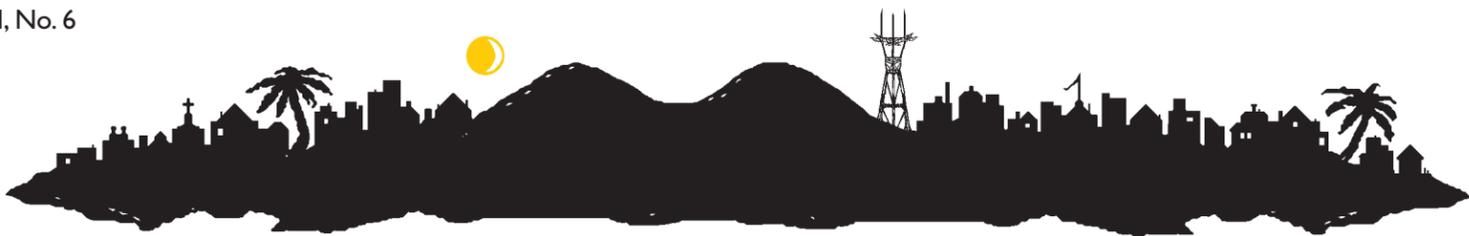




Hand Sewn, Home Grown. The women's suffrage movement in California got its start with the help of Noe Valleyan Jeanette Pinther and Glen Park resident Johanna Pinther. Johanna created the banner pictured above and presented it publicly prior to the first women's march in the country in August 1908. See page 11 for our story. *Image courtesy California Historical Society*



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Shoppers Retreat While Retail Sweats

Two More Stores Closing Soon

By Tim Simmers

The ongoing saga of 24th Street merchants struggling to attract customers is entering a new chapter.

The changing demographics—and tastes—in Noe Valley, combined with the steady growth of online shopping, are cutting deeper into foot traffic, and many merchants can't find a solution.

Two key women's clothing stores—Rabat Clothing and Shoes and The Podolls—are shutting their doors this summer, and the list of vacant shops is growing. Cliché Noe, PastaGina, Noe Valley Cyclery, and Hamlet have closed recently, and the previously shuttered See Jane Run, Caskhouse, and Good News remain empty as well.

"It's a challenge keeping a business going," said Susan Ciochetto, part owner of Cotton Basics at the corner of Castro and 24th streets.

Ciochetto refers to Noe Valley as a "robust shopping area." But business is slower than last year. New residents are browsing less in her store, and shopping online.

Ciochetto believes she has an "edge" because Cotton Basics designs and makes its own unique clothing. But much of her success since she opened in 1982 came from "impulse buying," and that's on the decline.

Throw in rising store rents and the high cost of doing business, and many retailers are anxious about their future. (Some

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



If It's Not Compostable, you likely won't find it at the Noe Valley Farmers Market, held each Saturday at the Town Square. A bag donation station is now set up for shoppers to make use of and contribute to, but vendors won't be offering plastic bags. *Photo by Pamela Gerard*

Farmers Market Ditches Use of Plastic Bags in Favor of 'Bring Your Own' Policy

By Heidi Anderson

Starting this month, shoppers at the Noe Valley Farmers Market picking up their strawberries, kale, and nectarines will notice something missing: the plastic bags hanging from the produce kiosks.

If you want a plastic bag, you'll need to bring it from home.

You can blame—or thank—the market's manager, Elizabeth Crane.

She had been toying with the idea of eliminating plastic bags for a while, but wasn't sure how to make it work.

Then she took a trip to Australia.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Healthy Spot Still Seeks Noe Valley Location

Permit Vote Slated for June 21

By Matthew S. Bajko

Mark Boonnark and Andrew Kim met over a decade ago while they were attending college at UC Berkeley. After graduation, they both landed jobs in San Francisco and remained friends as they pursued their professional careers.

Then, in 2007, Kim adopted a shih tzu terrier mix he named Maya Pyaari and stocked up on a certain brand of dog food recommended by not only his friends and coworkers, but also his veterinarian. Unbeknownst to them all, the dog food had been recalled due to contaminated vegetable proteins imported from China which were found to be sickening cats and dogs.

"I knew all these people who had recommended this dog food, passionate people who cared about their pets. But there was a lack of awareness about what was going on in the pet food industry," recalled Kim, 38, who has a degree in legal studies.

