



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## You Were There For the Year of the Square

24th Street Space for All Things  
Celebratory Flourished in 2017

By Jack Tipple

The Noe Valley Town Square was the venue of choice for the neighborhood in 2017.

Strollers were parked and toddlers and their handlers took over the ample play space during most weekdays, and after the Farmers Market packed it in on Saturdays, special events often took place.

### Spooktacular a Monster Smash

A giant bale-of-hay maze took over the square at 3862 24th St. on Saturday, Oct. 28, and could be traversed until Friday, Nov. 3. On Sunday, Oct. 29, children's activities, including pumpkin painting and a costume contest for both kids and pets, ruled the venue from 3 to 5 p.m.

The event was sponsored by The Agency with help from Sterling Bank, Vanguard Properties, Just for Fun, and the Noe Valley Farmers Market.

*Voice* photographer Art Bodner braved the creepy and the cute and captured the scene in the picture at right and on pages 4 and 6 of this issue.

### More Square to Come

Saturday, Jan. 13, will see the BYOP (picnic) bingo event at the Square from 3 to 5 p.m.

The first Movie Night at the Square will be on Saturday, Feb. 3, thanks to funding from the Noe Valley Gala.

Sunday, March 18, will feature the Noe Valley Animal Fair with adoption booths, contests, and animal trick performances.



**Lion Loose at the Square.** This toddler charmed the throngs at the Spooktacular event held at the Noe Valley Town Square Oct. 29. See more spooky photos on pages 4 and 6.

Photo by Art Bodner

## 2017 According to *The Noe Valley Voice*

Hooray for Us Journalists and  
All Things Noe Valleysque

Confetti cascaded through the air over 24th Street as the Mission High School marching band made its thunderous way east toward the Noe Valley Town Square. The first of several vintage autos belonging to Dr. Barry Kinney carried *Voice* cartoonist Owen Baker-Flynn, who beamed and waved to the adoring crowd. State Senator Scott Wiener ducked as a flock of trained pigeons executed their aerial maneuvers. People from throughout the neighborhood and vicinity had gathered to celebrate *Noe Valley Voice* Day. It was the 40th anniversary of the “polished little monthly,” and the excitement rippled all the way to Glen Park.

The event never actually took place—not even in an April Fool's issue, where giggling writers had occasionally attempted to pen tales of humor and satire. In 2016, a *Voice* layout artist added “Our 40th Year” to the banner logo on page 1, to announce our 40th volume of publication. Since the first *Voice* edition had launched in May of 1977, the 40th anniversary didn't officially arrive until May 2017. And the occasion met with little fanfare—much less applause from politicians. But as our distribution chief can attest, people continually value the *Voice* and look forward to picking up the print edition (unless it's really raining hard).

One thing common to persons or entities who've grown to a mature status is looking back and taking stock of their creations, and that's what this edition you hold in your hands or read on your screen is mostly about. We're going over the highlights of the recently passed 40th (really 41st) year in this, our first-ever January edition. The rundown starts on page 11. While most *Voice* contributors and editors are taking the month of December off, as is their habit, a few elves insisted on putting this paper together. They hope you enjoy it.

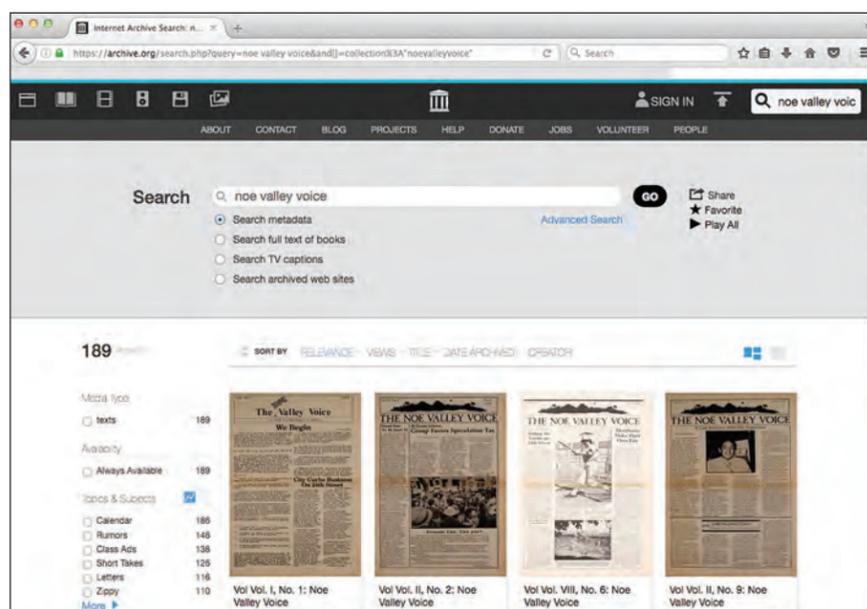
—Jack Tipple, Co-Publisher

## February Marks the Return of Regular *Voice* News & Features

This special January edition is lacking the usual Short Takes, Rumors, and Library Books *Voice* readers are used to perusing. But don't despair. The *Voice* gang will be back to serve up a lovely and complete February paper. If you want to participate by submitting a letter, news item, or event notice, please get it to us by Jan. 15. Email us at [editor@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:editor@noevalleyvoice.com) or write to P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Thank you.

—Jack Tipple and Sally Smith  
Editors and Co-Publishers



The Internet Archive is a terrific resource that contains all the pages the *Noe Valley Voice* published starting with the first issue in May of 1977.

## The *Voice* Way Way Back

The physical *Voice* print archives contain a few of each issue for the past several years. If you'd like one (one per request, please), write to Editor, *Noe Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146, enclose \$5, and we'll get one out to you via first-class mail.

Our online archive begins at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com) with the December 1996/January 1997 issue. And starting with the July/August 2013 edition you can view and download a PDF of each edition that mimics what you see in print.

Going back further than 1997 requires a visit to the Internet Archive at [https://web.archive.org/web/\\*/1977\\_noevalleyvoice](https://web.archive.org/web/*/1977_noevalleyvoice). By searching for the collection titled Neighborhood Newspapers of San Francisco, you can access the *Noe Valley Voice* from 1977.

# We Have a Winner!



**Congratulations** to 8 year old Clair Kane. She's the winner of our Kids Photo Contest for this holiday portrait of Finn, the family Golden Retriever. Clair is the daughter of Larry Kane and Christina Flood Kane of Noe Valley.

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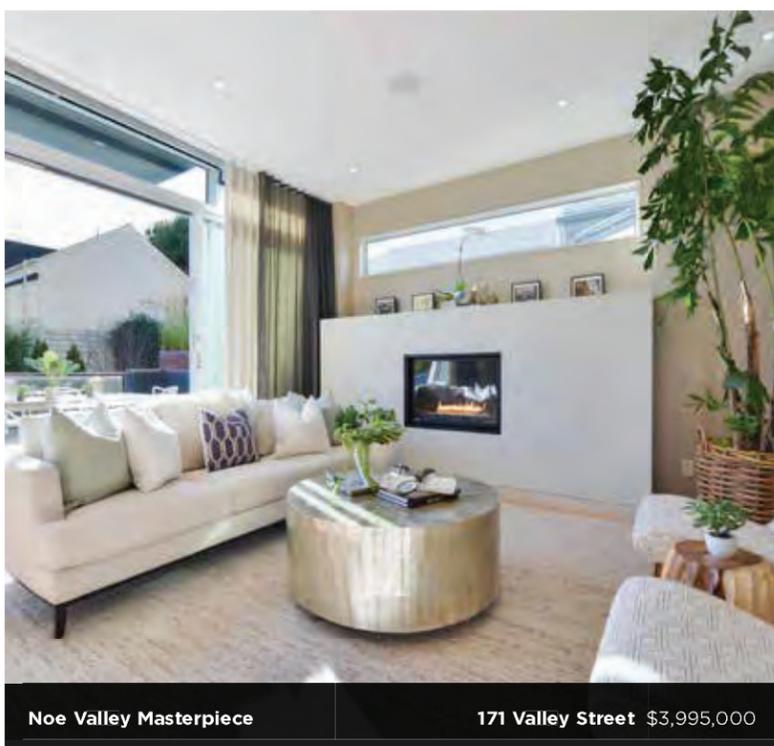
Here are some of Jessica's **FABULOUS 2017 listings and sales:**



**SOLD IN 6 DAYS!**  
101 Santa Marina \$2,500,000



**SOLD FOR 22% OVER ASK!**  
1109 Hampshire \$1,700,000

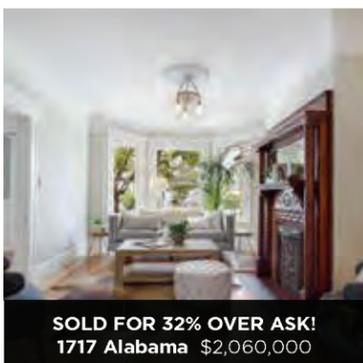


Noe Valley Masterpiece

171 Valley Street \$3,995,000



**BUYER REPRESENTED**  
191 Wawona \$2,330,000



**SOLD FOR 32% OVER ASK!**  
1717 Alabama \$2,060,000



**MULTIPLE OFFERS!**  
68 Rosenkranz \$2,060,000



**SOLD FOR OVER \$1,350/SQFT!**  
330 Banks \$1,700,000



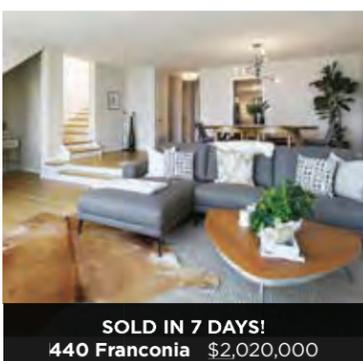
**SOLD FOR 22% OVER ASK!**  
3314 Folsom \$1,460,000



**MULTIPLE OFFERS**  
391 Day Street \$2,525,000



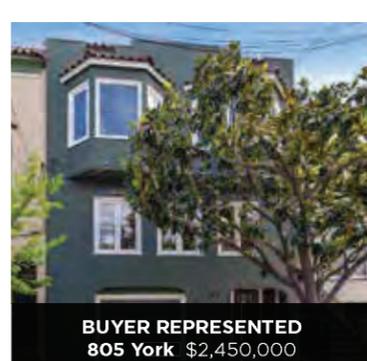
**SOLD FOR OVER \$1,200/SQFT!**  
288 San Jose \$1,335,000



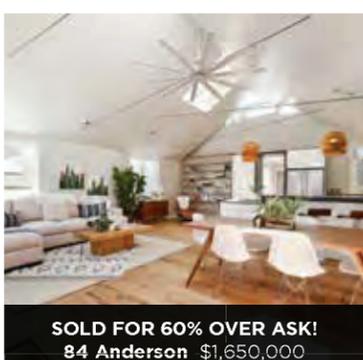
**SOLD IN 7 DAYS!**  
440 Franconia \$2,020,000



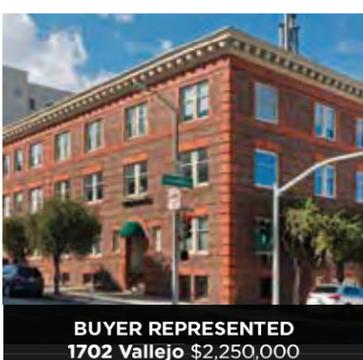
**SOLD IN 6 DAYS!**  
3982 Folsom \$2,450,000



**BUYER REPRESENTED**  
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**SOLD FOR 60% OVER ASK!**  
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\*Statistics based on 2017 MLS data at time of print





Kids and pets submitted to the applause from contest viewers and judges.



The parking requirements rivaled that of Charlie's Corner at storytime.

## Spooktacular

Photos by  
**Art Bodner**



Pugalisa was the winner of the Pet costume contest.

**More Spooktacular photos on page 6**

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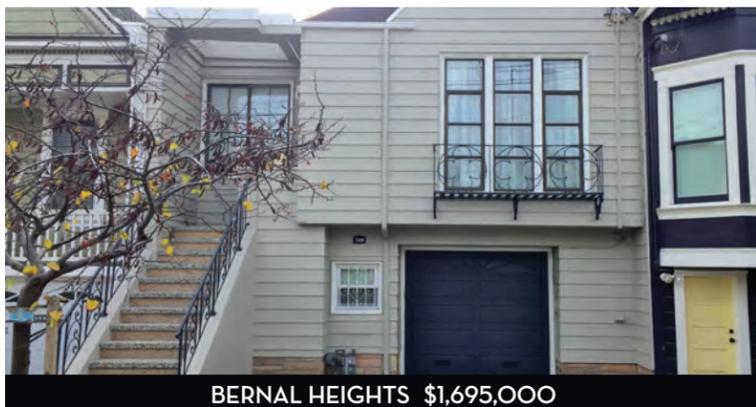
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The place was crawling with creatures as Rachel Swann (at left with mike) attempted to wrangle the cutest of the cute.



Mauricio Umansky, CEO of The Agency real estate brokerage, interviews a budding super-hero.

## Spooktacular

*photos by*  
**Art Bodner**



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**Tiffany Hickenbottom**  
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*Off Market*



**SOLD** Glen Park  
Buyer Represented \$2,275,000



**SOLD** Haight Ashbury  
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Seller Represented \$1,860,000



**SOLD** Noe Valley  
Buyer Represented \$4,600,000  
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**SOLD** Diamond Heights  
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**SOLD** Corona Heights  
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**SOLD** Russian Hill  
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## 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 August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity during the first week 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.

