



**Vision of a Greenway:** Hikers hope creation of a trail network all the way from Glen Park to Twin Peaks will be the next goal in the city’s renovation of Glen Canyon Park. Photo by Beverly Tharp



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Patxi’s Packs Up Plans for a Parklet

Pizza Place Would Rather Not Land in a Pickle

By Corrie M. Anders

Downtown Noe Valley is not going to get a third parklet—at least not in front of Patxi’s Pizza on 24th Street.

The owner of the pizza restaurant last month abandoned his efforts to win city approval for a parklet project, saying the request had become too controversial.

Patxi’s CEO William Freeman said he would rescind the store’s application for the curbside mini-park in order to avoid a public spat with fellow merchants and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



**Pavement to Parking:** This parklet design may be looking for a new home, now that Patxi’s has decided to withdraw its application to build it on 24th Street. Graphic by Matarozzi Pelsinger

## Hiking Trails in Glen Canyon Make the Grade

Work on Recreation Center To Begin in September

By Matthew S. Bajko

Once part of the sprawling Rancho San Miguel private estate established in the late 1690s, Glen Canyon was a magnet for cattle rustlers and smugglers, who would hide out in caves and rock outcroppings amid the hilly terrain.

In the late 1880s, the new owner of the land attracted city dwellers to the area with amusements that included a zoo, air balloon rides, and a tightrope line across the canyon, according to a park department history of the canyon property. By the 1930s, new roads made it easier for San Franciscans to reach the canyon and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



**Frida Is a Fave.** Izzy Soriano, 5, holds a favorite book from the BookMentors program for public schools. Photo by Lilli Lanier

## Donate Books to Schools with BookMentors

By Olivia Boler

San Francisco public school students returned to classes on Aug. 17, armed with tools like new backpacks, pencils, and binders. Teachers readied their classrooms with fresh supplies of markers and paper. But what about new books?

According to an American Library Association report, during the recession that hit in 2008, because of budget reductions, school libraries in high-poverty areas saw a decline in the size of their book collections. Even though the economy has recovered somewhat, many schools are still suffering from a dearth of new reading materials for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

That’s where BookMentors.org comes in. BookMentors is a nonprofit online

“micro-patronage” program that connects public and charter school teachers and librarians with people who want to donate new books or money for books. On its website, donors can look for their local schools or browse hundreds of requests from educators all over the nation.

**The First Chapter**

Noe Valley resident Debra Hannula is the executive director of BookMentors, and her husband David Bienvenu is on the board of directors. Hannula is a retired attorney who worked for years as a public defender and as director of legal services for a battered women’s shelter. Bienvenu, a software programmer, works for Google. The couple got involved in BookMentors

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



**Traveling Beyond Martha’s?** John Sichi and Julia Lam, co-founders of Enchanted Labs, want to help you organize your trip ideas with a new website called Bucket. See story, page 21. Photo by Pamela Gerard





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## California Parents Believe Tuition Insurance Can Protect One of their Biggest Investments


The cost of attending California's public four-year universities is at an all-time high. As college tuition costs continue to rise, parents have become increasingly concerned about what will happen to their tuition investment if their child has to suddenly withdraw from school. Fortunately for California residents, tuition insurance may provide the answer to these concerns.

A recent survey of parents with college-aged children – conducted by Allianz Global Assistance, a world leader in travel insurance, assistance and personal services, and a subsidiary of Allianz SE, one of the world's largest property and casualty insurers – found that 81 percent of respondents believed tuition insurance was important, given the current climate of rapidly rising tuition. Seeing an opportunity to assist parents and students in protecting their tuition investment, Allianz Global Assistance has launched its new tuition insurance product in California along with several other states.

"Our survey shows that parents and students are clearly worried about what will happen to their tuition investment in the case of a sudden withdrawal," said Joe Mason, chief marketing officer at Allianz Global Assistance. "We are very pleased that residents of California are among the first in the nation who can take advantage of the opportunity to purchase tuition insurance to protect their investment."

Allianz Tuition Insurance, which starts at \$29.95 a term, protects California residents for both in-state and out-of-state non-refundable tuition costs and fees, including room and board.

Allianz Tuition Insurance\* is available in three different and distinct plans, including the Essential and Preferred plans, which cover withdrawals due to illness, injury or psychological issues that require hospitalization, and the Advantage plan, which covers these circumstances as well as almost any unforeseen reason. Additionally, each plan includes a round-the-clock Student Life Assistance service that assists families in the event that a student becomes ill or injured.



Allianz Tuition Insurance offers peace of mind with its new financial safeguard

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For more information about this insurance, visit [AllianzTuitionInsurance.com](http://AllianzTuitionInsurance.com) or call (888) 427-5045.

\*Terms, conditions, reductions and exclusions apply. All plans not available in all states. For a complete description of the coverage and specific benefit limits offered under your plan, carefully review your declarations page and insurance policy. Insurance coverage is underwritten by Jefferson Insurance Company (NY, Administrative Office: Richmond, VA), rated "A+" (Superior) by A.M. Best Co., under Jefferson Form No. 107-P series. Allianz Global Assistance and Allianz Tuition Insurance are brands of AGA Service Company. AGA Service Company is the licensed producer and administrator of this plan and an affiliate of Jefferson Insurance Company. The insured shall not receive any special benefit or advantage because of the affiliation between AGA Service Company and Jefferson Insurance Company.



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## 207 Claremont Boulevard



**West Portal Beauty.** This is a spacious, bright detached 3BD/3BA home on 2 levels. It features a remodeled kitchen and a charming garden with patio. The home includes a 3-car garage, plus lots of storage. [207Claremont.com](http://207Claremont.com)

Offered at \$1,495,000  
Sandra Bagnatori 415.518.4865  
Scott Brittain 415.385.6657

## 278 Clara Street



**Opportunity Knocks.** Single family or potential development opportunity. Currently a 3 bedroom and 2 bath with large work area underneath. Charming interior deck space, small rear deck, loads of potential.

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## 753 Baker Street



**Hot NOPA Victorian.** This is a top 2 level condo in a 3 unit building. The home includes 2 bedrooms, a remodeled kitchen/family room, and upstairs a guestroom/playroom along with skylights. [753Baker.com](http://753Baker.com)

Coming Soon!  
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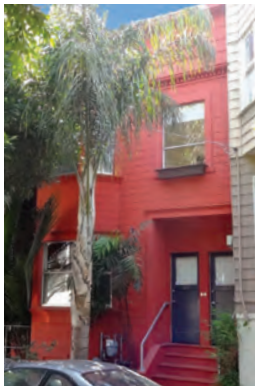
## 611 Cayuga Avenue



**Coming Soon in Mission Terrace!** This 3BD/2BA single family home was originally built in the 1930s and includes a family room, fireplace, and 1-car garage. Great access to highways 101, 280, Glen Park and Balboa BART. [611Cayuga.com](http://611Cayuga.com)

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## 269 Clinton Park



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Mike Tekulsky 415.321.4369

## 228 Lexington Street



**Hip Mission Condo!** 2BD/1BA home with high ceilings, period details, and hardwood floors throughout. The kitchen and bathroom have been updated, and the home features a gas fireplace! [228Lexington.com](http://228Lexington.com)

Offered at \$979,000  
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## 349 Frederick Street



**Coming Soon!** This stunning 2 level 3BD/2.5BA home is located on one of Cole Valley's most popular streets, near shops and restaurants as well as public transportation. Expanded and remodeled in 2004, the home features an open floor plan. [AnnieWilliamsHomes.com](http://AnnieWilliamsHomes.com)

Price Upon Request  
Annie Williams 415.819.2663

## 152 San Carlos Street



**Coming Soon!** 150 San Carlos is an exceptional remodel of a classic Mission District unit. 2 stylish bedrooms, Scandinavian inspired kitchen, spa-like bathroom. This TIC also boasts a huge basement room. [BuySellMySFHome.com](http://BuySellMySFHome.com)

Price Upon Request  
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### Noe Valley Office Agents:

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THURS  
NOV 5

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WED  
NOV 4

DAVID SPADE

CULTURAL STUDIES

FRI  
SEP 25

JUSTICE STEPHEN  
BREYER

MON  
OCT 5

RICHARD DAWKINS

TUES  
OCT 13

KAREN ARMSTRONG

THURS  
OCT 15

PAUL THEROUX

TUES  
OCT 27

TA-NEHISI COATES

TUES  
NOV 3

ROBERT REICH

MON  
NOV 9

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TUES  
JAN 26

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WED  
SEP 9

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MON  
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# LETTERS 49¢

## The Ark Bids Farewell

*Editor's Note: The Noe Valley Voice received the following letter from Selwyn D. Whitehead, an attorney representing the owners of The Ark toy store, which closed its doors at 3845 24th St. in early July. The shop, whose window was a magnet for children of all ages, was a fixture at the corner of 24th and Vicksburg for 18 years. We're sorry to see it go.*

Dear Noe Valley Community  
(c/o the Noe Valley Voice):

Our family wants to thank all the Bay Area communities where our three stores were located and the Noe Valley community specifically for all of its good will and support of the Ark Toy Company over the years.

It was with great sorrow that we had to close The Ark after years of declining sales. We have invested so much of ourselves into The Ark. It was more than just about making a living to us; it was a source of joy and learning for children large and small, including our own. Ultimately, the competition from Internet toy sources, the changing tastes of the toy and book consuming public that of late has shown a preference for playing and reading via mobile devices, such as tablets and smart phones, over reading hard copies of bound books and playing with three-dimensional toys and games, and the overall economic climate we found ourselves in after the Great Recession, were just too much for us and our small brick-and-mortar stores to bear. After depleting our own resources, we were unable to obtain the financing necessary to keep The Ark afloat. Obviously, we wish that The Ark had not ended this way, but

in the end we ran out of options and the necessary finances to keep The Ark moving forward.

Again, we want to thank our customers, our employees, and especially our vendors, so many of whom are small businesses just like us, for their wonderful support over the past 15 plus years The Ark has been in business here in the Bay Area, including the seven plus years it has been my family's honor to own and operate the stores.

Please keep our family in your prayers as we open this new chapter of our lives without The Ark, and know that you all are in ours.

Sincerely,  
The Owners, Ark Toy Company  
Aug. 24, 2015  
(Names withheld by request)

## We're in This Together

Editor:

I recently visited Manhattan, which has basically become a showroom for corporate retail stores. Every block of formerly unique independently-owned shops has been transformed into cookie-cutter big-name stores one can find in any mall in the country. It made me depressed. And it got me thinking.

Every day, customers tell me or my partner (we own Omnivore Books on Food and Noe Valley Pet Company) that they are shopping at our stores because they really want to support us. We appreciate that so much, but want them to remember, it is not just an altruistic gesture. They are also doing it for themselves, because the alternative—shopping online or at a big-box store—would eventually mean that small neighborhood shops like ours would slowly disappear, only to be replaced by realty offices, banks, nail salons, and offices. And that is not a livable, or lovable, neighborhood.

So, when shopping in Noe Valley, do it for your local merchants *and* for yourself—it benefits us all.

Celia Sack  
Omnivore Books  
Noe Valley Pet Company

## The Views Still Have Charm

Editor:

Enclosed please find \$35 for my renewal of the *Noe Valley Voice*. You really don't have to send me a copy because I go to Noe Valley at least once a week to pick up my regular mail, shop, and say hello, and I can easily get a copy at one of the stores.

I enjoy the paper very much and was so glad to get it in Brooklyn, N.Y., when I returned from San Francisco to New York for two years from 2010 to 2012.

By the way, I partially agree with the writer (*see Letters, July/August 2015*) about Church Street Produce. But in all fairness I think the new owner is trying to figure out his business. He needs advice. It is true that the area is made up of fixed-income people as well as high-salaried people. We on fixed incomes have to be more careful about how we spend our money. Noe Valley is pricing many of us out of housing, as well as restaurants and



Photo courtesy Judy Vaughn

## ROYCE HARRIS VAUGHN July 28, 1930 - June 17, 2015

Longtime Noe Valley artist Royce Vaughn died in June, a month before his 85th birthday. Thanks to the San Francisco Veterans Association, Hospice by the Bay, and his Kindred caregivers, he was able to spend his last days at home. "He was a determined craftsman and dreamer until the end," said his wife, Judy Vaughn.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, and running on the platform of "Royce, the People's Choice," he was elected lieutenant governor of Ohio's Buckeye Boys' State in 1948. That was the beginning of his public life after Miss Lyle and Nellie Rosebaugh, high school teachers he spoke of years later, admonished him to study. He was offered full scholarships to Yale, Harvard, Princeton, and Antioch. He chose Princeton and became one of its first black students. His experiences there included meeting Albert Einstein, majors in Renaissance art history and religion, and the unprecedented integration of the prestigious Quadrangle Club.

Vaughn's creative skills ranged from oils and filmmaking to watercolor notecards of local churches and California landscapes. His painting *Charlie* was purchased by the Oakland Museum in 1968. *We Shall Overcome*, honoring civil rights leaders of the 1960s, was in-

cluded in a 1996 juried show at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.

A resident of Valley Street for almost 50 years, Vaughn was deeply involved in job training for young people and in development projects in city neighborhoods. In the Western Addition, he founded the Arts and Business Learning Experience (Project ABLE), aimed at youth who were building their job skills. On Ocean Avenue, he led the Oceanview/Merced/Ingleside Business League (OMIBL) and is especially remembered for the mural on the PG&E building on Ocean at Junipero Serra.

His career, always fueled by a positive attitude toward "the unfolding drama of life," was the subject of a feature titled "Renaissance Man" in the May 1996 *Noe Valley Voice*.

In addition to his wife Judy, Vaughn is survived by his brother Albert, daughter Lisa and husband David Olstad, daughter Cassie and husband John Hellman, sons Royce David and Jeffrey, and grandchildren Wesley, Chris, Amani, and Ayana. Family and friends gathered for a memorial service in San Francisco on June 23 and held a graveside service the following day at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, California.

clothing stores. Yet as an ex-New Yorker, the Noe Valley area is a very charming place—especially the views.

Here's to many more years of the *Noe Valley Voice*.

Ruth Rosenblatt  
Glen Park

## Death by a Thousand Cuts

Editor:

I thought I'd keep you posted about developments with the tree swing on Billy Goat Hill at 30th and Castro.

SWING LOG  
May 13—all ropes cut  
May 23—new swing on a different tree  
June 1—swing moved to its old place  
June 4—cut down  
June 11—new sturdy swing  
June 25—cut down  
July 4—new swing



Aug. 1—cut down  
Aug. 6—new swing  
Aug. 7—cut down  
Aug. 18—new swing  
Aug. 20—cut down

Twice I've put up signs calling attention to what's happening. They've been cut down, either immediately or in a few days.

Jenny Badger Sultan  
Sanchez Street

editor@noevalleyvoice.com

**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**  
P.O. Box 460249  
San Francisco, CA 94146  
www.noevalleyvoice.com

The *Noe Valley Voice* is an independent newspaper published monthly except in January and August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity, on or before the first Friday of the month. Subscriptions are available at \$40 per year (\$35 for seniors) by writing to the above address.

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.

The *Noe Valley Voice* is a member of the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association.

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Display Advertising Deadline for the  
October Issue: Sept. 20, 2015  
Editorial/Class Ad Deadline: Sept. 15, 2015

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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER  
Contents © 2015 The Noe Valley Voice





# Diana Barrand, Co-Owner of Le Zinc, Dies at 57

By Steve Steinberg

Diana Barrand, who with her husband Max Braud owned Le Zinc, the popular French bistro on 24th Street, has died. Barrand passed away on June 21, a few days short of her 58th birthday, after a seven-year battle with cancer.