The experience sparked the idea that he and Boonnark could do better for pet owners by opening their own pet store stocked with safer products. It struck a chord with Boonnark, 38, as he had just lost his own dog, a golden retriever he'd had for 13 years.

"Even though I am a pretty health-conscious person myself, I never looked at the ingredients in my dog's food. When he got sick and had cancer, it opened my eyes in terms of what was lacking in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

OPENSFHISTORY



Our kitchen on Valley St. after the earthquake April 18th 1906

That Fateful April. Residents pose at a Valley Street outdoor kitchen stove after the 1906 Earthquake and Fire. The spires of St. Paul Church are visible in the background and a sign on the railroad trestle reads in part “New San Francisco Hotel. Fireproof.”

Photo courtesy OpensFHHistory.org / Western Neighborhoods Project / David Gallagher



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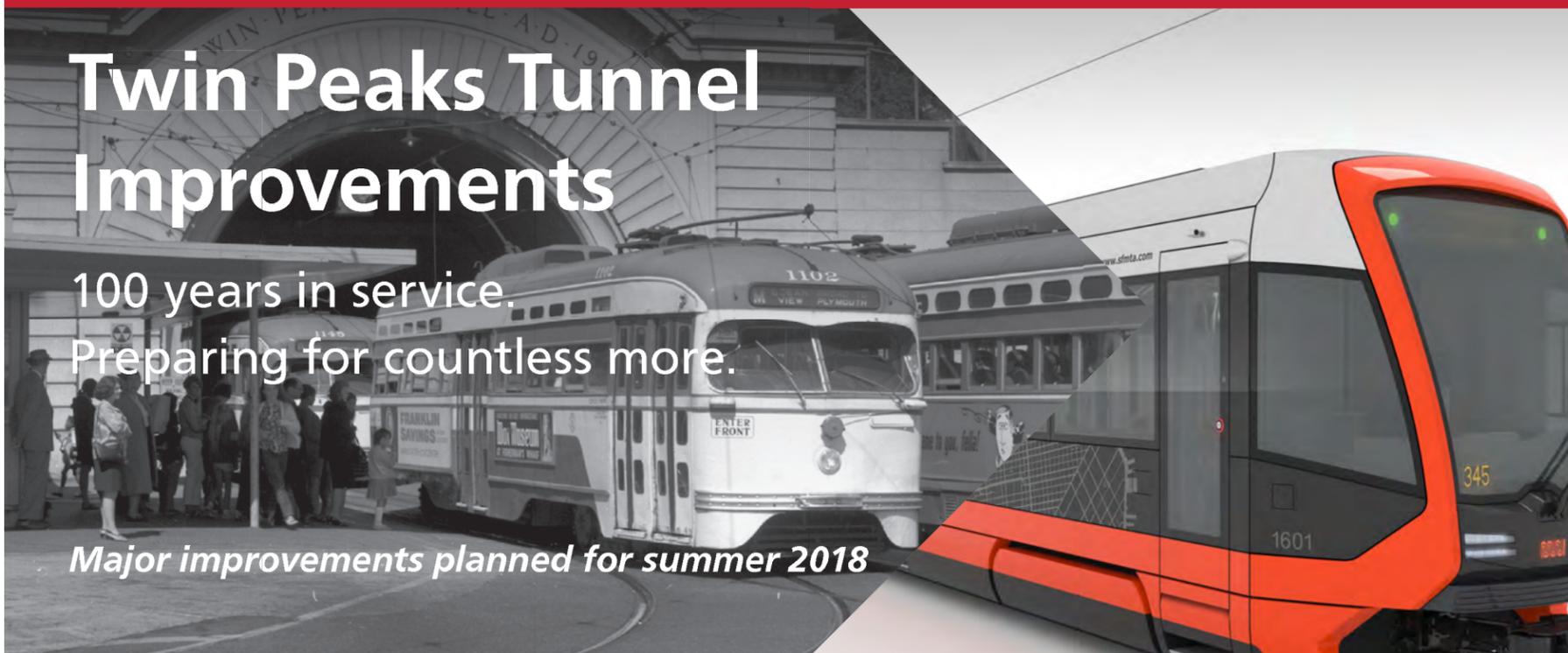
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The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) is making major infrastructure improvements to century-old Twin Peaks Tunnel. Planned improvements include replacing train tracks and seismic reinforcements in the tunnel between Castro and West Portal stations.