Email: [editor@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:editor@noevalleyvoice.com)

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Distribution: Call Jack, 415-385-4569

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Class Ads: See Page 22

Display Advertising Deadline for the

February Issue: Jan. 20, 2018

Editorial/Class Ad Deadline: Jan. 15, 2018

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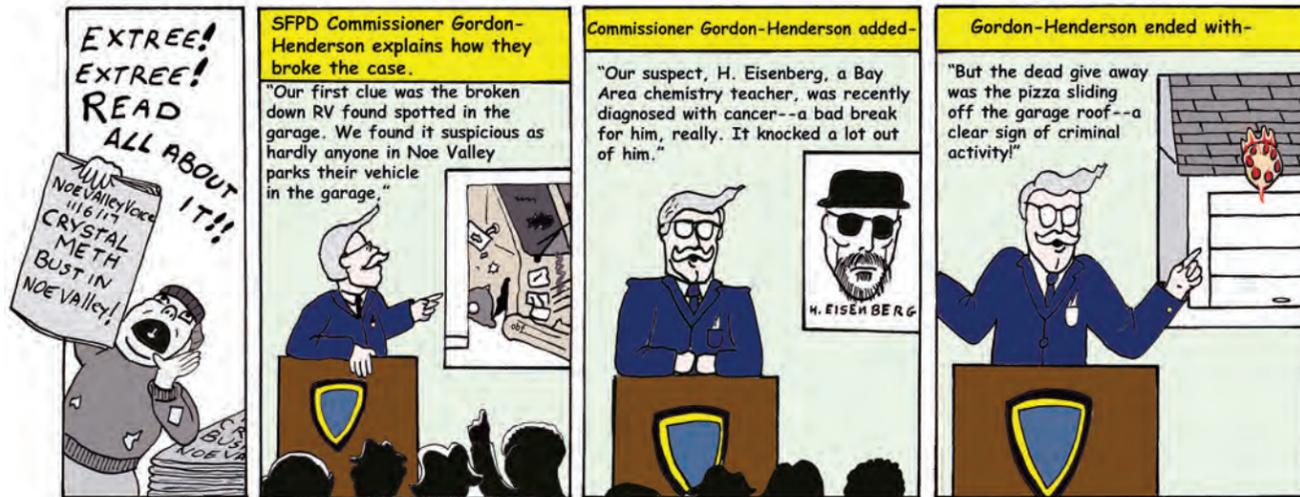
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# LETTERS 49¢

## Cliché Noe Says Goodbye

Editor:

The truth is we are heart broken... Fred and I want to thank you for your support over the last six years. We tried everything! We had events; we supported our community, locally, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. I served on the board of directors of the San Francisco Council District Merchant Association and through the Mayor's office we helped launch the Shop Dine 49 campaign, even nationally with Small Business Saturday, as well as many local non-profits and the wonderful Noe Valley Chamber Music. We even had an art gallery pop-up for a year! Then came SFMade partnership, which was a huge success over the holidays! We truly tried to reflect the needs of our customers with our goods

and services.

But the reality is there is just not enough revenue. Retail is being hammered by online shopping and what can we do? I think of all the family run businesses who, maybe in the past, bought homes and put their children through good schools, and most of all these retailers gave other people jobs. I admire their courage very much.

I want to thank our brilliant staff, especially Sarah, Janelle and Star who are all moving on to be the successful young women they are meant to be. I want to thank my husband Fred who gave me my dream. How cool was that?

It's going to be okay as we have plans to make the space available to rent. Anyone interested? See you around the neighborhood and God Bless.

Dani, Fred, & Staff of Cliché Noe,  
Dec. 26, 2017

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The *Noe Valley Voice* welcomes your Correspondence. Email [editor@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:editor@noevalleyvoice.com) or write *Noe Valley Voice* Letters, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include your name, address, or other contact information. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) Please note that letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.

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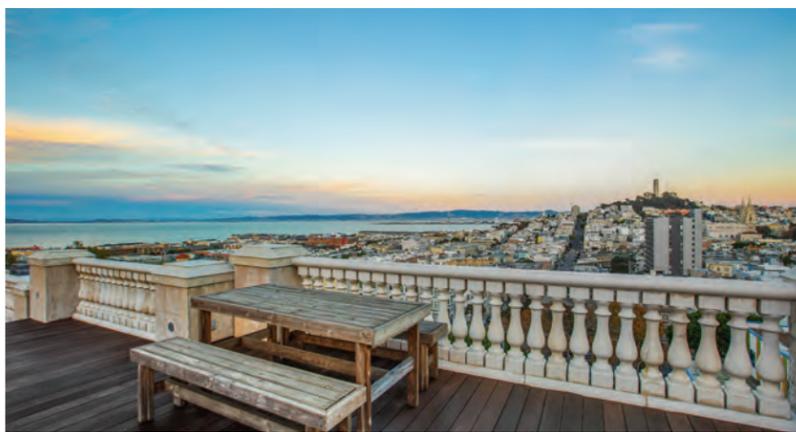
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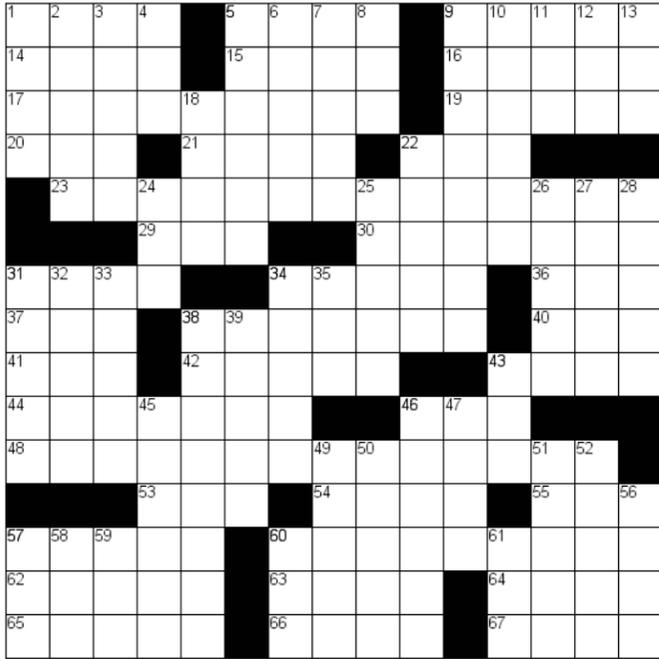
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**THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE**

**Shh! Did You Just Hear That?**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Need to scratch
- 5. Golden Gate Park's \_\_\_\_\_ Lake
- 9. Noe Valley Voice editor \_\_\_\_\_ Smith (tho everyone calls her Sally)
- 14. What you used to be?
- 15. Record, back in the day
- 16. Exact copy
- 17. Insect on a Rimsky-Korsakov "Flight"
- 19. Good at repairs
- 20. Before, before
- 21. Shakespearean stream
- 22. British govt. leaders
- 23. Used audio purchases that bum you out if they're perforated
- 29. Managed
- 30. Last words in a phrase meaning "eventually"
- 31. Recipe direction
- 34. 10th-century French king Hugh
- 36. Ambiance purchase
- 37. Asian New Year
- 38. Church St haircutter, or what comes to mind when you think of 17-, 23-, 48-, and 60-Across
- 40. Ele \_\_\_\_\_: salon on Guerrero
- 41. Apt.-ad abbr.
- 42. Pass again, at Indy
- 43. Munitions
- 44. Expensive to patronize, probably
- 46. Sum (up)
- 48. Valencia Street shop or Beach Boys hit
- 53. "Friend" Courteney nos.
- 55. Batteries in optical mice



- 57. Lofty goal
  - 60. NBA timer that counts down
  - 62. Smallest
  - 63. "East of \_\_\_\_\_"
  - 64. "If you ask me," in chat rooms
  - 65. "M\*A\*S\*H" locale
  - 66. End the flight
  - 67. Deodorant-soap brand
- DOWN**
- 1. The Beatles' "Let \_\_\_\_\_"
  - 2. Weds follower
  - 3. Ajax rival
  - 4. SFO, for United
  - 5. Director Spielberg
  - 6. Verboten
  - 7. Has its first showing
  - 8. Teeny-tiny
  - 9. Bacon drippings, or great sentimentality
  - 10. Virgin America swallower
  - 11. Rand Paul's dad
  - 12. "Your point being...?"
  - 13. "Wait a minute!"
  - 18. "Tomb Raider" heroine Croft
  - 22. Celebrity blogger Hilton
  - 24. Mess up
  - 25. "Can of corn," in baseball
  - 26. It's a gas
  - 27. Reign
  - 28. Miles., south of the Pyrenees
  - 31. Olympic gymnast Kerri
  - 32. Musical speed
  - 33. "\_\_\_\_\_ Easy to Fall in Love"
  - 34. "People" subject, for short
  - 35. Group for D.A.'s
  - 38. Actor John of "Pulp Fiction"
  - 39. DNA shape
  - 43. "Much \_\_\_\_\_ About Nothing"
  - 45. Music lover's "jewel box"
  - 46. Be present at
  - 47. Frisbee shape
  - 49. \_\_\_\_\_-thon (library event)
  - 50. Guitar players in rock bands, slangily
  - 51. Actress Watts of "Birdman"
  - 52. "Borat" creator \_\_\_\_\_ Baron Cohen
  - 56. Vodka brand that sounds like a toast
  - 57. Kind or sort
  - 58. Gaius's god
  - 59. Corn unit
  - 60. Goo at 38-Across
  - 61. Blow the \_\_\_\_\_ off (expose)

**Solution on Page 29**  
 NOTE: The current Voice Crossword and all past puzzles can be found at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)

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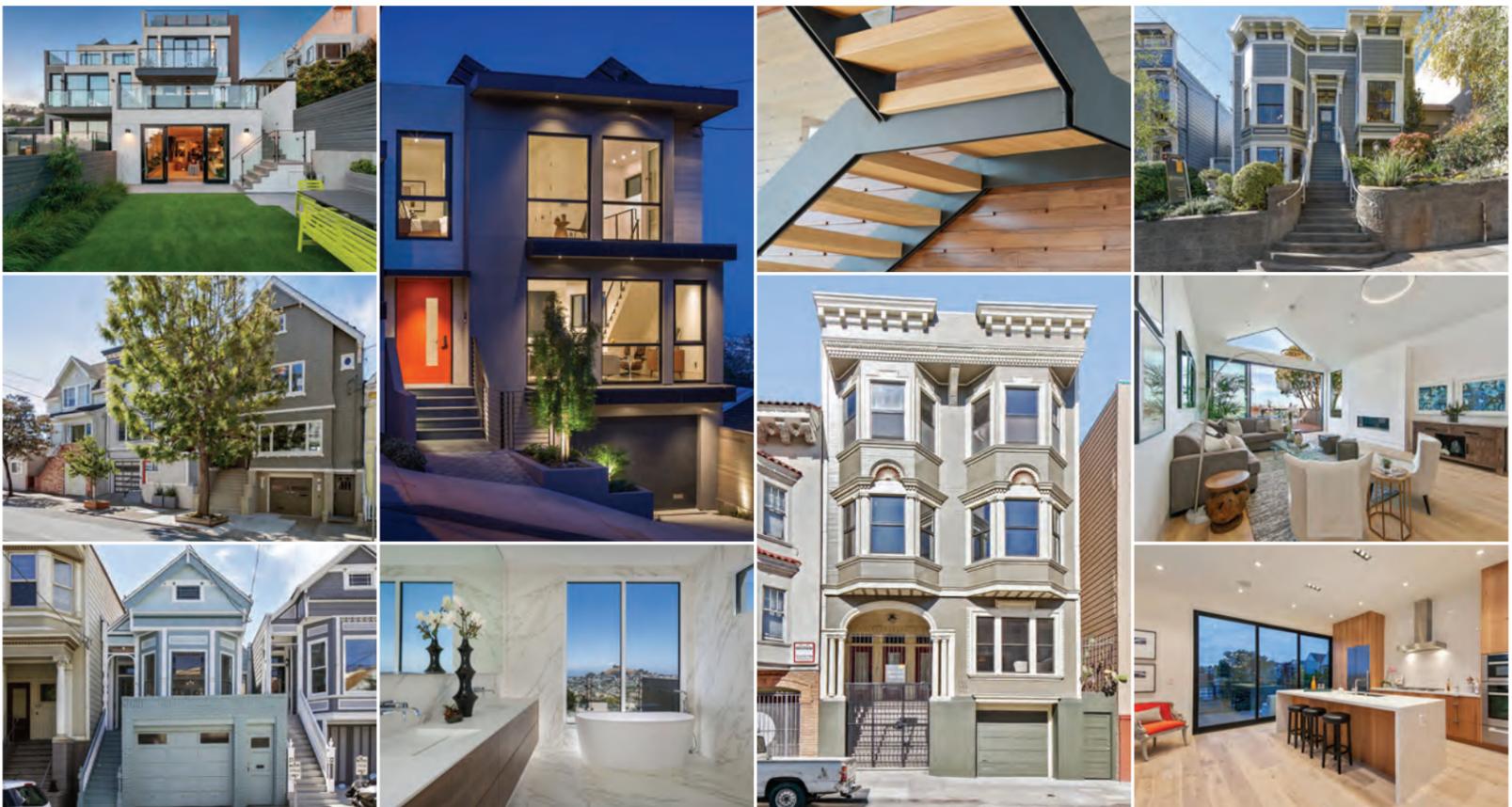
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# All That We Found to Print in a 2017 Noe Valley

**FEBRUARY  
2017**

## Sex, Birth and Politics

36 pages

### PAGE ONE

Mayor Lee picks Jeff Sheehy to finish the District 8 Supervisor term vacated by Scott Wiener, who was elected State Senator. Sheehy tours and talks in Noe Valley.