Called the “friendly face” of the café, Barrand often served as the greeter to arriving customers. “She was the heart of the restaurant,” said her friend and fellow merchant Carol Yenne, who owns Small Frys across the street from Le Zinc.

Braud said his wife had enjoyed many good relationships in Noe Valley. “She was appreciated by a lot of people,” he said.

David Eiland, the co-owner of Just for Fun on 24th Street, said he met Barrand when Le Zinc first opened, and they soon became friends. “She was my favorite person, a sweetheart,” he said. “She was always pleasant, never complaining.”

Eiland said Barrand always made an effort to keep up her end of the restaurant, despite her declining health. “I have to get these menus done,” she would tell Eiland.

Yenne said she and Barrand got a kick out of the fact that they seemingly were the only merchants on 24th Street who liked stringing holiday lights on their storefronts all year long. They both pursued the cause as members of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.

Barrand was born in Uganda of British parents. Her father, a former soldier, had gone to Uganda in the 1950s as an adviser to the government. The family later



Diana Barrand on one of her many travels with husband Max Braud. Photo courtesy Max Braud

moved to Malaysia and Abu Dhabi before returning to their native England.

Barrand attended high school in Wales and later graduated from Manchester University, majoring in European studies with a French emphasis. After graduation,

Barrand left England and moved to Paris, where she found work in a French bank.

While working at the bank, Barrand fell in love with Braud, a fellow employee. The two eventually married in 1992, after a 10-year relationship. Braud,

whose family had a long tradition of café ownership, decided at some point to open a wine bar as an avocation. It soon took off and Braud found himself needing help. Barrand quickly agreed to swap her job at the bank for one in the bar. “I was ready for a change,” she told the *Voice* in a 2008 interview.

Despite the wine bar’s success, the couple became restless and decided to try out life in the United States. San Francisco beckoned as the ideal spot to live and perhaps open a café in the Parisian mold. After searching for the right location, Barrand and Braud launched Le Zinc at 4063 24th St. in late 2001.

The two settled into a routine where Braud, as chef, handled the cooking at Le Zinc while Barrand was in charge of the wait staff, accounting, and table seating.

In her spare time, Barrand was an avid film buff and loved traveling around Northern California. “I think we went everywhere,” said her husband. The two lived in various parts of the city, most recently on Randall Street.

Barrand’s condition appeared to worsen late last year, said Eiland. She spent less and less time working at the café. At one point, Eiland asked her about her plans, given her illness. “I’ll just keep going until one day I won’t be here” was her response, according to Eiland.

Besides her husband, Barrand is survived by her mother, who retired to Spain, a sister in Lake Tahoe, and two nieces in San Francisco.

Barrand asked to be cremated and her ashes scattered in San Francisco Bay, Braud said.

He also said a celebration of Barrand’s life might occur next year, but he wasn’t sure whether it would be here or in Europe. In the meantime, Le Zinc will continue serving its Noe Valley and other customers.

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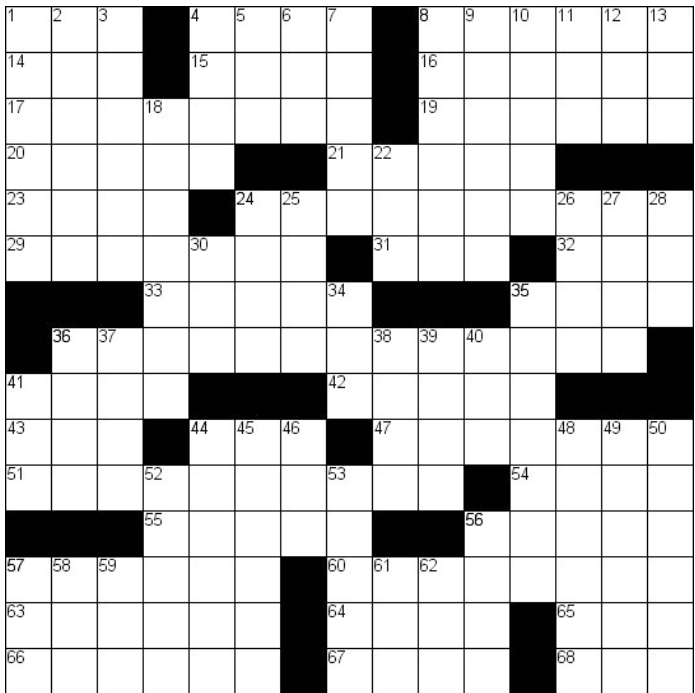
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### THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

#### Returns Department

##### ACROSS

- Boy child
- “Fantastic Four” actress Jessica
- Erase, as a floppy disk
- Drs.’ assn.
- Celine of song
- Beginning of Einstein’s equation
- Place for writing
- Expensive agreements, in Noe Valley
- Where bombs sometimes burst
- Purple hue
- Bank deposit?
- Drawer unit
- Postcard sentiment
- Blazing
- “The \_\_\_ Squad”
- Pound poem part
- Sis and bro
- 24th Street store that inspired this puzzle
- “\_\_\_ McBeal”
- Climb aboard
- Shot at Walgreens
- Gravestone abbr.
- Cote d’Ivoire’s biggest city
- Dining place
- Dynamic intro?
- Sprightly
- Breckinridge and Hess
- Serena’s sport
- Binge-watcher’s seat
- State just north of here
- Dear Abby or Ann Landers
- “\_\_\_ Sharpe’s San Francisco” (KQED series)
- Kind of medicine or leather



- Seductive
- Season before automne
- Pleasure from inflicting pain
- Subtitle to the 1978 film “Damien”
- Twangy speech sounds
- Info on a mailing env.
- Untruth
- Red Sox, on scoreboards
- Lower leg joint
- Became the responsibility of
- Short play
- Brand of dental floss
- “\_\_\_ Doubtfire”
- Improve, as wine
- Baseball’s Cobb

- and football’s Law
- Like plastic pink flamingos
- Relative of -esque
- Moscone mtg.
- Native Rwandan
- Abu Dhabi VIP
- Beverage with a lizard logo
- Gridiron stat.
- Ex-NBA star Ming
- Nonprofit’s URL ending
- When some SF streets are closed to cars
- Scat queen Fitzgerald
- K9 Scrub \_\_\_ on Church St.
- “Hud” Best Actress Patricia
- “Can \_\_\_ true?”
- What you might be in France?

- Astern
- Bay Area, for one
- Hall & Oates’s “Say \_\_\_ So”
- Bud
- Choreographer Robbins
- Bygone PLO leader
- Button on a cash register
- “Blue Sky” Oscar winner Jessica
- Outscores
- A lot
- Spinning toy
- Stat for Bumgarner
- Earn after taxes
- Part of IOU
- Repair

**Solution on Page 32**  
**Note: The current Voice Crossword and all past puzzles can be found at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)**



# A Spark of Nerve

Documentary About Injury, Hope, and Recovery

By Richard May

Very few of us—in fact, almost none—have a movie made of our lives, but Loren Schaller is about to. It isn't the only thing Loren never expected would happen to her.

On May 19, 2007, Loren was a 15-year-old high school student minding her own business, walking along a sidewalk on her way home to Noe Valley. Somewhere behind her was a severely mentally-ill man who had just been released on parole from San Quentin State Prison. The man had bought a hunting knife and was looking for someone to attack. He picked Loren.

Loren stopped at Creighton's Bakery on Portola Drive, and the man followed her inside. Without warning, he stabbed her five times, cutting her jugular vein and severing nerves in her neck. She was saved by three bystanders, one who attacked her attacker and was stabbed himself—suffering a collapsed lung—a second who chased the attacker for a half mile and informed the police as he ran, and a third who was an emergency-room-trained doctor who kept Loren alive until the ambulance arrived.

That, however, is not the story the movie about Loren tells—or at least it's just one part of it. Loren's movie is really about what happened next.



For a December 2007 story in the *Noe Valley Voice*, Loren Schaller posed with her parents, Tim and Linda Schaller, while holding a get-well poster made by neighbors in Noe Valley. Today, Loren is almost fully recovered and pursuing a career in costume design.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

As a result of her wounds, Loren had peripheral nerve damage, leaving her right arm paralyzed from the shoulder to the wrist. Surgeons at UCSF tried to reattach the severed nerves, failed, and gave up. But her parents, Linda and Tim Schaller, did not. They believed something could be done—and they were right.

The Schallers, residents of Hoffman Avenue, put out the word to family, friends, and neighbors, and soon heard

back from Linda's friend Macy. Macy's brother-in-law had called. "He remembered something about a nerve doctor in a magazine," Linda Schaller said. Her friend found the article in her local library. It detailed the success of Dr. Susan Mackinnon of Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., in treating conditions like Loren's. The Schallers contacted Dr. Mackinnon, and the family flew to St. Louis. Little did they know the clock was ticking.

In St. Louis, the Schallers and Dr. Mackinnon met. She felt she could help Loren with a nerve transfer—a little-known procedure—and asked when they wanted her to operate. Dr. Mackinnon suggested the next day. There is a six-month window of opportunity to perform successful transfers, and Loren only had a few weeks left.

Dr. Mackinnon performed the operation in late September 2007. It appeared to be successful, but that was only the beginning. Years of physical therapy followed, with small victories building on small victories. Gradually, Loren regained functions in her right arm. She graduated from high school and went off to college.

Now Loren is 23. Her arm has regained 95 percent of its functions. She is a 2014 graduate of UCLA in theater design. She is employed by the Los Angeles Opera as a stitcher, the first rung toward a career in costume design.

Her attacker was returned to prison, after 10 months of trials and appeals, for 26 years without the possibility of parole. Dr. Mackinnon has become world-famous as a pioneer in the field of nerve transfers. A happy ending.

Except, the story doesn't end there. Linda Schaller happens to be a film producer, and Tim Schaller a cinematographer, animator, and film editor. After their experience of being told there was no hope, they felt "people need to know there really are options." They had been lucky; they had found Dr. Mackinnon. In 2010, they decided to make a film that would help people find their own Dr. Mackinnons. That film, *A Spark of Nerve*, is about to be released.

In 66 minutes, the film details Loren's story and the stories of six other patients of Dr. Mackinnon. Five, like Loren, suffered peripheral nerve paralysis. The sixth, Tom Wachtel, is a quadriplegic. A nerve transfer operation has allowed him to regain movement of his hands, feed himself, propel himself in a wheelchair, and do any number of small tasks others take for granted.

The film also tells Dr. Susan Mackinnon's story, from being an almost unknown plastic surgeon in the Midwest to now being internationally famous, the recipient of many awards for her work, and past president of the American Association of Hand Surgery.

Perhaps her biggest achievement is a website, <http://nervesurgery.wustl.edu/>. Developed first for the U.S. Army and now used by doctors around the world, the website tells and shows step by step how to perform nerve transfer surgery.

*A Spark of Nerve* is in post-production—color correction, sound mixing, and other cinematic tidying up. The Schallers have worked on it for nearly five years, using their own money, because they want to make it easier for other people with nerve paralysis to have surgery before their six-month window shuts and to know that the years of hard physical therapy will pay off. Updates are given for all seven patients in the film.

The Schallers also want others to hear Loren's message in the film: "Never internalize the idea that you can't do something. Even if you can't do it that well, you can always figure out a way."

*A Spark of Nerve* will be shown at film festivals this fall. It also will be distributed for educational use, and possibly air on cable or public television.

If you would like to help fund the final \$25,000 for post-production, the archival footage use fees, or film festival formatting costs, go to [www.sparkofnerve.com](http://www.sparkofnerve.com) and click the donate button. Donations are being channeled through the non-profit Center for Independent Documentary to make them tax-deductible. ■

## Patxi's Withdraws Plans for a Parklet On 24th Street

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other community residents.

The parklet would have eliminated two parking spaces in front of the restaurant at 4042 24th St., and replaced them with a landscaped area with umbrella-topped tables and chairs.

In its June 1 application, Patxi's called the parklet "a great idea" that would provide a refuge "for workers and residents to gather for coffee, a bite to eat, or simply to talk."

But Freeman said he "had no idea," when Patxi's submitted the proposal to the city's Planning Department, that it would engender such fierce protest.

"To upset all of our neighbors over some outdoor seating and to detrimentally affect the opinion of the people in the neighborhood is not worth it," Freeman said. "It's not a fight that I think we want to take on, so we're going to rescind our application and walk away from the money that we've spent so far."

The company had already spent \$15,000 to \$20,000 on developing plans for the parklet, including architectural renderings by the San Francisco design firm of Matarozzi Pelsinger, and was poised to lay out another \$30,000 to build the site.

### 'A Wise Decision'

When word of the application hit the streets in June, there was swift reaction from neighborhood opponents: the parklet would take up two coveted parking spaces, exacerbate traffic in an already congested block, and give Patxi's an advantage over eating establishments that did not offer outdoor seating.

Freeman announced his decision at

the Aug. 26 meeting of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, just weeks before the matter would have faced a public hearing.

"I think he made a wise decision," said Debra Niemann, executive director of the Noe Valley Association, a community benefit district that represents businesses and property owners along 24th Street.

Robin Abad Ocubillo, the urban designer who directs the city's Pavement to Parks program, said a public hearing was required whenever a proposal encountered stiff opposition.

Parklets, which lend a European ambience to the streetscape, are generally welcomed in San Francisco. More than 50 have been installed since the first popped up five years ago, including two in Noe Valley: one in front of Martha & Bros. Coffee at 3868 24th St., and one at Just for Fun, a toy and gift store at 3982 24th St.

Local businesses maintain the sites and pay the city an annual fee of about \$300. The parklets are open to the public.

There had been rumors in recent months that several other 24th Street businesses were thinking of applying for parklets, but only Freeman's business had filed an application as of late August.

### 60 Names in Support

Patxi's, a small pizza chain with 11 locations in the Bay Area, has been a philanthropic presence in Noe Valley since opening the 24th Street restaurant in 2010. It has donated \$25,000 to the Noe Valley Town Square project—one of the largest private donations—and it gives 10 percent of its proceeds one day a week to a school or other non-profit organization.

Nearly 60 residents signed a petition in support of Patxi's plan for the parklet, which the company described as "another way for us to give back to the community."

However, the city received 16 dis-

senting letters, including objections from Niemann's group and and members of the Merchants Association.

In an Aug. 5 letter, Niemann stated that the loss of two parking spaces would potentially cost the city \$5,600 per space in lost revenue each year.

She noted that 24th Street's two existing parklets, which opened in December 2010 during a nasty recessionary period, had benefitted residents, shoppers, and merchants. "But it is by no means clear that additional parklets are needed," she wrote.

### Restaurants Grumble

Robert Roddick, president of the NVMPA and a persistent critic of plans to remove parking spaces, warned in his own letter that parking was the "lifeblood" of the neighborhood's commercial corridor.

"To take away two parking spaces for a private commercial reason, solely to benefit Patxi's Pizza, would be an outrage," he wrote on Aug. 4.

Two neighborhood restaurants also complained that the establishment of parklets in front of food businesses allowed them to have, in effect, their own outdoor patios.

Meghan Murphy, who owns Twin Peaks Pizza & Pasta at 1681 Church St., said the proposed parklet "creates an unfair disadvantage for us as competition of Patxi's." Twin Peaks does not have outdoor seating and is located in a block with "poor parking," she said.

NoVY, a restaurant with outdoor seating that opened earlier this year on the same block as Patxi's, pointed out that its permit for tables and chairs "cost us in excess of \$1,500 to obtain, and the annual renewal fee will be around this same amount," said co-owner Kristen Gianaras.

"For Patxi's Pizza to be able to obtain exclusive outdoor seating for \$300 a year is absolutely unfair," she said.



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# Glen Canyon Trails And Rec Center Get Makeovers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

walk the trails. Two decades later, a plan was floated to run a highway through the land.

