Aviv. They will be in San Francisco until August. Back in Israel, Flash will return to teaching painting at Holon Institute of Technology. But for now you may see him on the streets of Noe Valley, painting when the light is right. ■

Shalom Flash is represented by the Rothschild Gallery in Tel Aviv. A presentation of his works here, “Views and Streets of Noe Valley and San Francisco,” will be held May 28 through June 18 at Cliché Noe Gifts + Home, 4175 24th St. The opening reception is Thursday, May 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. Wine, appetizers, and art will be served.

Vote on Bliss Bar Project Pushed Back Again

Owners to Revisit Back Yard

By Matthew S. Bajko

Due to ongoing concerns about the planned expansion of the retail space that formerly housed Bliss Bar, the city’s Planning Commission has asked the building owners to rework their plans.

For the second time this year, the oversight body sent the architects for the project at 4022-4026 24th St. back to the drawing board, after the city’s zoning administrator revealed during an April 23 hearing he would not support the plan as proposed.

Co-owners Tom Pornchai and Rai Hutachinda had proposed expanding the bar space into the property’s rear yard in order to create a 2,695-square-foot restaurant, to be named Tom & Rai. They are also seeking permission to have amplified sound in order to book musical acts at the eatery.

In addition, their plans call for adding two apartment units to the building, and a roof deck with two stair penthouses for access. They also need permission to not provide any off-street parking.

Residents on Elizabeth Street whose back yards about the property have opposed the project due to concerns about noise from the restaurant and the removal of what is now a verdant back yard with mature fruit trees.

After Zoning Administrator Scott Sanchez announced he would not grant the variance needed to build out the restaurant into the back yard, the Planning Commission voted 6-0 to continue the matter to its June 11 meeting. Pornchai and Hutachinda agreed to work with their architect on revising their plans so as not to encroach on the entire backyard area.

Small Victorian Sacrificed

In another agenda item affecting Noe Valley, commissioners voted to approve the demolition of the two-story, single-family home at 3822 24th St. near Church, to make way for a 10,607-square-foot, five-story-over-basement, five-unit residential building with ground-floor commercial space. They instructed staff to work with the project sponsor to soften the façade and the design of the elevator and staircase to the new building’s roof penthouses. ■

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Cheek to Cheek. These two Noe Valley Victorians keep close company in this 2003 photo.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

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Humes and Quinn— In the Forefront of Equal Rights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Valley residents who married in 2008 and have been together 18 years, join just a handful of couples—gay or straight—currently presiding on state courts in California.

“It is going to be very good to be on different courts and share that experience with each other,” said Humes, who made history in 2012 when Governor Jerry Brown, his longtime former boss, named him as the first openly gay judge to serve on a state appellate court.

In late March, Brown named Quinn, who had been a partner at law firm Hanson Bridgett LLP and an adjunct professor at Golden Gate University School of Law since 2010, to fill a vacancy on the local Superior Court.

Quinn’s interest in the law was sparked early, as a boy growing up in Buffalo, N.Y. The stories his father recounted about being a police officer and dealing with the legal system captivated him.

“I remember thinking being a lawyer was really important and powerful and meaningful,” recalled Quinn, 46, who earned his law degree from the UC Berkeley School of Law in 1994.

Humes, 55, also knew at a young age that he wanted to pursue a legal career.

“I wanted to do something good for the world,” said Humes, who grew up in Illinois and graduated from the University of Denver law school in 1983.

Both men have worked on significant gay rights cases during their careers. As a principal trial attorney at the San Francisco City Attorney’s office, where he

worked between 1997 and 2001, Quinn was part of the legal team that defended a city ordinance requiring city contractors to provide the same benefits to their employees with domestic partners as they did to employees with spouses.

The airline industry sued over the policy and won a partial victory—the courts ruled the airlines did not have to provide domestic partner health insurance and pension coverage—while the city law laid the groundwork for the marriage equality fight years later.

The legal wrangling over same-sex marriage would draw in Humes, who had been a top attorney at the California Department of Justice. He played a role in the state’s defense of Proposition 22, the ballot measure adopted in 2000 that defined marriage in California as between a man and a woman.

His boss at the time, then-Attorney General Bill Lockyer, argued that voters had a right to adopt Prop. 22, though the California Supreme Court eventually struck it down.

The court’s *In re Marriage Cases* decision, in turn, led to Humes’ involvement in the legal fights over Proposition 8, the 2008 voter-approved state ban against same-sex marriage. This time, he helped with Brown’s briefing, first as attorney general and then as governor, on why the state would not defend the anti-gay measure in court.

“Working for Jerry Brown was an honor and a privilege. I love him,” said Humes. “I think he is a great leader. I care for him deeply as a politician and a leader. But I also don’t miss politics. I am happy to be in the world of law and out of politics.”

Humes also doesn’t miss commuting at 5 a.m. to Sacramento, where several days a week, Quinn would work out of his

firm’s satellite office. At five in the morning, the only place to fuel up on coffee was at Happy Donuts on the corner of Church and 24th streets.

“I knew when all the coffee shops opened in Noe Valley,” joked Humes.

Another change he has enjoyed since becoming a judge is not being the voice for legal clients, and instead, being able to present his own opinions through his rulings. “As a judge, you make decisions for yourself. It is the most satisfying part of it for me,” said Humes.

The main advice Humes has given Quinn about making the transition from lawyer to judge is the need to stifle one’s personal opinions outside the courtroom. It can be a shock to the system for an attorney used to being loquacious.

“I have to go out of my way to not talk about current cases and litigation that is pending,” said Humes, adding that he also teased Quinn, “Don’t forget, you still have to do the housework.”

Noe Valley Homeowners

The couple met at a mutual friend’s 40th birthday party in 1997, the day after Valentine’s Day. It was a setup—just one other male was in attendance—but it turned out to be a perfect match.

By 2002, they were house-hunting, and after a yearlong search, came across an Edwardian Craftsman built in 1913, one of four nearly identical houses on the 800 block of Sanchez Street.

“It was the only house we agreed on. We both agreed we didn’t want it,” recalled Humes. “It was so run down and in such bad shape. It needed a lot of work.”

It didn’t help that Humes had been struck in the face by a stream of water when he’d tested the kitchen sink. Nonetheless, they sensed something special about the house.

“The first night we moved in, we both had buyer’s remorse and thought what a dump,” said Humes. “But then we were on an inflatable mattress in the bedroom when we saw fireworks outside the window. It was the KFOG Kaboom. We both looked at each other and knew it was a sign that this was supposed to happen.”

Added Quinn, “And it turned out to be great. All of our neighbors have been around forever. This area is very old San Francisco; our next-door neighbor was born there.”

Over the years, the couple remodeled the interior of the 1,600-square-foot house, which included a 1950s addition off the kitchen. They stripped “40 layers of paint” from the walls in the dining room to reveal the original redwood. They combined two rooms upstairs to create a larger bedroom which has access to an outdoor deck with views of the downtown skyline, Bay Bridge, and the surrounding hillsides.

“The house is very similar to the one my mother grew up in in South Buffalo,” said Quinn.

While they like being close to the Castro district, they are regulars of the shops and eateries on 24th Street in Noe Valley, whether it be browsing at Folio Books or dining at Le Zinc. Most weekends, they are likely to be found at either Martha & Brothers or Bernie’s.

“We have coffee at home and then go out for coffee,” said Humes.

One of the biggest changes they have witnessed since moving into the neighborhood is an influx of children.

“There has been gentrification in general, which is both good and bad,” said Humes. “There is a lot less economic diversity in Noe Valley; that is too bad. It is still a safe and nice place to be, but it has lost some of its color.” ■

Thieves Targeting Succulent Plants

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leaves and stems.

The flower bed in front of Sarah Lartigue’s Duncan Street home has been looted three times in the past year. The thieves pilfered whole plants or used a knife to slice off cuttings for easy propagation.

The last heist occurred in September, Lartigue said. The person got away with two aeonium succulents and a plant in the bromeliad family.

“They weren’t expensive, but the types I had aren’t always available and they took time to select, plant, and care for,” said Lartigue.

When she moved to Duncan a few years ago, the front garden was “just cement,” Lartigue remembered. It took time to remove the concrete and plant a garden in what was poor soil.

“After much trial and error, and many dead plants, the succulents seemed—miraculously—to be thriving. I was surprised and sad when I walked out one morning to see the plants missing,” she said.

Another succulent fan, who lives on Clipper Street, said she would have been more than happy to share some cuttings from the two large potted aeoniums near her front door. That’s what she’s done in the past. Instead, one of her plants, which had grown to two feet, was swiped, and the other hacked to a nub, said the homeowner, who did not wish to be publicly identified.

It’s anyone’s guess as to whether the plant snatchers are mere vandals or just lawless locals looking to start their own succulent gardens on the cheap.

“I am not certain whether they were taken for personal use or for resale,” Lartigue said about her losses. “Either way,



A tree on the sidewalk on Douglass Street is surrounded by several kinds of finger jade, a hardy inexpensive succulent that these days attracts lots of admirers. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

I find it truly bizarre.”

Noe Valley resident Bernard Corace, who owns Dirty Hoe, a San Francisco landscaping service, says he frequently get calls from residents looking to replace stolen plants.

But Corace said he doesn’t believe there’s a bad guy afoot, casing the neighborhood for plants, although he noted that the ornamental succulents, which come in a variety of colors, can fetch a high price.

It’s more likely a nearby neighbor or a crime of opportunity.

“I don’t think this is a cartel doing this,” said Corace. Succulents “are a popular plant right now,” he said, “and people who are looking to do their own sidewalk gardens or containers in front of their houses find it very convenient to take a plant and transport it to their home.”

Noe Valley “is one of the most popular neighborhoods” for sidewalk gardens, Corace said, and succulents “are a great

choice” for a front-yard strip.

Succulents also have shallow roots and can be dug up without much effort. Most plants are small, and have been transplanted from store-bought four-inch or one-gallon containers.

“So they’re an easy form of theft,” Corace said. “They are easy to steal, easy to hide, and easy to transplant.”

The more popular succulents in Noe Valley, according to Corace, include the sedum, a low-growing plant with colorful flowers; the agave Americana, with spiked, bluish-gray leaves that can reach two feet; and aeoniums, which have rose-petal-like leaves. Succulents run \$5 to \$10, for a starter plant, to \$300 for a mature agave Americana.

None of the recent victims said they’d filed a theft report with the San Francisco Police Department. “It seemed too minor to file a police report over missing succulents,” said Lartigue.

Police Capt. John McFadden, whose



Many Noe Valley residents choose succulents like this aeonium “rose” to plant in their yards or sidewalk gardens. There are three dozen species of aeonium, a drought-tolerant plant that needs little care and costs just a few dollars.

Ingleside District covers the southern half of Noe Valley, said theft victims nonetheless should file a report with police.

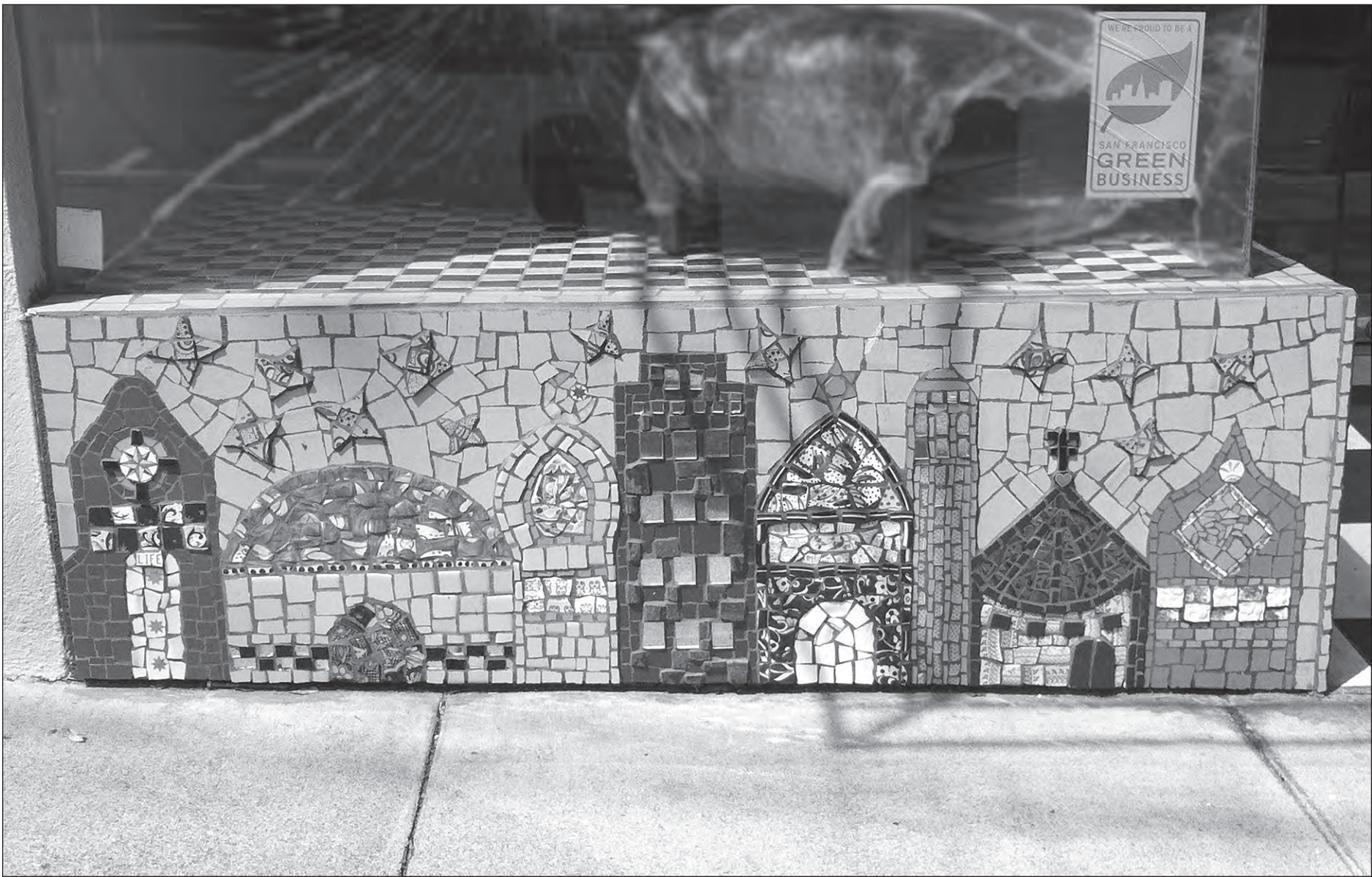
But he acknowledged “it would be tough” to apprehend a plant thief without solid information about the crime.