Construction will begin in summer 2018, during a tunnel closure lasting up to two months. During the closure, Forest Hill and West Portal stations will be closed, the K Ingleside will travel on a shortened route, and bus service will run for the L Taraval and M Ocean View lines.

Detailed transit plans for the K, L and M are available on our website.

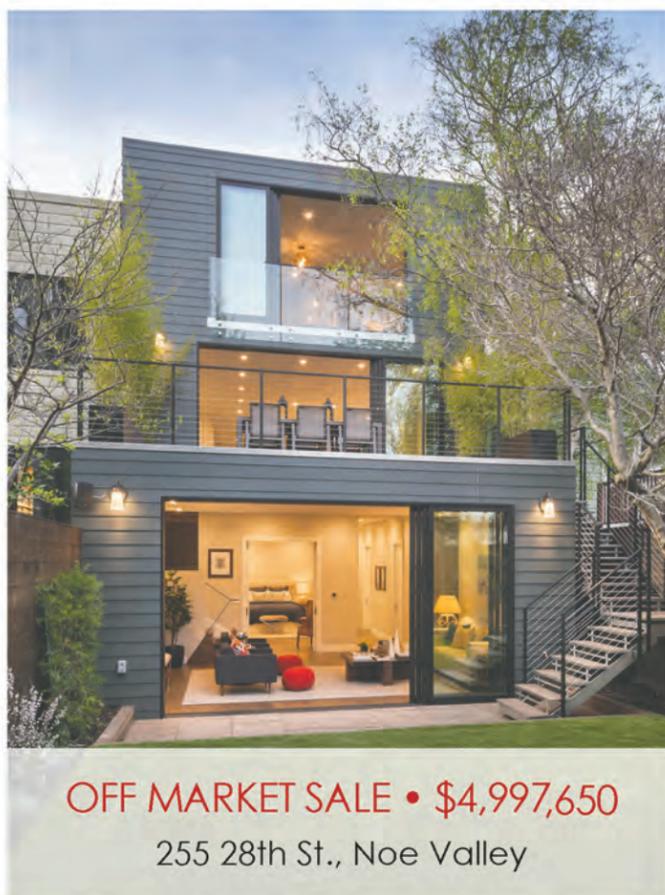
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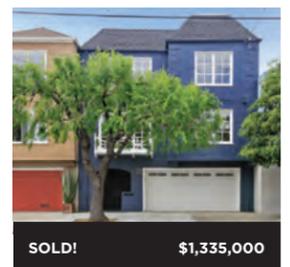
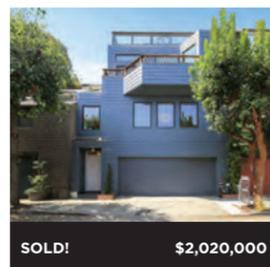
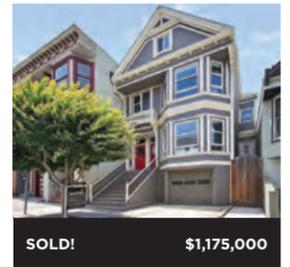
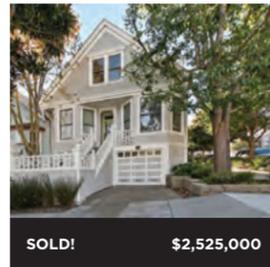
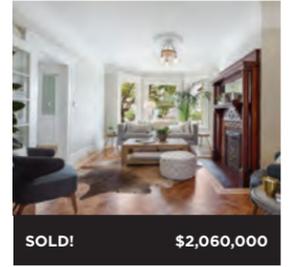
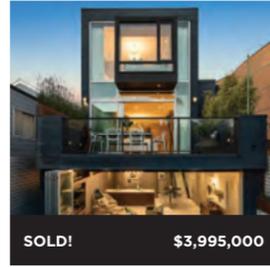
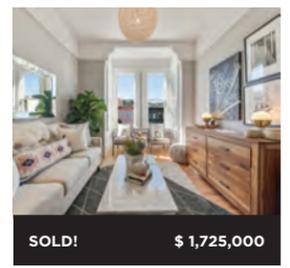
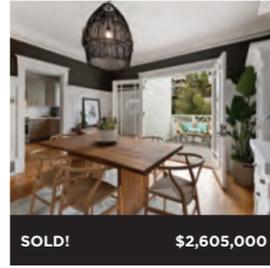
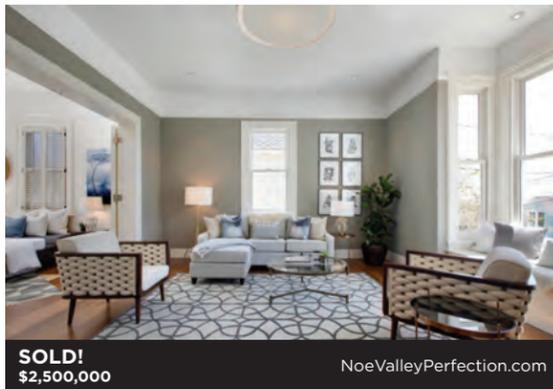
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IN MEMORY OF