The proposal prompted a trio of female activists — dismissed as “The Gum Tree Girls” by one city engineer — to spearhead efforts to block the highway project. Their success led to the preservation of the unique habitat, now home to coyotes, the western fence lizard, and the white-crowned sparrow.

Visitors to Glen Canyon Park today will now find a newly rebuilt trail network, as the city-owned open space is set to receive several more upgrades aimed at renovating its recreation clubhouse and creating a new path connecting the park with trails atop Twin Peaks.

### Hikes Safer and Easier

Work on the trails within the 66.6-acre Glen Canyon Park, where Islais Creek flows south through a deep ravine bordering the Glen Park and Diamond Heights neighborhoods, wrapped up at the end of July. Replacing the narrow dirt paths carved into the park’s hillsides over the decades is a network of official trails and wooden stairs designed to make the climb easier and better protect against erosion.

A new wooden bridge crossing a section of the creek where willow trees form a protective canopy has been constructed, two older bridges providing access to the watershed were rebuilt, and new signage explaining the park’s history, topography, and flora and fauna has been installed at various points along the trails.

“I think a lot of people are happy with it. Elderly residents and joggers tell us the stairs and stabilized trails really make it easier for them to get around the canyon,” said Melinda Stockmann, a project manager with the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department who has overseen the trail work.

### Walk From Glen to Christopher

Out for a stroll in the park one recent weekday evening, Glen Park residents Brian Donnelly and Marilyn Bernow spoke favorably of the changes to the trail network.

“It is good to see public money being put into public places,” said Donnelly.

Bernow at times has hiked through the park to shop at the Safeway in the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. It is accessible via a pathway through George Christopher Playground, which is the terminus for several of the canyon trails and is adjacent to the shopping complex.

“Having this in the neighborhood is very valuable,” she said. “I am very glad they are doing what they are doing.”

The trail work is part of a number of upgrades in Glen Canyon funded by park bonds voters passed in 2008 and 2012. The rec and park department allocated \$900,000 from the earlier bond for the revamped trails, with another \$500,000 coming from a state fund for habitat conservation.

The trail upgrades follow the already completed work that saw a new children’s playground, relocated tennis courts, and public bathrooms built near the park’s entrance at the intersection of Elk and Chenery streets. That portion of the project, which cost \$6 million, officially debuted in March of 2014.

### Old Clubhouse Set for Renovation

In September, work is set to begin on renovating the Glen Canyon Recreation Center, situated inside the park near the



In late August, the 77-year-old Glen Canyon Park recreation center, also known as the clubhouse, was set to close for a 14-month renovation. During construction, picnic areas around the building will be off limits, but the trails, ballfields, playground, and tennis courts will remain open.

Photos by Beverly Tharp

Elk Street entrance. The 77-year-old building, which is behind the tennis courts and children’s playground, closed at the end of August.

In addition to repairing the existing building’s roof and interior spaces, an additional 4,500 square feet of multi-purpose space, gymnasium seating, and related amenities will be added. The \$12 million project is being funded from the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond and is slated to last 14 months, with the rec center’s reopening expected sometime in the fall of 2016.

“It is a beloved building but definitely an aging building,” said park department spokeswoman Connie Chan.

### New Path to Twin Peaks

Another project slated to begin later this year is the construction of a new trail in the upper western reaches of Glen Canyon, using a section of property owned by the San Francisco Unified School District. It will connect hikers to trails leading to the summit of Twin Peaks and is part of the rec and park department’s Creeks to Peaks initiative, aimed at enhancing the pedestrian pathways between the city’s green spaces.

“The idea is basically to stay in Glen Canyon Park, hiking on this urban trail surrounded by natural areas, and continue within this natural oasis to Twin Peaks without having to hit the city streets,” explained Chan. “It is really about making a green connection between the two parks.”

Currently, people wanting to hike from Glen Canyon to Twin Peaks follow a trail that deposits them onto Turquoise Way in Diamond Heights. Hikers then turn left and follow the road to where it intersects with Amethyst Way, which dead-ends to the left. There, hikers find a short path through a patch of open space on the northeastern side of Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts. They then cross Portola Drive, turn left, and walk a short distance to the hiking trail that runs up along Twin Peaks Boulevard.

The new trail within Glen Canyon will allow hikers to avoid the busy streets and take a more direct route through the school district’s land. In July, more than 100 volunteers assisted rec and park staff with clearing a path through the vegetation in the area that a contractor will use to construct the formal trail.

The city expects that work to commence by the end of 2015. Funding for it is coming from the San Francisco Parks Alliance.

“People really wanted to see urban trails connecting them to nature so they don’t have to drive outside of the city to have a hike,” said Chan, addressing why the department prioritized using bond money and other funding sources for the trail work.

For the latest news on the project, visit <http://sfrecpark.org/project/glen-canyon-park-improvement-plan/>. ■

## Future Parks Projects In the Works

### Dreams for Glen Greenway And Christopher Playground

By Matthew S. Bajko

Planning for two other projects adjacent to Glen Canyon gained steam over the summer.

The first, dubbed the Glen Park Greenway, would result in a new pedestrian path being built to connect the canyon parkland to the Glen Park BART Station. The proposal was included in the city-adopted Glen Park Community Plan created with input from residents and finalized in February of 2012.

New trees, crosswalks, and an entrance sign to the Glen Park business district are already under construction at Bosworth and Diamond streets. Work in front of the BART station was also part of the community plan.

Looking to extend the pedestrian improvements south toward the park, residents have been meeting to discuss turning what is now an informal path through a slice of open space west of Bosworth Street into a landscaped and lighted walkway.

“I have been really inspired by the work going on in the canyon with the Creeks to Peaks trail. So to have a nice green connecting route so you can go pretty much almost not seeing the city between the BART station and Twin Peaks, I think, would be really lovely,” said Stephanie Wilkes, who is one of the residents working on the greenway project.

### Long and Winding Road

The path could be complicated, however. Various streets that either dead-end or provide one-way vehicular access to Bosworth bisect the existing patches of green space. In addition, the city’s Department of Public Works, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco all own sections of where the greenway would run.

Still, the Glen Park Association has raised \$60,000 to pay a landscape architect to come up with several design proposals for the greenway. The neighborhood group plans to host a town hall in late September where updated designs will be unveiled to the public.

Even though Islais Creek, which is diverted into an underground pipe at the eastern end of Glen Canyon, runs through the area where the path is intended to be built, it is not expected to be day-lighted. Nearby homeowners have pointed out that the area is prone to flooding.

“The designs show ways of improving public property essentially as a pathway from Diamond Street to Elk,” said

Michael Rice, president of the Glen Park Association, at a meeting about the project in late August. “Right now what we are looking at is the open space potential and if it is possible to use green infrastructure in that corridor.”

So far, neither the city nor the PUC has allocated any funding to build the Glen Park Greenway. And it remains to be seen whether the community can coalesce around a design. But should those hurdles be overcome, the project might become a reality.

“Our urban forester at Public Works has been working with neighbors on options with the trees, and we’ve had people attend the community meetings,” DPW spokeswoman Rachel Gordon, who also lives in the area, told the *Voice*. “We’re excited about the idea of creating a greenway. It can be a great asset for the neighborhood.”

### Playground Has Funding

What does have money allocated for it is a planned renovation of George Christopher Playground. Named after the city’s 34th mayor, the Diamond Heights park features a sand-floor playground, a softball field, and tennis and basketball courts. There is also a clubhouse with public bathrooms, and dogs are allowed to use the park if on leash.

Rec and park has set aside \$2.8 million from the 2012 park bond to upgrade the 310,000-square-foot park. The first community planning meetings will be held sometime this fall, with construction slated to begin in April of 2017 at the earliest.

A number of dog owners have been pushing to rescind the leash rule, which is often ignored by many people who bring their dogs to the park. Others have suggested creating an off-leash area for dogs. Those ideas are expected to be part of the conversation around how to upgrade the park.

“Given the opportunity to redesign the space, this is an opportunity for everyone to join these meetings and talk about what they need and what they want to see,” said Connie Chan, spokesperson for the park department.

To learn more about the George Christopher Playground renovation, visit <http://sfrecpark.org/project/george-christopher-playground-improvement-project/>.

To learn more about the Glen Park Greenway project, go to [www.glenpark-greenway.org](http://www.glenpark-greenway.org). ■







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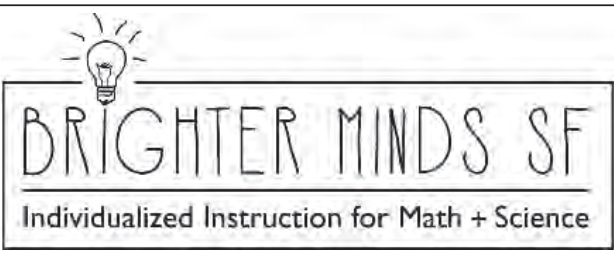


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# Books for Students, A Good Idea

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

through Bienvenu’s old college friend, Charles Harvey, whose wife, Jennifer Soalt, founded BookMentors in 2011.

Soalt is a teacher, literacy coach, and reading specialist, who has worked in low-income public schools on both the west and east coasts. “Jen described how her students in high-poverty schools were just desperate for good books in good condition,” Hannula says. “Books in their classrooms were just in tatters. It was heartbreaking.”

According to the BookMentors site, citing data from a study published in 2006, by Susan B. Neuman and David K. Dickinson in the *Handbook of Early Literacy Research*, access to books in low-income neighborhoods is approximately one book at home for every 300 children. Compare that to middle-income neighborhoods, where there are about 13 books available per child. BookMentors defines a high-poverty school as one in which more than 40 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch. They use the GreatSchools.org database to determine a school’s economic status.

## City Hits Brakes on Clipper Street Project

### Middle Turn Lane Spared, Along With Parking

By Matthew S. Bajko

After hearing from the community, city traffic engineers are hitting the brakes on plans to significantly revamp a section of Clipper Street. Instead, they are shifting gears and proposing a less substantial change to this major artery in Noe Valley.

As the *Noe Valley Voice* reported in June, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has been working on a traffic-calming project, dubbed the “Clipper Road Diet Concept,” to address residents’ concerns about vehicle speeds on Clipper between Douglass Street and Diamond Heights Boulevard.

With Clipper Street scheduled for repaving in late 2015, SFMTA planners decided to look at ways to slow down vehicles along that stretch of the roadway, where the posted speed limit is 35 mph. The initial proposal, presented at a community town hall in May, called for reducing Clipper Street from three lanes to two by removing the middle turn lane. Also under consideration was eliminating parking on the south side of Clipper and converting the existing parallel parking on the north side to back-in angled parking.

Changes aimed at increasing safety for bicyclists would have put the westbound bike lane between the angled parked cars and the sidewalk. The eastbound bike lane, running down the hill, would have a buffer separating it from the vehicle travel lane.

The reconfiguration of the bike lane would have resulted in parked cars on Clipper Street no longer needing to be moved for street-sweeping. And the removal of the south-side parking, noted traffic planners, would have eliminated the risk of people cutting across the street to access their vehicles.

But, as the *Voice* noted, public reaction to the proposed changes was largely negative. Most of the feedback from those who attended the spring meeting expressed misgivings about losing the turn lane and 22 parking spots. In July, the SFMTA informed residents via email that the agency had revised its plans.

“After reviewing various design op-



James Lick teacher Helana Corda (center) and seventh-grade students (clockwise, from left) Kyanna Alvarado, Franklin Alvarado, and Zion Alailefaleula have lots of good reading material on hand, thanks to donations from a community of book lovers that includes Noe Valley resident and BookMentors director Debra Hannula (seated near lamp).

Photo by Beverly Tharp

The BookMentors website launched in 2013. Many teachers are familiar with donation websites like DonorsChoose.org, where teachers post about school supplies or projects and donors donate funds toward those needs. BookMentors focuses

on books—so far just physical books, not electronic ones—and on building discourse about literature and reading.

“Of course, we’d love for everyone to donate books, but it’s also an online book lovers’ community,” Hannula says.

On the site, teachers and librarians describe why they are requesting each book. They also post a description of their classroom, students, and teaching goals. Once they’ve received their requested books, the teacher writes a thank-you message sent via email to the donor. Donors can respond through the website, and that often starts a conversation.

Helana Corda, a language arts and social studies teacher at James Lick Middle School on Noe Street, wrote in her classroom description, “My kids LOVE to read; they are curious, passionate, and a joy to teach every day. Most of my students are English learners who benefit immensely from a daily reading regimen.”

In the “about me” section, she wrote, “I teach units that incorporate social justice. I work relentlessly to give my students access to engaging academic text to prepare them for high school.”

### Lit to Take Home

Corda started using BookMentors in May, and calls the organization “incredible. I have never had such success with a donation-based site before. I received books quickly and there is an incredibly large selection. The wider selection I can provide for my students, the better. Having access to all of these materials allows me to expand my curriculum in ways I never thought possible.”

Books she requested include *Kampung Boy* by Mohammad Nor Khalid, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis, and *A Tale Dark and Grimm* by Adam Gidwitz.

“The books I chose are not necessarily required by the district,” Corda says. “I use book clubs in my class, as I find it helps to formally structure a time when students are reading at least twice a week. The books I chose are high-interest books that the kids are excited to read. They also reflect a variety of backgrounds.”

Once teachers and librarians have the books, they can add them to their classroom collection or school library. Teachers can use them for assignments or even give them away to students. “Getting books into the hands of students who normally don’t have access—that’s what our goal is,” Hannula says.

Donors pay full price for the books—\$5 to \$20—which includes shipping to the schools. Baker & Taylor, a book distributor, gives BookMentors a discount on the price of the book, and the remaining money is used to cover overhead.

### All Offers Considered

Donors can give as many books as they want to as many different schools as they want. All donations are tax-deductible, and payments are made via PayPal or credit card. If donors want to donate a book that hasn’t been requested, they can post an “offer” of the book on the website, and explain why they recommend it. Educators can then post their matching request for the book.

A new feature on the site launched this year is the book drive. Anyone—parent, neighbor, local business owner—can start a book drive for one school, enabling several teachers to order more books at once. There’s a competitive element to book drives, too. Organized donors—scout troops, for example, or neighborhood associations—can keep track of how many in their group have donated. “It adds some fun to the donation process,” Hannula says.

Donors can also search the site for certain schools, teachers, and books. The “talk” button is where one can explore teacher thank-you notes, book tributes, reading suggestions, and the BookMentors blog. “The posts have been really positive, even when the topic is banned books or something kind of controversial,” Hannula says.

### Izzy the Poster Child

The little boy on the website’s homepage is Izzy, son of Lilli Lanier, a Noe Valley native who teaches art in San Francisco public schools in the tradition of her famous grandmother, artist Ruth Asawa. Izzy is also Hannula’s neighbor. “He’s my little pal,” she says with a smile.

Izzy (whose dad is Izmael Soriano and whose little sister is Lucia) started kindergarten last month, but before he did, Hannula gave him a copy of *How Rocket Learned to Read* by Tad Hills, which she purchased at Folio Books on 24th Street. “It’s one of the most requested books on BookMentors,” she says.

“Izzy’s ability to read seemed to coincide with reading this book,” Lanier says. She credits the fact that teachers—those experts on the ground—are recommending the books on the site as a reason to visit it. She became a BookMentor (as donors, recipients, and anyone who registers with the site is called) in February. She is now using the site to request books for her teaching.

“I feel, as a teacher and a mom, it’s an important service, and I appreciate the need teachers have for great books in the classroom,” Lanier says. “Most teachers do what I do and dip into their own pockets for inspiring books and other classroom supplies. BookMentors is an easy way to support our public schools.” ■





# Noe Valley Views

**Words to Park By.** Though the automobile remains a most popular form of transportation, it becomes a liability when the driving is done. Better to keep circling the block than encroach on a driveway in Noe Valley.