“We hope someone witnesses or videotapes a theft, and we can go after it,” he said. “But we have to see it.” ■

There are two garden events coming up that are sure to offer advice on the care and protection of succulents. First, the 30th Street Senior Center is hosting a free plant clinic on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to noon. Master gardeners will provide answers on water-wise gardening, native plants, and other concerns, at the center’s huge upstairs garden, at 225 30th St. For more information, call 415-550-2210. Then, on Saturday, June 13, you can attend the Noe Valley Garden Tour, which will feature nine local gardens, including one with an abundance of drought-tolerant plants. For details, go to friendsofnoevalley.com.

Where In Noe Valley?

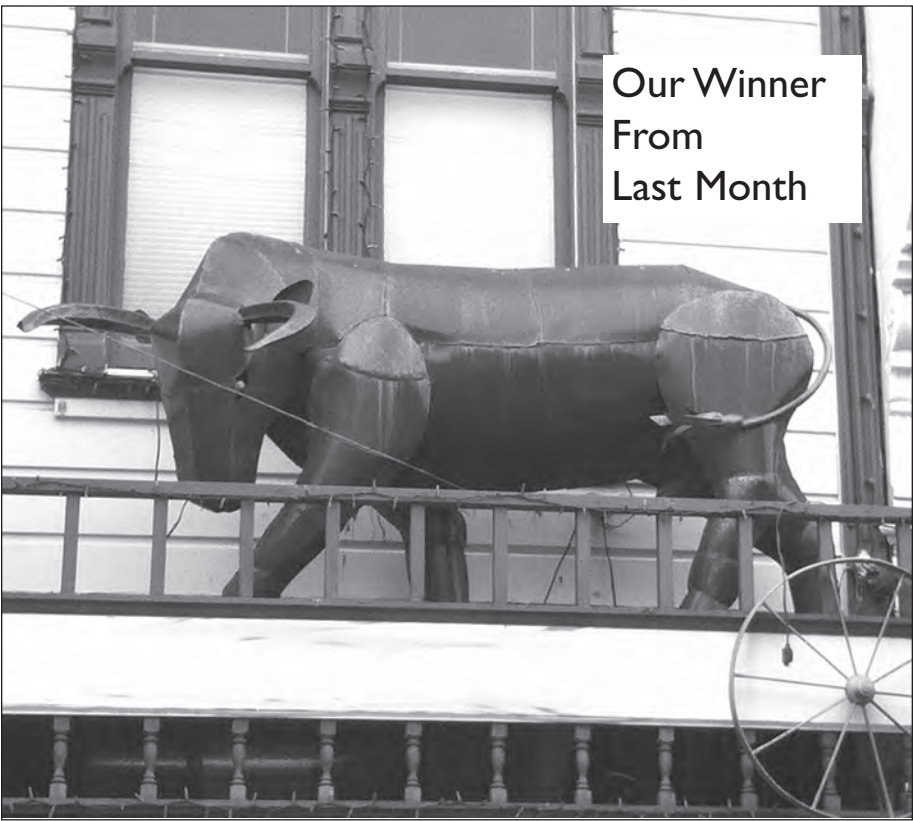
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City Mosaic. For years, this colorful art has invited us to look down. Big hint: the store space graced by this creation by Beth Purcell is now vacant. We hope the new tenants will keep the art. Be the first to correctly give us the location of the establishment by emailing editor@noevalleyvoice.com and we'll start a free one year subscription to the Voice for you. As a bonus, tell us the name of the business that formerly occupied this space? Don't forget to include your snail mail address. Good luck!

Angie Calvello Nakahara won our April contest. She correctly identified the Bull sculpture (photo at right) which stands guard over Haystack Pizza Restaurant at 3881 24th Street.

Photos by Jack Tipple



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Uncertain Future For ‘Shake Shack’ On Valley Street

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

roofs, fir floors, and redwood walls, according to the Western Neighborhoods Project, a group working for their preservation. They were painted green to better blend into the parks and public squares in which they were situated. Dolores Park, Potrero Hill, and Precita Park were among their first homes.

The building on Valley Street is considered one of the Type B earthquake shacks, measuring 14 by 18 feet. It was deemed as such by Jane Cryan and the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of San Francisco Refugee Shacks in February of 1984. In 2002, based on that determination, the city listed it as a historical resource for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which triggers stricter review of any projects proposed for such sites.

“The property at 369 Valley Street is a cottage comprised of two earthquake shacks that were moved to their present location in 1907,” Justin Greving, a preservation planner with the city’s Planning Department, told the *Noe Valley Voice*. “Earthquake shacks have been identified as significant as they relate to the reconstruction effort in the immediate aftermath of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire.”

A ‘Neighborhood Gem’

Due to its rarity, the Valley Street shack has rallied a number of nearby residents and community groups who, after they learned of plans to demolish and replace it with a new three-story, single-family home, are arguing for the preservation of “this neighborhood gem.”

They are pressing the city’s Planning Department to maintain the building’s classification as a known historical resource, thus requiring CEQA review of any proposed development.

“The Earthquake Shack at 369 Valley Street is one of only two left in Noe Valley. There are some additions to this historic home, but the Earthquake Shack remains very much intact. We are very concerned that the developer who recently acquired this property is proposing to demolish it,” wrote five nearby residents of the property in a letter to Planning Department staff earlier this year.

Calling themselves Neighbors of 369 Valley Street, they have created a website—<http://www.savetheshack.net/>—to build public awareness about their campaign to save the structure. Letters of support have come in from San Francisco Tomorrow, the Victorian Alliance of San Francisco, and Protect Noe’s Charm.

“The current recognition should, in my opinion, be upheld. It is a rare resource with especially desirable visibility from the street, which adds to its importance as a living piece of our history,” wrote Jim Warshell, of the Victorian Alliance.

Owner Suggests Relocation

The owner of the building, while arguing the structure should not be considered a historical resource, nonetheless agrees with the neighbors’ demands that it not be demolished. In an April interview with the *Noe Valley Voice*, developer John Schrader, of Nova Designs + Builds, said he would like to relocate the cottage to the back of the property and rehab it for use as a home office or artist’s studio. He also suggested moving it to an entirely new location, where it could be preserved.

“We want to save it, too. We just don’t want to save it in its present condition,” said Schrader. “It is not recognizable as



The earthquake shack in the middle of the lot at 369 Valley St. has had structural changes that muddy its historic status, but neighbors are pleading for its protection. *Photo by Art Bodner*

an earthquake shack and its location is not a historical resource.”

Schrader bought the “shake shack” last year. His initial plans, submitted to the Planning Department, indicated that it would be demolished to make way for a new 5,000-square-foot single-family home.

Historical Review

As part of the permit approval process, he hired historical resource consultant Tim Kelley to review the history of the cottage. In his 42-page report, Kelley wrote that his firm “agrees it is a shake shack,” but also concluded that “no evaluation of historic integrity was undertaken at the time of the 1984 Cryan survey.”

Kelley’s review determined that “new information indicates neither the former Type B shack portion nor the building in its entirety is eligible for individual listing in the California Register, nor is the property located in an existing or potential historic district.” Kelley concluded, “The property therefore should not be

considered a historical resource for CEQA purposes.”

Cottage Complicated

Schrader told the *Voice* that only about 500 square feet of the existing 2,000 “is legal and permitted” and that “this illegal build-out is tied into the shack with large wall openings and roofline connections.”

He argued that if the city determines he must preserve it as is in its current location, then “you have a property with literally no use except to gaze at from 40 feet, hidden behind non-historical additional elements. It can’t be rented due to the condition, it can’t be added onto in the front if the resource is to remain visible, so you end up with a 500-foot structure with no kitchen, bath, or bedroom.”

The initial historic resource report submitted to the city is in the process of being revised, said Schrader, adding that he had yet to inform the Planning Department of his intention to maintain the building and relocate it.

“We can’t formally propose anything until the reports get done and the city

completes its analysis,” said Schrader, adding that his firm is “actually pretty excited about the opportunity to restore it.”

Under CEQA, findings of a historical resource can be overturned if new information is presented that would challenge the previous findings, explained Greving, who expects to make a determination by early May. “I am currently reviewing new information provided so as to determine whether or not it presents a valid argument for why the cottage is not a historic resource,” he said in mid-April.

Call It a Survivor

Roy Peterkofsky, a cofounder of Protect Noe’s Charm, said he “sincerely hopes” the Planning Department upholds the full protections called for in the city’s planning code for the Valley Street shack.

“The fact is it already was declared a historical resource and the developer knew that when he bought it. He had it in his mind he was going to eliminate this thing regardless of its historic status,” said Peterkofsky. “He had the assumption he could just squash the historic status to achieve that goal.”

Would Peterkofsky be satisfied if Schrader relocated the shack? Not necessarily.

“Having it moved to the back is better than having it squashed to the ground, but that also hides it from the neighborhood,” he said. “Right now, that historic resource is there for anybody to walk by and see.”

While the future of the “shake shack” on Valley Street remains in doubt, experience tells us that others like it—though meant to be temporary—are quite resilient remnants of the city’s past. Cryan, in a 1988 interview with the *Voice* about the remaining earthquake cottages, marveled that the structures “were designed to last five years and are still standing,” despite the Board of Supervisors condemning them in the 1950s.

Yet “they weren’t torn down,” noted Cryan. “Maybe the owners put on more gingerbread to hide them. They have just refused to die.” ■

Noe Courts Could Have New Restrooms by End of Year

Other Improvements Await More Funding

By Steve Steinberg

Good news for visitors to Noe Courts. The long-awaited repairs to the park’s restrooms should be under way sometime later this year.

According to Connie Chan, deputy director of public affairs for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, “Plans for the restroom renovation are getting wrapped up sometime in early May this year, and then the plans will go through the bidding process and construction is then expected to begin in the fall.”

“I’m quite excited that the bathroom repairs will start soon,” said Laura Norman, a Hoffman Avenue resident and member of the neighborhood group Friends of Noe Courts, which has been pushing for various renovations at the park at 24th and Douglass streets for more than 10 years.

The park’s restroom building, which dates back to the 1930s, has been in a state of disrepair for many years, and was slated for renovation under the Restroom Program of the San Francisco Park Bond measure passed in 2008. In 2011, the Friends of Noe Courts won a Community Opportunity Fund grant in the amount of \$211,000 for general improvements at the park. The awarding of that additional money prompted a series of community meetings with Rec and Park planners in 2013 over exactly what improvements

should be made at the .925-acre park.

Most participants at the early meetings felt that the addition of a “people-only” green space, without heavy dog use, would be a desirable enhancement to the park. To provide for the expanded green space, the majority of participants felt that the tennis courts should be removed. However, at a subsequent meeting, new participants expressed opposition to the removal of the tennis courts.

During a final meeting in November of 2013, participants were given the opportunity to vote on several plans to change the park’s configuration so as to allow for a new green space or to maintain the park’s status quo. Keeping the status quo received the most votes of any one proposal, but the combined votes for some sort of change received the most overall votes.

In the end, the park department came up with a master plan which would combine the basketball and tennis courts; create a new general lawn in place of the old basketball court that also would be an on-leash dog-friendly area; and designate the existing lawn on the eastern side of the park as a people-only green space, fenced off from the rest of the park. The children’s playground area would remain the same. Other general improvements such as a wheelchair-accessible path between the restroom and the playground, new landscaping, and drainage upgrades were also included in the plan, officially drawn up in April 2014. The total cost of construction was estimated at \$780,000.

Unfortunately, the bond and grant

monies thus far obtained were not enough to fully fund the master plan. In an effort to garner more money, the Friends of Noe Courts last year applied for another Community Opportunity Fund grant in the amount of \$306,000. That application was turned down. But according to Chan, Rec and Park will continue to look for ways to fund the entire project.

Norman was also optimistic that eventually the money would be found. “There are many rounds of Community Opportunity Fund grants,” she said. “We might get one later.”

Although funding does exist to implement what is termed by the park department as Phase 1 improvements to Noe Courts, including the wheelchair-accessible path, drainage, irrigation, and lawn and walkway improvements, only the restroom renovations, which were funded before receipt of the COF grant, have been scheduled.

Rec and Park’s Chan said the department had many funded park improvement projects “in the pipeline,” including Noe Courts. She said that given its limited staffing and resources, the department would prefer to wait for possible additional funding and combine the rest of the Phase 1 work with that of the master plan so that all construction could take place at once. ■

For more information on Noe Courts, call Connie Chan at 415-895-0689 or email connie.chan@sfgov.org. You may also contact the project manager, Marvin Yee, at marvin.yee@sfgov.org.