Little kids' boutique Small Frys distributes the free Baby Box for baby's first bed. It's designed for safety and comes with other goodies gratis.

Prolific local author and journalist Michael Castleman blogs about sex for *Psychology Today*.

### INSIDE

Stand Up SF political action group formed.

Comedian Liz Stone launches performances at the Valley Tavern.

Rain Kids photos by Pamela Gerard.

*Voice* readers Flores and Simmons share their travel photos.

New management plan for SF parks.

Women's March draws Noe Valley participants.

Penny and her pet Charlie.

Our On 24th Street question of the month has eight people voicing their ideal date night in the city.

Portuguese restaurant Uma Casa opens on Church Street.

The Store Trek column examines The Lotus Method, a 24th Street business that focuses on strength training for pregnant women.

A bonus Store Trek features the Temporarium, a coffee nook on 22nd Street near Guerrero.

Other Voices, an occasional column of prose, poetry, and essays, has an excerpt from the new novel *Resilient Ruin* by former *Voice* contributor Laura McHale Holland.

Glen Park resident Steve Steinberg donates fine Italian artworks to St. Paul's Catholic Church.

All editions carried *Letters to the Editor*, a *Cartoon* by Owen Baker-Flynn, a *Crossword* puzzle by Michael Blake, and the *Cost of Living* column by Corrie M. Anders, which reports on significant real estate transactions in the neighborhood and includes a survey of rental properties. *Now Appearing*, a column on local wildflowers by Joe O'Connor, starts in March. *Short Takes*, contains nearly a dozen shorter local items by Richard May and others. *Calendar* events culled by Karol Barske focuses on happenings in Noe Valley. The *Upper Noe Rec Center* column lists their events and class information furnished by Chris Faust. *More Books to Read* is a full page of new acquisitions and featured events at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn branch of the San Francisco Public Library. *Rumors* tells our latest news tracked down by Mazook. It is joined by *More Groups to Join*, a comprehensive listing of active neighborhood organizations. Stories unique to each month are noted, starting at left.

—Jack Tipple, Sally Smith, Editors/Co-Publishers



## THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

### Former Noe Valley Resident Named District 8 Supe

School, Housing, and Health Issues a Focus for Jeff Sheehy

By Matthew S. Bajko

Mayor Ed Lee surprised shoppers and cafe patrons along 24th Street one afternoon in early January when he popped into several Noe Valley businesses to introduce Jeff Sheehy, his pick to fill the vacant District 8 seat on the Board of Supervisors.

The introductions at Martha & Brothers, David's Tea, Holey Bagel, and Bernie's went cordially, with both Lee and Sheehy briefly saying hello to the strangers, for the most part, they met. At Good News, the mayor told owner Sam Salamah to contact the new supervisor should he ever need assistance.

"Okay, will do," responded a smiling Salamah.

On the sidewalk in front of Whole Foods, an elderly gentleman approached Sheehy to seek his help in fighting his landlord's Ellis Act eviction of himself and his neighbors from their apartment building near Dolores Park. An aide to the mayor asked for the man's contact information so Sheehy, then still two days away from being sworn into office, could



Many Wanted Another Wiener. And those who know Jeff Sheehy say he's the right one to fill Scott's shoes as District 8 supervisor. Here, Sheehy is shown strolling through Noe Valley minutes after his Jan. 6 appointment by Mayor Edwin Lee. Photo by Kelly Sullivan

follow up on the matter.

Sheehy also agreed to get into contact with the man, telling him, "The Ellis Act is a thing of the devil, really satanic."

It was a clear example that the mayor had picked no wilting flower to represent not only Noe Valley but also the Castro, Diamond Heights, and Glen Park at City Hall. His choice to succeed Scott Wiener, who in November won election to the state Senate, is a battle-hardened political operative not afraid to speak his mind.

"I am not a politician," Sheehy, 59, the first person living with HIV to serve on the board, told reporters the day of his announcement.

In talking with numerous District 8 community leaders, Lee said he was repeatedly told to find "a replica of Scott Wiener." While there was "no such way to do it," Lee said he did find in Sheehy "someone who is aspirational, has a deep

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

### Baby Box Sports Safe Sleep Design

Free Program Distributed From Noe Valley Business

By Olivia Boler

If you're a San Francisco family expecting a baby before Nov. 1, 2017, you qualify for a free gift. It's a baby box worth nearly \$70, and it's full of goodies, including the box, which doubles as baby's first bed.

You might be wondering, what is a baby box? The concept originated in Finland in the 1930s, according to a BBC News Magazine report. Expectant mothers in Finland to this day receive a free maternity package from the government that contains infant clothes, diapers, cleaning wipes, and other supplies new parents need.

The box also has a small mattress and sheet that fit snugly in the cardboard box—a perfect bed for a newborn infant. At 26½ by 16½ by 11½ inches, the box can accommodate babies up to about 4 to 6 months of age. Studies credit the baby box with Finland's low infant-mortality rate and a reduction in sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Noe Valley neighbor and merchant Carol Yenne learned of the baby boxes a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

### Michael Castleman Blogs About Sex for Psychology Today

Prolific Author and Journalist Has Global Audience

By Corrie M. Anders

There is nothing that you can't ask Michael Castleman about sex. You can't make him blush and you can't make him cringe. And he doesn't tippy-toe around discussion of the most intimate activities in front of his wife or children. It's in his job description to be explicit.

Castleman is a health journalist who has covered trends in sexuality for four decades. He has an audience that extends far beyond the book-crammed basement office of his Noe Valley home.

"There's an old saying that the only one thing worse than having parents who won't talk to you about sex is having a parent who won't shut up about it," says

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Piling Up the References. Michael Castleman's office strains to contain some of the source materials for his fiction, health, and sexuality books. Photo by Corrie M. Anders



All You Supply Is the Baby. Small Frys employee Saralany Carvajal and 3-month-old Luli Gonzalez try out the Baby Box, which comes complete with fitted mattress and sheet, a onesie, and other items courtesy of the Bezos Family Foundation. Photo by Pamela Gerard

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# Alvarado School Snags Grant \$\$

*Special to the Noe Valley Voice*

Baseball World Champion Brandon Crawford, of the San Francisco Giants, and Jim Foley, executive vice president and president of Wells Fargo's Pacific North Region, presented checks to recipients of the KNBR Step Up to the Plate for Education grants program funded by Wells Fargo at AT&T Park in November.

Through an open nomination process, schools applied to receive grants, and winners were selected. Thirty-one Bay Area schools including Alvarado Elementary School in Noe Valley received \$100,000 in grants to support their sports, musical, art, and education programs.

"Wells Fargo is proud to support educational and athletic programs that will play a role in preparing our youth to be successful adults," said Foley. "When students and communities prosper, we all benefit."

Brandon Crawford, who plays shortstop for the Giants, spoke to the grant winners about the power of education: "As a kid, my parents always emphasized the importance of an education—above and beyond participating in sports. As a Bay Area native, it's an honor to be part of a program that increases education and athletic programs for local kids."

Wells Fargo invests in communities where its team members and customers live and work and is a top corporate philanthropist in the greater Bay Area. Wells Fargo and KNBR have distributed over \$1.1 million through the Step Up to the Plate program to support the Bay Area's youth over the past 15 years.



**Pay Day.** Alvarado Elementary School received a grant to assist with starting a bicycle program and the purchase of 10 tricycles. SF Giants shortstop Brandon Crawford, at left, and Wells Fargo representative Jim Foley, far right, presented the replica check to students Aiden Scott Jackson and Ramona Robinson, and adults Laurie Baker-Flynn and new Alvarado principal Laurie Murdock. Young Aiden asked the baseball star if his glove was really made of gold.

*Photo courtesy of Wells Fargo Bank*

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# MARCH 2017

## Historic Imagery, Hate Antidotes, Up in the Air and Word Power

32 pages

PAGE ONE

OpenSFHistory provides the first of a regular photo series taken during Noe Valley's infancy.

The #LoveArmy founded by Van Jones and Action SF are touted as antidotes to the fear and loathing following our national election. A hate note rattles neighbors.

New commercial airplane routes rile neighbors.

The Word Week authors festival features Cleve Jones reading his recently published memoir.

### INSIDE

Ken Shaw goes to Zambia for the Peace Corps.

Obituary for Misha Yagudin, musician and long time Voice distribution manager.

Joe O'Connor's column on local wildflowers titled *Now Appearing* makes debut.

11 people respond to our On 24th Street question: What service or store do we need more of in Noe Valley?

Artisana Functional Art is the featured new business for *Storetrek*.

Daniel Raskin contributes the prose piece *Onion Woman* and a photo to *Other Voices*.



**Looking West.** This view of Noe Valley and Twin Peaks was captured sometime around 1935. A private collector donated it and over 100,000 historical images of San Francisco to the Western Neighborhoods Project to scan and make available to the public under their program OpenSFHistory. On Tuesday, March 28, Woody LaBounty and David Gallagher will present selected images from the collection and share stories about the snapshots at St. Philip's Church. See our Short Take on page 19 for more information. Photo courtesy OpenSFHistory

Volume XXI, No. 2

March 2017



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Neighborhood Responds to Hate Incident

Noe Valley Not Immune to Disturbing National Trend

By Matthew S. Bajko

A number of social media campaigns are under way to counter reported rises in hate crime incidents—including one incident in Noe Valley—since the election of Donald Trump as president in November. And a local synagogue will conduct a training in March, which will be open to the community, on how to respond to a hate crime.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, in just the first 34 days after the election, it counted a total of 1,094 bias incidents around the nation. Nearly 40 percent were directly related to the president or his campaign rhetoric.

And in a post-election online survey of educators that the nonprofit conducted, 90 percent of the 10,000 school officials who responded reported the election had negatively impacted the climate at their schools. Eight in 10 educators also said their "marginalized students, including immigrants, Muslims, African Americans, and LGBT people," were especially fearful about the new administration.

"In San Francisco, we think that because we are this progressive bastion no one here may be feeling the impacts of the broader political climate. But the reality is it hits us here as well," said Matt Haney, a member of the San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education. "As a school board member, I can tell you there is a lot of fear and anxiety out there. We have had multiple calls go out to families letting them know we don't cooper-

ate with immigration authorities." Haney works as the political director at Oakland-based the Dream Corps, which was founded in 2014 by Van Jones, a former adviser to President Obama and a frequent commentator on CNN. In response to last year's election results, the nonprofit has launched the #LoveArmy initiative and is asking people to pledge to stand up for the most vulnerable.

"The #LoveArmy is an alternative to the despair and divisiveness gaining momentum in our communities. We fight hate with love + power," as explained on the campaign's website at <http://www.thedreamcorps.org/lovearmy>.

An event in January to announce the campaign drew nearly 2,000 people. In February, Dream Corps partnered with the Our Three Winners Foundation in

asking people to take part in the #LoveThyNeighbor campaign and stand against hatred, xenophobia, and prejudice by committing acts of kindness and service.

The foundation honors Deah Barakat, 23; his wife of six weeks, Yusra Abu-Salha, 21; and her younger sister Razan Abu-Salha, 19, who were shot and killed Feb. 10, 2015, in their Chapel Hill, N.C., home, by a neighbor who claimed to be against all religions. The nonprofit raised more than \$13,000 for its endowment fund to finance humanitarian projects across the country.

"It is a testament to the legacy the three left behind that in their names a lot of good is happening," said Arif Khan, a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Word Week Headliners: Cleve Jones And Jane Austen

By Olivia Bolor

The neighborhood's very own literary festival, Word Week, returns for its 11th annual run this month. From Sunday, March 19, through Sunday, March 26, neighbors and friends can take part in an abundance of events, brought to you by the neighborhood association Friends of Noe Valley and official sponsor Martha & Bros. Coffee. All events are free and will celebrate literature, poetry, nonfiction, or storytelling. Topics range from relevant and timely to classic and evergreen.

### Authors Festival Is Back

This year welcomes the return of the Noe Valley Authors Festival for the third time. Held at the Noe Valley Ministry, Saturday, March 24, from 2 to 5

p.m., it will feature up to 40 authors. They'll be available to chat, and will sell and autograph books. Some will also read from their work. It's a great way to discover new-to-you talent. Be sure to bring cash or a checkbook, although some authors may be able to process credit cards.