Photo by Pamela Gerard



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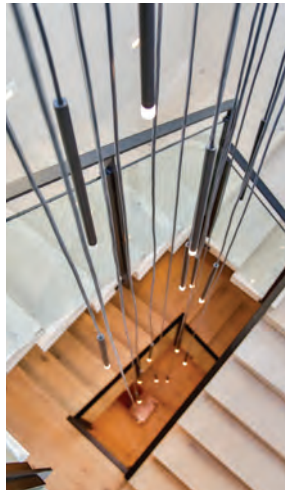
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**Storm Clouds.** As our photographer looked toward Bernal Hill one evening last year, he captured what has been a rare scene since: storm clouds. Photo by Najib Joe Hakim



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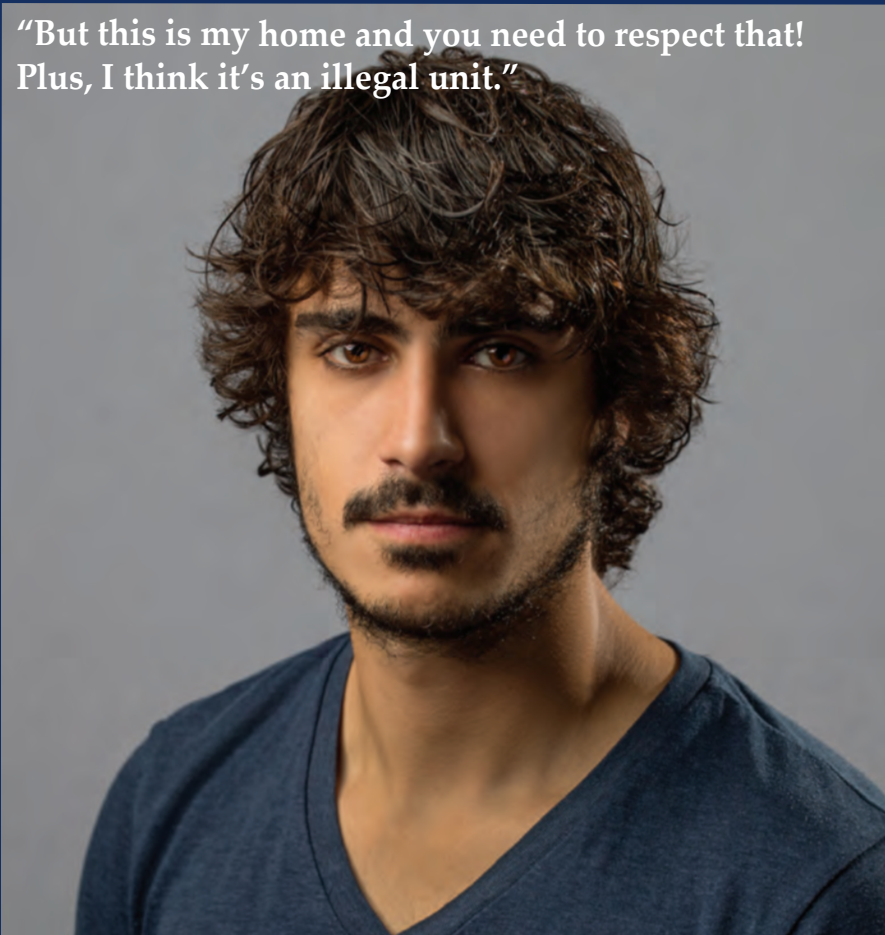


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# The Cost of Living in Noe

## \$7 Million House Sale Ties Record

By Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley sizzled this summer as buyers purchased almost two dozen single-family homes, fanning the flames of the residential real estate market.

One buyer paid \$7 million for a home on Elizabeth Street, causing a temporary spike in housing values—the average sales price in June was 40 percent higher than it was in June of last year. The year-over-year increase for July was nearly as impressive: 31 percent according to sales data provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

The neighborhood also lured buyers of condominiums and multi-unit buildings. Eighteen condos changed hands over the summer, compared to 15 in June/July of 2014.

Zephyr president Randall Kostick said the robust market—and the attendant surge in appreciation—was fueled by a scarcity of homes for sale and a lust for large, contemporary-style dwellings filled with high-tech and environmentally friendly amenities.

In the 1980s, “the prize was an old Victorian,” Kostick said. Today, “the prize for the millennials and the tech workers is a modern building,” with media rooms and wine cellars to match the gourmet kitchens and marble-tiled bathrooms.

### The Space Race

The boom in big houses is continuing. “When homes are being remodeled or constructed from the ground up, they are significantly larger than they used to be,” Kostick said. “The average house used to be 1,200 square feet. Not anymore.”

The Elizabeth Street house, originally built in 1907, had been gutted, expanded from 3,412 to 4,456 square feet, and renovated to include five bedrooms, seven baths, an atrium, radiant heat, floor-to-ceiling glass, and a wrap-around deck with panoramic views. The buyer paid \$1.2 million more than the \$5.8 million asking price, to acquire the home, located in the 500 block of Elizabeth between Noe and Castro streets. The final price tied a record for the most money paid for a Noe Valley property, a record set last year by the buyer of a mansion on Duncan Street.

Nearly as expensive was a renovated home in the 400 block of Hoffman Avenue between 24th and 25th streets. The hillside property sold in June for \$6.7 million—exactly \$1 million more than the owner’s initial price. Built in 1955, the five-room house, with just over 1,200 square feet of space, had been transformed into a 2,300-square-foot home with five bedrooms and 4.5 baths. In addition to a master suite with a private terrace, the house has a home theater, wine cellar, and a two-car garage wired for



Beyond the façade of this 1907 Edwardian on Elizabeth Street is a spacious, newly renovated home that was sold in June for \$7 million, tying the record for most expensive house in Noe Valley. The modern-contemporary interior featured five bedrooms, seven baths, a magazine-perfect kitchen, decks, views, two-car garage, and a one-bedroom apartment.

electric cars.

The price champion in July was a Duncan Street home with five bedrooms, each with its own bath (plus an additional 1.5 baths), a media room, a home office, three view decks, LED lighting, radiant heat, and side-by-side parking for two cars. Buyers paid \$4,850,000 for the 4,000-square-foot residence in the 700 block of Duncan Street between Diamond and Douglass streets. The price was slightly below the original tag of \$4,995,000.

### Demand Still Strong

The Hoffman Avenue and Elizabeth Street deals helped push the average price of a detached home in June to nearly \$3.4 million (in our small survey). In July, prices returned to an average \$2.8 million.

Still, the demand for houses was so strong that every detached home but one sold for at least \$1.5 million. And to get the home they wanted, buyers jostled with each other to pay an average 14 percent more than the asking price in June and 18 percent more in July.

A fresh supply of homes usually becomes available for sale during the summer, but Kostick said there weren’t enough properties to meet the demand this year. He said many homeowners stayed on the sidelines.

“I think it all boils down to people are afraid to sell their homes,” he said. “If they sell, where are they going to go [in San Francisco to find a replacement home]? Or if they leave San Francisco, will they ever be able to come back?”

### Good Share of Flippers

Real estate investors maintain their speculative interest in buying small homes or apartment buildings on Noe Valley’s most desirable streets. Developers often renovate the interiors while retaining the façades of older houses, then offer them for sale in a year or two at much higher prices.

In July, a buyer paid nearly \$1 million extra to purchase a Victorian fixer-upper

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						
July 2015	16	\$1,450,000	\$4,850,000	\$2,826,588	17	118%
June 2015	7	\$1,650,000	\$7,000,000	\$3,373,746	14	122%
May 2015	8	\$1,010,000	\$4,100,000	\$2,444,454	26	116%
July 2014	9	\$1,320,000	\$3,650,000	\$2,155,422	23	110%
June 2014	12	\$1,050,000	\$3,425,000	\$2,414,417	16	112%
Condominiums						
July 2015	7	\$785,000	\$2,400,000	\$1,663,714	17	114%
June 2015	11	\$920,000	\$2,800,000	\$1,506,636	25	118%
May 2015	13	\$950,000	\$2,225,000	\$1,442,462	23	115%
July 2014	6	\$875,000	\$1,900,000	\$1,425,833	13	118%
June 2014	9	\$875,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,369,000	16	118%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
July 2015	4	\$1,550,000	\$2,975,000	\$2,043,750	19	113%
June 2015	4	\$1,600,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,750,500	25	125%
May 2015	2	\$2,050,000	\$2,600,000	\$2,325,000	12	109%
July 2014	4	\$850,000	\$1,895,000	\$1,392,500	35	108%
June 2014	3	\$1,800,000	\$2,600,000	\$2,200,000	21	116%
5+ unit buildings						
July 2015	1	\$2,425,000	\$2,425,000	\$2,425,000	25	124%
June 2015	0	—	—	—	—	—
May 2015	0	—	—	—	—	—
July 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
June 2014	1	\$2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	95	100%

\* Sales include all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley for purposes of 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](http://www.zephyrsf.com)) for providing sales data. NVV 9/2015

on Noe Street between 24th and Elizabeth streets. The 1,799-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-bath home, with an asking price of \$1,898,000, sold for \$2.8 million. There were six offers, and the successful bidder—an investor—paid all cash for the property, according to real estate agent Kevin Ho of Vanguard Properties. The buyer plans “to flip it and bring out a beautiful single-family house that’s been completely redone to the nines,” Ho said.

### Lines Longer for Condos

Condominium values also rose during the summer, pushing the typical price of a unit to \$1.5 million. There was a 10 percent jump in June over the previous year and a 16.6 percent jump year-to-year in July.

“If you want to live in Noe Valley, and you can’t afford the average sales price of \$3.4 million [for a house], then you buy a condo,” Randall said.

The most expensive condominium sold in June for \$2.8 million, considerably above the \$2,095,000 asking price for the 2,300-square-foot residence. Located in the 500 block of Elizabeth Street not far from 24th Street, the renovated, two-story unit featured four bedrooms, three bathrooms, a wine cellar, and a three-car garage.

In July, buyers paid \$2.4 million for a brand-new condo in the 100 block of Clipper Street between Church and

Sanchez streets. The price was \$400,000 beyond what the sellers sought, for a 1,700-square-foot property that included three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, floor-to-ceiling windows, radiant heat, a deck, and one-car garage.

All eight two- to four-unit buildings sold during the summer were two-unit buildings. Buyers typically purchase such units as tenants in common, each owning a specific unit.



This Hoffman Avenue house sold in June for \$6.7 million, \$1 million more than the asking price. The four-story residence sports five bedrooms, 4.5 baths, two-car parking, and all the amenities expected in a modern renovation. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley Rents**					
Unit	No. in Sample	Range August 2015	Average August 2015	Average June 2015	Average August 2014
Studio	6	\$1,600 – \$2,795	\$2,247 / mo.	\$2,119 / mo.	\$2,076 / mo.
1-bdrm	21	\$2,300 – \$8,700	\$3,568 / mo.	\$3,249 / mo.	\$3,101 / mo.
2-bdrm	30	\$3,399 – \$9,020	\$5,112 / mo.	\$4,347 / mo.	\$4,309 / mo.
3-bdrm	22	\$5,000 – \$12,500	\$7,263 / mo.	\$5,767 / mo.	\$6,163 / mo.
4+-bdrm	7	\$7,500 – \$22,500	\$11,793 / mo.	\$11,167 / mo.	\$7,350 / mo.

\*\* This survey is based on a sample of 86 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist from Aug. 5-14, 2015. NVV 9/2015

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# The Travels of Julia Lam

## Tech Star Has a Bucket Full of Options

By Richard May

Tech is rife with true stories about products which began in someone’s garage or college dorm. Bucket, one of the newest, started at Martha & Bros. on 24th Street in Noe Valley.

Julia Lam and John Sichi met there over coffee. They knew each other from -- their years at Facebook, but they weren’t meeting to gossip about the tech giant. Both had moved on. Lam went traveling. Sichi couch-surfed across Europe. Now, they were back in the U.S. and ready to work.

After Facebook, they knew they wanted to work smaller—at someone else’s startup or their own. Lam investigated joining other people’s teams. She had just two requirements: she had to love the product and love the team creating it. Unhappily, she couldn’t find both loves at the same place, so she contacted Sichi. Why not co-found a startup of their own? The answer to that question became their company, Enchanted Labs.

Since they had been traveling, the pain of travel logistics was fresh on both their minds. They contacted other travelers via Craigslist and observed how they prepared for a trip. They decided to build a tech product that would enable travelers and adventurers to “spend less time planning and more time experiencing,” as Lam says. Bucket was born.

The name Bucket was chosen, Lam says, “for two reasons: one, people like to think of their bucket list, and two, they understand collecting ideas into a bucket.”

At Bucket’s test website, the traveler types in a place they want to go. Then Bucket scans and collects information about the place from other websites and the traveler’s own social media. At the same time, it maps out the trip. Eventually, anyone who wants to go anywhere could use Bucket to help them get there, but the website, in beta, currently works only in Northern California and uses Airbnb, Facebook, Foursquare, and Trip Advisor as its main support.

### Investors to Spare

In the earliest stage of product development, Lam and Sichi built a simple prototype website to extract information and paste it together based on the user’s interests. Lam handled design, and Sichi made it work. Then the pair sought feedback and identified whether there was a market for Bucket. They showed it to family and friends, then to tech product people and more travelers. They reached the happy conclusion that people do want travel logistics help, and got encouraging feedback on the Bucket prototype.

They took the plunge, investing their own dollars and lots of time into further development. Then they asked for financial support from Angels, individuals with money. The appeal was highly successful, oversubscribed, in fact, to the tune of \$1,000,000. Lam and Sichi even turned away potential investors. They wanted backers aligned with their goals and with expertise they didn’t have, people they could call on for advice as their company grew.

And grow Enchanted Labs did. Lam can’t just work at her dining table or use coffee shops as a meeting room anymore. She and her co-founder opened an office in SOMA and hired staff, which quickly increased from two to six fulltime employees and an intern. Lam is CEO. Sichi is Chief Technology Officer.

Meanwhile, Bucket is in open beta launch, which means *Voice* readers can try it for themselves at [www.likebucket.com](http://www.likebucket.com).

Lam and Sichi definitely have product expansion plans; they just won’t say what they are. Asked where they’re going next geographically, Lam answered, “The world!” She is also vague about adding booking capability, which would be a logical next step. “We are interested in ideas to action,” Lam says cryptically. Right now, Bucket is an organizing tool only, handling information extraction, collection, and mapping.

### Footprints in Facebook

Lam’s route to tech entrepreneur did not follow a straight line. She grew up in Los Altos in the South Bay, a.k.a. Silicon Valley, attended local public schools, and then went off to college at UCLA, pointing toward a career in the entertainment industry as a producer or casting director.

At the home of the Bruins, Lam was accepted into the prestigious Communication Studies program, and earned her B.A. in 2005. After some internships at entertainment companies, however, she decided entertainment wasn’t the meritocracy she’d hoped for and opted to take a break for 18 months, teaching English in Japan for a year and learning Mandarin in China for six months. She was an early Facebook user abroad and back at home, so when she saw a job listing at Facebook on Craigslist, she applied and joined the team.

At Facebook, Lam worked on numerous developer marketing initiatives, including Facebook Developer Garage, Facebook Presence, and the f8 Developer Conference. She helped choose and mentor more than 50 startup teams, Lyft and Task Rabbit among them. Not bad for a 20-something.

Also not bad is that Lam has just been named to Phocuswright’s 35 Under 35—one of the travel industry’s rising stars. Only six tech-involved people were included. (Phocuswright is a travel industry research concern, which creates networking events, including the celebration of 35 Under 35.)