Gene Hance— A Kind and Generous Man

By Laura McHale Holland

On April 14, I attended the funeral of Lester Eugene “Gene” Hance at St. Philip Church on Diamond Street. A former lector at the parish, he was a close friend of my husband, Jim Holland, for more than 30 years.

As the casket was carried into the church, a tenor sang a poignant “Danny Boy.” After the pallbearers took their seats, and the rest of us dried our eyes, he led the congregation in “Let There Be Peace on Earth,” one of Gene’s favorite songs. Gene was no longer with us in the flesh, but his spirit was very much present.

Gene was born in Scobey, Montana, July 10, 1927, and his family moved to San Francisco when he was a teenager. In April 1945, he graduated early from Sacred Heart High School to join the Navy. Upon his return, he attended University of San Francisco, but before graduating, decided policing was his true calling.

He entered the San Francisco Police Department in 1949 as a patrolman and retired as an inspector in 1979. During that time, he fired his gun only once. A



For a long stretch of his 91 years, Gene Hance and his wife Nancy (née Cleary) lived in her family home on Diamond Street. They raised two sons and were active members of St. Philip Parish.

suspect who had escaped a crime scene was spotted in a Foster’s coffee shop, but eluded capture when Gene and his partner confronted him. While giving chase, Gene called out, “Stop or I’ll shoot!” but the man kept running. Gene shot a round into the air, which, he joked afterward, only made the man run faster. He did end up making the collar, but not before the suspect broke Gene’s wrist in

a scuffle.

Later, as an inspector working in the fugitives division, Gene often flew to other jurisdictions to pick up people who had fled from prosecution. He also apprehended suspects being extradited by his counterparts elsewhere.

One case involved a man in his early 20s who had taken a joyride in a stolen car in Alabama, where this was considered to be felony car theft and carried a 10-year prison sentence. When Gene was filling out paperwork for the case, a young, pregnant woman came into the office and said the suspect was the father of her child, and she didn’t know what she would do without him. She had no job and no family to help her. Gene picked up the phone and called someone in the city’s social services bureaucracy. Before the young woman headed out to meet that person who later found a spot in a halfway house and other types of assistance for her, Gene gave her \$20, which was all the money he had in his wallet.

Ten years later, after the man had served his time, the couple brought their 10-year-old son to the office. “Inspector Hance, we’d like you to meet Gene,” the mother said. She tried to repay the \$20, but Gene gave them another \$20 instead, saying it was enough reward for him to have met his namesake and to know they were doing well.

Gene was also a family man. He met his future wife, Nancy Cleary, at a dance at St. Philip’s in 1947. The two married in 1951, and Gene moved into the home on Diamond Street Nancy shared with her widowed mother. The house had been in Nancy’s family since 1919 and was in the same block as the church. Gene used to joke that Nancy brought him home for dinner, and he never left. Together, Gene and Nancy raised two sons, Jim and Paul, and were active in parish life.

Gene became a well-loved member of San Francisco’s Serenity House in 1980. Through that and annual retreats at El Retiro in Los Altos, Gene made lifelong friendships with men in the recovery community. His gift of sobriety, which he always attributed to his wife Nancy’s prayers and the continuing love and support from his many friends at Serenity House, gave him a sense of gratitude that grew stronger as the years went on.