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Local Docs Help Patients Sort Out Vaccination

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fewer trips to the doctor for their parents. “For most children, I recommend the CDC’s regular vaccination schedule,” said Avril Swan, MD, of Whole Family MD on Sanchez Street. “Parents need to feel trust. They need to know that I would never recommend anything for their child that I wouldn’t be willing to suggest for my own child.”

In contrast, Victoria Hamman, ND, a naturopathic doctor with an office on Clipper Street, thinks we give children too many vaccines early in life, and she favors one-disease shots and prolonged scheduling. “I am very much against forcing medical treatment of any kind on people,” she said.

A bill currently making its way through the California Senate would remove the personal belief exemption from the state’s school vaccine requirements. The Senate health and education committees approved the bill in April, despite vociferous objections from some parents.

Resurgent Diseases

The vaccine issue has reappeared on the radar in recent years due to the resurgence of childhood diseases that previously were well controlled. Public health experts warn that outbreaks are occurring because a substantial proportion of people are not getting the recommended vaccines. And this is not happening mainly in poor areas—Mississippi, in fact, has the nation’s highest vaccination rate—but also in affluent areas with highly educated populations.

California has been battling an ongoing whooping cough (pertussis) epidemic for the past few years. And while measles was declared “eliminated” in the United States in 2000, there were more cases last year than at any time in the past two decades.

In December, nearly 150 people were sickened by a measles outbreak that originated at Disneyland in Southern California. Among the 134 cases in the state, according to a California Department of Public Health report, 40 people are thought to have been directly exposed at the theme park, 30 were family members and other close contacts, and 11 were exposed in community settings like emergency rooms (50 do not have a known cause of exposure). After no further infections were reported for 42 days—twice the measles virus incubation period—the outbreak was declared to be over on April 17.

Cora Hoover, director of the communicable disease division of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, told the *Voice* that while no cases from the Disney outbreak have been seen in San Francisco, surrounding counties have not been spared, including six cases in Alameda, four in San Mateo, three in Santa Clara, and two in Marin.

From a public health perspective, enough people should be vaccinated to confer so-called “herd immunity.” If the vaccination rate is high enough—above 90 percent for most diseases—chains of transmission are interrupted and individuals who cannot get vaccines themselves are still protected. This includes babies too young to be vaccinated and individuals with compromised immunity, such as people with HIV and cancer chemotherapy patients.

“My heart feels for the children in our society who depend on herd immunity to keep them safe because they can’t get some immunizations,” said Swan, who



Nurse Judy Kivowitz plays with 3-year-old Ray Lowman, who is eager to enjoy the lollipop part of her doctor’s visit. Kivowitz says Noe Valley Pediatrics is “pro-vaccine” and advises families to follow standard recommendations for vaccinating their children.



Victoria Hamman, a naturopathic doctor, says she opposes a state bill that would limit personal exemptions from vaccination. She also worries about the potential side effects caused by combining vaccines. *Photos by Beverly Tharp*

said her practice includes such patients. “In fact, we are all dependent on herd immunity to keep diseases like polio very rare or eradicated.”

Pockets of Parents Who Opt Out

The childhood vaccination rate in California is 90 percent overall, but some areas have vaccine coverage well below this level. A recent Kaiser Permanente study found pockets of low vaccination throughout Northern California.

While CDC-recommended vaccines are required for school entrance, state law allows exemptions on the basis of religious or personal belief. Statewide, 2.5 percent of children have vaccine exemptions, but some local schools have much higher opt-out levels, including 58 percent at San Geronimo Valley Elementary School and 87 percent at Berkeley Rose School, according to the California DPH. Vaccine coverage in San Francisco schools is generally good, but at the San

Francisco Waldorf School, for example, more than a third of students are exempt.

Most medical professionals agree that the science supporting the safety and effectiveness of vaccines is well established. Vaccines, including that for measles, are “very safe and effective,” Hoover said.

The most common side effects include mild soreness or redness, low-grade fever, and flu-like symptoms. Serious side effects, such as severe allergic reactions, are rare. The purported link between childhood vaccines and autism has been thoroughly discredited.

Yet some parents and providers are concerned that the recommended infant-immunization vaccination schedule includes too many shots given within too short a period of time.

“In my opinion, all vaccines should be one-disease vaccines,” said Hamman. “If you look at possible side effects on the CDC vaccine website, you will see that

the high fevers and seizures—the most worrisome side effects—happen at a much higher rate with the combination vaccines. I am very much in favor of spaced and prolonged scheduling.”

Kivowitz, on the other hand, disagrees with stretching out the recommended schedule. “If you’re stretching, you’re delaying,” she said. “Some of really early shots are for babies, [whom] we want to vaccinate as soon as possible—the most vulnerable patients.” She added that most of the pressure at her practice “is from existing parents who vaccinate and want to make sure other children are vaccinated.”

Swan thinks there are a few situations when spacing makes sense. “For families with reservations about vaccines who otherwise wouldn’t immunize, this is a reasonable alternative,” she said. “If a child has a vigorous and uncomfortable response when the vaccines are given together, spreading them apart by a week or so is also reasonable.”

Legislation Moving Ahead

The Disney outbreak prompted state legislators to introduce California Senate bill SB277, which aims to eliminate the personal belief exemption, with the exception of children who are home-schooled.

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener introduced a resolution before the Board of Supervisors putting the board on record as supporting the state measure. It passed unanimously on March 3.

“Unvaccinated children put other children at risk, particularly those children who are too young to be vaccinated or who cannot be vaccinated for health reasons,” Wiener said. “While we all respect parents’ right, within reason, to make healthcare choices for their children, when those choices impact other people’s health, we have an obligation to step in and protect the health of our entire community.”

The measure has proved more controversial at the state level. Hundreds of parents descended on Sacramento to testify against the bill. Opponents claim that personal exemption rates are already falling and there is no non-vaccination crisis. Despite this opposition, the health and education committees voted for the bill in April. Before becoming law, SB277 faces a full Senate floor vote and a similar process in the House.

Hamman, for one, is among the bill’s opponents. “I think this pending legislation is a travesty that tramples on individual rights at a very basic level,” she said. “It will drive more children out of the public school system and force more parents to home-school.”

Swan also worries that the bill could have unintended consequences. Still, she comes down firmly in the vaccine camp.

“The fear that parents feel might lead many to withdraw their children from public school or to disappear from medical care in order to avoid getting their child fully immunized,” she said. “I don’t think that is the outcome that we are looking for.

“I get the fear,” Swan continued. “I have three children and I am an educated person. I know the science, and yet with my third child, I had to go through the thought process all over again. Ultimately, I decided that the protection to my child—and to society—offered by vaccination far outweighs any risks.”

All three practitioners the *Voice* spoke with agreed that, in the end, they are just advisers. Final decisions about vaccination must be made by parents.

“We spend extra time with those who are wary,” said Kivowitz. “We have had better success holding the hand of worried parents rather than making them run into the arms of someone who will encourage them to not vaccinate.” ■



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The Cost of Living in Noe

How We Know It's Spring

By Corrie M. Anders

After starting the year in idle, home shoppers stepped on the gas in March and purchased a dozen single-family homes in Noe Valley.

The number of houses sold was about the same as in March a year ago, according to sales data supplied to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate. But it was significantly higher than at the beginning of 2015, when house-hunters, facing a dearth of properties for sale during the winter lull, purchased just three homes in January and two in February.

“The inventory is opening up a little bit,” said Zephyr president Randall Kostick, noting that early spring is the traditional kickoff time for owners making their properties available for sale.

Condominiums were cruising, too. Buyers purchased 13 condos in March, compared to eight in February (and 11 in March of last year).

The reinvigorated marketplace saw a replay of the scenario of buyers with fat wallets engaging in fierce bidding for the same property.

About half of the houses received multiple offers, Kostick said. And “an amazing number” of buyers paid all cash or



This renovated home on Diamond Street fetched \$4,350,000 from buyers who were taken with its Victorian façade and spacious modern interior.

made offers that were not contingent upon their getting a mortgage, he said.

Buyers of single-family homes in March were so eager to acquire a Noe Valley address they paid an average 7 percent more than the asking price.

However, the most expensive house in March, a renovated Victorian, sold for 13 percent less than the seller’s original price. Buyers paid \$4,350,000—down from \$4,995,000—for the residence, located in the 600 block of Diamond Street between 23rd and Elizabeth streets.

The home, built in 1900, today has four bedrooms and 3.5 baths within 3,037 square feet of living space. Its peaked roof and Victorian façade hide a modern interior featuring an open-plan living-dining area, a gourmet kitchen, a family

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						
March 2015	12	\$765,312	\$4,350,000	\$2,196,068	17	107%
February 2015	2	\$1,380,000	\$2,150,000	\$1,765,000	10	150%
March 2014	11	\$1,153,000	\$7,000,000	\$2,854,455	15	118%
Condominiums						
March 2015	13	\$618,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,226,385	27	117%
February 2015	8	\$522,000	\$2,100,000	\$1,234,625	20	114%
March 2014	11	\$885,000	\$1,775,000	\$1,078,091	23	114%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
March 2015	3	\$1,780,000	\$2,450,000	\$2,202,000	26	107%
February 2015	2	\$1,565,000	\$1,650,000	\$1,607,500	22	115%
March 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
5+-unit buildings						
March 2015	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2015	0	—	—	—	—	—
March 2014	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 5/2015

room with a wall of windows, white oak floors, a steel-and-wood staircase, a deck with a fire pit, wine room, sauna, and two-car parking.

Another Diamond Street home, this one in the 1600 block between 28th and Valley streets, was the second most expensive residential property. It went for \$3,500,000—an 11 percent bump over the \$3,150,000 asking price. Built in 2011, the modern, light-filled, “high-tech” home offered four bedrooms, four baths, an elevator to a rooftop deck, panoramic views from four levels, and 3,511 square feet of living space.

A three-bedroom, 2.5-bath condo was Noe Valley’s highest-priced attached unit in March. Buyers paid \$2,250,000—almost 22 percent over the \$1,849,000 asking price, for the remodeled space. Located at the rear of a building constructed in 1999, the unit has a gourmet kitchen, a garden patio, one-car parking, and 1,993 square feet of living space. It is located in the 500 block of 29th Street, between Noe and Castro streets.



An ultramodern home in the 1600 block of Diamond Street sold in March for \$3.5 million, 11 percent over the asking price. Among its features were an elevator and an enclosed rooftop deck, affording panoramic views of Noe Valley, the city, and the bay.

Photos by Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range April 2015	Average April 2015	Average March 2015	Average April 2014
Studio	9	\$2,000 – \$2,800	\$2,261 / mo.	\$2,145 / mo.	\$2,256 / mo.
1-bdrm	27	\$2,400 – \$4,995	\$3,099 / mo.	\$3,088 / mo.	\$2,822 / mo.
2-bdrm	28	\$3,400 – \$5,990	\$4,439 / mo.	\$4,435 / mo.	\$4,542 / mo.
3-bdrm	23	\$5,990 – \$9,295	\$5,881 / mo.	\$5,553 / mo.	\$6,335 / mo.
4+-bdrm	3	\$8,300 – \$12,500	\$10,932 / mo.	\$9,812 / mo.	\$7,166 / mo.

** This survey is based on a sample of 91 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist from April 2 to 16, 2015.

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SHORT TAKES

Stern Grove in Noe Valley

The Stern Grove Festival isn't just at Stern Grove in the Sunset anymore. There's also "Grove on the Road," a series of free performances produced by the festival in other neighborhoods around San Francisco. For the second year in a row, Grove on the Road will be in Noe Valley, at the Noe Valley Town Square on 24th Street between Sanchez and Vicksburg streets.

Sunday, May 10—yes, that's Mother's Day—from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., you can hear live music performed by singer-songwriter Lila Blue (11:15), the rock duo Mental 99 (noon), Oakland's country-soul group The Mosswoods (12:45), and the gypsy-jazz band the Hot Club of San Francisco (2 p.m.).

During the event, kids can fiddle with musical instruments at an Instrument Exploration Station or make Mom something pretty at the Create With Nature art workshop. All materials will be provided—natural and unnatural (paint, stamping materials, and other art supplies). Concert-goers can also win two tickets to a Stern Grove Festival performance this summer and a picnic basket from Whole Foods, full of food and drink worth \$100.

Grove on the Road in Noe Valley is co-produced by several neighborhood organizations, including the Friends of Noe Valley, the Noe Valley Association, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, and the Noe Valley Town Square team.

Get Ready for Bargains

Small businesses are celebrated nationwide each May with sidewalk sales, awards, and classes. San Francisco's celebration this year is May 11-17.

Noe Valley merchants will be holding their sidewalk sales on two Saturdays, May 16 and May 23, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days, offering "deep discounts and great finds," according to Dani Sheehan-Meyer, a Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association board member.

The NVMPA will also be awarding certificates of honor for public service at ceremonies Thursday, May 14, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Noe Valley Wells Fargo, 4045

24th St., between Noe and Castro streets. The public is welcome.

Courses for small businesses of all types—stores, home industries, and entrepreneurs—will be held Friday, May 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chinatown campus of City College of San Francisco, 808 Kearny St. Course examples are "Alternate Financing for Your Business," "Marketing and PR Fundamentals," and "How to Manufacture Locally." All courses are free. Go to sfsmallbusiness-week.com/events to sign up. And don't forget the cocktail party afterwards!

Funky Bollywood Town

Drinks? Dancing? Did a new nightclub open up in Noe Valley? No, it's just a book launch at Folio Books on 24th Street. On Thursday, May 28, from 7 to 10 p.m., come celebrate Bollywood films from India with Todd Stadtman, author of the new book *Funky Bollywood*. The author will be showing film clips during his presentation. Drinks and dancing will follow.