### Staying Social

Lam believes in community service too, co-founding a nonprofit and giving back to her alma mater. Her nonprofit, A3 (Asian American Artists), encourages more diverse voices in media by matching up-and-coming Asian Americans interested in media work with established mentors in that field and providing fellowships to the newcomers. A3 also partners with the Sundance Film Festival to reach out to directors and writers from more diverse backgrounds.

At UCLA, Lam is part of an alumni team she co-founded. It supports student entrepreneurs and incubating startups at the university.

On the personal side, Lam is single but dating. She loves to travel, of course, having been to 35 countries, but she also loves dancing. She studied ballet for 12 years from 4 years old to 16 and for the last 10 years has been into salsa. Also in her repertoire are swing, hip-hop, modern, tap, and fusion.

She is busy but very social. If you see her on 24th Street, she asks that you say hello and, in the meantime, take a look at Bucket and let her know what you think. More beta users mean a better Bucket. ■



## A Revival of Art in Gallery Sanchez

Gallery Sanchez, an art series that thrived from the 1980s to the 2000s, has returned to the newly renovated Noe Valley Ministry and is asking for submissions to the gallery’s first art show, “Out and About: Noe Valley Artists.”

The art works will be exhibited Oct. 11 through Nov. 8 in the upstairs sanctuary of the Presbyterian church, located at 1021 Sanchez St. near 23rd Street. A reception for the artists will be held Saturday, Oct. 17, 1 to 4 p.m.

Artists who live or work in Noe Valley are invited to submit work. “We hope to exhibit as many as 20 artists for this show,” says gallery director Kit Cameron, an artist herself and longtime resident of 28th Street.

Cameron says artists should send one image in small-pixel format by email to [kit\\_cameron@icloud.com](mailto:kit_cameron@icloud.com) for consideration. Give the title and framed dimensions



Kit, by David Barnett, will be among the pieces exhibited in “Out and About: Noe Valley,” Gallery Sanchez’s inaugural show running Oct. 11 to Nov. 8.

of the work, and your contact information, including your address. There is no entry fee.

Gallery Sanchez will be open Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and after church services and during special events. The inaugural show will also be open for viewing during Noe Valley’s Open Studios weekend, Nov. 7-8, from noon to 5 p.m. For additional details, visit [www.noevalleyministry.org](http://www.noevalleyministry.org) or contact Cameron at the address above.

## Bernal Goes to the Movies

Head east, young movie-goer, and venture across San Jose Avenue for the 12th season of the Bernal Heights Outdoor Cinema. From Sept. 10 to 12, free films will run in parks, playgrounds, and other places and spaces in the neighborhood.

Opening night is Thursday, Sept. 10, at the Bernal Heights Library, 500 Cortland Ave. After a party and awards presentation from 7 to 8:15 p.m., you can watch four short films: *Miss Finknagle Succumbs to Chaos*, about the disappearance of a high school librarian; *Equal Justice Under Law*, a cellphone video of the Supreme Court’s June marriage-equality decision (and reaction in San Francisco); *Not Just a Tree*, spotlighting Friends of the Urban Forest; and “Everything Is Going to Be OK,” an animated film and winner of the Sundance Jury Award in Short Filmmaking (2007).

Friday, Sept. 11, you can do the Film Crawl on Cortland, from Bennington to Anderson streets. Thirty-three short films will be shown at six venues along the four-block stretch, at 7, 8, and 9 p.m., including a 15-minute documentary on Heklina, San Francisco drag queen and impressaria at the Oasis cabaret on 11th Street. The films at 9 p.m. are for adults only.

If 33 films aren’t enough, be sure to go to Under the Stars Saturday night, Sept. 12, at Precita Park near Folsom Street. Fourteen flicks will be shown outdoors, starting at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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SHORT TAKES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

7:45 p.m.  
For more information or to volunteer with logistics, outreach, or hospitality, contact Bernal Heights Outdoor Cinema at [info@bhoutdoorcine.org](mailto:info@bhoutdoorcine.org). You'll get reserved seating, a wrap party, and an official T-shirt for your efforts.

Don't Howl About the Coyotes

In August, numerous neighbors reported seeing coyotes on Noe Valley streets. According to San Francisco Animal Care & Control, August and September are when coyotes take their new pups out of the den to forage for food.  
Yes, there are coyotes in San Francisco. They were first reported in the city in 2001 and have since spread across town, living mainly in parks. One coyote family lives in Glen Canyon Park, right over the hill.  
The coyotes moved to San Francisco from the north and south. Researchers have found coyotes in San Francisco that are related to populations in Marin County, which means they crossed the Golden Gate Bridge. Other evidence shows coyotes from families living south of the city. But whether they're from Marin or San Mateo, our coyotes decided to leave the suburbs to come live with us, like wild birds, squirrels, raccoons, and other critters do.  
Our city government is advocating coexistence over killing, trapping, and relocation, but how do we coexist with coyotes?  
Janet Kessler, a self-taught urban wildlife expert and Noe Valley resident, says a basic rule is don't approach them. Coyotes will avoid you. However, they might see a

dog as a threat to their territory. So, when walking your dog, keep a rolled-up newspaper or can of rocks or coins with you to shoo them away. Whack the newspaper roll against your thigh or shake the can hard and stare aggressively at the coyotes until they depart. Also, keep your dog on a leash. "Dogs are prone to chase coyotes," Kessler says. "And coyotes will chase back."  
Other good advice is don't feed coyotes or leave food outside your house, whether in a pet food dish, barbecue grill, or garbage bin. For more tips, contact Animal Care & Control, [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org), or the volunteer group [coyotecoexistence.com](http://coyotecoexistence.com).

125 Years at Holy Innocents

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church at 455 Fair Oaks St. is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. Parishioner Fabienne Blanc has put out a call for historical materials to help commemorate the church's long history.  
"We are trying to gather stories and photos from former members," she says. "We will present them during our open houses and on our website."  
If you have memories, anecdotes, or mementos of Holy Innocents, please contact Blanc at [holyinnfhistory@gmail.com](mailto:holyinnfhistory@gmail.com). The anniversary will be officially observed on the weekend of Oct. 23-25 with several events and activities.  
Holy Innocents is the oldest Episcopal church in San Francisco continuously operating at its original location. Its historic building on Fair Oaks between 25th and 26th streets was designed by renowned architect Ernest Coxhead, one of the early adherents of the Arts and Crafts style.

Rec Center Plays Coed Football

The Upper Noe Recreation Center, located at Day and Sanchez streets, resumed regular hours Aug. 16. Facilities include a children's playground, dog run,

gym, baseball diamond, basketball and tennis courts, and a full schedule of classes and activities in the park's main building.  
The grounds are open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The main building is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Gym hours and special event information are at [www.noevalleyreccenter.com](http://www.noevalleyreccenter.com), the Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center website.  
This fall, there are yoga classes, adult exercise boot camps, pilates, and dance classes for seniors, and many activities for children. Among the newer attractions for kids are girls' volleyball (ages 6 to 13) and co-ed flag football. In the football games, "two groups, 8 to 10 and 11 to 13 years old, will learn scheme blocking, running plays, passing plays, and route running while engaging in five-on-five and seven-on-seven competition," says Chris Faust, of the Upper Noe Community Recreation Council.  
You can see the full schedule at the Upper Noe Rec Center page at [sfrecpark.org](http://sfrecpark.org). To reserve any of the rec center facilities, call 415-831-5500.

High Holy Days in September

Year 5776 in the Jewish calendar starts at sundown Sunday, Sept. 13. Rosh Hashana—the Jewish New Year—will be celebrated Sept. 14-15. Chabad of Noe Valley, our local synagogue, has big party plans—and you don't have to be Jewish to join in.  
Festivities start with a "Shofar Factory" Sunday, Sept. 6, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Chabad, 3781 Cesar Chavez St., between Dolores and Guerrero streets. A shofar is a horn blown on Rosh Hashana. Rabbi Gedalia Potash says "the sounding of the shofar helps us realign our spiritual compass as we welcome the blessings and responsibilities of the year ahead."  
All materials for the horn will be supplied. There is a suggested donation of \$8

to cover costs. Reserve your place at the worktable at [chabadnoe@gmail.com](mailto:chabadnoe@gmail.com). Everyone 4 years old and up is welcome to make their own shofar.  
Then you can blow it at the Rosh Hashana celebration Tuesday, Sept. 14, in Dolores Park. Services are at 10 a.m., followed by the kids program (with a special appearance by the Great Rosh Hashana Spirit) at 11 a.m., and mass shofar-blowing at 11:30. Come enjoy traditional apples and honey, holiday songs, games, and a blessing for the new year. The celebration is free, and everyone is welcome.  
The culmination of the high holidays is Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, which begins at sundown Tuesday, Sept. 22, and ends at sundown the following day. Services will be held at Chabad of Noe Valley at 7 p.m., Sept. 22, and at noon and 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 23.  
For more information on the high holidays, as well as Sukkot—which is also in September this year—contact Rabbi Potash at [www.chabadnoevalley.org](http://www.chabadnoevalley.org).

Word Week Hits Double Digits

Word Week, Noe Valley's literary festival, turns 10 next March. The annual celebration of words was established in 2007 by the neighborhood association Friends of Noe Valley. Originally called Book Week, it expanded over the years to include however words are used—books, songs, and comedy included.  
The Friends committee meets in September to begin planning the March 13-19, 2016, event. If you're interested in helping plan the event, or you are an author, illustrator, songwriter, blogger, comedian, or any other kind of wordsmith and live or work in Noe Valley, please contact the committee at [wordweeknoevalley@gmail.com](mailto:wordweeknoevalley@gmail.com) or [www.friendsofnoevalley.com](http://www.friendsofnoevalley.com).

Short Takes were compiled and written by Richard May.

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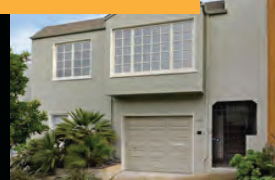
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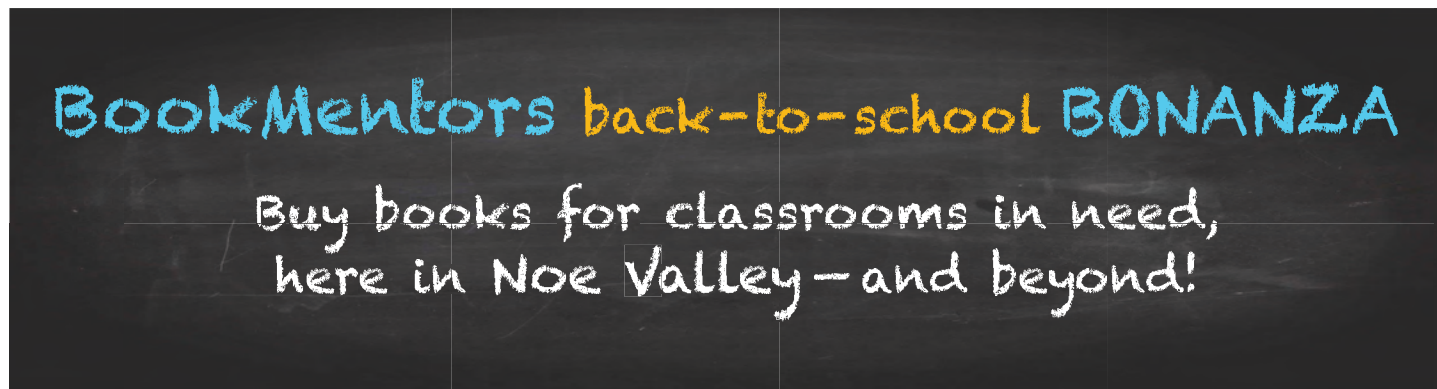


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**Two Noe Valley residents**, Debra Hannula and David Bienvenu, helped start BookMentors.org, a non-profit whose website connects teachers and librarians seeking books with the people who want to donate those books.

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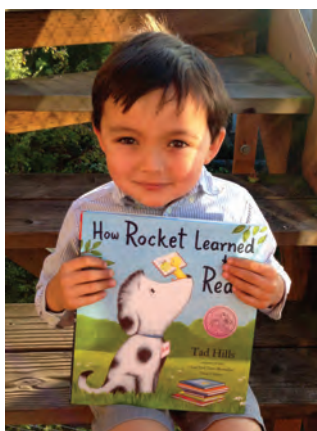
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**Submissions:** The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions of short fiction, essays, or poetry, particularly those relating to Noe Valley. Email editor@noevalleyvoice.com or write Noe Valley Voice, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include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

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The next *Voice* will be the **October 2015** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of October. **The deadline for Class Ads is Sept. 15.**

The Class Ads also will be displayed at **www.noevalleyvoice.com**.

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

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SEPTEMBER 2015

**Sept. 1:** The Noe Valley Library offers an eREADER drop-in from 10:30 to 11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

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

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

**Sept. 1-29:** Larkin Street Youth Services gives free HIV TESTING for youth 24 and under. Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. 1800 Market. 673-0911; sfcenter.org.

**Sept. 1-29:** See Jane Run offers a Tuesday RUN CLUB, beginning at 6 pm, at 3910 24th. 401-8338.

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

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

**Sept. 1-30:** CREATIVITY EXPLORED hosts "Dots & Dashes: Another Morse Code," an exhibit of work by Linda Davenport and Richard Wright. Mon & Tues., 10 am-3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat. & Sun., noon-5 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org.

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

**Sept. 1 & Oct. 6:** The deYoung Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

**Sept. 1 & Oct. 6:** "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.

**Sept. 2:** Make a TERRARIUM at the Noe Valley Library in your own 5-inch or shorter glass container (all other materials provided). 451 Jersey. Space is limited; register at 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Sept. 2 & 16:** The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to Oliver, a calm canine. For ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 7-8 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**Sept. 2-30:** Folio Books hosts a STORYTIME for toddlers every Wednesday at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

**Sept. 2-30:** Chris Sequeira conducts free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1-3 pm at the Upper Noe Rec Center; Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com.

**Sept. 2-30:** 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.

**Sept. 2-30:** The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesday, from 4 to 8 pm, through mid-December. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

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

**Sept. 2 & Oct. 7:** The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107; GLBTHistory.org.

**Sept. 3:** Noe Valley resident Eveline Kanes reads from her POETRY at 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

**Sept. 3, 10 & 17:** Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Sept. 3-24:** Attend PUB QUIZ NIGHTS on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

**Sept. 3-28:** Michelle Echenique exhibits her mixed-media ARTWORK in "Found Histories," at Cliché Noe Gifts. Reception Sept. 3, 5-7 pm. 4175 24th. 282-5416.



Join the Upper Noe Neighbors on Oct. 14 in a celebration of the life of Vicki Rosen at the Upper Noe Rec Center at 7 p.m.  
Photo by Pamela Gerard

**Sept. 3-29:** The SF Education Fund holds info sessions for potential VOLUNTEERS in SF public schools. 2730 Bryant. sfedfund.org/volunteer.

**Sept. 4:** Lenora Lee Dance performs "Fire of Freedom" at the Rotunda DANCE series at SF City Hall. Noon. dancersgroup.org.

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

**Sept. 4-25:** 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.

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

**Sept. 4-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.

**Sept. 5:** The Noe Valley KNITTING CIRCLE meets at the Noe Valley Library from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. 415 Jersey. 255-7200.

Sept. 5: Marcella Kriebel introduces her book Mi Comida Latina: Vibrant, Fresh, Simple, Authentic. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

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

**Sept. 5-26:** The Noe Valley Rec Center offers free YOGA CLASSES Saturdays 9:15-10:15 am. Day & Sanchez. 970-8061; noevalleyreccenter.com.

**Sept. 5-26:** Saturday night JAZZ at Bird & Beckett features local performers from 8 to 11 pm. 653 Chenery. birdbeckett.com.

**Sept. 5-6, 12-13 & 26-27:** FORT GALLERY hosts a Pop-Up Marketplace the first two weekends of September, and a textiles group exhibition on the last weekend of the month. Noon-6 pm. 3906 24th.