In time, Gene and Nancy became grandparents and spent as much time as possible with Jim’s sons, Jack and Luke, and Paul’s daughters, Emily and Allison. In later years, they would often stroll down 24th Street with their cairn terrier, Mr. Sparky. They would stop at Starbucks for a bagel and café mocha with whipped cream, and then sit outside and peruse the latest issue of the *Noe*

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

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Valley Voice while watching their neighbors go by.

They left Diamond Street only when Nancy’s health declined to the point where Gene could not take care of her at home. They moved to the AlmaVia elder care community on Thomas More Way and resided there until Nancy’s death in 2014. Then Gene moved in with his son Jim in Novato, where he passed away peacefully the morning of April 11.

These vignettes don’t fully capture the wonderful spirit of the man. Gene was so full of gratitude and grace, funny and kind. There are people who do grand things in life that stand out and warrant recognition. His was a quiet life, yet his reach in terms of the happiness so many people feel when they think of him is profound. ■

LETTERS 50¢

Puppy Love

Editor:

I was reading the paper to Sammy and he drifted off. (See photo at right.)

Not me. Loved every article. Cheers!

Cynthia and Sammy

Voice Subscribers

(Cynthia Birch and Sammy Davis Jr.)

Santa Barbara, Calif.



Sammy Davis Jr. is not a news hound, says his mom Cynthia.

We Apologize, Cal

Editor:

First, thank you for continuing to put out the *Voice*. As a regular reader for years, I much appreciate your efforts. Carry on!!

Thanks also, in your May “Rumors Behind the News” column, for referencing the continuing jazz nights at Chez Marius [4063 24th St.], and particularly for mentioning our band Blind Lemon Pledge, our leader James Byfield, and our great violinist Cal Keaoola. Cal’s name was inadvertently misspelled as Kenoola; it is indeed spelled Keaoola.

Thanks for your attention.

P.S. We’re playing once again at Chez Marius on Tuesday, June 26.

Peter Grenell

Member, Blind Lemon Pledge

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THE CARTOON BY OWEN BAKER-FLYNN

Have you ever wondered what exactly is inside those “utility” boxes that have sprung up all over Noe Valley?

Well thanks to X-Ray technology on temporary loan from Superman Comic Books, we can finally see!

Farmers Market to Ban Plastic Bags

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

convinced the Farmers Market board it was time to go plastic free.

“We are now taking away *all* the plastic bags that have in the past been offered free to customers,” said Crane. This includes the clear plastic bags that come on a roll and the larger, usually white bags that come with a handle.

To be clear, said Crane, “we are taking away all plastic bags that are not compostable.”

Bag Library to the Rescue

On a blustery Saturday in May, Crane pointed with pride to the new bag station already set up at the entrance to the Farmers Market. A long metal chain had been swung between two posts. Clipped to the chain was an assortment of durable bags made of cloth, vinyl, or paper. A sign above urged shoppers to take a bag and bring it back next week. Another reminded, “B.Y.O.B.!”

Some of the larger bags were ones Crane had made herself from old event signs.

“I just hadn’t figured out a good use for all these outdated signs until now,” she laughed.

Residents Chip In

As word spread about the new policy, local residents offered to donate more bags made from old clothes and other recyclable materials. Thirteen-year-old Isa Maeder offered to link up with the global initiative Boomerang Bags and sew bags from old T-shirts.

Shoppers strolling the aisles between organic oranges and leeks seemed to take



Noe Valley Farmers Market manager Elizabeth Crane's sign announced that vendors will no longer offer plastic bags. Crane started a bag library for bag-less shoppers, which will be at the market's entrance. The ban begins June 2.

Photo by Heidi Anderson

it all in stride.

Liore Milgrom-Gartner, from Castro Street, had just heard the news.

“But I always come prepared, even with the small bags,” she said.

Peter Gallotta was volunteering at the

market. He also happens to work for San Francisco’s Department of the Environment. He looked over at Crane’s bag station.

“It’s fantastic—a bag library! That way, shoppers will see it’s not the end of the world if they forget to bring their own bag.”

Lori Lambertson, who lives on Dolores, takes the whole idea one step further. She showed off her canvas shopping bag—full of more bags—that read, “Shop with a reusable bag, b*tch!”