### Cleve Jones, Starring Here

Coming off the adaptation of his book *When We Rise* into a TV miniseries is author and human rights activist Cleve Jones. He'll appear in conversation with author Wayne Goodman on Tuesday, March 21, 7 p.m., at Folio Books on 24th Street. The miniseries,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Airplane Noise Rattles Noe Nerves

Increase in Flight Patterns Over San Francisco

By Corrie M. Anders

Several nights a week, jet planes roar over Ed Simmet's house in Noe Valley, making so much noise that sleep is hard to come by.

What's behind all the turbulence? A new Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) air traffic control system, which is rerouting flights over San Francisco in the name of efficiency.

The new flight patterns mean more jets are taking off from San Francisco Airport and Oakland International. They also mean more Bay Area residents—including those living in Noe Valley, Glen Park, and surrounding neighborhoods in San Francisco—are complaining about the noise and demanding that the FAA take steps to ameliorate the situation.

Simmet, a tech consultant who often works from his home on 25th Street, said he started noticing the buzz of low-flying jets last October. The noise is audible any time of day, he said, but nights are the worst.

"It's no fun when you're lying in bed at midnight trying to get to sleep, and you wake up at six in the morning when another flies over," Simmet said.

Joined in Simmet's irritation is Sophie Stockholm, a resident of Clippert Street. "Our bedroom is soundproofed, so unless it's really bad, it doesn't bother me much, which makes the few times [it does] even crazier," said Stockholm. "For me to hear planes through our soundproofing means it's outrageously loud."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



**Misha Yagudin**, Voice distribution manager and friend. R.I.P.

2016 Photo by Sally Smith



Noe Valley authors Richard May, Cara Black Mary McNear, and MaryLee McNeal get pumped up for Word Week at Lovejoy's Tea Room.

Photo by Beverly Tharp



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## Upper Noe Rec Center Springtime Action

A Junior Warriors game draws a crowd during the rainy days of February.

Photo courtesy UNRC

noe valley chamber music

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**APRIL  
2017**

**What's That Spell?,  
Death Sparks Development  
Debate, Tunes for Tots**

36 pages

PAGE ONE

James Lick student advances to Spelling Bee nationals.

Death of Carl Jensen brings property developer plans into focus.

Blue Bear School of Music is a new addition to the many offerings here for babies, tots, and parents.

INSIDE

Obituary for Kham Khounpangna, longtime worker at Chloe's Café.

Ed and Cara Alter photograph a wild turkey atop a neighbor's house.

Cardio-Tone fitness has new ownership. Other gyms are listed also.

Peggy Cling contributes photos of the hailstorm that hit Noe Valley.

The On 24th Street question "What is your second favorite neighborhood?" is answered by 10 people.

Store Trek features Chez Marius, a new French bistro on 24th Street.

Other Voices has an essay titled "When the Eraser Gets Erased" by Anna Waclawiczek.

Volume XLI, No. 3

April 2017



**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**

**Spelling Bee  
Family All the  
Buzz at James Lick**

Dad and Teacher Help Sixth-Grader Advance to Regionals

By Matthew S. Bajko

James Lick Middle School sixth-grader Evangeline "Evie" Chien readily admits that orthography, until this school year, hadn't been her forte. So it came as a surprise that she took first place in her classroom spelling bee held in December. "I haven't been good at spelling," said Evie, 11, the editor of the Noe Valley school's online newspaper, the *JLMS Guard Dog*.

And going on to compete in the school-wide bee, held in January, took some convincing from her father.

"He wanted me to do it," said Evie, confiding that she didn't think she could beat her eighth-grade competitor since he had advanced to the regional round last year.

But she again landed in first place by correctly spelling "potentialities" while the runner-up misspelled "recusant." (As for the previous year's winner, he was tripped up by "overveening.")

"I wasn't sure I would win," said Evie, adding that she was nervous competing in her school bees.



**Playing With the Dictionary.** Evie Chien gives her father, Chi-Ming Chien, the chuckles as they make a game out of word-sleuthing. Photo by Beverly Thorp

By representing James Lick in this year's CBS Bay Area Regional Spelling Bee competition, Evie was carrying on a family tradition. Both her father and uncle were also successful spelling bee competitors in school.

In 1991, her uncle made it to the national spelling bee, held each year in Washington, D.C., while her father, Chi-Ming Chien, won his first spelling bee competition in 1983 as a fourth-grader in the Los Angeles Unified School District's regional elementary competition. His winning word was "questionnaire."

"I don't remember very much, except being on stage with sixth-grade girls who were taller than me," recalled Chien, 43. "That first bee, I don't remember studying for."

In eighth grade, he competed in the 1987 national spelling bee after placing first in the local bee held by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District in Southern California. He made it to the fifth round in D.C. but was knocked out for misspelling "deschampsia," a genus

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

**End of the Line for  
House and Tenant  
On 26th Street**

Death of Elderly Resident Sheds More Light on Developer Plans

By Corrie M. Anders

For 63 years, Carl Jensen lived in the ground-floor flat of a two-unit building on 26th Street. Every morning, the 93-year-old bachelor meandered the half block from his apartment to Chloe's Café on Church Street for a breakfast of scrambled eggs, toast, and coffee. As he left, he put a \$2 tip into his server's hand—never on the table.

That routine and the serenity of his golden years began to evaporate about a year ago, when a new owner unveiled plans for a major renovation of Jensen's duplex—a project that would require him to vacate for a year or more. (The other unit was empty.)

According to neighbors and tenants' rights advocates, Jensen in February was preparing to testify against the proposal before the San Francisco Planning Commission. He'd said in a letter to the city that he wanted to stay in his home.

In early March, however, after no one had seen Jensen for several days and mail

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Blue Bear School of Music Brings Joy to  
Noe Small Fry**

By Olivia Boler

Music programs for babies, tots, and their parents abound in San Francisco, especially in Noe Valley. Here one can find introductory music classes at Russo Music on 24th Street, Little Folkies on Church Street, and Music Together on Fair Oaks Street and on Castro Street.

It's no surprise then that one of the most venerated San Francisco music schools got into the neighborhood's

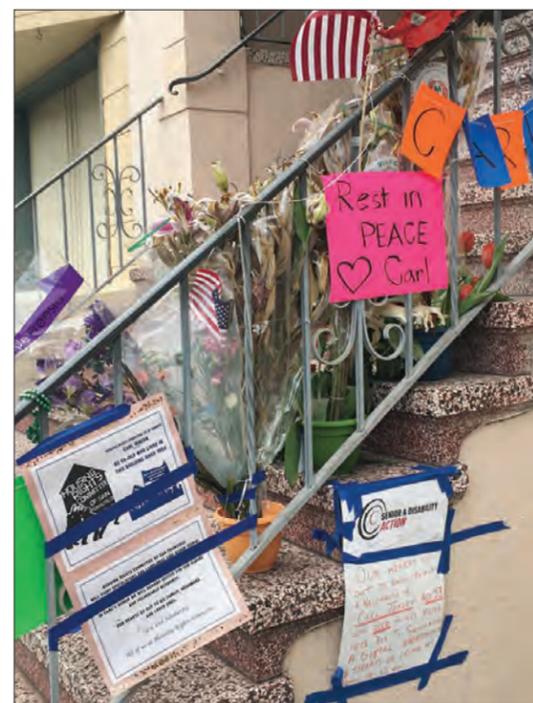
melodious mix about three years ago. Since 2014, Blue Bear School of Music has been offering classes for the 5 and under set, as well as those for adults, at the Noe Valley Ministry on Sanchez Street.

Established in 1971, in a little storefront on Ocean Avenue, Blue Bear's founders were members of a rock band, Wolfgang & Strauss, who wanted to earn

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



**If You're Happy and You Know It.** Youngsters rock out at a Boppin' Bears class for Little Bears at the Noe Valley Ministry building on Sanchez Street. Photo by Pamela Gerard



**Memorial for a Long Life.** The passing of 93-year-old Carl Jensen inspired this outpouring on the steps of the building that was his home. Photo by Pamela Gerard

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## The Colors of 24th Street

*Photo by Pamela Gerard*

**MAY 2017**

**Art to Remember, Dead Rats Can Kill, Stylist Spiffs Recovering Kids**

36 pages

PAGE ONE

Mural honoring deceased members of the Fallon family created on Comerford Alley.

Coyote found in Douglass Park died from rat poison.

Stylist Bette Roman organizes free services for hospitalized kids.

INSIDE

Future events at Town Square.

Obituary for Josephine Errico.

Good News closes after 22 years in business.

Cookbook author Abby Fisher by Celia Sack.

Eleven people respond as On 24th Street asks, "What message would you like to send to your mother?"

Store Trek welcomes Baron's Quality Meats and Mabuhay boutique to Church Street.

Volume XXI No. 4

May 2017



**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**

**Family to Dedicate New Mural Honoring Lost Loved Ones**

Father, Daughter, and Artist Re-Crete Shrine on Comerford

By Matthew S. Bajko

For six years, anyone walking up Comerford Street, an alley that runs between Church and Sanchez streets in Noe Valley, would come upon a beautiful mural on the wall of a garage depicting a woman seated on the branch of an apple tree. Joining her amongst the white blossoms were her two young daughters.

To the right was a bicycle leaning against the trunk of an apple tree. And in the background was a mountain range, with the sun setting behind one of the peaks.

The orchard scene, painted by muralist Amanda Lynn in the summer of 2010, included the woman's name, Julie, and that of one of her daughters, Kendra. The two girls sported elf-like ears, a signature feature of Lynn's murals at the time.

If one looked closely at the right shoulder of the younger of the two girls, they would have noticed a butterfly figure with a red heart on its wing. It was a hidden symbol hinting of the tragic events



Comfort on Comerford Alley. Howard Fallon and daughter Shane view a new mural commemorating their deceased family members and a village in Nepal their foundation has been helping for the past six years. Photo by Beverly Tharp

unseen in the mural's bucolic imagery.

The owner of the property, Howard Fallon, had commissioned Lynn to create the mural in memory of his wife, Julie Pygin, who had died at home in November of 2008 at the age of 52. In 2001 she had developed cancer in her thyroid,

which her doctors removed, but in 2006 the cancer reemerged in her bones and internal organs.

Lynn met with Howard, Kendra, and Kendra's older sister, Shane, as she worked

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Local Stylist Organizes Free Services for Hospitalized Kids**

Hairdressers United Behind Their Founder, Bette Roman

By Olivia Baker

It all started over a decade ago with a question from Bette Roman's boss at the Union Square salon where she was a hairstylist.

Her boss's best friend, a neonatal nurse at UCSF on Parnassus Avenue, was helping the hospital's Child Life Services Department by looking for volunteer stylists to cut the hair of some

children who were inpatients there. Was Roman free to help out? Her answer was a definite yes.

Soon after, Roman, who these days works as a master stylist at Salon Mio Mio on Castro near 24th Street, was on call to help out with patients.

"Some of the kids had dreadlocks that had to be cut off," she says. "They're cancer survivors or transplant kids. Actually, I don't ask what's wrong. I just focus on the kids getting whatever their wish is. Their hair or their makeup—whatever

makes them happy at that moment."

If she weren't available to head over to the hospital, she'd ask friends if they could fill in for her. And that's how her nonprofit, United Hairdressers of San Francisco, got started. "It was a simple request, and it grew on its own," she says.

Roman, 60, is a mother to two sons and a grandmother to four granddaughters and one grandson. She knows what it's like to be a parent and caregiver. So, she decided to offer her services to the patients' parents, too. She also asked friends who do nails or makeup if they could volunteer their time and services.

"The parents need a little pick-me-up," she says. "Caring for a sick child—it's such a burden. I was trying to figure out a way to serve the parents."

About three years ago, she reached out to Ronald McDonald House, which provides housing for families whose critically ill children are being treated, and whose permanent residence is at least 50 miles outside of the city. San Francisco has two houses, one on Scott Street near Japantown, and the other in the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Mission Bay campus, which opened in 2015. She offered to help there, too.

Her friend Wes Brown of Beauty Solutions donates free samples of shampoos and conditioners. Roman is hoping to find an expert volunteer to offer some massage therapy.

"A shoulder rub and hand massage—if someone wants to donate a little time there, it's a great way to do some good,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Brightening Smiles. Stylist Bette Roman (right) helps young Tiffany Allison and her mom Friday Forever brighten up in preparation for a prom. Photo by Olivia Baker

**Rat Poisons Killed Coyote Found in Douglass Park**

Tests Uncover Four Substances Banned for Consumer Use

By Matthew S. Bajko

In what wildlife officials say is a first, a necropsy of a dead coyote found in Noe Valley's Douglass Park confirmed the female canid died from ingesting rat poisons.

The carcass of the young and otherwise healthy coyote was discovered in February near the upper border of the park, along Diamond Heights Boulevard. Its liver tested positive for four different types of rat poison—all of which are illegal for non-professional use in California, said wildlife officials.

"This is the first confirmed actual death where we know, based on lab tests, that this animal died to exposure of several rodenticides," Alison Hermance, the director of communications at San Rafael-based WildCare, told the Voice.

The agency has been testing coyote carcasses since 2006, and thus has been able to document that the mesopredators are widely exposed to rat poisons. But until this year, WildCare had never been able to pinpoint the cause of death to the toxic substances.

"It is somewhat unusual for a large animal to actually die of rat poisoning," said Hermance.

The coyote's necropsy report showed it died from massive internal bleeding due to rat poisoning. Since each brand of commercially available rat poison only carries one of the available rodenticide compounds, WildCare surmised that the coyote must have eaten rats poisoned from at least four different sources.