Stadtman, a Noe Valley resident, writes the award-nominated blog "Die, Danger, Die, Die, Kill!" on cult cinema, and over the years has covered popular cinema around the world on websites such as Cultural Gutter, Mondo Macabro, Monster Island Resort, Movie Fan Princess, and Permission to Kill. He says he especially likes Bollywood films because they have "an energy and audacity that is unmatched anywhere else. And as you've seen, the clothes are amazing."

Folio Books is located at 3957 24th St., between Noe and Sanchez streets.

Funky Bollywood was published in paperback by the English publisher FAB Press this March. You can watch the book trailer at www.fabpress.com/funky-bollywood and get ready to dance.

Mobius Trio in Concert

The Mobius Guitar Trio, known for its invigorating presentations of new works, will play at the final event of Noe Valley Chamber Music's 2014-15 season, on Sunday, May 31, at 4 p.m. The concert will be held at the renovated Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. at 23rd, and will be preceded by a talk about the music, at 3:15 p.m.



The Mobius Trio—(l to r) Robert Nance, Mason Fish, and Matthew Holmes-Linder—will perform their unique mix of "classical, punk, bebop, metal, folk [and] hardcore" guitar at Noe Valley Chamber Music at the Noe Valley Ministry on May 31. Photo by Matthew Washburn

Formed in 2010, Mobius is composed of San Francisco guitarists Robert Nance, Mason Fish, and Matthew Holmes-Linder. The trio has performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in Darmstadt, Germany, and at numerous concert venues on the West Coast and across the United States. NVCM's executive director, Tiffany Loewenberg, describes Mobius's music as "pleasantly difficult to anticipate as it flows from lyrical bluegrass-classical fusion to harmonically rich Impressionism to post-minimalist mayhem."

The trio's program on May 31 will feature pieces by contemporary Bay Area composers, including Sergio Assad, Dan Becker, Danny Clay, Adrian Knight, and Belinda Reynolds. Maurice Ravel's String Quartet in F will also be performed.

Tickets are available in advance at nvcm.org for \$20. General admission at the door will cost \$25.

Garden Tour Free Tickets

You can earn a free ticket to the 10th annual Noe Valley Garden Tour—and get a party invitation. Just volunteer to be a garden greeter and sit at a table in front of one of the garden's entrances. Better yet, volunteer with a friend and you both get free tickets.

Duties are pretty simple. Garden Greeters welcome visitors to the garden, check for tickets, sell tickets, and answer basic questions about the tour.

Shifts available are 10 a.m. to noon, noon to 2 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday, June 13, Garden Tour Saturday.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Planning Body Backs 24th Street Zoning Change

A zoning change that requires non-retail businesses to seek permits in order to open in ground-floor retail spaces along Noe Valley's commercial corridor has won the support of the city's Planning Commission.

The commission voted 5-0 at its April 23 meeting to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the zoning change. The supervisors are expected to pass it, once it is taken up at the committee level in the coming months.

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener introduced the legislation earlier this year in response to neighborhood concerns about the types of new businesses opening along 24th Street between Diamond and Chattanooga streets.

It requires medical services and business or professional services to seek Planning Commission approval to open in a ground-floor retail space, while such uses would be principally permitted in second-story spaces.

The planning commissioners recom-

mended that the supervisors also allow such businesses in third-story spaces, rather than require them to seek conditional use authorization, as the legislation as written would require. The current zoning for 24th Street does not permit office-type uses on the third story or higher, and requires conditional use authorization for offices on the second floor.

Similar rules would also be enacted in the Castro District—specifically for the 400 and 500 blocks of Castro Street, and Market Street west of Octavia Boulevard—under the proposed legislation.

At the hearing, Wiener aide Andres Power told the commissioners the legislation is about "ensuring our retail corridors remain active."

Commissioner Michael Antonini agreed that the legislation would help "enliven the street rather than having business professionals close at 5 p.m. and have a bunch of dead storefronts here."

—Matthew S. Bajko



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SHORT TAKES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

You can sign up by contacting Michelle Echenique at shellech@gmail.com.

And the party? The free volunteer reception is Thursday, June 11, this year. Details to confirmed volunteers only.

There will be nine gardens on the Garden Tour. In addition to the always surprising garden at the 30th Street Senior Center, there will be an amazing multi-tier front garden, a garden with a mural, two mature floral gardens, a drought-resistant succulent garden, a spectacular botanical garden, a traditional cottage garden, and a meditative zen garden.

Ministry Celebrates Its Space

The much delayed grand re-opening of the Noe Valley Ministry, Noe Valley’s Presbyterian church and meeting space, has been set for May 2-3. Join the celebration Saturday, May 2, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., for tours of the building, refreshments, and entertainment, and Sunday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m., for dedication of the church.

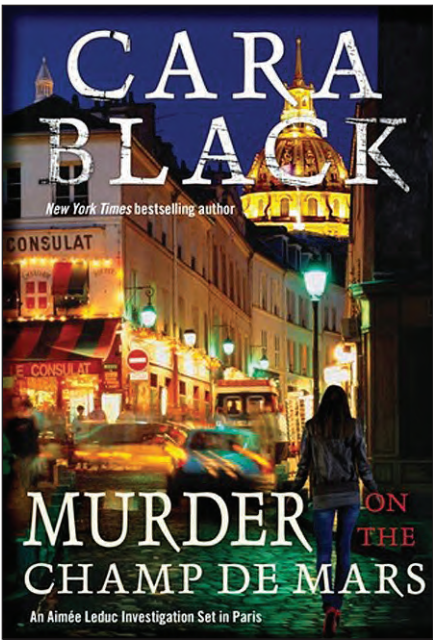
On Saturday, the Dave Scott Jazz Trio will perform at 11:30 a.m. Then, at noon, Pastor David Brown will welcome visitors and introduce speakers and honorees: Supervisor Scott Wiener, architect John Goldman, contractor Crispin Barker, project manager Leonard Nielson, and artist Elizabeth Devereaux, who designed the dramatic stained-glass window in the sanctuary on the second floor.

Composer Jake Heggie will conclude the program with his piece based on Emily Dickenson’s poem “That I Did Al-

ways Love,” from his song cycle “Newer Every Day.” The song will be sung by soprano Ann Moss.

Tours of the building will be conducted from 11 to 11:30 a.m. and from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

On Sunday, Pastor Brown will lead a Service of Celebration at 10:30 a.m. Jeffrey Hutchinson, Executive Presbyter of the San Francisco Presbytery, will be on hand to help with the dedication. The Barrelhouse Jazz Band will provide music. All events are free and open to the public.



New Cara Black Mystery

Noe Valley’s own *New York Times* bestselling author—Cara Black—has published her 15th book in the Aimée Leduc mystery series, *Murder on the Champ de Mars*. As all fans of the series know, each mystery focuses on another location in Paris (including the sewers). The first book was *Murder in the Marais*,

published in 1999.

The reviews for #15 have been excellent. Booklist says that “Black once again delivers what her readers crave: high-speed Parisian peregrinations, chic suspense, a touch of humor, and the indomitable Aimée.” Leduc is the heroine of the series, a flea market fashionista, inveterate solver of crimes, and now a mother.

The Champ de Mars is the long green space jutting southeast from the Eiffel Tower towards Montparnasse in the 7th arrondissement. The mystery this time involves gypsies—*les manouches* in French—old money, political shenanigans, forbidden love, and the still unsolved murder of Aimée’s father. Throw a possible custody battle into the stew, and the reader has quite a lot to chew on.

Murder on the Champ de Mars, published by Soho Press, is currently available in hardcover at Folio Books, at other city bookstores, and online. It is also available in various eBook formats.

St. Paul’s School Fundraisers

St. Paul’s School in Upper Noe Valley is hosting two fundraising events in May, a Walkathon on Wednesday, May 13, and a yard sale later in the month. Both events will raise funds for student enrichment in technology and science, facility upgrades, and teacher classrooms at the school.

In the Walkathon, students and teachers will hike along Church Street and elsewhere in the neighborhood for donations and prizes. You can donate dollars by sending a check made out to St. Paul’s School and dropping it off or mailing it to St. Paul’s School, 1690 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94131. Note on your check “Walkathon.” To donate a prize, call the school at 415-648-2055. Gift cards,

movie tickets, and other items for all ages are especially welcome.

The Yard Sale will offer vintage clothing, kids’ clothes and toys, household goods, and homemade treats for sale at the school, located at 29th and Church streets. Donations for the sale will be accepted at the 29th Street gate to the school from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. weekday mornings up to Friday, May 29. Please don’t leave large items like couches and chests of drawers without contacting the school first. Check for the date of the sale on the school website, stpaulschools.org.

Fair Oaks Fair’s 40th Year

The 40th Fair Oaks Street Fair will be held Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On all five blocks of Fair Oaks Street, from 21st to 26th Street, neighbors will set up tables to sell antiques, home-baked goods, books, toys, furniture, kitchenware, clothing, tools, and “plain old junk,” says Blair Moser, one of the fair organizers.

The annual garage sale raises funds to support the Jamestown Community Center in the Mission. Jamestown, now at 3382 26th St., offers after-school tutoring, summer camps, sports, and teen leadership programs. Originally, it was located at St. James School, at Fair Oaks and 23rd Street. The 23rd Street site is now the Adda Clevenger School.

The 2015 Fair Oaks Street Fair is dedicated to the memory of Paul Nixon, longtime Jamestown board member and community organizer, who died in April. The fair is organized by Fair Oaks Neighbors, a group established in 1973. Fair Oaks Street runs parallel to and in between Dolores and Guerrero streets.

This month’s Short Takes were compiled and written by Richard May.



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Noe Valley Views



May 10 Is Almost Here. Ezra, 10, will treat his moms, Jessica Mass and Jackie Adams (right), to breakfast in bed on Mother's Day. "Mothers' Day, in our house," says Mass. She and Adams have lived in their Cesar Chavez Street home since 1999. They got married in 2008, when Ezra was 3. He calls himself the Mothers' Day Fairy. "We're crossing fingers he'll score some lox from New York City," Mass says. "If successful, we'll eat them with Holey Bagels."

Photo by Beverly Tharp



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Noe Valley Readers





Angela Zhang who serves us at Royal Cleaner on Church Street, took a long awaited trip home to China in February.



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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular *Voice* feature profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we introduce a corner market that aspires to be a grocery, deli, and sidewalk café.

BOM DIA MARKET

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Taking over the space vacated by St. Paul's Market on Sanchez Street, Bom Dia is bringing a touch of Europe to the southern end of Noe Valley. The small market, which opened in December, offers products in three key areas, says proprietor Shivani Ganguly: wine and beer, groceries, and prepared foods.

The wine collection includes top-shelf bottles priced \$30 to \$50. About half are in the \$20 range, and even a few in the \$10 to \$15 range. "We offer about a 50-50 mix of international and California wines," Ganguly says.

In groceries, customers will find basics like cleaning products, dairy, bread, cheese, select produce, and pantry items.

Ganguly, 37, conducted a lot of research to match prices of other retailers in the area and to find out what goods neighbors wanted and needed. To that end, there are diapers, toilet paper, dog food, toothpaste, lotion, shampoo, band-aids, and of course, chocolate. What makes Bom Dia's everyday items stand out is the brands.

"I'm really interested in carrying products that are ethically sourced, and that means everything from how the products are produced to the packaging they're in," she says. That's why you'll find Mrs. Meyer's and Seventh Generation kitchen cleansers and laundry detergents (\$5 to \$20), and Natural Value and If You Care



Employees Miachel Breton (left), Airyka Rockefeller, and Toni Wilson (at counter in back) smile and say "Good day" while preparing for the afternoon rush at Bom Dia, the newly opened market at 29th and Sanchez streets.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

sandwich and garbage bags (\$3 to \$6.25).

Prepared foods come from the Bom Dia kitchen, located on York Street at 18th, which specializes in Mediterranean and North African cuisine. Items vary with the season, but some popular foods include the muhammara, a spread of red peppers and walnuts that goes well with crackers or cheese, and the chermoula trout salad. The za'atar roast chicken and bavette steak in the deli case often sell out.

The shop also tries to support local farms and bakeries, like Little Bee Baking, a Bernal Heights bakery that makes cakes and pies, and the Mission District's Goody Goodie, known for its cookies. Most of the eggs, produce, and dairy come from Sonoma; suppliers include Straus Family Creamery, Cowgirl Creamery, and Judy's Eggs. Many items are organic. Some things are imported like the Italian tuna, because it's a "great product," Ganguly says.

Customers might notice how open and clean the market's space is. Bouquets of

flowers adorn the benches framing the entrance. Ganguly says her designer, Brook Lane, was going for a "beautiful, pleasant, calm feel with attention to detail." All the wood used for the shelving is white oak. Ganguly points to the wine wall, which displays over 200 bottles. "It's not overwhelming or crowded. It highlights the products."

The inspiration is what she calls a European style of shopping, which is how she came up with the name Bom Dia, meaning "good day" in Portuguese. "Our goal is to be part of your daily experience and make your days better," she says with a smile.

Ganguly opened her store in Upper Noe Valley because she had spent a lot of time in the area when she lived in the Mission for 15 years. "I shopped at Drewes and Church Produce. I like that this loca-

tion is close but off the beaten track," she says. "We aren't near similar stores or Whole Foods, so we're filling a need." She and her husband now live in Pacifica.

In April, she applied for a change of use with the city, and hopes to soon have seating for a café in the front by the windows, and eventually sidewalk seating, adding up to a total of about 20 seats. Over time, she'd also like to be able to serve beer and wine. In the meantime, the café menu of sandwiches, salads, tartines, and coffee drinks (\$4 to \$11) is strictly "to go." The kitchen also offers catering.