**Sept. 6 & 7:** The SF MIMETROUPE closes its 56th season with performances of Freedomland in Dolores Park. Music, 1:30 pm; show, 2 pm. sfmt.com.

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

**Sept. 6-27:** 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.

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

**Sept. 6-27:** 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.

**Sept. 7:** The ODD MONDAYS series hosts a reading by Andrew Lam, autho of Birds of Paradise Lost. 7 pm at Folic Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper; 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

**Sept. 8:** Bill Doggett discusses "San Francisco, World War II, and AFRICAN AMERICANS" at the monthly meeting of the SF Museum and Historical Society. 7-9:30 pm. 455 Golden Gate, Milton Marks Auditorium. 537-1105, ext. 100; sfhistory.org.

**Sept. 9:** The GREAT BOOKS Discussion Group considers Plato's Crito. 6:30-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Elena at eschmid@sonic.net.

**Sept. 9:** Noe Valley resident and 1960s activist Mike Miller discusses his new book People Power: The Community Organizing Tradition of SAUL ALINSKY. 7 pm. IRLE Building, 2521 Channing Way, Berkeley. 510-642 4072.

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

**Sept. 10:** A BOOK LAUNCH Party for Lauren Hirshfield Belden's children's book parody The Places You'll Feed! begins at 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

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September Events at Folio Books

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7PM

Poetry Reading With Eveline Kanes  
*A Coin Worn Thin*

Noe Valley resident, Eveline L. Kanes, is a translator of German and Romanian poetry. *A Coin Worn Thin*, a chapbook of her original work, distills the memories of a life spent in various places and cultures in a series of short intense images.

9-10  
THURSDAY  
7PM

Book Launch Party With Lauren Hirshfield Belden  
*The Places You'll Feed!*

*The Places You'll Feed!* is a refreshingly honest and hilarious children's book parody designed to bring a humorous dose of reality to the perils and pleasures of feeding a new baby.

9-13  
SUNDAY  
5PM

*My Struggle* Pop-up Book Club

Local author Mary McNear will lead a discussion of the surprise hit, *My Struggle* by Karl Ove Knausgaard. Space is limited, please RSVP by emailing media@foliosf.com to reserve your spot.

9-18  
FRIDAY  
6PM

Bookworms Club: Sheila Grau

Every 3rd Friday of the month means it is time for pizza and bookish things with readers ages 8-12 at Folio Books! For September, our featured guest will be Sheila Grau, author of *Dr. Critchlore's School for Minions*. We do ask that you RSVP for these club meetings so we know how much pizza to order. **RSVP: 2015bookworms.eventbrite.com**  
There is a \$5 reservation fee for Bookworms. All ticket proceeds go to The Children's Book Project.

9-22  
TUESDAY  
7PM

Interactive Book Event + Signing with Karen Benke  
*Write Back Soon: Adventures in Letter Writing*

Put down that smartphone and pick up a pen! Whether it's the thrill of slipping a handwritten note into a friend's hand between classes, or the delight of finding an unexpected postcard in the mailbox, *Write Back Soon!* offers limitless possibilities for connecting with one another in personal, unique, and creative ways. Space is limited, please RSVP by emailing media@foliosf.com to reserve your spot.

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ODD MONDAYS  
at 7pm  
9/7 | 9/21



# CALENDAR

**Sept. 10-12:** The 12th annual Bernal Heights OUTDOOR CINEMA fest hosts its Thursday opening night at the Bernal Branch Library, 500 Cortland, 7-9 pm; a Friday film crawl on Cortland, 7-10 pm; and a Saturday screening in Precita Park, 6:30-9:30 pm. [bhoutdoorcine.org](http://bhoutdoorcine.org).

**Sept. 11:** The Noe Valley Library offers a screening of the classic FILM *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* (1968). 2 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 11:** TAIZE service at Holy Innocents Church is held on the second Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. [Holyinsf.org](http://Holyinsf.org).

**Sept. 11-26:** The 24th annual SF FRINGE FESTIVAL happens at the Exit Theater, 156 Eddy. For a schedule, 931-1094; [theexit.org](http://theexit.org).

**Sept. 12:** Green Mann and Lisa Erdos conduct a free PLANT CLINIC on the second Saturday of the month. 10 am-noon. 30th Street Senior Center, 225 30th. [lisa.erdos@att.net](mailto:lisa.erdos@att.net).

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

**SSept. 12:** Samantha Seneviratne discusses *The New Sugar and Spice: A Recipe for Bolder BAKING*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Sept. 12:** A NEON WALKING TOUR, led by Al Barna and Randall Homan, begins in Chinatown and ends at the Palace Hotel. Meet 6:30 pm outside the YMCA on Sacramento near Grant. Reserve a space at [neonbook.xyz](http://neonbook.xyz).

**Sept. 13:** PFLAG's monthly support group meets from 2 to 4:15 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church. 921-8850; [pflagsf@aol.com](mailto:pflagsf@aol.com).

**Sept. 13:** Mary McNear leads a discussion of *My Struggle* by Norwegian author Karl Ove Knausgaard. 5 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; space is limited, email [media@foliosf.com](mailto:media@foliosf.com) for a reservation.

**Sept. 14, 21 & 28:** The Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Conversation Club meets Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 15:** Artists' Television Access screens FILMS from the Noe Valley Library's 16mm film archive. 6:30-8 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 15, 22 & 29:** Kathy Dalle-Molle leads LUNCH PROSE @ the Library, a 12-person free-writing group. Noon-1:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. For advance signup call 355-5707.

**Sept. 16:** A Women's DRUMMING CIRCLE meets the third Wednesday of the month. 5:45-6:45 pm. Herchurch, 678 Portola.

**Sept. 16:** Dana Velden introduces *Finding Yourself in the Kitchen: KITCHEN MEDITATIONS and Inspired Recipes From a Mindful Cook*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Sept. 16:** The third-Wednesdays LIVE MUSIC series continues at the Valley Tavern. 7-10 pm. 4054 24th. 285-0674.

**Sept. 16:** The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group reads *Fun Home: A Family Tragedy* by Alison Bechdel. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 16 & Oct. 21:** The UPPER NOE Community Recreation Council discusses events and improvements at Upper Noe Rec Center. 7 pm. Day & Sanchez. 970-8061; [cheryl.woltjen@sfgov.org](mailto:cheryl.woltjen@sfgov.org).

**Sept. 18:** The BOOKWORMS CLUB for ages 8 through 12 features Sheila Grau, author of *Dr. Crichton's School for Minions*. 6 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; please RSVP at [foliosf.com](http://foliosf.com).

**Sept. 18-20:** The fifth annual LEGACY FILM FESTIVAL on Aging screens at the New People Cinema, 1746 Post. For a schedule: [legacyfilmfestivalonaging.org](http://legacyfilmfestivalonaging.org).

**Sept. 18, 19 & 22:** Recology SF's ARTISTS in residence Jenny Odell, Chris Sollars, and Roger Ourthiague Jr. exhibit their work at receptions Friday, 5-9 pm, and Saturday, 1-3 pm; a gallery walk-through with the artists is scheduled for Tuesday, 5-7 pm. 503 Tunnel. [recologysf.com/AIR](http://recologysf.com/AIR).

**Sept. 19:** Supervisor SCOTT WIENER holds open office hours 11 am to 1 pm at the Church Street Café, 260 Church. Call 554-6968 to confirm.

**Sept. 19:** The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to Stanley the Dog and reading specialist Rebecca. For ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 19:** Amy Guittard presents the GUITTARD CHOCOLATE Cookbook; samples provided. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Sept. 21:** The ODD MONDAYS series features a discussion by USF professor Lily Iona Mackenzie and SFSU professor emeritus Manfred Wolf. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp [jlsender@webtv.net](mailto:jlsender@webtv.net)). 821-2090; [oddmondays.com](http://oddmondays.com).

**Sept. 22:** David Fleishhacker discusses "Fleishhacker Family History" at a meeting of the SF HISTORY ASSOCIATION. 7 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; [sanfranciscohistory.org](http://sanfranciscohistory.org).

**Sept. 22:** Folio Books hosts an interactive event and book signing by Karen Benke, author of *Write Back Soon: Adventures in LETTER WRITING*. 7 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; [foliosf.com](http://foliosf.com).

**Sept. 23:** The Noe Valley Library hosts a "Write Your WILL WORKSHOP" led by a California attorney; bring a non-erasable blue pen. 6:30-8 pm. 451 Jersey. Call 355-5707 to reserve a space; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 23:** The FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS Association meets from 7 to 9 pm at the SFPD Police Academy, on 350 Amber Drive.

**Sept. 23-27:** The West Wave DANCE FESTIVAL's 24th season features more than 20 premieres. Z Space, 450 Florida. For a schedule: 626-0543 or [SAFEhouseArts.info/westwave24](http://SAFEhouseArts.info/westwave24).

**Sept. 24:** Reel-to-Reel FILMS for preschoolers screen at the Noe Valley Library at 10:15 and 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**Sept. 25:** Gallery of Jewels hosts a TRUNK SHOW by jewelry maker Dahlia Kanner, from 3 to 5 pm by appointment, and 5 to 8 pm open to the public. 4089 24th. 285-0626.

**Sept. 26:** Sherdian Warrick discusses *The Way to Make WINE: Superb Table Wines at Home*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Sept. 27:** Amelia Saltsman introduces *The Seasonal JEWISH KITCHEN: A Fresh Take on Tradition*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Sept. 28:** LITQUAKE's Epicenter features a conversation with Lysley Tenorio, author of *Monstress*. 7 pm. Viracocha, 998 Valencia. [litquake.com](http://litquake.com).

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

**Sept. 30:** Joanne Weir discusses *Kitchen Gypsy: RECIPES and Stories From a Lifelong Romance with Food*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Oct. 1:** Cooking teachers Simran Singh and Stacie Dong lead "Viva! HISPANIC COOKING Class for Kids," ages 6 and up. 3:30-4:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Limited to 12 participants; register at 355-5707.

**Oct. 2:** Cat Cora introduces *Cooking as Fast as I Can: A CHEF'S STORY of Family, Food, and Forgiveness*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Oct. 4:** The CASTRO STREET FAIR runs from 11 am to 6 pm around Castro and Market streets. [castrostreetfair.org](http://castrostreetfair.org).

**Oct. 4:** Herchurch celebrates the BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS on St. Francis Day. Drop in between 1 and 4 pm. 678 Portola.

**Oct. 6:** RUTH REICHL discusses *My Kitchen Year: 136 Recipes That Saved My Life* at a cocktail reception at Bar Agricole. 7-10 pm. 355 11th. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**Oct. 17-Nov. 8:** GALLERY SANCHEZ in the Noe Valley Ministry holds a group show featuring neighborhood artists. Reception Oct. 17, 1-4 pm. 1021 Sanchez. To submit work, email [Kit\\_Cameron@icloud.com](mailto:Kit_Cameron@icloud.com).

**Oct. 14:** Upper Noe Neighbors will celebrate the life and legacy of VICKI ROSEN. 7-9 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center auditorium, Day and Sanchez. 970-8061; [president@uppernoeneighbors.com](mailto:president@uppernoeneighbors.com).



### October Comes A'Creepin'

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the **October 2015** issue, distributed the first week of July. The deadline for Calendar items is **Sept. 15**. Write Calendar, *Noe Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146, or email [calendar@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:calendar@noevalleyvoice.com). Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Thank you.

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OCTOBER  
11  
2015

**PREMIERE SAXOPHONE QUARTET\* @ St. Mark's**

A David Carlson world premiere, commissioned by NVCM! Works by Barber and Gershwin. **3:15 pre-concert talk.**



NOVEMBER  
1  
2015

**TELEGRAPH STRING QUARTET @ St. Mark's**

Repertoire includes Haydn, Schulhoff, Harbison, and Beethoven.



JANUARY  
17  
2016

**SARAH CAHILL\* @ Noe Valley Ministry**

A piano recital of contemporary and Baroque Chaconnes and Passacaglias. **3:15 pre-concert talk.**



FEBRUARY  
28  
2016

**CELLO / PIANO DUO @ Noe Valley Ministry**

Dmitri Atapine & Hyeyeon Park perform Beethoven, Debussy, Liebermann & Rachmaninoff.



MARCH  
13  
2016

**BENEFIT CONCERT 5:30pm @ Noe Valley Ministry**

Kindra Scharich, soprano | Paul Yarbrough, viola | Jeffrey LaDeur, piano | Natalie Parker, clarinet. Enjoy spectacular performances of Schumann, Brahms, Mahler and Erickson with members of *LiederAlive* Chamber Ensemble.



APRIL  
17  
2016

**AGAVE BAROQUE\* @ Noe Valley Ministry**

Agave Baroque offers "Fire and Ice" - a whirlwind tour of string music from Northern Europe. **3:15 pre-concert talk.**



MAY  
8  
2016

**LIVIA SOHN & FRIENDS\* @ Noe Valley Ministry**

Britten, Beethoven, Bach, and Berio for Mother's Day, featuring violin virtuoso Livia Sohn. **3:15 pre-concert talk.**



all concerts begin at 4:00pm  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

SAT  
SEP  
5

MARCELLA KRIEBEL • *MI COMIDA LATINA: VIBRANT, FRESH, SIMPLE AUTHENTIC* • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • *Mi Comida Latina* captures the warmth and depth of culinary traditions in Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Puerto Rico.

SAT  
SEP  
12

SAMANTHA SENEVIRATNE • *THE NEW SUGAR AND SPICE: A RECIPE FOR BOLDER BAKING* • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Raise your desserts to a whole new level of flavor with *The New Sugar & Spice*, a collection of more than eighty unique recipes for spice-centric sweets.

WED  
SEP  
16

DANA VELDEN • *FINDING YOURSELF IN THE KITCHEN: KITCHEN MEDITATIONS AND INSPIRED RECIPES FROM A MINDFUL COOK* • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • In *Finding Yourself in the Kitchen*, Dana Velden asks us to seek deeper meaning in this space and explores what cooking can teach about intimacy, failure, curiosity, and beauty.

THU  
SEP  
17

OFF-SITE EVENT! HEIDI SWANSON • *NEAR & FAR: RECIPES INSPIRED BY HOME AND TRAVEL* • DINNER AT CAMINO RESTAURANT IN OAKLAND, 6:00-9:00 P.M. • Camino will prepare a special dinner in the fireplace from Heidi's fantastic new book. \$120 including drinks and tip. Mark your calendars - more details soon!

SAT  
SEP  
19

AMY GUITTARD • *GUITTARD CHOCOLATE COOKBOOK: DECADENT RECIPES FROM SAN FRANCISCO'S PREMIUM BEAN-TO-BAR CHOCOLATE COMPANY*. 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • With 60 simple recipes for every kind of indulgence, Amy Guittard presents tried-and-true favorite recipes from five generations of Guittards. And yes, of course there will be samples!

SAT  
SEP  
26

SHERIDAN WARRICK • *THE WAY TO MAKE WINE: HOW TO CRAFT SUPERB TABLE WINES AT HOME* • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE, WITH PINOT NOIR TO SAMPLE • Rich with insider know-how, this book divulges the many practical advances made in the past few decades and demonstrates that do-it-yourself winemaking is now simpler and more rewarding than ever.

SUN  
SEP  
27

AMELIA SALTSMAN • *THE SEASONAL JEWISH KITCHEN: A FRESH TAKE ON TRADITION*. 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE WITH HOUSE-MADE BAGELS AND SCHMEARS FROM BOM DIA MARKET! • Amelia traces the delicious thread of Jewish cuisine from its ancient roots to today's focus on seasonality and sustainability.