The agency said it was impossible to



Sam Salamah peruses one of his best-selling newspapers.

Photo by Jack Tipple

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## As the Sun Goes Down, Bethany Lights Up

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**JUNE  
2017**

**Leno Mayor Wannabe,  
Noe Courts Pretty Again, a  
Singing Security Guard, and  
Braverman Bares Some**

32 pages

PAGE ONE

Mark Leno announces he'll run for mayor of San Francisco in 2019.

New landscaping finished at Noe Courts.

Bank security guard James Grant can swing a song or two.

The various projects of gay filmmaker Jeffrey Braverman.

INSIDE

Obituary for Daniel Leonard Halas.

Voice readers Judy Leash and Sara Segal travel to Japan.

Julia Ready retires her childcare business after 27 years.

On 24th Street asks 11 people "What message would you like to send to your father?"

The Rabbit Hole Theater Company is featured in Store Trek.

OpenSFHistory.org illustrates 1925 24th Street businesses.

Volume XLI, No. 5

June 2017



**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**

**Longtime  
Lawmaker Mark  
Leno Makes Bid  
To Be Mayor**

Clipper Street Resident to Run  
In 2019 Election

By Matthew S. Bajko

Mark Leno arrived in San Francisco in 1977 at the age of 25 and, within a year, had opened Budget Signs. By 1981, he had saved up enough money to buy a home on Clipper Street, where he continues to live.

Four decades later, those same opportunities for young people to start a business and own a home are "a lot slimmer" in San Francisco, said Leno. It is why he has thrown his hat into the 2019 mayor's race.

"I want to see a more fair, equitable, and just San Francisco," said Leno, 65, the morning of May 4 after pulling papers to begin fundraising for his mayoral campaign. "As mayor, I will be fighting for renters, homeowners, small business owners, and immigrants."

Asked by the Voice what issues specific to Noe Valley he would tackle as mayor, Leno pointed to transportation concerns, housing affordability, and assisting neighborhood merchants as among his



Leno Leans In. In public service since 1998, Mark Leno seeks to become the first gay mayor of San Francisco. Photo by Rick Gerharter

top priorities.

"I will be focusing on the health and vibrancy of the 24th Street commercial corridor," said Leno. "As with so many of our neighborhood commercial districts, I want to keep a focus on neighborhood-serving, locally-owned small businesses. That is what San Francisco's neighborhoods are known for."

In 1998, then-Mayor Willie Brown appointed Leno to a vacancy on the Board of Supervisors. Two years later, Leno was the first person elected to the District 8 seat when the supervisors reverted back

to being elected by district. In addition to Noe Valley, he represented the Castro, Diamond Heights, and Glen Park at City Hall.

He became one of the first gay men to serve in the state Assembly in 2002 and the first gay man elected to the state Senate in 2008. During his 14 years in the Statehouse, Leno authored bills in support of same-sex marriage and single-payer health care, and introduced digital privacy protections such as the "kill

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Bank Security Guard Has a Wealth of Hidden Talent**

James Grant Moonlighting as  
Counselor and Entertainer

By Corrie M. Anders

Most people strolling near the Bank of America branch at 24th and Castro streets walk by James Grant without even a glance in his direction.

It's not that Grant is inconspicuous. He looms large in his all-black uniform with badge and other insignia.

Grant is a security guard. Employed by the private security firm G4S, he's been at the bank since last fall.

"I'm a 'Bank Protection Officer,'" says Grant, amused at the euphemistic title.

But the job is just one of many that define the 70-year-old Oakland resident. He's a singer, a minister, a social worker, a marriage counselor, a retired probation officer, and the holder of two advanced degrees.

He's also an amiable man. Stop him on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



Songs at the Square. Singer Rita Lackey joined Grant James and his nine-piece band at a concert at the Noe Valley Town Square on May 20. Grant James is the stage name used by James Grant, whom you may recognize as the security guard at Bank of America. Photo by Najib Joe Hakim

**Noe Courts Ready  
For Its Closeup**

Fences Come Down at Newly  
Landscaped Park

By Matthew S. Bajko

Standing in the resodded main lawn of Noe Courts Park, just a few blocks from her home, Laura Norman marveled at the transformed green space. Behind her a man was shooting hoops in the brand new basketball court, while a class from the nearby Pixie Hall Studios preschool frolicked in the grass in front of her.

"It came out really nicely, I think," said Norman one sunny Friday in early May at the block-long park off Douglass Street between 24th and Elizabeth streets.

More than a decade ago, Norman and her husband had visited the park with their son, a toddler at the time. While inspecting the grounds and the kids' sandbox area, Norman began to complain about the shabby conditions. Her husband suggested she do something about it.

With neighbor Justine Sears, Norman co-founded the Friends of Noe Courts, a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

**Filmmaker Tackles  
His Goliath**

Iconic Statue Inspires  
David, in Brief

By Matthew S. Bajko

With his short film premiering in late June at Frameline, the San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival, Jeffrey Braverman aims to empower people to confront their inner demons.

The 16-minute movie delves into the biblical legend of David and Goliath. Using Michelangelo's iconic statue of the giant slayer as a jumping-off point, Braverman explores how the famous underdog story resonates in particular with gay and transgender men. As the Old Testament tale goes, the young David used stones and a sling to defeat Goliath, a towering Philistine warrior, and become the second king of the Israelites.

"Every David will have their Goliath," said Braverman, 51, who with his partner, Ross Camp, a software company employee, splits his time between their homes in Noe Valley and the Russian River resort area in Sonoma County.

Called *David, in Brief*, Braverman's short film grew out of a photo series he undertook to photograph older gay and transgender men. One of the subjects, during a visit to Florence, Italy, had bought a pair of boxer briefs featuring "the Renaissance's most iconic family jewels silkscreened onto" them, as a



CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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## Castro Street Stick Victorians

Photo by Sally Smith

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**JULY/AUGUST  
2017**

**Look Down for Cinema,  
Real Food Site Has Suitor?,  
Farmers' Sweet Deals**

**32 pages**

PAGE ONE

Sidewalk cinema Petit Cine.

Nutraceutical Corporation in talks to sell Real Food site to private equity firm.

Noe Valley Farmers Market families.

Voice vacation announcement.

INSIDE

Starr and Chan family readers travel to Portugal.

District 8 supervisor candidates Jeff Sheehy and Rafael Mandelman.

Memorial to slain UPS driver Mike Lefiti at Diamond Heights.

What SF City Guides can show you.

Church Street laundrette changes hands after 29 years.

“Google House” sells for \$12 million notes the *Cost of Living* column.

“What are your plans for summer?” asks On 24th Street. Ten people respond.

Store Trek features Shop Monroe on 24th Street.

The Castro Street cable car No. 7 is shown in a 1940 photo furnished by OpenSFHistory.org.

Volume XXI, No. 6

July/August 2017



**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**

**Petit Cine Now Showing on Cesar Chavez**

Sidewalk Cinema Invites a Closer Look

By Matthew S. Bajko

Welcome to Petit Cine, a sidewalk cinema that offers Lilliputian-sized visual delights to passersby.

Ensnared behind a small, glass window recessed into the foundation of a home on the 3800 block of Cesar Chavez Street, this minuscule movie house sports red velvet curtains around a small video screen. A film only minutes long plays on a continuous loop, with the offerings updated each week.

The selection running one week in late May was titled *Family Portrait*. The three-minute film depicted a family—the parents seated on a couch, their three children standing behind them—being manipulated in dress and posed by a mystery maestro decked out in all-black clothing and wearing yellow gloves. As the strange figure does his work, the children one by one gradually move out of frame and then a small, white-haired dog appears in the lap of the mother.

It was avant-garde and amusing at the same time. Each viewing revealed a



Backstage Peek. Scott Kravitz reveals the inner workings of his latest project, which puts a big emphasis on the small and silent.

new detail that had previously flashed by unnoticed.

The short film was the work of homeowner Scott Kravitz, who shot it years ago on 16mm film with the assistance of his brother, the masked person seen staging the actors. Petit Cine, which debuted a year ago, is also his brainchild.

To maintain an air of mystery about Petit Cine, whose existence is meant to be a pleasant surprise to unsuspecting passersby, the *Voice* is electing not to disclose its exact location on Cesar Chavez

Street. At the urging of his neighbors, Kravitz approached the paper this spring about writing a story about what he termed his “sort of attraction” in an email.

“I don’t know if this is the kind of curiosity that is of interest to you, but I’d be happy to talk to you about it and give you a “behind the scenes” look,” he offered.

Kravitz installed his jury-rigged cinema, created out of an old iPhone plugged into the ceiling of his garage via electrical

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Sale News Sparks Hope for Real Food Site**

Steve Young’s Company Offers To Buy Nutraceutical

By Corrie M. Anders

The saga of the empty Real Food Company, a forlorn presence on 24th Street for nearly 14 years, finally may be coming to an end.

A Palo Alto firm backed by former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Steve Young has reached “a definitive agreement” to buy Nutraceutical Corporation, the company that owns the vacant building at 3935-39 24th St.

HGGC, a private equity firm, announced May 22 a planned \$446 million purchase of Nutraceutical, an international maker and retailer of nutritional supplements. The deal should close escrow by fall, assuming no other interests come forward with better proposals.

In 2007, Young and CEO Rich Lawson co-founded HGGC in order to invest in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Farmers’ Market Families Bring the Goods**

The Stories Behind These Delectable Enterprises

By Tim Simmers

The sweet aroma of ripe peaches and plums wafts through the air as Jimmy Egoian carefully slices tasting samples for people at the Noe Valley Farmers Market.

Egoian’s working another Saturday at

the 24th Street market, now in its 14th year, and he’s beaming over his healthy summer crop of Twin Girls Farms’ stone fruit and citrus from the Central Valley.

The season’s rains soaked the soil of farms in the region, and the eye-popping bounty of colorful fruits and vegetables at the market is more pronounced each week.

A huge variety of tomatoes, from heirlooms to early girls, is ripening, as well as brilliant red, orange, and yellow bell

peppers. Bright red pomegranate and multi-colored corn are coming on this summer, as are deep purple eggplant and fragrant fresh melons.

“We bring only the best stuff we grow,” said the friendly Egoian, who has made the three-hour trip from the Redley area for years to get to the local market.

Like many farmers selling their wares

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Sweet Selections. Jimmy Egoian (right), who runs market operations for Twin Girls Farms of Central Valley, enjoys having his son Cole close by when they sell at the Noe Valley Farmers Market. In June, they were offering tastes of a white flat peach called Saturn. Photo by Beverly Therp



Photo by Jack Tipple

**Noe Valley Voice Flees the Scene**

What Would We Do Without Our Summer Vacation?

By Sally Smith and Jack Tipple, Eds.

Longtime readers of the *Noe Valley Voice* are familiar with the unique publishing schedule of their local newspaper. It involves a summer break where the July edition becomes a hybrid combining July and August. There’s a winter break too, but more about that later.

That makes the deadline for our next publication Aug. 15, 2017. Get your letters, news tips, and Class Ads to us by then and they’ll have the best chance of being in the September paper.

A heartfelt thank you to our faithful advertisers, who enable this community effort to look and read so well.

Final instructions: wear a sun hat, hydrate, and let the other guy go at the four-way stop. We’ll see you at the Town Square, Noe Courts, and (not too far) beyond.



Real Food Company site still sits empty, though sale rumors abound.

Photo by Jack Tipple



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The Class Ads are also displayed at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com).

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# SEPTEMBER 2017

## Swann New Merchant Prez, Real Food Still for Sale, Bike Share Blooms, Poet Kim Shuck

32 pages

PAGE ONE

Local resident and realtor Rachel Swann takes over as merchants association president.

Real Food site changes hands and is now for sale.

Bike-share stations proliferate in neighborhood.

Kim Shuck chosen as San Francisco city poet laureate.

INSIDE

Two commuter shuttle stops to relocate.

Woody play area created at Alvarado Middle School.

New mural at Upper Noe Recreation Center created by volunteers.

Noe Valley Girls Film Festival features keynote speaker Samantha Grant.

The Wishing Tree of Fair Oaks Street.

Store Trek describes IS (Ian Stallings) Fine Art and Design.



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Swann Swings Store Association Helm Forward

Energetic Noe Resident Adept At Multitasking

By Matthew S. Bajko

The new president of the 94-year-old Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association is brimming with ideas for how to attract additional customers and businesses to the neighborhood's commercial corridors.

Real estate agent Rachel Swann, 39, took over leadership of the business group last December. Since then, she has helped activate the one-year-old Noe Valley Town Square in order to increase foot traffic to local stores, kept close track of the sale of the long-vacant Real Food Company site, and started discussions with District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy's office on amending zoning rules in the area to make it easier to fill vacant storefronts with new retail concepts.

"Rachel has brought to the table an infusion of new ideas and new energy," said Cliché Noe Gifts + Home owner Dani Sheehan-Meyer, who has belonged to the business group for seven years and is its vice president of marketing and publicity. "She is a disrupter and a go-getter. She is



**Thinking Green.** Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association President Rachel Swann was an early adopter of Friends of the Urban Forest plantings in the neighborhood. She proudly stands by "her" two trees on Sanchez Street. Photo by Pamela Gerard

bringing new direction to the group. We are very excited."