Part of the market's mission is to host a monthly fundraiser for nonprofits, in which they get a percentage of the day's revenues. In April, the beneficiary was Upper Noe Recreation Center on Day Street. Bom Dia put together snack packs for the park's Soccer Tots that included Watermelon Water, Yolo Farmstand dried fruit and nut mix, and SeaSnax roasted seaweed.

Bom Dia's fundraiser on May 17 will be for the Send It Foundation (www.senditfoundation.org), an organization that helps adults with cancer stay physically active. And for Mother's Day on May 10, customers can pick up gift baskets, breakfast-in-bed bundles, and gift-making kits.

When she's not taking care of Bom Dia, Ganguly is working at her other job, Friday Consulting, advising small businesses on how to finance their sustainable food, technology, and other innovative social ventures. In 2009, she earned an MBA from Presidio Graduate School, and the business plan for Bom Dia was her thesis. "I've been thinking about making this happen ever since then." Finally, it's a reality.

Bom Dia Market is open Sunday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

—Olivia Boler



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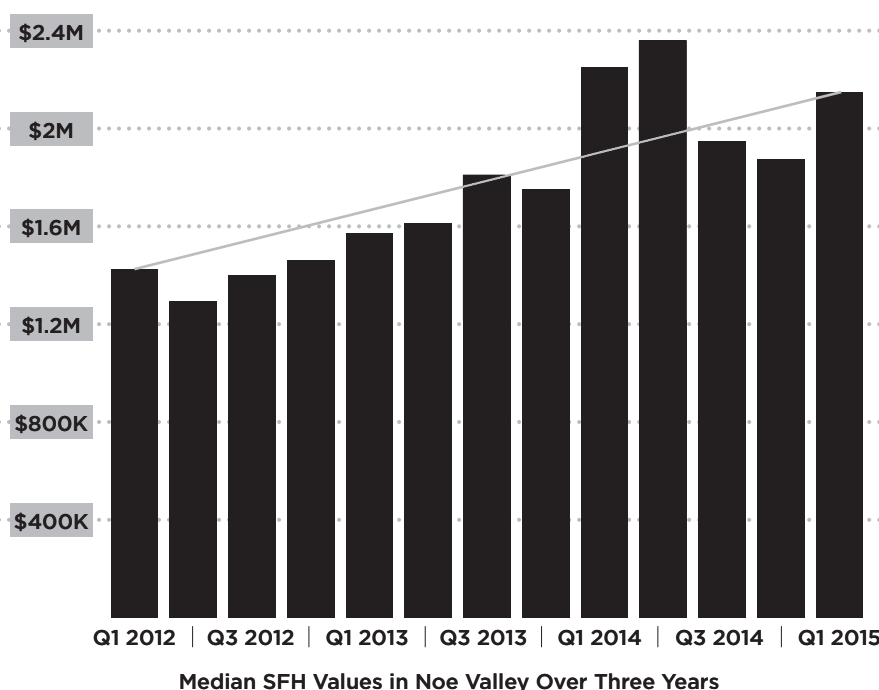
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Noe Valley Views



A Gentle Blast from Our Motoring Past. This venerable vehicle once graced Noe streets as this photo from 2003 shows.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

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LIBRARY EVENTS

Taste It @ Your Library features an extra virgin olive oil tasting and discussion led by Janell Pekkain, co-owner of Noe Valley's Olive This Olive That. Saturday, May 16, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

The **Noe Valley Knitting Circle** is for both beginners and experienced knitters and crocheters. Bring yarn and needles or hooks if you're working on a special project. Saturday, May 2, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

eReader Drop-in: Attend a free eReader workshop to get eLibrary access to a collection of more than 40,000 eBooks on your Kindle, Nook, iPad, or other eReader device. Tuesday, May 5, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Friday Matinee at the Library features the 1943 Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman film based on the book *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway. Friday, May 8, 2 to 4 p.m.

Great Books: William Shakespeare's play *Antony and Cleopatra* is the focus of the May gathering of the Great Books Discussion Group, sponsored by the Great Books Council of San Francisco. For information, contact Elena at eschmid@sonic.net. Wednesday, May 13, 6:15 to 8:15 p.m.

The Noe Valley Book Discussion Group meets on third Wednesdays to discuss Pulitzer Prize winner Marilynne Robinson's 1980 novel *Housekeeping*. Wednesday, May 20, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Screen Time with Zinio: Learn to get eLibrary access to a collection of current digital magazines and round-the-clock entry to the SFPL's databases. Tuesday, May 26, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

What DAVIDsTEA Needs by Michael Blake

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MORE BOOKS TO READ

Yes You May

The May selection of books, films, and eBooks—offered by Adult Services Librarian Susan Higgins and Children's Librarian Catherine Starr of the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library—features a look at how Facebook affects our lives, the story of the last crossing of the *Lusitania*, and inventions that could have changed the world, but didn't. To discover what else is on the shelves, call or drop by the branch at 451 Jersey St. (415-355-5707), or visit the San Francisco Library online at www.sfpl.org. *Voice* bookworm Karol Barske contributed to the annotations..

Adult Fiction

Fit Dog: Tips & Tricks to Give Your Pet a Longer, Healthier, Happier Life by Arden Moore covers feeding and nutrition, training and behaviors.

Clinical psychologist Suzana E. Flores explores the positive and negative aspects of social networking and presents tools for dealing with unhealthy behaviors in ***Facehooked: How Facebook Affects Our Emotions, Relationships, and Lives***.

Blogger Matt Kepnes shares his tips for traveling comfortably on a budget in ***How to Travel the World on \$50 a Day: Travel Cheaper, Longer, Smarter***.

Adult Nonfiction

Fit Dog: Tips & Tricks to Give Your Pet a Longer, Healthier, Happier Life by Arden Moore covers feeding and nutrition, training and behaviors.

Clinical psychologist Suzana E. Flores explores the positive and negative aspects of social networking and presents tools for dealing with unhealthy behaviors in ***Facehooked: How Facebook Affects Our Emotions, Relationships, and Lives***.

Blogger Matt Kepnes shares his tips for traveling comfortably on a budget in ***How to Travel the World on \$50 a Day: Travel Cheaper, Longer, Smarter***.

Films on DVD

An awkward groom-to-be hires a professional best man in the 2015 comedy ***The Wedding Ringer***.

Hugh Grant and Marisa Tomei star in 2014's ***The Rewrite***, a story about a divorced, near-broke former hit screenwriter who takes a teaching job at a university.

Julianne Moore won the Best Actress Oscar for her portrayal of a linguistics professor diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's in ***Still Alice***.

New eBooks

The Discreet Hero by Nobel Prize winner Mario Vargas Llosa, translated from the Spanish by Edith Grossman, explores the lives of a small businessman who is the victim of blackmail and a Lima insurance company owner.

What Comes Next and How to Like It is a memoir about friendship, aging, and

tragedy by writer Abigail Thomas.

Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania is the latest book from Erik Larson, author of the bestsellers *The Devil in the White City* and *In the Garden of Beasts*.

Children's Fiction

The Bunny family has adopted a wolf son, and only daughter Dot realizes he might eat them all, in ***Wolfie the Bunny***, written by Ame Dyckman, illustrated by Zachariah OHora. Ages 3-6.

Goldie Simcha's neighbors help make a meal of cholent, in ***Chik Chak Shabbat***, by Mara Rockliff and Kyrsten Brooker; the recipe for the traditional slow-cooked stew is included. Ages 3-7.

Her father eats meat, her mother is "nesting: to prepare for a new baby," and worst of all, Clementine has to say goodbye to her third-grade teacher, in ***Completely Clementine***, from the series written by Sara Pennypacker and illustrated by Marla Frazee. Ages 6-9.

In ***Just a Drop of Water*** by Kerry O'Malley Cerra, a young Florida boy's world is changed by the events of September 11, 2001. Ages 8-12.

Rose is obsessed with homonyms and so names her dog ***Rain Reign***, but when a storm hits her rural town and Rain goes missing, she doesn't have words for what she finds, in this story by Ann M. Martin. Ages 9-12.

Children's Nonfiction

A Bird Is a Bird, written and illustrated by Lizzy Rockwell, explains how this creature—that hatches from eggs and has beaks, wings, and feathers—differs from mammals and reptiles. Ages 3-7.

There are all kinds of ***Families***, and they are all honored in a photo book co-authored by Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly, with photos by Shelley Rotner. Ages 3-7.

Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker, a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book written by Patricia Hruby Powell and illustrated by Christian Robinson, tells the story of the world-renowned performer and civil rights advocate. Ages 7-10.

The fearsome predators living just off the

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Read to Stanley the Dog: Your child will relish reading to gentle neighborhood canine Stanley and Learning Specialist Rebecca at the SPCA-sponsored Puppy Dog Tales, a program for those learning to read or those who might want extra help in vocabulary or grammar. For ages 4 to 7, but older kids welcome. Call 415-355-5707 to reserve a spot. Saturday, May 9, 2 to 3 p.m.

Help celebrate **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** when Daniel Barash of the Shadow Puppet Workshop performs "Spin Me a Shadow, Tell Me a Tale," featuring best-loved stories from Southeast Asia. Thursday, May 14, 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Join Miss Catherine for **Toddler Tales**, featuring stories, songs, rhymes, and movement for ages 16 months to 36 months, with a parent or caregiver. Thursdays, May 7 and 21; 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Children ages 3 to 5, as well as their parent or caregiver, will enjoy watching classic reel-to-reel **Films for Preschoolers**. Thursday, May 28, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

FOR TEENS AND UP

The AAC Conversation Club is for teens and adults who use communication devices like Dynavox, Quick-Talker, and Talk Bar, or apps for their smartphone or tablet. The group meets on Mondays, May 4, 11, and 18, and June 1, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

coast of San Francisco are introduced in ***Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting with the Great Whites of California's Farallon Islands***, written and illustrated by Katherine Roy. Ages 7-11.

Author Joe Rhatigan considers ***Inventions That Could Have Changed the World... but Didn't!*** with zany illustrations by Anthony Owsley. Ages 8-12.

The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights by Steve Sheinkin describes the 1944 conflict over unsafe and unfair working conditions in the segregated Navy base. Ages 10 and up. patterns, time-telling, and arithmetic with hands-on, interactive elements. Ages 8-10.

BRANCH HOURS

Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library 451 Jersey St., 355-5707							
Sun 1-5	Mon 12-6	Tues 10-9	Wed 1-9	Thurs 10-6	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6	
Mission Branch Library 300 Bartlett St., 355-2800							
Sun 1-5	Mon 1-6	Tues 10-9	Wed 10-9	Thurs 10-9	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6	

WIN A FREE SUBSCRIPTION to the Noe Valley Voice

See page 12 of this edition for our new contest:
Where in Noe Valley?

Each month we'll run a photo taken somewhere in our fair neighborhood. If you can identify the location, and are the first to email us with the info, we'll start sending you our print edition for a whole year — all ten issues — free.

Good Luck!



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MEMBER:



May 1: InkBoat performs “Ritual 4-6: ascent,” with duets by Dana and Shinichi Iova-Koga at the Rotunda DANCE series at SF City Hall. Noon. dancersgroup.org.

May 1-29: 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. 586-7333; birdbeckett.com.

May 1-29: Shout “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.

May 1-29: Dolores Park Cafe hosts Friday-night MUSIC and spoken word. 7:30-10 pm. 501 Dolores. 621-2936; doloresparkcafe.com.

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

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

May 1-31: Linda Maki exhibits PAINTINGS in “Treats,” at cafe78. Reception May 9, 4-7 pm; on view 6 am-7 pm. 78 29th. lindamaki.wix.com/lindamakiart

May 1-31: Hill & Co. shows PAINTINGS by artists from Creativity Explored on 16th Street. Work will be for sale. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat., 10 am-4 pm. 3899 24th. 824-1100; Hill-co.com.

May 1-June 17: CREATIVITY EXPLORED hosts “Super Contemporary,” an exhibit pairing studio artists with Bay Area artists. Mon & Tues., 10 am-3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat. & Sun., noon-5 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org.

May 1-June 26: Artists from The Arc San Francisco exhibit their creative work in an ART EXHIBIT at the Noe Valley Library. 452 Jersey. 255-7200.

May 1-Oct. 30: The NIGHT MARKET at UN Plaza features local vendors and artists, live music, and food trucks. 5-10 pm. Seventh and Market. fridaynightmarketsf.org.

May 2: INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE Day at Folio Books features morning cocktails, and snacks

MAY 2015

and live music throughout the day; at 10:30 am Mary Burk discusses Stairway Walks of San Francisco, and at 1 pm Alexa Andrzejewski talks about The Foodspotting Field Guide. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 2: The Noe Valley Library’s KNITTING CIRCLE meets on the first Saturday of the month, from 10:30 am to noon. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 2: Maureen Abood introduces Rose Water and Orange Blossoms: Fresh & Classic Recipes from My LEBANESE KITCHEN. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 2 & 3: SUCCESSORIES holds a party at its new location in Pacifica, from noon to 5 pm. Rockaway Beach Plaza, 650-733-3360.

May 2 & 3: Celebrate the GRAND RE-OPENING of the Noe Valley Ministry with tours, jazz, art music, and refreshments 11 am-2 pm on Saturday, and a 10:30 am dedication of the church Sunday. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

May 2-30: 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.

May 2-30: The Noe Valley Rec Center offers free YOGA CLASSES Saturdays 9:15-10:15 am. Day and Sanchez. 205-5855; noevalleyreccenter.com.