WED  
SEP  
30

JOANNE WEIR • *KITCHEN GYPSY: RECIPES AND STORIES FROM A LIFELONG ROMANCE WITH FOOD* • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE WITH WEIR'S OWN WINES TO SAMPLE! • In *Kitchen Gypsy*, the James Beard Award-winning author offers a taste of the people, places, and flavors that have inspired her throughout the years.

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LIBRARY EVENTS

**eReader and eResource Drop-In:** Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other device (including PIN and password) and find out how to use the new library catalog, ebooks, Zinio, and hoopla!, among other resources. Wednesday, Sept. 1, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Make a Terrarium,** your own tiny world of drought-friendly plants, at a workshop hosted by the SFPL. Bring a glass container (no higher than 5 inches) and the library will supply the rest of the materials. Space is limited to 12; call 415-355-5707 or send an email to nvamgr@sfpl.org. Priority will be given to adults; children 12 and older may be put on a waiting list. Wednesday, Sept. 2, 7 to 8 p.m.

**Noe Valley Knitting Circle:** Want to learn how to knit or crochet or just hang out with other knitters and crocheters? Join Noe Valley’s knitting circle the first Saturday of every month. Saturday, Sept. 5, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**The Great Books Discussion Group,** sponsored by the Great Books Council of San Francisco, takes on *Crito*, a dialogue on justice (and injustice) by the Greek philosopher Plato. Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Friday Matinee:** When deaf mute John Singer moves to a sleepy Southern town to be near his hospitalized friend, he finds others who are broken as well, in *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* (1968), a film based on the Carson McCullers novel of the same name. Friday, Sept. 11, 2 to 4 p.m.

**Lunch Prose @ the Library:** Noe Valley book editor, writer, and Write Now! founder Kathy Dalle-Molle leads a “free-writing” workshop open to adults at any level of writing experience. Advance signup is required for this 12-person writing group; call 415-355-5707. Tuesdays, Sept. 15, 22 & 29, noon to 1:30 p.m.

**ATA @ SFPL: Experience Reel Cinema.** Artists’ Television Access (ATA) teams up with SFPL to present gems from the library’s 16mm film archive. This program will screen two film portraits, one of a visual artist and one of a poet/playwright. Tuesday, Sept. 15, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

**Noe Valley Book Discussion Group:** Alison Bechdel’s graphic novel *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomedy* is the September selection of this local book club, which focuses on contemporary fiction and nonfiction. Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Write Your Will Workshop:** Learn the basics of estate planning, then write your own will under the guidance of an attorney with more than 35 years of experience. Bring a non-erasable blue pen. Advance registration is required. Stop by the information desk or call 415-355-5707 to reserve a space. Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

MORE BOOKS TO READ

In Your Borrowed Time

Library Branch Manager Denise Sanderson and Children’s Librarian Catherine Starr of the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library invite you to check out their latest selection of books, videos, films, and eLit. The September lineup features a memoir of life in New York City’s Chelsea Hotel, a pilot’s musings on the miracle of flight, and a book on the fascinating body and mind of the octopus.

To find these works and lots more on the library shelves, call or drop by the Noe Valley branch, 451 Jersey St. near Castro (415-355-5707), or visit the library online at www.sfpl.org. The *Voice* thanks bookworm Karol Barske for penning the annotations.

Adult Fiction

• A high school English teacher and parent of an autistic child re-examines his choices in life, in *Language Arts* by Stephanie Kallos, author of *Broken for You*.

• When a Blockbuster Video opens nearby, workers at the independent Star Video fight to save their shop, in *The Last Days of Video* by Jeremy Hawkins.

• *The Book of Speculation* by Erika Swyler is about a young librarian who fears that his sister will meet the same fate as generations of mermaids in the family.

Adult Nonfiction

• *100 Things Every Homeowner Must Know: How to Save Money, Solve Problems, and Improve Your Home*, by the editors of the magazine *Family Handyman*, covers repairs, remodeling, maintenance, and safety.

• Writer and former fashion model Brad Gooch recounts his New York love affair with film director Howard Brookner, in *Smash Cut: A Memoir of Howard & Art & the ’70s & the ’80s*.

• Barry Yourgrau battles severe clutter and hoarding in *Mess: One Man’s Struggle to Clean Up His House and His Act*.

New eBooks

• *Skyfaring: A Journey With a Pilot*, by Mark Vanhoenacker, discusses the human experience of flight and its perspectives on the planet.

• In Louisa Hall’s novel *Speak*, five characters—from the 17th century to the near future—explore the evolution of artificial intelligence and its relationship to communication.

• In *Walking With Abel: Journeys With the Nomads of the African Savannah*, Anna Badkhen documents the daily life of herders in the Sahel grasslands.

Films on DVD

• *Los Angeles Plays Itself* is Thom Anderson’s 2003 documentary about the positive and negative ways L.A. has been depicted in movies.

• In the sci-fi drama *Ex Machina* (2015), a young programmer takes part in an experiment designed to evaluate the human qualities of a female robot.

• A veteran actress (played by Juliette

Binoche) joins the cast of the same play that launched her career 20 years earlier, in *Clouds of Sils Maria* (2014).

Children’s Fiction

• A trusty collie tries hard to get the sheep to settle down, in *Sheep Go to Sleep* by Nancy Shaw, author of *Sheep in a Jeep* and *Sheep Out to Eat*. Illustrations by Margot Apple. Ages 3 to 6.

• *Little Red Henry* is Linda Urban’s retelling of the classic tale of the Little Red Hen, with illustrations by Madeline Valentine. Ages 4 to 8.

• In *Dragons Beware!*, the most recent book in “The Chronicles of Claudette” series by Jorge Aguirre (illustrated by Rafael Rosado), our heroine is out to get the dragon who ate her father’s legs. Ages 7 to 10.

• Two 11-year-old boys are enjoying their summer vacation in the woods until they have to face conflicts with older boys, in *Fort* by Cynthia DeFelice. Ages 8 to 12.

• *Cast Off: The Strange Adventures of Petra de Winter and Bram Broen*, by Eve Yohalem, is about a girl, disguised as a boy, who is a stowaway on a Dutch merchant ship sailing to the East Indies in 1663. Ages 10 and up.

Children’s Nonfiction

• *A Nest Is Noisy*—by Dianna Hutts Aston and Sylvia Long, creators of *An Egg Is Quiet*, *A Butterfly Is Patient*, and two other picture books—looks into the treetop homes of birds and animals. Ages 5 to 8.

• Find out how to write poems in the shape of objects in *Ode to a Commode: Concrete Poems*, by Brian P. Cleary with illustrations by Andy Rowland. Ages 5 to 9.

• Author/illustrators Ted and Betsy Lewin tell *How to Babysit a Leopard, and Other True Stories From Our Travels Across Six Continents*. Ages 8 to 12.

• *Vikingworld: The Age of Seafarers and Sagas*, by Robert MacLeod, includes maps, illustrations, and a timeline marking the 300-year reign of axe-wielding Norsemen. Ages 8 and up.

• According to *Octopus Scientists*, by naturalist Sy Montgomery and underwater photographer Keith Ellenbogen, the octopus is a sea creature with remarkable intelligence. Ages 10 to 12.

CHILDREN’S EVENTS

Join Miss Catherine for **Toddler Tales**, featuring books, rhymes, music, and movement for children ages 16 months through 2 years, with their caregivers. Thursdays, Sept. 3, 10, and 17, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

**Reel-to-Reel Preschool Films** are short vintage films, often not available on DVD, geared for children 3 to 5 years old and their caregivers. Thursday, Sept. 24, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy reading to **Stanley the Dog** and his owner, reading specialist Rebecca, at Puppy Dog Tales, a program for new readers or those who might want extra help in vocabulary or grammar. For ages 4 to 7, but older children are welcome. Call 415-355-5707 to reserve your spot. Saturday, Sept. 19, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

FOR TEENS AND UP

**The AAC Conversation Club** is for teens and adults who use communication devices like Dynavox, Quick-Talker, Talk Bar, Tobii Sono Flex, or applications for smartphones or tablets. The group meets on Mondays Sept. 14, 21 & 28, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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

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	
Glen Park Branch Library 2825 Diamond St., 355-2858							
Sun 1-5	Mon 10-6	Tues 10-6	Wed 12-8	Thurs 12-7	Fri 1-6	Sat 1-6	
Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Branch Library 1 José Sarria Ct. (3555 16th St.), 355-5616							
Sun 12-6	Mon 12-6	Tues 10-9	Wed 12-9	Thurs 10-6	Fri 1-6	Sat 12-6	

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Returns Department by Michael Blake

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## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

### Toy Story

By Mazook

NOAH VALLEY: Well, welcome back. When I sang “See you in September” last July, maybe I should have encored that with “Ch-ch-changes.” As you will see, Downtown Noe Valley has gone through some big changes. Some happy. Some sad.

First the sad. I reported two months ago my fear that another neighborhood icon, The Ark, was on its way out but that new shipments had arrived to replenish the store’s shrinking inventory. Hope springs eternal, I guess. The toy store closed soon after the July *Voice* hit the streets.

On July 16, the Ark Toy Company filed for bankruptcy in San Francisco. It posted a sign on the door at 3845 24th St., saying, “Unfortunately, The Ark has to close its doors. We appreciate all the love and support you have given us over the years.”

None of the stuffed animals in the window have budged since that date. (But someone kindly left the lights on.)

The Ark had been a fixture at 24th and Vicksburg for 18 years. For the last eight it was operated by Gerald Johnson, who had toy stores not only in Noe Valley but in Berkeley and on Sacramento Street in the city. Johnson was not available for comment, but you can see a great video of him talking about the toys in the store at [youtube.com/watch?v=P10JvWcrgIU](http://youtube.com/watch?v=P10JvWcrgIU).

According to court filings, the court has “rejected” the lease and the landlord

can now take possession of the store. The building owners’ attorney, Cheryl Rouse, is taking steps—for those who are entitled to the inventory, furniture, and fixtures—to remove it all. That may have already happened by the time you read this.

In response to a Rumors request to interview the owner, The Ark’s attorney sent a statement, which you can find in this month’s Letters to the Editor.

Dave Sullivan, one of the owners of the 1904 building on 24th Street, said they were very sorry to see The Ark closing after all those years. “I remember when they first opened,” said Sullivan, “and the toys brought such joy to the kids in the neighborhood, and then people started coming from all over the world to see the unique variety of toys.”

According to Sullivan, there were about three years left on The Ark’s lease. He said the building owners were waiting to gain access to the premises and would then look for a new tenant, “who will hopefully bring as much fun to the neighborhood as The Ark did,” said Sullivan.

Let’s hope there will be a happy ending and that all those stuffed animals will find homes.



WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS: Just across the street from The Ark, a “Moving Sale” sign appeared on the front window of one of the neighborhood’s longtime treasures, Cradle of the Sun, which can best be described as a school for stained-glass art. The announcement had many hearts in the neighborhood fluttering.

Dan Gamaldi and his wife Elaine have made, sold, and taught students how to make stained glass in Noe Valley for 38 years and at the location on 24th at Vicksburg (3848 24th) for the past 33 years.

At the beginning of the summer, they were drawing up plans to create more



**Happy Ending:** Video Wave co-owners Colin Hutton and Gwen Sanderson, shown here in their old digs on Castro Street, were celebrating this summer—they had landed a new location in Noe Valley, sharing space with Buttons Candy Bar on 24th Street. Go rent a movie. Photo by Jack Tipple

space for their students. They currently had 36, and hoped to fit 18 of the 90 people on their waiting list into new studio space.

“One of our students,” says Elaine, “has been here for 28 years, and a couple more over 20 years, and many [if not most] have been here more than 10 years and re-enroll.” (Classes are on three weekday evenings and Saturday and Sunday mornings.)

However, the Gamaldis were recently informed by the owner of their building that their rent would be increased about two and a half times, which “we simply can’t afford, so we will have to move somewhere else, so the first thing we have to do is notify our students,” says Elaine.

If they can’t find a new place, they may have to retire, Elaine says. “We are keep-

ing our fingers crossed that things will work out.” In the meantime, the store is giving big discounts on supplies and art glass. “We have 60 to 90 days before we have to be out.”

They also are searching for a space—in Noe Valley, the Mission, or over in the Castro/Upper Market area, Elaine says. If you know of any place that might be suitable, drop by their studio. And if you’re looking to buy colorful things you can see through, now’s the time.

Unfortunately, the beautiful stained-glass mosaic on the floor at the entrance to the store will be at the mercy of the new tenant. The mural, titled “Waterfall City” and installed in 2012, was created by Dan Gamaldi with permission of the artist who made the original design, James Gurney. The mosaic took four years to make.

Also on the move this summer was Martin Mattox, the tiny store that had been selling select vintage and new clothing for the past year in the downstairs shop space at 1104 Sanchez near 24th Street.

“We are very sad to leave Noe Valley,” says co-owner Linda Arbogast. “We were new to the area, but we live in Marin and now I [can] devote all my time to my interior designing, and the commute has been difficult.

“Let me just tell you,” she smiles, “being in this neighborhood was more than awesome.”



MOVING PICTURES: There is happy news for all neighborhood movie-lovers. When Video Wave, our only brick-and-mortar video store, was in peril because it had to leave its longtime spot on Castro Street near Jersey, the shop found a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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# RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

space on 24th Street that includes a candy counter—yum—so you can bring home treats with your film selection.

Video Wave is now sharing space with Buttons Candy Bar (4027 24th near Noe), certainly a marriage made in Hollywood.

“We feel just great,” says Video Wave’s longtime co-owner, Gwen Sanderson, “and so happy to move from a place that had been causing us a lot of stress into a situation that becomes fun.”

She adds, “What was really a surprise was that with only half the space, we are able to put in around 75 percent of our titles, and easily store the remaining titles close-by and available upon request.

“I also have to say how great it has been to work with [Buttons Candy Bar co-owner] Alison Porter, and [we] have created movie-compatible candies, sodas, ice cream, and of course popcorn.”

☎ ☎ ☎

SHORT SHRIFTS: Attempts to reach La Boulange owner Starbucks failed, and La Boulange founder Pascal Rigo did not respond to an email asking for comment on what will happen to La Boulange de Noe at 3898 24th St., now that its closure is imminent. (La Boulange’s last day was set for Sept. 17.)

Nevertheless, the Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation (NVBI) has learned that Rigo will be taking back the space, not only the cafe in Noe Valley but the Pine Street, Cole Valley, and Hayes Valley locations, and also the one down in Burlingame. What he will be doing with them is less certain. One source says they will be serving low-fat pastries, and another source thinks it will be pizza.

Despite the “Store Closing” signs in front of the steps down to “Qoio Under 24” at 3961½ 24th St., owner and jewelry artist Gilbertina Guarini says that she is not leaving but rather turning the space (below Opes) into “an elegant gallery where I will display my special one-of-a-kind jewelry and we will feature different sculptors and painters.” The changeover should occur at the end of this month.

Starbucks has made an application to once again have the wooden benches outside its coffee store on the corner of 24th and Noe (after the DPW discovered the permit had lapsed), and posted notice on Aug. 17 of its intent to do so, giving the public 10 days to object. According to a store supervisor, there has been one complaint, so it appears there now has to be a public hearing on the issue. Rest assured Starbucks will be prepared and have supporters of the benches, which have been there since 1998, at the hearing.

Yes, it’s true. Workers say the space once known as Noe Valley Music, at 3914 24th St., will become a nail salon.

To update the update on the project at 3820 24th St., aka Lux on 24: The developer, Brian Kendall, has postponed the expected completion date until the beginning of October. He also indicates that it is likely that you will see “For Rent” signs in the residences upstairs, and that he intends to rent the commercial space at market rate.