“It’s definitely been used,” said Lambertson, pointing proudly to the bag’s various stains.

This Is Round One

Knowing that the change would be hard on vendors (who are used to weighing produce in plastic bags), Crane said she gave them a heads-up a couple of months ago.

Stalls that provide paper bags can continue to do so. “For now,” said Crane.

She also made it clear that this was not a trial run.

“We are not going to backtrack on this,” said Crane. (The official start date of the plastic ban is Saturday, June 2.)

“The recycling pledge is ‘reduce, reuse, recycle,’ and we’re taking that to heart by reducing the number of plastic bags we allow into the [eco]system.”

The Noe Valley Farmers Market is held every Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Noe Valley Town Square (3861 24th St., across from Martha & Bros. Coffee). The market has nine farm vendors and six food booths, selling everything from Drewes Meats and French desserts to Indian samosas and Mexican enchiladas. For more information, call 415-248-1332 or email info@noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Mostly Bunk

ACROSS

1. What the R in Muni's 14R signifies
6. A deadly sin
11. Comedian-cum-politician Ammiano
14. Man from Muscat
15. 10% church donation
16. Unclose, poetically
17. *What you use to "click here"
19. Ventilator
20. Woody Guthrie's boy
21. Miner's quarry
22. Crewman under Capt. Kirk
24. Get offended by
26. Blunted sword
27. *Shenanigans
33. Nobelist Curie
34. Baseball's youngest 600-homer man, informally
35. Country meadow
36. SF Opera solo
37. Mortise's carpentry partner
39. ___ Bakalinsky, "Stairway Walks in SF" author
40. "A long time ___"
41. Herring relative
42. Opposite of kvetch, in a way
43. *Frankenstein and The Thing's favorite fast-food orders?
47. Like a road worker's orange vest
48. Omaha's state: Abbr.
49. Wild-riding squire of "The Wind in the Willows"
52. Pringles container
53. "Me, myself ___"
57. Rower's blade
58. *Lunar Roving Vehicles, familiarly
61. Abbr. in ancient dates

DOWN

1. Kind of tomato
2. Love, in Latin
3. Saint name on a church on Church
4. Sleeplessness
5. Expire, as a battery
6. "Our ___ Golden Bear": Cal fight song
7. Fit-___: 24th Street gym
8. A giant among Giants
9. Giants 2B Robby (but not Bobby)
10. Actor Paul of "Casablanca"
11. Cubed bit at Eric's
12. Birthstone for some Libras
13. List of Novy's entrees, say
18. Gift for Fido
23. Abbr. before "Kamala Harris"
25. WWII general, familiarly
26. Lira replacement
27. Bette's "All About Eve" role
28. Constellation with a belt
29. Noe's Nest, e.g., for short
30. Mormon title
31. Onetime ballplayers at Bryant and 16th
32. Comedian Mort who debuted at the hungry i
33. "Beg pardon, lady?"
37. A Roosevelt
38. Merit
39. Blended into a mean
41. Cover with condensation, as glasses
42. CIA rivals of old
44. ___-cone
45. Lacking the skill
46. Contact lens care brand
49. Church Street dance studio, or the format of this puzzle's starred entries
50. Bay to Breakers, e.g.
51. Card over a deuce
52. SF-based tech website
54. Pinta partner ship
55. Mao's successor
56. "Gotcha"
59. Green-lights
60. Coll. transcript figure: Abbr.

Solution on Page 28
NOTE: The current Voice Crossword and all past puzzles can be found at www.noevalleyvoice.com

Local Women in First March for Suffrage

By Evelyn Rose

Project Director and Founder

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project

The first march for suffrage in the United States, on Aug. 27, 1908, is not indelibly inscribed in American history. So, you might be surprised to learn that two of the three women who co-lead this first march were San Francisco residents: Johanna Pinther of Glen Park, and Jeanette Amanda Wall Pinther of Noe Valley, with the third being Mill Valley (Marin County) resident Lillian Harris Coffin. One hundred ten years later, it is time for this event and these women to find their proper places in the historic record.

The Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906 did more than take the lives of 3,000 people. It changed the trajectory of homeownership in Noe Valley, Glen Park, and many other neighborhoods. An estimated 225,000 city residents were displaced by the disaster. Of those, about 100,000 earthquake refugees elected to remain in San Francisco. Many would make their way a few miles to the southwest, causing the populations of Noe Valley and Glen Park to boom.

Were it not for the earthquake, this random comingling of new residents would not have occurred. The assemblage of civic-minded women who had emerged by 1908 would rapidly elevate Glen Park as the hub for women's suffrage in San Francisco. And the woman who became the face of the Glen Park women's movement was Johanna Pinther, a former resident of Noe Valley.

The Thread From S.F. to Marin

Born in Marysville, Calif., in 1864, Johanna was the daughter of California pioneer merchant George Claussenius. Little is known about her mother, Augusta. She disappears from the genealogical records before Johanna reaches the age of 6. By the 1870 census, father George is married to Eliza Sonneborn, and it seems Eliza's sister, Sophie, may have taught Johanna a skill that would later play a significant role in her suffrage efforts.

Sophie and her husband, Max Koerner, were proprietors of the fancy goods and embroidery shop at the famous Baldwin Hotel, at Powell and Market streets. Sophie's skills in sewing and embroidery were described as "exquisite," winning a gold medal at the 12th Industrial Exhibition of the Mechanics' Institute in 1877. In 1892, they left the fancy goods business and moved to the newly developed town of Mill Valley to open the Bellevue Hotel.

Susan B. Anthony Sighting

The Koerners soon began socializing with Mill Valley's elite residents, including San Francisco city engineer Michael O'Shaughnessy, Horace and Lillian Harris Coffin, and Laura White, wife of Mill Valley founder Lovell White. In 1896, Laura White hosted women's suffrage advocate Susan B. Anthony on a trip to the top of Mt. Tamalpais on the scenic mountain railway. Six years later, Laura founded the Mill Valley Outdoor Art Club. It may have been Aunt Sophie's Mill Valley connections that helped Johanna find her footing in California's suffrage movement.

Just three months after the earthquake, in July 1906, Johanna married Theodore Julius Pinther, the second marriage for both. Theodore moved from his residence near McCallister and Laguna streets, at the edge of the city's burned-out area, to



This iconic image, captured in Oakland at the first U.S. march for suffrage Aug. 27, 1908, appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* the following day. Carrying the banner is Noe Valley resident Jeanette Pinther (center). She is flanked by Mill Valley resident Lillian Harris Coffin (left) and Johanna Pinther (right) of Glen Park. The photograph has since appeared on the cover of three books about California suffrage. *Image courtesy California Historical Society*

Johanna's home in Noe Valley near Army (now Cesar Chavez) and Sanchez streets. By the end of 1907, they had moved to 502 Berkshire (at today's Bosworth and Hamerton streets) in Glen Park.

Women's Clubs and Civic Action

Johanna and other Glen Park women burst onto the suffrage scene in February 1908 with the announcement of the formation of the Glen Park Outdoor Art League (GPOAL), an offshoot of the co-ed Glen Park Improvement Association founded by husband Theodore and Glen Park saloonkeeper August Straub. Modeled after Laura White's Outdoor Art Club and stated to be the first organization of its kind in the "suburban districts" of San Francisco, the GPOAL would continue the fight for Glen Park improvements and California suffrage long after the Sixth Star—the sixth state in the Union to allow women the vote—was achieved in 1911.

Using civic activities as a means toward suffrage, the GPOAL demanded the city provide needed infrastructure for the rapidly growing Glen Park, including water, sewer, electrical power, better streets, and a public recreation area (after 1901, the Crocker

Estate was operating a private resort in Glen Canyon). The league also established Glen Park's first library and, with the Glen Park Improvement Association, the district's first volunteer fire department.

Concurrent to her GPOAL activities, Johanna Pinther became president (and was likely founder) of the San Francisco Woman's Club (SFWC). It was through the SFWC that Johanna began working on the organizing committee of the San Francisco chapter of the California Equal Suffrage Association (CESA), of which



The date and location of this portrait of Mrs. Theodore Pinther Jr. (Jeanette Amanda Wall Pinther) have been lost to history. But Jeanette Pinther's part in the first march for women's right to vote is secure. *Photo courtesy Jeanette Wall Pinther Family*

Mary Sperry was president. Lillian Harris Coffin, also founder of the San Francisco Equal Suffrage League, was chair of CESA's Central State Committee.