May 2-30: Saturday night JAZZ at Bird & Beckett features local performers from 8 to 11 pm. 653 Chenery. birdbeckett.com.

May 2-31: 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.

May 3: Bryan Petroff and Douglas Quint discuss Big Gay ICE CREAM: Saucy Stories & Frozen Treats. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712;

omnivorebooks.com.
May 3: LITQUAKE’s Epicenter features Joyce Carol Oates in conversation with Cornelia Nixon. 7 pm. Viracocha, 998 Valencia. litquake.com.

May 3: Judith M. Taylor reads from her book about the history of GARDEN PLANTS, Visions of Loveliness: Great Flower Breeders of the Past, at Folio Books. 7 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 3 & 17: 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.

May 3-31: 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.

May 3-31: 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.

May 3-31: The SF Museum and Historical Society gives Sunday tours of the OLD MINT at 1:30 and 3 pm. 88 Fifth Street. 537-1105, ext. 100; sfhistory.org.

May 4: Kristen Miglore introduces Food52 GENIUS RECIPES: 100 Recipes that Will Change the Way You Cook. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 4, 11 & 18: The Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Conversation Club meets from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 5: The Noe Valley Library offers an eREADER CLASS from 10:30 to 11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 5, 12, 19 & 26: The Eureka Valley Library offers its TODDLER TALES on Tuesdays, 10:30 am. 1 Jose Sarria

Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

May 5-26: Larkin Street Youth Services gives free HIV TESTING for youth 24 and under. Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. 1800 Market. 673-0911; sfcenter.org.

May 5-26: Dogs 6 months and older are invited to the Tuesday PUPPY SOCIAL at K9 Scrub Club. 7-8 pm. 1734 Church. Register: k9scrubclub.com.

May 5 & June 2: The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

May 5 & June 2: “Write Now! @ Folio Books” is a monthly WORD JAM led by writer/editor Kathy Dalle-Molle; all levels welcome. 7-8:30 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; sign up at foliosf.com/events.

May 6: Dev Petty leads a STORYTIME with her book, I Don’t Want to Be a Frog, at Folio Books. 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 6: Lucy Jo Palladino, PhD, discusses PARENTING in the Age of Attention Snatchers: A Step-By-Step Guide to Balancing Your Child’s Use of Technology; wine will be served. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 6 & 20: The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to Oliver, a calm canine; ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 7-8 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

May 6, 13, 20 & 27: The Eureka Valley Library offers BABY RHYME and Playtime on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:15. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

May 6-27: Folio Books hosts a STORYTIME for toddlers every Wednesday at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 6 & June 3: The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107; GLBThistory.org.

May 6-27: Chris Sequeira conducts free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1-3 pm at the Glen Park Rec Center, 70 Elk. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com.

May 6-27: The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesday, from 4 to 8 pm, through mid-December. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

May 6-27: AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip’s Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

May 7: April Bloomfield discusses A Girl and Her GREENS: Hearty Meals from the Garden. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 7 & 21: Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 7-28: Attend PUB QUIZ NIGHTS on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

May 8: The Noe Valley Library hosts a screening of the 1943 Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman FILM For Whom the Bell Tolls, based on the book by Ernest Hemingway. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 8: TAIZE service at Holy Innocents Church is offered on the second Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. Holyinsf.org.

May 9: The LADYBUG GARDENERS offer a Drought Awareness Tour of native plants and succulent gardens. 9 am-noon. Upper Noe Rec Center, Day and Sanchez.

May 9: There are treasures to be found at the annual Fair Oaks STREET FAIR. 9 am-5 pm. Fair Oaks from 21st to 26th Street.



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foliosf.com | @foliosf | /foliosf

Upcoming Events at Folio Books

5-6
WEDNESDAY
10AM
Dev Petty | *I Don’t Want To Be A Frog*
Frog wants to be anything but a slimy, wet frog. A cat, perhaps. Or a rabbit. An owl?

5-6
WEDNESDAY
7PM
Lucy Jo Palladino, PhD
Parenting in the Age of Attention Snatchers
In this guide, Lucy Jo Palladino doesn’t demonize technology; instead she gives parents the tools to help.

5-14
THURSDAY
7PM
Mary McNear | *Moonlight on Butternut Lake*
New York Times bestselling author Mary McNear takes us home to Butternut Lake, where the townspeople are sure to look after anyone they consider their own. . .

5-15
FRIDAY
6PM
BOOKWORMS CLUB: Kathy Dalle-Molle
This month we will be hosting Kathy Dalle-Molle, who will lead kids in a writing workshop.
RSVP REQUIRED: tiny.cc/springworms

5-17
SUNDAY
3PM
K.J. Landis | *Superior Self Wellness Workshop*
Please RSVP with name and total number attending to kjlinsf@hotmail.com

5-20
WEDNESDAY
10AM
Megan Padalecki | *Big Mo*
Follow the sensational journey of a pet iguana who grows too large for his home as he demands more and MORE!

5-21
THURSDAY
7PM
Rose Taylor Goldfield
Training the Wisdom Body: Buddhist Yogic Exercise
Please join us for Rose’s discussion of Buddhist yoga and instruction in the easy-to-learn Tibetan Mind-Body Reboot: suitable for all bodies!

5-24
SUNDAY
3PM
LeUyen Pham | *There’s No Such Thing as Little*
Beloved neighborhood author and illustrator LeUyen Pham is moving! We are throwing her a farewell party and hope you will join us to show her lots of love.

5-28
THURSDAY
7PM
Todd Stadtman | *Funky Bollywood*
The Wild World of 1970s Indian Action Cinema
Please join us for a celebration of Bollywood. This might be the first (and perhaps last) Bollywood reading + dance party at a bookstore, so you don’t want to miss it!

WRITE NOW WORKSHOPS

at 7pm
5/5 & 6/2
For details email:
dallemolle.kathy@gmail.com

STORYTIME

at 10am
Every Wednesday

ODD MONDAYS

at 7pm
5/11 & 5/25

For a full description of all our upcoming events visit: foliosf.com/events

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St. Francis Wood

Lake & Funston

Alta Plaza Park

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Visit Camp! Open House - June 6

We invite you and your family to an Open House at the Lafayette Reservoir. Come try some camp activities, tour our site, and meet our Directors & staff. Visit www.roughingit.com/voice to RSVP or to set up your own personal visit!



www.roughingit.com

925.283.3795

May 9: The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to Stanley, a calm canine; ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 9: Natural Resources invites you to meet doulas (2-4 pm) and home-birth MIDWIVES (4-6 pm). 1367 Valencia. 550-2611; naturalresources-sf.com.

May 10: The Stern Grove Festival hosts a “Grove on the Road” CONCERT in the Noe Valley Town Square, featuring art workshops (11 am), Lila Blue (11:15), Mental 99 (noon), The Mosswoods (12:45), and the headlining Hot Club of San Francisco (2 pm). 24th at Vicksburg. Stern Grove.org.

May 10: PFLAG’s support group meets from 2 to 4:30 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church. 921-8850; pflagsf@aol.com.

May 10: Tara O’Brady introduces Seven Spoons: My Favorite RECIPES for Any and Every Day. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 11: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts readings by “A Potpourri of Women Writers.” 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.

May 11: Aaron Franklin discusses Franklin BARBECUE: A Meat-Smoking Manifesto. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 12: Glenn D. Koch discusses “On the Joy Zone: A Postcard and Photographic Tour of the PPIE’s Amusement District” at the monthly meeting of the SF Museum and Historical Society. 7:30 pm. 455 Golden Gate, Hiram Johnson State building, Milton Marks Auditorium. 537-1105, ext. 100; sfhistory.org.

May 13: St. Paul’s School raises funds in a student WALKATHON through Noe Valley. To donate prizes, pledges, or goods for a Yard Sale on Church Street later in the month, call the school, or drop off items at the 29th Street gate. 1690 Church. 648-2055.

CALENDAR

May 13: The GREAT BOOKS Discussion Group considers Shakespeare’s play Antony and Cleopatra. 6:15-8:15 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Elena at eschmid@sonic.net.

May 14: The LGBT SENIOR discussion group meets at 30th Street Senior Center. 10-11:30 am. 225 30th. 296-8995, ext. 5.

May 14: Daniel Barash of the SHADOW PUPPET Workshop performs “Spin Me a Shadow, Tell Me a Tale,” stories from Southeast Asia. 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 14: Sandra Gilbert introduces The CULINARY IMAGINATION: From Myth to Modernity. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 14: Folio Books hosts a BOOK LAUNCH PARTY for Mary McNear, author of Moonlight on Butternut Lake. 7pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 15: The BOOKWORMS CLUB at Folio Books features special guest Kathy Dalle-Molle, and meets the third Friday of the month with pizza and book discussion for ages 8 through 12. 6 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; RSVP at foliosf.com.

May 16: SUMMER REGISTRATION begins at the Upper Noe Rec Center, from 10 am to 2 pm. Day and Sanchez. sfreconline.org.

May 16 & 23: Find bargains and treats at two Saturday SIDEWALK SALES along 24th Street, sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. 10 am-7 pm.

May 16: “Taste It @ Your Library” features an extra-virgin OLIVE OIL TASTING and discussion led by Janell Pekkain, co-owner of Olive This Olive That. 1:30-2:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 16: Dirty Cello and Littlest Birds perform at 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe

Valley MUSIC SERIES) at St. Cyprian’s, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

May 16 & 17: New TV drama 94110 is casting six leads, supporting roles, and background extras for its pilot episode. 11 am-5:30 pm. For AUDITIONS, contact 94110official@gmail.com.

May 19: Janet Fletcher discusses YOGURT: Sweet and Savory Recipes for Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 20: In a special STORYTIME, Megan Padalecki reads from Big Mo, the story of a pet iguana. 10 am. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 21: Portland Picnic Society members Marnie Hanel, Andrea Slonecker, and Jen Stevenson discuss The PICNIC: Recipes and Inspiration from Basket to Blanket. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 21: Rose Taylor Goldfield discusses Training the Wisdom Body: Buddhist YOGIC EXERCISE. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 21: The sixth anniversary show of “COMEDY Returns to El Rio” features performances by former State Assembly member Tom Ammiano and “the Pine Sol Lady,” Diane Amos. 8 pm. 3158 Mission. elriosf.com.

May 21 & 28; June 4, 11, 18 & 25: The SF Fire Department offers NERT TRAINING on Thursdays, 6:30 to 10 pm. Holy Innocents Church, 455 Fair Oaks. To register: 970-2024; http://bit.ly/1C13gTZ

May 23: “The DRAG QUEENS of Comedy” features 11 performers at the Castro Theater. 7 & 10 pm. 429 Castro. thedragqueensofcomedy.com.

May 24: LeYuen Pham discusses There’s No Such Thing as Little at a

FAREWELL PARTY for the local author/illustrator. 3 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 25: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts “Just a Taste: Bite-Size Readings of Poetry and Prose in Progress.” 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.

May 26: The Noe Valley Library hosts “Screen Time with ZINIO,” an online collection of digital magazines. 10:30-11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 26: LITQUAKE’s Epicenter features Peter Coyote in conversation with Phil Bronstein. 7 pm. Viracocha, 998 Valencia. litquake.com.

May 26: MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of the month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400.

May 26: Mike Phipps talks about “The Fight to Save SF’s CABLE CARS,” at a meeting of the SF History Association. 7 pm. St. Philip’s Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; sanfranciscohistory.org.

May 26: The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group takes on Marilynne Robinson’s 1980 novel Housekeeping. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 27: Darra Goldstein unveils The Oxford Companion to SUGAR AND SWEETS. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 28: Reel-to-Reel FILMS for preschoolers screen at the Noe Valley Library at 10:15 and 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 28: Todd Stadtman hosts a BOLLYWOOD celebration with drinks and dancing to introduce his book, Funky Bollywood: The Wild World of 1970s Indian Action Cinema. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 30: Molly Wizenberg discusses DELANCEY: A Man, A Woman, A

Restaurant, A Marriage. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 30: The Lady Crooners and MerryGold perform at 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe Valley MUSIC SERIES) at St. Cyprian’s, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

May 31: Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC hosts a concert by the avant-garde Mobius Guitar Trio. 4 pm; pre-concert talk at 3:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 648-5236; nvcm.org.

June 1: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts a participatory event by Alexandra Jacopetti Hart and David “Lucky” Goff, authors of The Age of Actualization: A Handbook for a Growing Elder Culture. 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.


June 3: Singer-songwriter HEATHER COMBS, whose music has been featured on E.R. and Grey’s Anatomy, is set to kick off a live music series at the Valley Tavern. 7-10 pm. 4054 24th. 285-0674.



Linda Maki exhibits her paintings in a show titled “Treats” at cafe78 . 78 29th Street in Bernal Heights. An opening party is May 9th.