As we reported last month, there will be no Harvest Festival this fall, but Just for Fun and Whole Foods are reaching out to Downtown Noe Valley to sponsor and support activities for a “24th Street Fall Fest” on Oct. 24. It would include a hayride, SF firefighter truck, a dog and kid costume party, hula dancers, kids’ concerts, and sidewalk sales. “We hope for merchant support for this,” says Just for Funster David Eiland and Whole

Foods’ Julie Atkins. If you want to get involved, email Julie.Atkins@wholefoods.com.

Meanwhile, the buzz in Upper Noe Valley is that a drone has been sighted flying over 28th and Sanchez streets, causing consternation among the neighbors.

☎ ☎ ☎

CIRCLING THE DATE: The Town Square update meeting on July 9 at the Noe Valley Ministry was attended by more than 50 people. Residents for Noe Valley Town Square spokesperson Todd David gave those assembled an accounting of the funds collected, including the \$444,000 received from \$530,000 in neighborhood pledges.

David noted there was an issue about funding for the bathroom at the square, and that Rec and Park had estimated the costs would be an extra \$60K.

However, “the bathroom issue has been resolved,” said David, “and a private group is going to donate a bathroom ‘in kind,’ and build it on the spot that is called for by the design.”

David said groundbreaking was expected to be in January of 2016, and that the ribbon-cutting to open the town square was planned for October 2016.

There are plans to have one more public meeting regarding the project, which will probably be held in early October at St. Philip’s community hall. And finally, there are no plans in place yet as to where the Noe Valley Farmers’ Market will be located during the construction.

☎ ☎ ☎

LABOR DAZE: As we reach the 12th anniversary of the closing and papering shut of Real Food Company on Labor Day 2003, it appears that no plans have been filed with anybody for the vacant storefront, although they were promised last January at a public meeting. There

was no reply to inquiries at Scott Wiener’s office, and there was no response to a phone call to the architects regarding the plans. Once again, a stonewall and no one knows anything ... and it appears nothing will happen.

But, in happier news, Rec and Park (sfrecpark.org) reported Aug. 31 that a bunch of improvements had been given the green light at Noe Courts, our little park at 24th and Douglass. The list includes drainage repairs, new sod, plaza paving, benches, picnic tables, a new drinking fountain, landscaping, etc. The park will also get a wheelchair-accessible ramp to the kids’ playground and a new restroom building—at last. Renovation of the restroom, notes project manager Marvin Yee, should start “after Labor Day and [be] completed by Thanksgiving 2015.” Just in case you’re wondering, “the existing playground and basketball and tennis courts would remain as is.”

☎ ☎ ☎

THAT’S ALL, YOU ALL. Before I go, kudos go out to Noe Valleon Steve Fox, whose Urban Putt was recognized as one of the top miniature golf courses in the United States by the Smithsonian Institution. The course, located at 1096 South Van Ness at 22nd Street, opened in the spring of last year.

In a post on the Smithsonian blog, Matt Blitz writes, “San Francisco’s landmarks come alive at Urban Putt in the Mission District...as a whirling, mechanical, high-tech course...designed and built by 65 local artists, designers, and robotic [sic] experts.”

Fox says that Urban Putt is very busy these days and in the past two months has become super-busy. On Saturday mornings, there’s a line going down the block.

That’s 30. Bye, kids. ■



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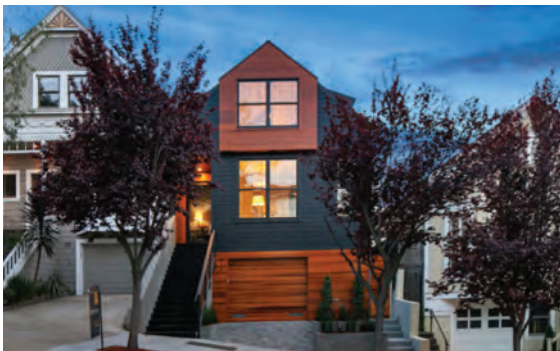
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# Turning a Parking Lot into Parks, Jobs & Affordable Housing



**Dear Fellow San Franciscan,**

We are the residents and small-business owners living and working closest to the proposed Mission Rock project and we are saying YES on Proposition D and we urge you to support it too.

Today, the area is a large surface parking lot known as Lot A. Proposition D will breathe new life into our community and help create a place worthy of this spectacular location.

Over the past eight years, the Giants have worked collaboratively with our neighborhood to help shape the plans for Mission Rock. Our community will be improved significantly by the new parks, waterfront access, recreational opportunities, a refurbished historic pier, affordable housing, jobs, neighborhood retail and restaurants, transit connections and replacement parking for Lot A.

Our neighborhood played an active role in the planning process and we are excited to see the transformation begin!

The Giants have consistently demonstrated a steadfast commitment to our City and our neighborhood. Proposition D is another example.

**As neighbors of the project, we say YES on Prop D!**

Please join us in improving our community.

**Sincerely,**

- Bruce & Tara Agid,**  
Mission Bay Residents

**Art & Sherrie Agnos,**  
Potrero Hill Residents

**Cathy Akiyama,**  
South Beach Resident

**William Cahill,**  
South Beach Resident

**Shelley Carroll,**  
South Beach Resident

**Derrick & Tricia Chu,**  
South Beach Residents

**Chris & Noel Kelton,**  
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South Beach

**Toby Levine,**  
Mission Bay Resident
- Katy Liddell,**  
South Beach Resident

**Charmaine Lobo,**  
South Beach Resident

**Robert Mansfield,**  
South Beach Resident

**Ronald Miguel,**  
Potrero Hill Resident

**Laura Nichol,**  
Potrero Hill Resident

**Rudy Nothenberg,**  
South Beach Resident

**Peter & Janet Osborne,**  
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Mission Rock Resort,  
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- Angeles Roy,**  
Mission Bay Resident

**Lauren Obstbaum  
& Sunny Schwartz,**  
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**Kevin Shanahan,**  
South Beach Resident

**Mimi Silbert,**  
President, Delancey Street  
Foundation, South Beach  
Resident

**Patrick Valentino,**  
Rincon Hill Resident

**Jamie Whitaker,**  
Rincon Hill Resident

**Corinne Woods,**  
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Paid for by San Franciscans for Affordable Housing, Jobs & Parks, Yes on Proposition D, a coalition of the San Francisco Giants, Mission Bay Residents, Labor and Small Business Leaders, FPPC #1377448. Major funding by the San Francisco Giants. Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org.

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# OTHER VOICES

fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction • the noe valley voice

## From **Yoga of the Impossible**

A novel by Diane Frank

CHAPTER 20

Fog on the North Side of Golden Gate Park

Naomi Wolf describes San Francisco as a city of sensual mysticism—a place of intense permission. I found myself in a culture so openly spiritual that you could go to a temp job and hear talk of déjà vu, astrology, and reincarnation in the lunch room. This was clearly a place where you could be completely who you are and still fit in. I fell in love with San Francisco the night I was invited to play chamber music with a group of new friends who shared a house on the north side of Golden Gate Park. We played Handel’s Water Music in the early evening. During a break we looked out the bay window to Fulton Street, where fog was filling the street and weaving through the trees. It was so mysterious.

All of the people in the house played in the Berkeley Chamber Orchestra, were vegetarian, and practiced meditation. One of the men especially intrigued me. Playing flute with Jeffrey was like walking down a mountain barefoot, with moss and lichens revealing themselves on the bark of tall trees. We continued with a piece by Teleman. As the flute, oboe, and violin braided themselves together, a forest of emotions revealed itself. The colors of early music flowed through rivers, moved from underneath the moist earth, dismantling my shield. My emotions were a wild improvisation, almost on the ground but lifted.

A few hours later, Jeffrey and I were sharing kisses on a foggy balcony. What astounded me about this man was the way he gave himself completely to the music. He got lost in the music, went into a trance, and it made the hairs on my arm stand on end. I felt him giving himself to me that way. His hands revealed the same musical passion I knew from his virtuoso violin, and in

his presence, I found myself deeply happy. With his arms and legs around me, I dreamed of light flowing through windows, holograms of planets, and doors mysteriously opening and closing.

At six o’clock in the morning, a woman opened his door and became hysterical. Jeffrey hadn’t told me about Mary, a willowy blonde who played the English horn and had been somewhere else last night. As he held her hands and attempted to calm her, speaking in a whisper, I fell back into my inner world and resurrected the shield around my heart. Under the sheets, I pulled on my jeans and sweater. As quietly as possi-

**All of the people in the house played in the Berkeley Chamber Orchestra, were vegetarian, and practiced meditation. One of the men especially intrigued me. Playing flute with Jeffrey was like walking down a mountain barefoot, with moss and lichens revealing themselves on the bark of tall trees.**

ble, I put my flute inside my backpack, walked out to Fulton Street, and waited for the #5 bus in the early morning fog. I took the bus to Divisadero, then hiked up the Castro Street hill and back down to 24th Street. When I got home, I took a shower and finished my dreams in Noe Valley.

How could I trust my heart again after such a disappointment? And what was love, really? It took all the courage I had to try another time, and I had failed. The other musicians in that house must have known that Jeffrey had a girlfriend. I wished that someone, anyone, had been honest with me.

Something between the visible world and my heart was hidden from me, or perhaps my inner world held a deeper truth. In my art, I had easy access to a universe which constantly amazed me. Prisms of color revealed themselves, and my hands understood the sinews of everything I touched. I was the goddess of a universe I created, and I knew how it worked. With men, it was different. I had offered a gift that was stolen from me. As an act of self-preservation, I abandoned my plans to audition for the Berkeley Chamber Orchestra.

In January I started graduate studies in Art at San Francisco State University, not because I needed a mentor, but it was an easy way to have access to studio space and a foundry. At first I worked alone, but much to my surprise, I found myself surrounded by a community of artists. We sat on rooftops together, planned group shows, and shared blueberry cheese pastries at Tasajara Bakery on Cole Street. If I wanted to hear jazz, see a foreign film, or go to the Symphony, I didn’t have to go alone.

I’m not sure exactly how and when it happened, but I got into the habit of seeing my life as an art form. It didn’t matter whether I was using my hands to shape sculpture or if life was using me for a larger work of art. On Tuesday I might be casting bronze, but by Thursday, life was casting me into a sculpture too immense for my daylight comprehension. These two worlds breathed together, embraced like the branches of trees, spawned rivers that rippled into other dimensions. My dreams gave me messages, visions, and images that informed my life and released my hands to find their form in clay.

On weekends, I hiked in redwood forests and returned to a pleasure I had embraced earlier in my life—dancing. I started with ballet, branched out into swing dance clubs, then discovered folk dancing at Ashkenaz in Berkeley. I dressed in bright colors and met a parade of men, but they didn’t make me happy. No one could make me happy because my heart was somewhere else.

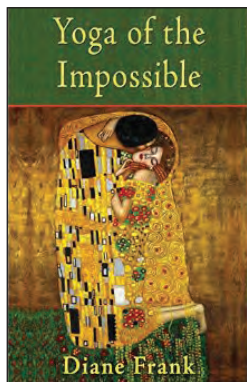
From time to time, I had boyfriends – a muscular auto mechanic who worked in the Mission District, a sculptor from

one of the galleries in North Beach, a paratrooper from the Israeli army, a dancer from the San Francisco Ballet, and an acrobat from the Pickle Family Circus. We might see each other for a few weeks or a few months, and then they would disappear, the way a dream does in the morning. I didn’t open up the way I did before. Even the thought of that was far too painful. My real romance was with my art.

\* \* \*

**Diane Frank** is an award-winning poet and author of six books of poems, including *Swan Light*, *Entering the Word Temple*, and *The Winter Life of Shooting Stars*. She lives in San Francisco, where she

dances, plays cello, writes, and creates art. From 1982 to 1989, she made her home in Noe Valley. “I now live in the Outer Sunset, but Noe Valley is the neighborhood that made me fall in love with San Francisco,” she says. In addition to teaching at San Francisco State University and Dominican University, Frank leads workshops for young writers as a California Poet in the Schools, and directs the Blue Light Press Online Poetry Workshop. *Blackberries in the Dream House*, her first novel, won the Chelson Award for Fiction and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Her new novel, *Yoga of the Impossible*, published last year, was #3 on Amazon’s bestseller list for metaphysical fiction, and #1 on their Hot New Releases list. “When I spoke on KPFA, Caroline Casey called my novel ‘a valentine to San Francisco.’” The book is available at Folio Books on 24th Street.



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**Al-Anon Noe Valley**  
Contact: 834-9940  
Website: [www.al-anonsf.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.dhcasf.org)  
Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

**Dolores Heights Improvement Club**  
Email: [info@doloresheights.org](mailto:info@doloresheights.org)  
Website: [www.doloresheights.org](http://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.

**Fair Oaks Neighbors**  
Email: [hello@fairoaksneighbors.org](mailto: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.

**MORE GROUPS TO JOIN**

**Fairmount Heights Association**  
Contact: Kathy Keller, 912-9365  
Email: [Kathy.Keller44@gmail.com](mailto:Kathy.Keller44@gmail.com)  
<http://fairmount-heights.org>  
Meetings: Monthly social mixer and discussion. Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m., SFPD Police Academy, 350 Amber Drive

**Friends of Billy Goat Hill**  
Contact: Lisa and Mo Ghotbi, 821-0122  
Website: [www.billygoathill.net](http://www.billygoathill.net)

**Friends of Dolores Park Playground**  
Contact: Nancy Gonzalez Madynski, 828-5772  
Email: [friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.friendsofdolorespark.org](http://www.friendsofdolorespark.org)  
Meetings: See website.

**Friends of Glen Canyon Park**  
Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862, or Jean Connor, 584-8576  
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](mailto: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](mailto:info@friendsofnoevalley.com)  
Website: [www.friendsofnoevalley.com](http://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](mailto:info@noevalleyreccenter.com)  
Website: [www.noevalleyreccenter.com](http://www.noevalleyreccenter.com)  
Meetings: Email or check website.

**Juri Commoners**  
Contact: Dave Schweisguth, M17-6290  
Email: [dave@schweisguth.org](mailto:dave@schweisguth.org)  
Website: [www.meetup.com/Juri-Commoners](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:info@noevalleyassociation.org)  
Website: [www.noevalleyassociation.org](http://www.noevalleyassociation.org)  
Board meetings: Quarterly. See website.

**Noe Valley Democratic Club**  
Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042; [hls5@ibew1245.com](mailto:hls5@ibew1245.com)  
Website: [noevalleydems.com](http://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](mailto:info@noevalleyfarmersmarket.com)

**Noe Valley Library Campaign**  
Contacts: Kim Drew, 643-4695, [kkdrew@yahoo.com](mailto:kkdrew@yahoo.com)  
Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, 626-7500, [info@friendssfpl.org](mailto: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](http://www.No ValleyMerchants.com)

**San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)**  
Contact: Noe Valley NERT Neighborhood Team co-coordinators Maxine Fasulis, [mfasulis@yahoo.com](mailto:mfasulis@yahoo.com); Carole Roberts, [carole\\_roberts@faludi.com](mailto: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](mailto:minaken@gmail.com)

**Noe Valley Parents, San Francisco**  
Listserv contact: [noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com). Subscribe: [noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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](mailto:noevalleytownsquare@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.noevalleytownsquare.com](http://www.noevalleytownsquare.com)  
Meetings: Call for details.

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

**SafeCleanGreen Mission Dolores**  
Contact: Gideon Kramer, 861-2480  
Email: [safecleangreen@bigfoot.com](mailto:safecleangreen@bigfoot.com)  
Website: [www.safecleangreen.com](http://www.safecleangreen.com)

**Upper Noe Neighbors**  
Contact: Marianne Hampton, 821-2150  
Email: [president@uppernoeneighbors.com](mailto:president@uppernoeneighbors.com)  
Meetings: Quarterly. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St., 7:30 p.m. Call for date.

\*All phone numbers are in the 415 area code.



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