Swann's involvement with the business group stemmed from her decision to co-locate her real estate office into a storefront on the corner of 24th and Vicksburg streets with that of a home furnishings store her friend and local de-

signer Ian Stallings had long wanted to open. (His IS: Fine Art and Design is the subject of this month's Store Trek profile.)

After presenting the shared workspace concept to neighborhood business owners, Swann not only walked away with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Want to Buy a Real Food Site?

The Latest Chapter in the Long-Running 24th Street Serial

By Corrie M. Anders

The Real Food Company store on 24th Street, which has sat vacant for 14 years, is for sale.

The owner made a quick decision in late August to sell off the coveted site—a move that could bring fresh vitality to Noe Valley's main commercial strip.

That bright prospect came after HGCC, a private investment firm based in Palo Alto, announced Aug. 23 that it had completed acquisition of Real Food's corporate owner, Nutraceutical International Corporation, a global manufacturer and retailer of nutritional supplements.

The \$446 million transaction originally was announced May 22, but Nutraceutical had 60 days to weigh bids from other buyers. When none materialized, Nutraceutical shareholders gave final approval to the purchase Aug. 21.

HGCC wasted little time in moving to sell the store, located at 3935-39 24th St., directly across from Whole Foods Market. Within days of taking possession, HGCC asked commercial real estate broker Cush-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Bike-Share Stations Get Rolling in Noe Valley

Autos May Need to Search Longer for Parking Spaces

By Matthew S. Bajko

Over the summer, five bike-share stations were installed throughout Noe Valley, giving residents a new way to commute to work or run errands around town. The number of locations is one less than had been proposed for the neighborhood last year. Nonetheless, the quintet of stations has a total of 86 bikes that can be rented out for use.

There are 19 bikes at the Jersey and Castro streets station adjacent to the Walgreens parking lot. At the intersection of Jersey and Church streets is a station with 18 bikes, with another station of 19 bikes located nearby at 24th and Chattanooga streets. The two other stations each have 15 bikes and can be found at the intersection of César Chavez and Dolores streets and further south at 29th and Church streets.

The five Noe Valley stations are part of the regional bike-share system operated by Motivate and dubbed Ford GoBike due to the sponsorship of the Ford Motor

Company. As of late June, there were 3,500 bicycles at 332 stations scattered across San Francisco, the East Bay, and San Jose.

Reaction to the bike-share stations has been mixed, with stations in the Mission vandalized by those who argue they add to gentrification of the largely Latino district. In Noe Valley, the complaints have centered on the loss of street parking spaces.

"The bike-share station on Jersey at Castro has taken up three spaces," said Noe Neighborhood Council co-founder Ozzie Rohm, adding that many of the city's elderly residents cannot use the bikes and rely either on Muni or their own cars to get around.

But Progress Noe Valley co-founder Laura Fingal-Surma hailed the expansion of the bike-share stations into more residential areas of the city, as usage of the bikes by residents to commute to work will result in less car congestion and traffic, in particular during the morning and evening commutes.

"Sure, there are less parking spots available," she conceded, "but how many people can give up their cars, now that they have good options to get around the city by bike?"

When fully installed next year, the program will boast 7,000 bikes at 546 stations. It is set to become the second largest bike-share network in North America. New York has the most, with 645 stations, while Chicago is currently in second with 581.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## The Poet Laureate From Eureka Street

Active Citizen and Prolific Artist Is Homegrown

By Richard May

The new San Francisco poet laureate grew up on Eureka Street between 22nd and 23rd streets. Kim Shuck, who still lives on Eureka Street, although not on the same block, was named San Francisco's seventh poet laureate June 21 by Mayor Edwin Lee and City Librarian Luis Herrera. She follows in the poetic footsteps of Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Janice Mirikitani, Deborah Major, Jack Hirschman, Diane di Prima, and Alejandro Murguía. Her term is for two years.

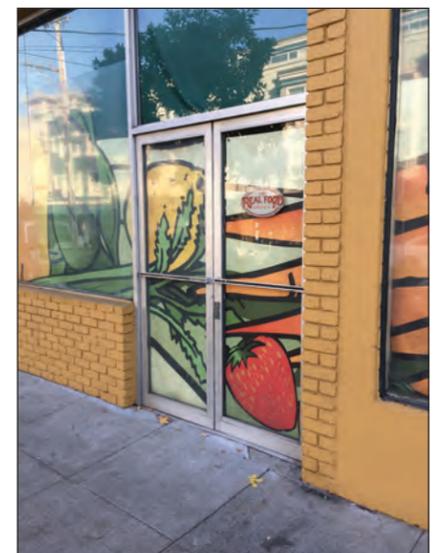
Shuck will be busy during those 24 months. Her duties include delivering an inaugural address, appearing at local poetry events, and working on one or more poetry events in cooperation with the San Francisco Public Library, Friends of the Library, and WritersCorps, a writers-in-schools program. She will also have to lead a poetry event at Litquake, the October literary festival held at various venues around the city.

None of this will be a problem for Shuck. "I'm already doing most of it," she says. She has volunteered for over 20 years in San Francisco public schools, assisting elementary school students in math and poetry. She already participates in Litquake and in poetry readings

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



**Go for a Ride.** There are five Ford GoBike stations in Noe Valley, including this one on Jersey at Church Street. Currently, the cost is \$3 for a single trip from one dock to another, or \$9.95 for half-hour trips all day. Photo by Pamela Gerard



**Real Food Company Site.** Yep, still available.

Photo by Jack Tipple

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**JANUARY 2018**

**Jan. 3:** The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107; GLBTHistory.org.

**Jan. 3-31:** Folio Books hosts STORYTIME for toddlers Wednesdays at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

**Jan. 3-31:** Chris Sequeira leads free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1 to 3 pm, at Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com

**Jan. 3-31:** The Eureka Valley Library offers BABY RHYME and play time on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:15. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 3-31:** Holy Innocents Episcopal Church hosts Candlesong, a TAIZE-style service followed by a potluck on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142.

**Jan. 3-31:** History group Shaping San Francisco offers free PUBLIC TALKS on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Eric Quezada Center, 518 Valencia. shapingsf.org.

**Jan. 3-31:** AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip's Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

**Jan. 3:** Create watercolor bookmarks at adult CRAFT NIGHT at the Noe Valley Library. 7-8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 4:** Regulars Liz Stone, Ruby Gill, and Drew Harmon, and guests perform COMEDY GOLD on the first Thursday of the month. 9:30 pm. Valley Tavern, 4054 24th. 285-0674; lizzystone@gmail.com.

**Jan. 5:** Lola Art Gallery exhibits "Carved PAINTINGS" by Bob Armstrong. Reception 5-7 pm. 1250 Sanchez. 642-4875.



The Joshua Trio, Emil Miland, cello, Ann Moss, soprano, and Meredith Clark, harp, perform Sunday, January 21, 4 p.m. for the Noe Valley Chamber Music series. The venue is located in the Noe Valley Ministry building at 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco.

**Jan. 6:** Teens from the de Young Museum Ambassador Program lead an art activity inspired by the TEOTIHUACAN exhibit; max 30 participants, no pre-registration. 2-3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 9:** The Better Business Bureau offers a workshop identifying "The Top Ten SCAMS Against Consumers." 1-2 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 9:** John Rothman discusses the Haas-Lilienthal House at the SF HISTORY Museum's monthly meeting. 7:30-9 pm. Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello. Reserve a seat at 537-1105; sfhistory.org.

**Jan. 12:** The Noe Valley Library screens the 2015 thriller starring KEANU REEVES, John Wick. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 13:** Rado from KIDS MUSIC SF performs for ages 5 and younger. 10:30-11:15 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 13:** Cookbook author Shanta Nimbark Sacharoff discusses making CHUTNEY at home. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 13:** The SF Civic Music Association performs "An Afternoon of CHAMBER MUSIC" at the Noe Valley Ministry. 3-4:30 pm. 1021 Sanchez. sfcivicmusic.org.

**Jan. 13:** The Noe Valley Town Square hosts bring your own picnic BINGO. 3-5 pm. 3861 24th.

**Jan. 13:** David Jacobs-Strain and Bob Beach with Megan Keely perform a concert at 8 pm. SF LIVE ARTS (formerly the Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

**Jan. 14:** LIEDER Alive! hosts a concert, "Neue Lieder, Neue Jahr!" 5 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. liederalive.org.

**Jan. 16:** The many STREAMING DEVICES available are explained, from 1 to 3 pm, at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707;

**Jan. 17:** Jessica and Richard Anderson host the first of three chamber music evenings with MUSICOLOGIST Kai Christianson. 7 pm. 564 Elizabeth. nvcm.org.

**Jan. 17:** The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group talks about The Invention of Nature by Andrea Wulf. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 17-Feb. 21:** The SF Fire Department offers free six-week NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) training on Wednesdays at the Upper Noe Rec Center. 6:30-10 pm. 299 Day. sf-fire.org.

**Jan. 20:** The SF CHAMBER ORCHESTRA performs "The World of Percussion." 2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. www.thesfco.org/events/family.

**Jan. 20:** Susan Lorica, RN, discusses how to have HEALTHY FEET, especially for those over age 50. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 20:** The Vinifera Trio perform a CONCERT, "Americans in Paris," at Holy Innocents Episcopal Church. 7:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142.

**Jan. 21:** Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC hosts a concert by The Joshua Trio. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. nvcm.org.

**Jan. 23:** A discussion of resources and research for ALZHEIMER'S Disease runs from 1:30 to 3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Jan. 23:** Noe Valley DEMOCRATIC Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Social hour 6 pm; program 6:30 pm. 1021 Sanchez. ToddsDavid@gmail.com

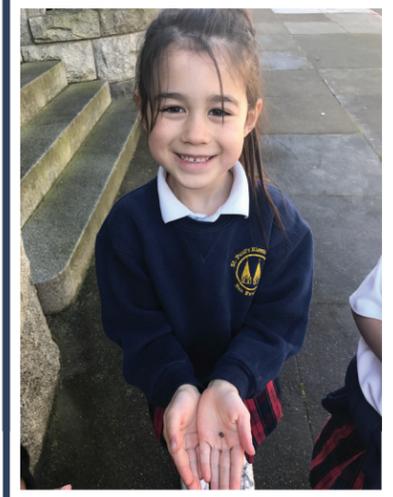
**Jan. 24:** The RESILIENT Diamond Heights work group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5 pm. St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine. 867-5774.

**Jan. 25:** Neighborhood group Progress Noe Valley hosts a HAPPY HOUR from 5:30 to 8 pm. Hamlet, 1199 Church. progressnoe.com.

**Jan. 30:** MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of every other month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400.

**Feb. 3:** The Noe Valley Town Square hosts its first MOVIE NIGHT; film title will be announced in the new year. 5:30-8 pm. 3861 24th.

**Feb. 11-13:** The annual Russian FESTIVAL, a celebration of Russian-American food, dance, music and art. Russian Center, 2450 Sutter St. 921-7631 or russiacenter.com



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WED JAN 17	<b>MARICEL PRESILLA • PEPPERS OF THE AMERICAS: THE REMARKABLE CAPSICUMS THAT FOREVER CHANGED FLAVOR • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE •</b> This stunning visual reference to peppers now seen on menus, in markets, and beyond, showcases nearly 200 varieties (with physical description, tasting notes, uses for cooks, and beautiful botanical portraits for each).
WED JAN 24	<b>CHITRA AGRAWAL IN CONVERSATION WITH NIK SHARMA. VIBRANT INDIA: FRESH VEGETARIAN RECIPES FROM BANGALORE TO BROOKLYN. 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE •</b> Lifelong vegetarian and chef Chitra Agrawal takes you on an epicurean journey to her mother's hometown of Bangalore and back to Brooklyn, where she adapts her family's South Indian recipes for home cooks. This particular style of Indian home cooking, often called the "yoga diet," is light and fresh, yet satisfying and rich in bold and complex flavors.
THU JAN 25	<b>JONATHAN KAUFFMAN • HIPPIE FOOD: HOW BACK-TO-THE-LANDERS, LONGHAIRS, AND REVOLUTIONARIES CHANGED THE WAY WE EAT • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE •</b> Food writer Jonathan Kauffman journeys back more than half a century—to the 1960s and 1970s—to tell the story of how a coterie of unusual men and women embraced an alternative lifestyle that would ultimately change how modern Americans eat.
SAT JAN 27	<b>LORI RICE • FOOD ON TAP: COOKING WITH CRAFT BEER • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE •</b> From floral IPAs to rich porters and stouts, and tart lambic ales to gluten-free options, there is a beer for every taste. <i>Food on Tap</i> is an accessible guide to using these delicious brews to add complex flavor and exciting twists to classic and new recipes.
THU SEP 29	<b>OFF-SITE EVENT! SUN. JAN. 28. SPIRITS DINNER WITH THAD VOGLER AT CAMINO! 5:00 P.M. •</b> Join Bar Agricole owner Thad Vogler as we celebrate his memoir. <i>In By the Smoke &amp; the Smell</i> , spirits expert Vogler takes readers around the world, celebrating the vivid characters who produce hand-made spirits like rum, scotch, cognac, and mezcal. Tickets here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sprits-dinner-at-camino-with-thad-vogler-tickets-41093914003">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sprits-dinner-at-camino-with-thad-vogler-tickets-41093914003</a>

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· CALENDAR ·



**Coyotes:  
Beyond the Howl**

Coyotes grooming. Photo courtesy of Janet Kessler

*Janet Kessler, a self-taught naturalist and urban coyote specialist who has documented coyote family life and their behavior toward people and pets presents a PHOTO EXHIBIT at the Sausalito Public Library, located in the City Hall building at 420 Litho Street in Sausalito. Show dates are January 28 through March 10. Hours Monday through Thursday are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. See Kessler's blog: coyoteyipps.com for more information*

**It's A Brand New Day**

The next *Noe Valley Voice* Calendar will appear in the **February 2018** issue, distributed the first week of February. The deadline for items is Jan. 15. Please email [calendar@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:calendar@noevalleyvoice.com). Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Thank you.