JUNE IS BUSTIN’ OUT


The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the **June 2015** issue, distributed the first week of June. The deadline for Calendar items is **May 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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UPCOMING EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

SAT MAY 2	MAUREEN ABOOD • ROSE WATER AND ORANGE BLOSSOMS: FRESH & CLASSIC RECIPES FROM MY LEBANESE KITCHEN • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Abood explores her Lebanese heritage through its most-beloved foods and riffs on traditional cuisine.
SUN MAY 3	BRYAN PETROFF & DOUGLAS QUINT • BIG GAY ICE CREAM: SAUCY STORIES & FROZEN TREATS: GOING ALL THE WAY WITH ICE CREAM • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Join the co-owners of Big Gay Ice Cream as they mix up special ice cream flavors and talk about making history!
MON MAY 4	KRISTEN MIGLORE • FOOD52 GENIUS RECIPES: 100 RECIPES THAT WILL CHANGE THE WAY YOU COOK. 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Genius recipes surprise us and make us rethink the way we cook.
THU MAY 7	APRIL BLOOMFIELD • A GIRL AND HER GREENS: HEARTY MEALS FROM THE GARDEN • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • This beautiful, full-color cookbook offers tantalizing seasonal recipes for a wide variety of vegetables.
SUN MAY 10	TARA O’BRADY • SEVEN SPOONS: MY FAVORITE RECIPES FOR ANY AND EVERY DAY • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Tara O’Brady was one of the earliest food bloggers to enter the scene.
MON MAY 11	AARON FRANKLIN • FRANKLIN BARBECUE: A MEAT-SMOKING MANIFESTO • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Award-winning Franklin Barbecue has grown into the most popular, critically lauded, and obsessed over barbecue joint in the country (if not the world).
THU MAY 14	SANDRA GILBERT • THE CULINARY IMAGINATION: FROM MYTH TO MODERNITY • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Prominent critic, poet, and memoirist Sandra M. Gilbert explores our relationship with food and eating through discussions of literature, art, and popular culture.
TUE MAY 19	JANET FLETCHER • YOGURT: SWEET AND SAVORY RECIPES FOR BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND DINNER • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • A longtime contributor to the San Francisco Chronicle, Fletcher showcases yogurt in dishes both rustic and sophisticated.
THU MAY 21	THE PICNIC: RECIPES AND INSPIRATION FROM BASKET TO BLANKET, BY PORTLAND PICNIC SOCIETY MEMBERS MARNIE HANEL, ANDREA SLONECKER, AND JEN STEVENSON • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE
WED MAY 27	DARRA GOLDSTEIN • OXFORD COMPANION TO SUGAR AND SWEETS 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • This reference work reveals how the human proclivity for sweet has brought richness to our language, our art, and, of course, our gastronomy.
SAT MAY 30	MOLLY WIZENBERG • DELANCEY: A MAN, A WOMAN, A RESTAURANT, A MARRIAGE • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • The author of the blog Orangette recounts how opening a restaurant sparked the first crisis of her young marriage.

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Photo courtesy Chris Faust

No Drought of Soccer Enthusiasts at Upper Noe Rec

“While a dearth of water stretches across our state, that has not reduced the need for green spaces,” says Chris Faust, chair of the Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center. “Lack of rain over the winter caused Rec and Park to suspend plans to close and refurbish the field this year. The weather was just too beautiful to deny use” of the rec center and park at 295 Day St. Faust adds that “while the department made huge cuts to water use on the hardscape, no plans are in place to reduce the sprinkling necessary to keep the field playable.”

Cheering the news were the city’s Soccer Tots, who in April took to the field in droves. Also smiling were the park’s Ladybug Gardeners, who will hold a **Drought Awareness Tour** of the rec center’s garden May 9, 9 a.m. to noon. Come see the native plants and succulents, and learn how to “plant water-smart.” Volunteers also are needed to join the **Community Recreation Council**. Attend the group’s meeting May 20 (7 p.m.) and help plan events at the park.

Don’t forget about all the classes and free activites at Upper Noe Recreation Center. **Summer Registration** begins May 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Register in person (while listening to live music) or online at www.sfreconline.org. To find out more, see www.noevalleyreccenter.com or call the center at 415-970-8061. Canines are invited to visit **Joby’s Dog Run**, open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the east end of the park, or the Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners at fundogsf.org.

UPPER NOE REC CENTER SPRING CLASSES – APRIL THROUGH MAY 2015	
MONDAY (Center closed; outside activities only.)	
Tennis (7-12 yrs)	Mon., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
TUESDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)	
1...2...3...Ready (10 mos-3 yrs) Rec 'n' Tot Soccer (3-5 yrs) Petite Bakers (3-6 yrs) Movin' & Groovin' (2-4 yrs) Open Gym Auditorium Free Play QuickStart Tennis (8-13 yrs) Soccer (5-8 yrs.) Combat Athletics, Int. (8-16 yrs) Soccer (9-12 yrs.) Tennis (adult intermediate) Yoga - Vinyasa (18+) Adult Boot Camp (18+)	Tues., 10-11:30 a.m. Tues., 10-11 a.m. Tues., 10:15-11:15 a.m. Tues., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tues., noon-3 p.m.; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tues., 1-3:30 p.m. Tues., 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tues., 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tues., 4-5:30 p.m. Tues. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tues., 6-7 p.m. Tues., 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tues., 7:45-8:45 p.m.
WEDNESDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)	
Baby and Me (1-3 yrs) Pilates (18+) Open Gym Auditorium Free Play Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (4-5 yrs) Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (4-5 yrs) Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (5-6 yrs) Tennis (adult beginner/intermediate) Home Cooking 101 (18+) Drop-in Volleyball (18+; free)	Wed., 9:30-10:30 a.m. Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wed., noon-2:30 p.m. Wed., 1-2:30 p.m. Wed., 3:15-4:15 p.m. Wed., 4:30-5:30 p.m. Wed., 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wed., 6:30-8 p.m. Wed., 6:30-8 p.m. Wed., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
THURSDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)	
1...2...3...Ready (10 mos-3 yrs) Tots Movin' & Groovin' (2-4 yrs) Open Gym Senior Argentine Tango, beginner (free) Mini-Players Acting (5-6 yrs) Zumba (family; free) Yoga - Hatha gentle (18+) Core Stability and Balance (18+)	Thurs., 10-11:30 a.m. Thurs., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thurs., noon-5 p.m.; 6:15-8:30 p.m. Thurs., 1-4 p.m. Thurs., 4:30-5:30 p.m. Thurs., 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thurs., 7:45-8:45 p.m.
FRIDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)	
Baby and Me (1-3 yrs) Pilates (adult) Open Gym Auditorium Free Play So You Think You Can Act (7-11 yrs) Combat Athletics (8-16 yrs) Skateboarding: Shred 'n' Butter (6-13 yrs) Future Chefs (9-13 yrs) Drop-in Volleyball (18+; free)	Fri., 9:30-10:30 a.m. Fri., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fri., noon-6 p.m. Fri., 1-3 p.m. Fri., 3:30-4:30 p.m. Fri., 4:30-6 p.m. Fri., 4:30-6 p.m. Fri., 6:30-8 p.m. Fri., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
SATURDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)	
Yoga - Vinyasa (18+) Rec 'n' Tot Soccer (3-4 yrs) Zumba (family; free) Auditorium Free Play QuickStart Tennis (7-9 yrs)	Sat., 9:15-10:15 a.m. Sat., 10-11 a.m. Sat., 10:30-11:30 a.m. Sat., noon-4:30 p.m. (time varies) Sat., 1-2 p.m.
SUNDAY (Center closed; outside activities only.)	
Tennis (8-11 yrs)	Sun., noon-1 p.m.

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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Signs of the Times

By Mazook

CHARMED, I'M SURE: The Voice's April story asking the question "Is Noe Valley at risk of losing its charm?" became the buzz last month in Noe Valley's coffee and tea klatches, and drew many comments via one of the neighborhood's blogs (I'll get to that later).

Then an April 20 story in the *San Francisco Chronicle* (above the fold!) by J.K. Dineen made the claim, "Noe Valley corridor cashes in on growth" and "Condos, stores replacing older buildings along 24th Street."

Dineen's lead-in tells us that "a pint-sized development boom is taking root in Noe Valley's stroller-congested strip of toy stores, candy shops, and highchair-equipped restaurants." The story described store remodeling and construction, as well as the demolitions and erections (no pun intended) planned for Downtown Noe Valley, several of which you're read about here.

Uh-oh! Dineen managed to capture a lot of the "charm" in our 24th Street "commercial corridor" and the reason why homes are very much in demand and supply is very limited. There was a long list of merchants quoted, and the diplomatic president of the Friends and Democrats and Town Squares of Noe Valley, Todd David, said, "As long as there is interesting retail on the ground level, adding housing above it is good for the neighborhood and the city."

As we in the neighborhood already

know and as Dineen told the world, it's inevitable there will be more "housing above ground-floor retail" on the commercial strip of our formerly quaint urban village, fueled by the fact that "units in Noe Valley are selling for more than \$1,100 a square foot."

The most colorful comment in the story came from Jeremy Paul, who is trying to expedite the permit process for a new noodle restaurant in the Bliss Bar space. Said Paul, "People talk about the building boom in San Francisco and the number of crane towers downtown.... I would say that is far less of an indication of the building boom than the number of Porta-Potties on the sidewalks in Noe Valley."



ANONYMOUSES: On April 4, the NoeValleySF blog posted a link to the Voice's "losing charm" story (by Matthew Bajko), generating dozens of charming comments on the blogspot. Most of the posts came from "Anonymous," which also describes the blog's publishers, who for years have refused to identify themselves (at noevalleysf.blogspot.com).

We're sure they won't mind if we quote a few anonymi answering the question: "Is Noe Valley losing its charm?"

Anonymous said: "Several years ago, the Victorian Alliance had a house tour in Noe Valley. I went to it and was kind of surprised at the few Victorians on the tour. I was told by a docent that the Alliance could not get as many homeowners to open their homes for the tour as they would have liked but the bigger issue was that so many in the neighborhood only had Victorian facades with the interiors gutted and remodeled into modern styles that looked like they could have been anywhere. From the photos on the front cover of the latest *Noe Valley Voice* I would say that yes, Noe Valley is losing its charm. Most of the new structures would look right at home in West L.A. or Sacramento."

The next Anonymous said: "So

'charm' is defined as a warren of cold, dark rooms balanced on a brick foundation?"

Anonymous said: "'Charm' is nothing more than an antiquated term used to describe remembrance of their grandmother's little cottage, over the river and through the woods, they went to for Thanksgiving. 'Charm' also is defined as resistance to change, and the desire to live in the past. Noe Valley is not losing any 'charm.' What people don't understand is that the CURRENT ZONING in place allows for ANY property owner to build within those limits. It's not illegal and it's not immoral. It's their right. Don't like the current zoning code? Then petition to change it...."

Anonymous said: "It would be great if all that was happening was the re-imagination of interiors while keeping the exteriors the same. Unfortunately, the reality is over 100 homes in Noe Valley being replaced in the last five years with (effectively) new structures that are 2 to 7 times the size of the original houses and, stylistically, completely discontinuous from the surrounding houses. Does sticking a 6,000-square-foot glass and steel block in the middle of a row of 2,000-square-foot Victorians change the feel of that block? You betcha. And if you thought the block was charming before, obviously you will agree that the charm is being degraded...."

Anonymous said: "I'm living and owning in Noe Valley because I love the neighborhood. Period. So, let me get this right: 'New' Victorians that began filling up the empty lots around 1900, mixed in with the farmhouses and chicken coops, was 'destroying the charm of the neighborhood'?"

Any complaints here about losing the 'charm' are merely complaints about change and the future. Yes, many wish to 'freeze' Noe Valley in various periods of time: the time that THEY most look back on.

Noe Valley is neither charming or UN-charming. It's a dense, livable, walkable urban neighborhood, and very desirable....

Anonymous said: "Allow me to assure those of you who think we're just complainers that such is NOT the case. We are active community organizers who are committed to protecting the architectural integrity and natural habitat of our neighborhood. We are the silent majority who will no longer stand by and watch the wave of mega development wrecking our habitat and to that end, we are in active dialogue with the city officials to come up with solutions that would balance the needs between the development and preservation. We are not against sensible development, remodeling, or change. We just find the recent wave of tear downs and supersized structures out of place and wasteful. This is not about a beauty contest between the Victorian and Mid Century Modern architecture. This is about the 'face' of a neighborhood that is known for its modest yet harmonious structures that have been homes to generations of families...."

Anonymous said: "Charm is not a euphemism for reluctance to change. It is recognition of the value of a particular heritage. Architectural preservation is practiced throughout the world. Obviously there will be disagreement over what should be preserved, but the desire to protect the irreplaceable is valid. Reasonable minds can differ."

Anonymous said: "I've been to a number of 311-Neighborhood notification meetings about new projects or remodeling, and there are typically no more than three to four neighbors who show up. People don't want to get involved, yet they complain and complain later on when the project is done."

Mazook said: You are all welcome to send the Voice your thoughts on this issue, to editor@noevalleyvoice.com, and if you tell us who you are, we will publish them in Letters to the Editor. As for the quotes above: Author! Author!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33



FOR LEASE SIGNS on the commercial space at 3820 24th St., Lux on 24, should stay up “until June or July,” when the store space should be ready to open, says the developer, Brian Kendall. That also goes for the For Sale signs on the four condos above. He hopes they will be ready in June, “when we can have an open house.” This project was one highlighted by Dineen.

Kendall says that he would have preferred to build eight smaller units in the space, but current zoning and building restrictions on housing density precluded him from doing so.

“I think that smaller, less expensive, one-bedrooms and studios are much more suited to this kind of site, which has no parking (except for bicycles) and is on a commercial strip and transit corridor,” says Kendall.

As far as what will be going into the retail space, Kendall says, “There have been inquiries by a yoga studio, a fitness center, and a pet supplies [store], as far as dry goods goes.”

Oh, and as you can see by the “NO-TICE” posted in front of that little Victorian house next door at 3822 24th St., which was built in 1900 when Noe Valley was called Horner’s Addition, it will soon be demolished and something like what Kendall has almost completed will be built by yet another developer.

On April 23, the Planning Commission agreed “to allow demolition of an existing two-story single-family dwelling. The proposed new construction includes a five-story-over-basement, five-unit residential with ground-floor commercial building, with five bicycle parking spaces. The building will be approximately 45 feet in

height, pursuant to Planning Code Section 263.20. The property is within the 24th Street – Noe Valley NCD (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District.”