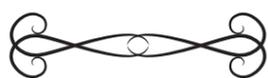
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— William Saroyan



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## Welcome to Bike Town Noe Valley

Photo by Jack Tipple



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OCTOBER  
2017

**Terrier Terror, Calm Coming To Clipper Street, Bigger Boxes, Music Lives, Gala Benefits**

32 pages

PAGE ONE

Spooky events warning for pets and people.

Clipper Street traffic-calming planned.

Housing on 24th Street to be taller and denser.

Evening music at local venues.

Noe Valley Gala to fund movies at Town Square.

INSIDE

A mostly bare Billy Goat Hill and Diamond Heights are displayed in a 1957 photo furnished by OpenSFHistory.org

Readers Pete and Peggy Cling travel to Wales.

Film director Cameo Wood.

Store Trek welcomes Urban Remedy to 24th Street.

Volume XLI, No. 8

October 2017



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

**Clipper Street Road Work Back in Headlights**

Traffic-Calming Steps Approved For Next Year

By Matthew S. Bajko

A project aimed at improving safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicle drivers on a section of Clipper Street in Noe Valley has been approved after years of delays. The changes to the roadway, however, won't be implemented until early 2018.

As the *Voice* first reported in June of 2015, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency had eyed making substantial changes to the traffic lane configuration on Clipper between Douglass Street and Diamond Heights Boulevard at the behest of local residents concerned about cars speeding up and down the roadway.

Initial plans for the traffic-calming project, dubbed the "Clipper Road Diet Concept," would have reduced Clipper Street from three lanes to two by removing the middle turn lane and eliminating the parking on the south side of Clipper. Traffic engineers had also proposed converting the existing parallel parking on the north side to back-in angled parking and banning the parking of oversized vehicles, such as trucks and RVs.



**Halloween Howls:** Pets who like to strut their stuff can compete Sunday, Oct. 29, in two costume contests: the Church Street Pet Parade, which kicks off at Noe Valley Pet Company at 2 p.m. and pads down to VIP Scrub Club for extra treats; and the Spooktacular event at the Noe Valley Town Square, which gets rolling at 3 p.m. 2016 Photo of Hildy by Pamela Gerard

But after hearing complaints about the proposed changes from the public, the SFMTA shelved those plans. In the fall of 2015, the agency presented a downscaled

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



**Friday Night Glow:** Violinist Chloe Allen and guitarist David Trevors extend the musical mood late into the evening, for diners at the Bistro SF Grill on Castro Street. Photo by Jeff Kaliss

**On the Streets Where We Live: Music!**

Jazz Enhances Two Bistros and A Bookstore

By Jeff Kaliss

"There is something which only music and art can offer," says Hašim Zecic, in the gently lilting accent of his native Bosnia. "It's something emotional, which lets people forget, for a moment, about their cell phone, and lets them engage."

It's in that spirit that Zecic and his fellow countryman and business partner

Seni Felic have been offering music alongside their Balkan-themed food and wine at Bistro SF Grill, at 1305 Castro St.

And their approach has been adopted around the corner at Chez Marius, 4063 24th St., where house manager Christen Camp began booking small jazz ensembles to brighten up Tuesday dinners.

Camp, in turn, sought advice from Eric Whittington, whose Bird & Beckett bookstore at 653 Chenery St. has been successfully expanding its live music

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

**There's a Gala Goin' On**

Swank Event to Fund Movies at Town Square

By Richard May

Once upon a time, our neighborhood had four—count 'em—four movie theaters. Now, of course, it has none. But the folks behind the Noe Valley Gala and the Noe Valley Town Square hope to change that, in a way.

The annual Gala—a formal evening with food, music, and dancing—raises money for community causes. Last year, 90 guests donated \$40,000 for a new sound system at the Noe Valley Ministry, home to classical music providers like Noe Valley Chamber Music, Lieder Alive!, Bay Area Vocal Academy, and San Francisco Chamber Society.

This year's Gala will raise funds so a regular schedule of movies can be shown in the Town Square at 3861 24th St., weather permitting. Event chair Yvonne Gemmel Keene hopes to raise at least \$10,000 profit to buy all the necessary movie equipment and services.

Town Square event coordinator Leslie Crawford says films would be shown "mostly in the fall, when we get our summer" but also, hopefully, next spring "after the rains are gone" and before Karl the Fog arrives. Film fare will be family-friendly. "I regularly get requests from the neighborhood for a movie night," Crawford says. "Movies would be enormously popular and work toward our goal of strengthening and building community."

There are also plans for popcorn, she adds with a smile.

The 2017 Gala will be held Friday, Oct. 27, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Noe Valley

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

**Housing on 24th Street Gets Taller And Denser**

City Prefers Multi-Unit Projects, Neighbors Not So Sure

By Matthew S. Bajko

Two years ago, Jim Morrell attended a planning commission hearing to voice objections about plans to tear down a two-story, single-dwelling home on 24th Street and replace it with a five-story building consisting of five housing units over a ground floor retail space.

That routine and the serenity of his golden years began to evaporate about a year ago, when a new owner unveiled plans for a major renovation of Jensen's duplex—a project that would require him to vacate for a year or more. (The other unit was empty.)

He informed the planning commissioners that a growing number of his neighbors in Noe Valley were increasingly concerned "about this project and the buildings of a similar size and height projected to be built along 24th Street."

His main objection with the demolition of the smaller-sized buildings to make way for larger in-fill developments was that doing so would drastically change the feel of the neighborhood and its main commercial corridor.

"You are looking at buildings here that are twice as high, at least, as the existing buildings," Morrell said at the hearing in April of 2015, adding that they conflict with "Noe Valley's small community feel."

He urged the oversight body to reject the proposal for 3822 24th St., because it was "totally out of character and totally out of scale with the rest of the 24th Street commercial strip."

Land use attorney Ryan Patterson, representing the project sponsors, disagreed, arguing that it wasn't the new development but the single-family home it would replace that was "really out of character

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



**Its Fate Has Been Sealed:** The 117-year-old single-family house at 3822 24th St. still stands, but it's only a matter of time until the small Victorian is demolished and replaced by a building as tall if not taller than its neighbor at 3820. Photo by Jack Tipple

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## New Creations of Pre-Renaissance Art To Live on Church St.

Italian artist Marco Caratelli shows the pieces he created for St. Paul's Catholic Church at a December reception. Glen Park resident Steve Steinberg commissioned the works.

*Photo by Beverly Tharp*

## BREATHING YOGA

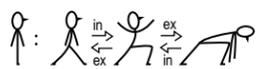
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<b>District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy</b>	<a href="mailto:SheehyStaff@sfgov.org">SheehyStaff@sfgov.org</a> . . . . .	415-554-6968
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<b>Parking Permits, Residential</b> . . . . .		415-503-2020
<b>Sewer Problems, Overflows</b> . . . . .		415-695-2096
<b>Tree Planting</b> . . . . .		415-554-6700
<b>24th Street Community Benefit District (CBD)</b> . . . . .		415-519-0093
<b>Utility Undergrounding (DPW)</b>	<a href="mailto:undergrounding@sfgov.org">undergrounding@sfgov.org</a> . . . . .	415-554-6167
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"Sometimes you can't see yourself clearly until you see yourself through the eyes of others."  
—Ellen DeGeneres (1958-)

# NOVEMBER 2017

**Milk Harvey, Renters Sweat, Rosenzweig Paints**  
32 pages

PAGE ONE

A look back at the work of *Voice* columnist and famed politician Harvey Milk.

Renovation plans vs. longtime tenants.

Multi-talented designer Lynn Rosenzweig and her illustrations of local people.

INSIDE

OpenSFHistory photo shows 23rd Street after the 1906 earthquake.

Dolores Heights stairways and gardens get care.

Youngster to turn lemonade stand earnings into day-trading success.

Photos of the retirement party for childcare teacher Julia Ready, by Pamela Gerard.

Open Studios artist Gail Siegel.

Three venerable Noe Valley merchants celebrate anniversaries.

Le Cupboard Café is introduced in Store Trek.



## THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

### Harvey Milk in the Pages of the *Noe Valley Voice*

Early Champion of the Politics Of Hope Was *Voice* Columnist

By Matthew S. Bajko

In their 2013 book *An Archive of Hope: Harvey Milk's Speeches and Writings* (University of California Press), editors Edward Black and Charles E. Morris III combed through various publications and local archives to collect into one anthology the writings of Milk, who 40 years ago this November made history by becoming the first gay person elected to the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco.

The 256-page volume included Milk's campaign speeches, newspaper editorials, public letters, and various political columns he penned for the *Bay Area Reporter*, the city's LGBT newspaper, prior to his glass-ceiling-breaking electoral victory on Nov. 8, 1977.

Writing in their introduction to the book, Morris and Black noted that the materials they selected constituted "but a fraction of Milk's public discourse. Many of Milk's speeches and writings have been lost because they were originally performed extemporaneously or published in outlets now remote..."

One publication the men overlooked in their research was the *Noe Valley Voice*,



**Trailblazing Politician:** The ever ebullient Harvey Milk flashed his familiar smile outside his camera store on Castro Street in 1977. Photo by Daniel Nicoletta

which, in its inaugural year, endorsed Milk for supervisor under the headline "Everybody Needs Milk."

The editorial in the November 1977 issue noted how Milk had fought to see the supervisors be elected by district and had been a "tireless and clear-minded spokesperson for the undefended, unrepresented, and politically invisible," specifically gays, people of color, women, youth, and the elderly.

"He has been visible and given us hope. The least we can do is give him a job," wrote the paper's staff.

Milk returned the favor by agreeing to pen a monthly column, starting in the March 1978 issue of the *Voice*, called "Milk Harvey," in which the newly sworn-in supervisor would answer questions from readers. (When first announced

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

### Renovation Sparks Tenants Group's Concern

Older Renters Unlikely to Afford Newer Apartments

By Matthew S. Bajko

Walking into the apartment Dana Mullaney has lived in for 41 years at 505 Grand View Avenue is like stepping into a cabin in the forest. The living room is furnished with wood chairs and side tables, plus a coffee table cut from a tree trunk. Mounted above the mantel of her river-rock-framed fireplace is the head of a deer sporting impressive antlers.

Mullaney, 62, calls her two-bedroom apartment—which she shares with one of her two sons, who is in training to be an EMT—Big Sky Lodge. It is her mountain retreat in the heart of San Francisco.

"Other than a short stint in Tahoe, I have always been in the city," said Mullaney, a fourth-generation San Franciscan who grew up in the Golden Gate Heights neighborhood. "I am a native of San Francisco. This is my home."

But due to her landlord's plans to seismically upgrade and add additional dwelling units to the six-unit apartment building, constructed in 1961, and reconfigure her unit as part of the larger project,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



**Striking Poses:** Artist, teacher, and fashion illustrator Lynn Rosenzweig has created unique images of Noe Valley people. Photo by Beverly Thorp

### Another View of You by Your Neighbor

Portraits by the Artist Illuminate Locals

By Olivia Boler

"Ever since I was a little girl, I've been a drawer," says Noe Valley fashion designer Lynn Rosenzweig. "But just recently, I've rediscovered it through fashion illustration. It's my passion."

From the mid-1990s to 2007, Rosenzweig, 47, owned and designed men's and women's ready-to-wear clothing with her business partner, Ivana Ristic, in their

shop, Ristarose. The two met at Parsons School of Design in New York City. In their North Beach boutique, they also created women's evening gowns, developing a following in the neighborhood—and throughout the city.

"We had clients who were welders, tattoo artists, sculptors," Rosenzweig says.

"They started to ask us to design wedding gowns for them, using our ball gown designs but done in white." She describes the dress styles as "sleek," which was a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

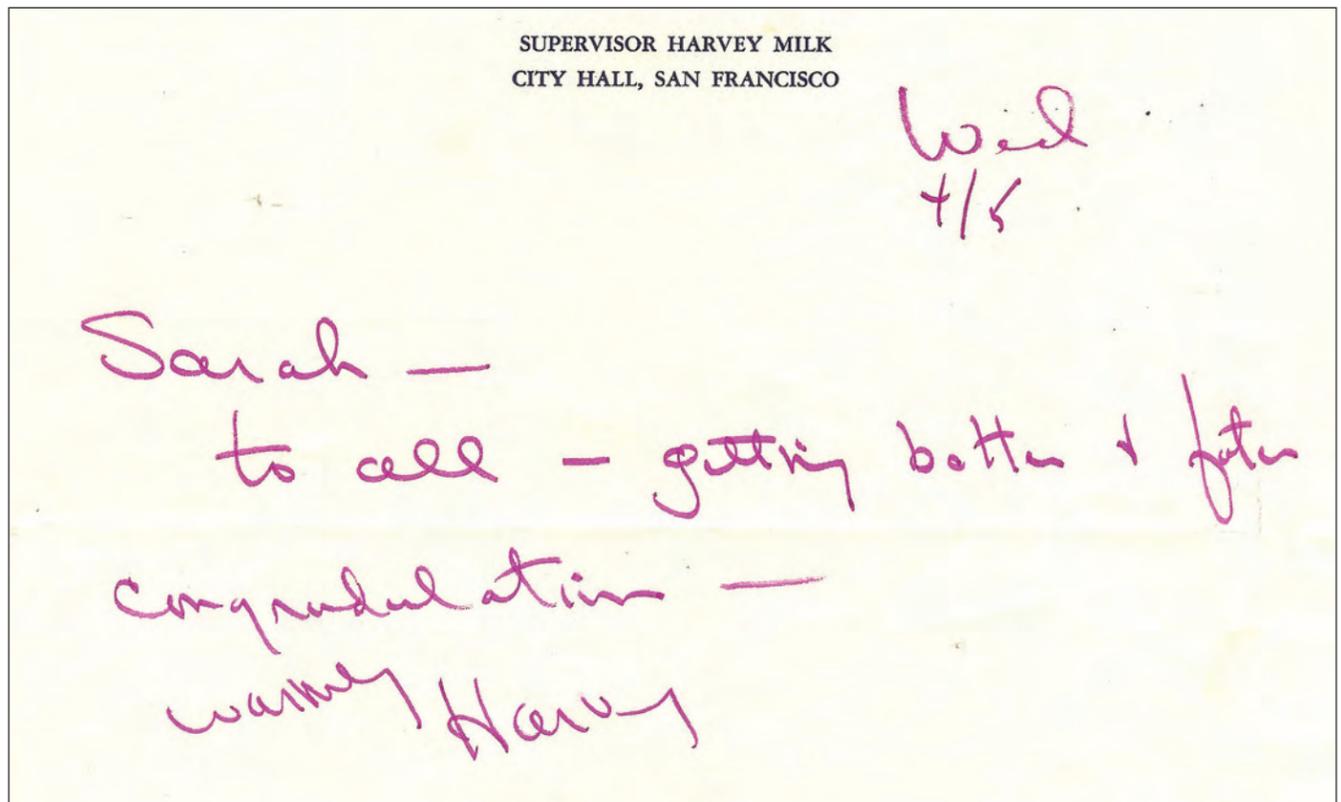


**View in Jeopardy:** Fourth-generation San Franciscan Dana Mullaney worries she may have to vacate her hilltop home if the building owner's plans are approved. Photo by Beverly Thorp



Church Street colors of the fall.

Photo by Jack Tipple



One of the memos that passed between Harvey Milk and *Voice* co-publisher/editor Sally (Sarah) Smith shows the supervisor's self-deprecating humor.

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

*Shh! Did You Just Hear That?*

By Michael Blake

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**Action SF—The National Movement in Your Neighborhood** Website: [www.facebook.com/actionsfsolidarity](http://www.facebook.com/actionsfsolidarity) Email: [actionsfsolidarity@gmail.com](mailto:actionsfsolidarity@gmail.com) Meetings: Second and fourth Sunday, 3 p.m., at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St.

**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/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association** Website: [www.evna.org](http://www.evna.org) Address: P.O. Box 14137, SF, CA 94114 Meetings: See website calendar. Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro St., 7 p.m.

**Diamond Heights Community Association** Contact: Betsy Eddy, 867-5774 Address: P.O. Box 31529, SF, 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: Deanna Mooney, 821-4045; Diane McCarney, 824-0303; or Sally Chew, 821-6235 Address: 560 Duncan St., SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Call for details.

**Fair Oaks Neighbors** Email: [hello@fairoaksneighbors.org](mailto:hello@fairoaksneighbors.org) Address: 200 Fair Oaks St., SF, CA 94110 Street fair is the day before Mother's Day.

**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, 350 Amber Drive

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

## MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

**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 Address: 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Call for details.

**Friends of Noe Courts Playground** Contact: Laura Norman Email: [lauranor@yahoo.com](mailto:lauranor@yahoo.com) Address: P.O. Box 460953, SF, 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 the Noe Valley Recreation Center (Upper Noe Rec Center)** Contact: Chris Faust Email: [info@noevalleyrecenter.com](mailto:info@noevalleyrecenter.com) Website: [www.noevalleyrecenter.com](http://www.noevalleyrecenter.com) Meetings: Email or check website.

**Friends of 30th Street Senior Center** Contact: Marianne Hampton, 601-7845 Address: 225 30th St., SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Occasional. Call for details.

**Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUNDOG)** Contacts: Chris Faust, David Emanuel Email: [info@fundogsf.org](mailto:info@fundogsf.org) Website: [www.fundogsf.org](http://www.fundogsf.org)

**Glen Park Association** Contact: [info@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:info@glenparkassociation.org) Website: [glenparkassociation.org](http://glenparkassociation.org) Address: P.O. Box 31292, SF, CA 94131

**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.

**Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association** Contact: Dr. Lisa Fromer, president Email: [efromer3@gmail.com](mailto:efromer3@gmail.com) Meetings: Quarterly. Email for details.

**Merchants of Upper Market and Castro** Contact: 835-8720 Email: [info@castromerchants.com](mailto:info@castromerchants.com) Address: 584 Castro St. #333, SF, CA 94114 Meetings: Call for details.

**Noe Neighborhood Council** Contact: Ozzie Rohm or Matt McCabe, Co-founders Email: [info@noeneighborhoodcouncil.com](mailto:info@noeneighborhoodcouncil.com) Web: [www.noeneighborhoodcouncil.com](http://www.noeneighborhoodcouncil.com) Meetings: Quarterly at Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., with date publicized on website and Nextdoor.com.

**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: Fourth Tuesdays, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 6:30 p.m.

**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 Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)** Contact: Rachel Swann, 225-7743 Meetings: Last Thursdays, Old Republic, 4045A 24th St., 9 a.m. Call to confirm. Website: [www.NoValleyMerchants.com](http://www.NoValleyMerchants.com)

**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 Address: 294 29th St., SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Call for details.

**Progress Noe Valley** Facebook: [facebook.com/ProgressNoeValley](https://www.facebook.com/ProgressNoeValley) Email: [progressnoe@gmail.com](mailto:progressnoe@gmail.com) Website: [progressnoe.com](http://progressnoe.com) Meetings: Check Facebook page for current meeting and event schedule.

**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 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.

**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.

**Stand Up San Francisco** Contacts: Laura Shapiro, Phyllis Ball, Paul Silverman Email: [info@standupsf.net](mailto:info@standupsf.net) Website: [www.standupsf.net](http://www.standupsf.net) Meetings: At offices of members of Congress, weekly. All-group meetings at Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., once a month

**Upper Noe Neighbors** Contact: Olga Milan-Howells, 756-4455 Email: [President@UpperNoeNeighbors.com](mailto:President@UpperNoeNeighbors.com) Meetings: Bi-monthly on the third Wednesday of the month. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St. Next meeting July 19, 7 p.m.

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

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# DECEMBER 2017

## Ho, Ho, Here! Tenants Win, Open Wide Please, Voice Eds. Awaken in January

36 pages

PAGE ONE

24 Holidays on 24th Street campaign announces festive events.

Tenants from the November Voice story win one from developers.

Dentist Barry Kinney marks 50 years in business on 24th Street.

Voice announces first January edition.

### INSIDE

City will assist renters with legal help in eviction cases.

Photos of attendees at the Noe Valley Gala in October.

Stephen Moore Home Mercantile is featured in Store Trek.

Whippet autos line up in a 1927 photo furnished by OpenSFHistory.

Obituary for preschool owner Debra King with remembrance.

Update on Ken Shaw and his Peace Corps service.

Poem by Voice contributor Jeff Kaliss.

### Voice Writers

The Voice is privileged to receive regular contributions from these journalists and writers. Special thanks to:

- Corrie M. Anders
- Olivia Boler
- Matthew S. Bajko
- Jeff Kaliss
- Richard May
- Joe O'Connor
- Roger Rubin
- Tim Simmers

### Voice Photographers and Artists

- Art Bodner
- Pamela Gerard
- Najib Joe Hakim
- Beverly Tharp

Volume XXI, No. 10

December 2017



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## December—It's The Party Month

24 Days and Nights on 24th Street

By Richard May

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have come and gone for another year. Now it's time for some serious local shopping.

Businesses in Noe Valley depend on your purchases. According to Rachel Swann, president of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, "December is huge for the merchants, and for most, it represents their profit margin for the entire year."

To entice you to shut down the computer, the NVMPA and the Noe Valley Association organize a month-long party called 24 Holidays on 24th Street. As the event name implies, something happens nearly every day in December. Here's a sampling (for see the Voice Calendar, page 26.) For the full list, go to 24on24th.com.

### Hayrides and Santa Sightings

The Holiday Hayride can offer you a magic memory. A covered wagon, drawn by two white horses, rolls along 24th Street on Saturdays, Dec. 2 and 9, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pickup and return is outside Walgreens drugstore at 1333 Castro St. The ride is sponsored by Zephyr Real Estate, so the round trip is free. Also at 11



A Quiet 24th Street will brighten with festive warmth during the days and nights of December, as merchants and neighbors band together for a series of seasonal events. Photo by Pamela Gerard

a.m. Dec. 2, Santa Claus and Rudolph the Reindeer invite you to join them for refreshments and selfies at Zephyr's 4040 24th St. office. For a non-selfie photo, Santa pops up at noon Dec. 2 for free photos with your pet at the Animal Company, 1307 Castro St. Make a reservation, though: 415-647-8755. If you're already booked Dec. 2, you'll have a third opportunity with the big guy Saturday, Dec. 16. You can join him in the photo booth sponsored by The Agency, 3848 24th St.

In between, Santa will be at Folio Books Sunday, Dec. 10, 2 to 4 p.m., sharing his cider and cookies, and at Just for Fun, Thursday, Dec. 14, with some of his reindeer, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### Good Cheer: Red or White?

If you define your holiday cheer in terms of liquid refreshment, the Holiday Wine Walk is right around the corner. Guest

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Tenants Win Second Round in Development Fight

Commission Sends Grand View Project Back to Drawing Board

By Matthew S. Bajko

A group of Noe Valley tenants has won a significant concessions in a dispute with an apartment building owner who had wanted to make renovations that would displace the residents for upwards of a year.

At a hearing Nov. 2, the San Francisco Planning Commission denied the owner's request to add a fourth floor to the three-story building as part of a seismic retrofit. The oversight body also put a temporary hold on plans to build four additional units in the building, located at 505 Grand View Ave. at Elizabeth Street.

The delay, until March 1, was to give the architects time to fashion plans that would add the new apartments without reducing the size of the existing units and complete the seismic work without displacing the tenants.

"We were ecstatic," said Dana Mulaney, 62, who has lived in the building for 41 years. "It was a lot of hard work put in, but it was definitely worth it, and everyone in the building was so grateful

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Extra, Extra Voice to Publish in January

By Richard May

Many Noe Valley Voice readers are familiar with the vacation schedule your favorite editors have been indulging in for the past 39 years or so: the July and August editions and the December and January papers are combined giving the Voice a summer and winter break.

In 2018, a special January edition will hit the streets and internet featuring the winners of our Kids Photo Contest and a look back at the highlights of 2017 as reported in these pages.

For more information on that contest, see our ad on page 6. And get those phones and cameras busy. The deadline is December 20!

Our columns and features will return in February. To participate, get us your news and notices by January 15. For display ads, contact Pat Rose (415-608-7634) by January 20.

See you in the new year!

—Jack Tipple and Sally Smith Editors and Co-Publishers

## Dr. Kinney Will See You Now

50 Years of Brightening Our Bite

By Richard May

Businesses come and go on 24th Street, but one business located in the heart of the commercial strip has been serving the public for nearly 50 years.

Dr. Barry Kinney, D.D.S., opened his dental office at 3969 24th St., between Noe and Sanchez streets, in 1968, right after he graduated from the University of the Pacific School of Dentistry on Webster Street.

He and his wife, Coragene Savio, bought the 1896 Victorian house on 24th Street and set up shop. Coragene was still in dental school, but after she graduated in 1969, they became partners in dental practice, as well as in marriage.

At first, they left the house as it was because, Kinney says, "there was not a lot of money." The front bedroom became the patient reception area, and the living room and dining rooms became dental treatment offices. Later, as the practice began to succeed, the Kinney-Savios modernized and expanded their offices to the up-to-date space now available for patient care.

Dr. Kinney has a funny story about moving into the neighborhood. He was out front, painting the facade of the building himself, when three dark-suited gentlemen appeared on the sidewalk behind



24th Street Fixture Barry Kinney, D.D.S., operates out of airy offices that make good use of light, stained glass, and murals. Photo by Beverly Tharp

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Check It Out! Oh yes, we've been very good. Photo by Daniel Tipple



Sad Tidings! All we want for Christmas is that PastaGina reopen.

Photo by Jack Tipple

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