“CAVIAR IS BACK” was the sign posted on the sandwich board at the entrance to the 24th Street Cheese Company, which opened circa 1972 at 3893 24th (at Sanchez) and has been owned and operated by Charles Kung since 1984.

Back? “Yes,” says head cheese person Ellen Herlihy. “We discontinued it about four years ago because people weren’t buying it anymore, but we started carrying it again because of customer requests and have Plaza Osetra Farmed Russian Sturgeon Caviar Malossol, which we think is the best.” The highest-priced is \$77 an ounce, with the least expensive going for \$31 per ounce, and the caviar goes great with cheese, the store says.

There also are some select wines on the premises, for \$50 to \$80 a bottle, which Herlihy says are good companions for the cheese AND caviar and they’re all quite popular these days.

Sprint banners were hanging from poles in front of Radio Shack on April 10, an outgrowth of the Radio Shack bankruptcy in February. Each business (Sprint and Radio Shack) has their own personnel and hours of operation in the stores, so by all signs, this is a developing situation. Ironically, a huge sign by Radio Shack posted on the windows behind the banners boldly tells us, “We’re 94 years & counting,” Time will tell.



HEAVY HEARTS: Last month, the Lite for Life sign was covered, the awnings were removed, and the neighborhood said goodbye to a weight-loss center that had been on the corner of Sanchez and 26th for more than 30 years.

But another sign will go up soon, for Roots, a midwifery center, says Nile Sen-

nett Nash, who is, among other things, a registered nurse and midwife and a co-owner of the business.

“We have four registered midwives with individual practices who have come together under one roof, and by a stroke of good luck found this space, which is ideal for all of us,” says Nash.

She says Roots will offer prenatal care, classes on pregnancy and birth, and some massage therapy. She says they hope “to open in June after giving the space a facelift after all these years.”

Her specialty? “We all do the same thing,” she smiles, “catching babies in people’s homes.”



OF SOUND MIND: There are signs there will be live music in Downtown Noe Valley soon, at the world-famous Valley Tavern, 4054 24th. Starting June 17, from 7 to 10:30 p.m., Tavern owner Vince and his son Declan Hogan, who manages the tavern, will be hosting a variety of folk, blues, rock, and jazz, “a broad range of different types of music,” Declan says.

Longtime Noe Valley resident and world-class musician and songwriter Heather Combs (who has shared the stage over her 15-plus-year career with Stevie Nicks, Tom Petty, Sheryl Crow, and Los Lobos, to name a few) will do the premiere event.

Ms. Combs says she “is helping the Valley Tavern get their new music series up and running.... Vince and Declan are such great supporters of S.F., and I’m honored to help them with this new endeavor and also helping to book the series for a while, while they get their feet wet.”

She says the live series will be once a month on the third Wednesday, and “I am very excited in helping push forward the music culture of this phenomenal city.”



LIGHTS, ACTION: The “Transit Signal Improvements” signs that you have been

seeing on Church Street are telling you that a stoplight, you know with green, yellow, and red lights on it, will be coming to the corner of Church and Cesar Chavez streets. According to SFMTA spokesman Paul Rose, the signal should be a reality by September. He also confirmed that there are no plans to add a traffic signal at Church and 24th streets. Neighbors have lobbied for that for years.

Any signs of a pop-up store at the old Global Exchange (4018 24th), or the apparent emergence of pop-up art in one of the stores next to St. Clair’s Liquors last month, should be dismissed. Both property owners have confirmed neither are for rent.

A favorite sign of the regulars (and the irregulars for that matter) is the sign posted near the blue door of the restroom in Philz Coffee, on the corner of Douglass and 24th: “The key to this door is patience.”



A FINAL PASS: But before I go, we are reminded daily of a former Downtown Noe Valley merchant, who passed away last month. The sign bearing his name hangs on the northwest corner of 24th and Sanchez above a liquor store he opened circa 1960 and sold in the early 1980s. He was easily recognizable on 24th Street, a large man standing six-foot-nine from ground to crown.

He was a star 49er on the offensive line, defensive goal line stands, and special teams, and was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame.

He was mayor of Daly City from 1956 to 1961 (while still an active player) and a county supervisor for San Mateo County from 1966 to 1974.

Yes, it was Bob St. Clair, who passed away on April 20, 2015, at age 84. Condolences to his family and to the many, many friends who will miss his smile. Bye, bye, “Geek,” which became his nickname because he always ate his steak raw. Bye, bye.



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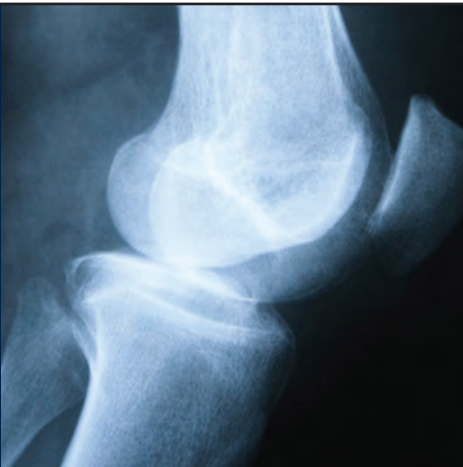
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Emergency Department | UCSF Medical Center at Parnassus | 505 Parnassus Ave., San Francisco

EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Children's Emergency Department | UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital | 1975 Fourth St., San Francisco

The new UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital San Francisco, which opened on Feb. 1, 2015, is the only California state-designated children's medical center in San Francisco. www.ucsfmissionbayhospitals.org/children

For maps and directions to both locations, visit www.ucsfhealth.org/pathway.

UCSF Medical Center

UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital

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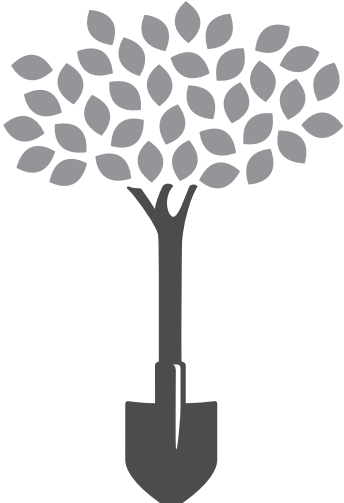


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Al-Anon Noe Valley
Contact: 834-9940
Website: www.al-anonsf.org
Meetings: Wednesdays, 7:30-9 p.m.
St. Philip Church, 725 Diamond St. (park on Elizabeth Street side; enter on 24th Street through parking lot)

Castro Area Planning + Action
Contact: 621-0120
Email: info@capasf.org
Meetings: Second Thursday, Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association
Website: www.evna.org
Address: P.O. Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: See website calendar. Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro St., 7 p.m.

Castro Farmers' Market
Wednesdays, 4 to 8 p.m. (March through December), Noe Street at Market Street
Contact: Steve Adams, 431-2359
Sponsor: Merchants of Upper Market & Castro; www.CastroMerchants.com

Diamond Heights Community Association
Contact: Betsy Eddy, 867-5774
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131
Website: www.dhcasf.org
Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Heights Improvement Club
Email: info@doloresheights.org
Website: www.doloresheights.org
Meetings: Third Thursday of every second month. Bank of America, 18th and Castro.

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)
Contacts: Pat Lockhart, 282-9360; Diane McCarney, 824-0303; or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

Fairmount Heights Neighborhood Association
Contact: Gregg Brooks
Email: sflyric@yahoo.com
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31059, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Email for details.

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

Fair Oaks Neighbors
Email: hello@fairoaksneighbors.org
Mailing Address: 200 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110
The annual street fair is held the day before Mother's Day.

Friends of Billy Goat Hill
Contact: Lisa and Mo Ghotbi, 821-0122
Website: www.billygoathill.net

Friends of Dolores Park Playground
Contact: Nancy Gonzalez Madynski, 828-5772
Email: friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com
Website: www.friendsofdolorespark.org
Meetings: See website.

Friends of Glen Canyon Park
Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862
Mailing Address: 140 Turquoise Way, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of Noe Courts Playground
Contact: Laura Norman
Email: lauranor@yahoo.com
Mailing Address: c/o Friends of Noe Valley, P.O. Box 460953, San Francisco, CA 94146
Meetings: Email for dates and times.

Friends of Noe Valley (FNV)
Contact: Todd David, 401-0625
Email: info@friendsofnoevalley.com
Website: www.friendsofnoevalley.com
Meetings: Two or three annually; held at St. Philip's Church or James Lick School

Friends of On Lok's 30th Street Senior Center
Contact: Marianne Hampton, 601-7845
Mailing Address: 225 30th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Occasional. Call for details.

Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center and Park
Contact: Alexandra Torre, Kate Haug, or Molly Sterkel
Email: info@noevalleyreccenter.com
Website: www.noevalleyreccenter.com
Meetings: Email or check website.

Juri Commoners
Contact: Dave Schweisguth, M17-6290
Email: dave@schweisguth.org
Website: www.meetup.com/Juri-Commoners
Meetings: Most last Saturdays, 9-noon. Check website.

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association
Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 192114, San Francisco, CA 94119
Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

Merchants of Upper Market and Castro
Contact: 835-8720
Email: info@castromerchants.com
Mailing address: 584 Castro St. #333, San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: Call for details.

Noe Valley Association—24th Street Community Benefit District
Contact: Debra Niemann, 519-0093
Dispatch: To report spills, debris, or garbage on 24th Street, call Ron Vanini, 596-7089.
Email: info@noevalleyassociation.org
Website: www.noevalleyassociation.org
Board meetings: Quarterly. See website.

Noe Valley Democratic Club
Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042; hls5@ibew1245.com
Website: noevalleydems.com
Meetings: Third Wednesdays, St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St., 7:30 p.m. Call to confirm meeting dates.

Noe Valley Farmers Market
Open Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3861 24th St. between Vicksburg and Sanchez.
Contact: Leslie Crawford, 248-1332
Email: info@noevalleyfarmersmarket.com

Noe Valley Library Campaign
Contacts: Kim Drew, 643-4695, kkdrew@yahoo.com
Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, 626-7500, info@friendssfpl.org

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)
Contact: Robert Roddick, 641-8687
Meetings: Last Wednesdays of January, February, March, April, July, October, and November, at Bank of America, second floor, 9 a.m. Breakfast meetings May and September at Noe's Nest, 10 a.m.
Website: www.No ValleyMerchants.com

San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)
Contact: Noe Valley NERT Neighborhood Team co-coordinators Maxine Fasulis, mfasulis@yahoo.com; Carole Roberts, carole_roberts@faludi.com
<http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=879>
Meetings: See website for training schedules.

Noe Valley Parent Network
An e-mail resource network for parents
Contact: Mina Kenvin
Email: minaken@gmail.com

Noe Valley Parents, San Francisco
Listserv contact: noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com. Subscribe: noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Outer Noe Valley Merchants
Contact: Jim Appenrodt, 641-1500
Mailing Address: 294 29th St., San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Call for details.

Residents for Noe Valley Town Square
Contact: Todd David, 401-0625
Email: noevalleytownsquare@gmail.com
Website: www.noevalleytownsquare.com
Meetings: Call for details.

San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Streets
Contact: Don Oshiro, 285-8188
Email: contact@sanjoseguerrero.com
Website: www.sanjoseguerrero.com
Meetings: See website.

SafeCleanGreen Mission Dolores
Contact: Gideon Kramer, 861-2480
Email: safecleangreen@bigfoot.com
Website: www.safecleangreen.com

Upper Noe Neighbors
Contact: Vicki Rosen, 285-0473
Email: president@uppernoeneighbors.com
Meetings: Quarterly. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St., 7:30 p.m.

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PG&E is proud of our own Brandon Hernandez, a recipient of the award, who leads our northern region as a director of local government relations and was recently honored by Equality California at its ceremony in Sacramento. We're grateful for your continuous contributions to making our state a better place to live and work.



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PENDING

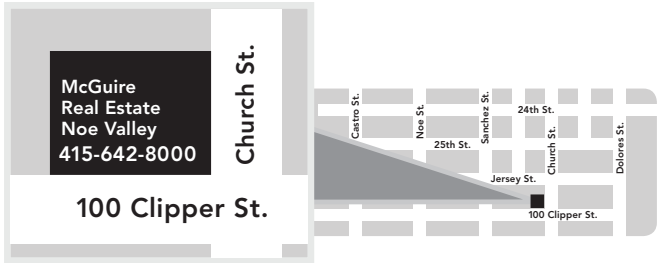


SUNNYSIDE | 323 FLOOD AVENUE
Mid-Century single family home w/3 bedrooms. Open floor plan with kitchen/bar eating area & living room w/fireplace. Bathroom w/skylight. Unwarranted family room down. Covered rear patio.323Flood.com
Offered at \$899,000 **Darin Holwitz 415.577.3348**

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NOE VALLEY | 115 28TH STREET
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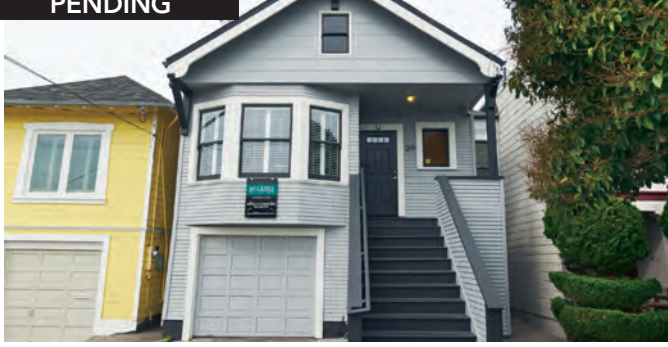
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SusanRing.com



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Susan Ring | 415.298.6577
SusanRing.com



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