A frequently mentioned participant in GPOAL activities was Johanna's stepdaughter-in-law, Jeanette Amanda Wall Pinther. In 1907 at age 17, Jeanette had married one of Theodore Pinther's three sons. They took up residence on Hoffman Avenue near 24th Street in upper Noe Valley, only one block from the home of her parents, earthquake refugees from South of Market, at Fountain Street and 24th. Johanna's active role in suffrage organizations provided a stepping stone for young Jeanette's participation in the historic first march for suffrage.

Banner Unveiled at Oakland March

In June 1908, the California State Republican Central Committee announced its annual convention would be held that August in Oakland. Within a month, CESA announced its members would march to the convention hall to encourage Republicans to add women's suffrage to their platform (the Democratic and Labor parties had already done so).

"Suffragettes to Storm Convention!" blared the *San Francisco Call*, implying the event would be a militant affair. Rather, it would be a dignified march of women from all social classes, much like the world's first suffrage march had been in London, the Mud March, in February 1907. The suffragettes also announced that Johanna would hand-sew and embroider a CESA banner to be prominently displayed at the event.

On the day of the march, the women gathered at the Metropole Hotel in Oakland. After several speeches, Johanna presented the "exquisite" hand-sewn banner, "of deep blue silk [bearing] the name of the association, and a vignette of the state arms embroidered in bullion and gold," to Lillian Harris Coffin, who in turn presented it to CESA president Mary Sperry.

With Jeanette as standard bearer, 150 to 200 "determined-looking suffragettes ... in a line two blocks in length" embarked on their historic procession, marching nearly a mile to the Republican Convention, at Ye Liberty Theatre on Broadway. There, they "filled four rows of the gallery seats, and flaunted their gorgeous banner over the heads of the assembled statesmen by drooping it over the front of the box." After delegate speeches and patronizing meetings with all-male conventioners, the Republicans refused to add suffrage to their platform (they would do so the following year).

What has become an iconic image of this march appeared the next day in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. It has since appeared on the cover of three books about California suffrage. According to her grandson, Leland Basham of Lincoln, Calif., Jeanette downplayed her role in the event, only saying, "I did this once."

Perhaps she was only being modest, or it was the lingering sting of the Republican snub. Regardless, their efforts would ultimately help lead to a woman's right to vote in California in 1911. This first march for suffrage in the United States, led by Jeanette, Johanna, and Lillian, certainly deserves a prominent place in American history.

The Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project (www.GlenParkHistory.org) covers Glen Park, Glen Canyon Park, Sunnyside, Fairmount Heights, and Diamond Heights. The project meets every other month (even months) and leads a dozen different themed walks, each several times throughout the year. If you would like to support the project, join in activities, or if you are researching the history of Noe Valley and would like to participate, contact GlenParkHistory@gmail.com for more information.

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Merchants Ponder Uncertain Future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

are bucking the trend, but more on that later.)

Many regular customers who have long supported the merchants are moving away, selling their houses, or unable to pay soaring residential rents.

Some shop owners would welcome a couple of “anchor tenants” on 24th Street, to help drive foot traffic. Even an Apple store was suggested. But that’s a controversial issue. Many prefer to retain the charm and flavor of small, independent stores.

Wistful Goodbyes

Rabat Clothing and Shoes, located on the prime corner of 24th and Noe streets (not to be confused with Astrid’s Rabat Shoes on 24th near Sanchez), will shut its doors at the end of July.

Manager/buyer Inci Caner said Noe Valley’s current residents, many of whom are busy tech workers, don’t seem to spend as much money in local stores as they used to. They buy on their computers or phones, and don’t have much interest in fashion, she said.

“It’s not logical to keep [running the store],” said Caner. “It’s a gamble. Business has steadily declined over the last three years.”

The lease is up in July, and the owner has decided to focus on her Berkeley store.

Caner said she no longer believes Noe Valley’s 24th Street is a strong retail destination.

Still, she has been overwhelmed by the “outpouring of love” from longtime customers sad over Rabat’s closing.

“They have come in teary-eyed,” expressing how much they’ll miss the store, Caner said. “They’ve humbled us, and flattered us.” The store has been open 46 years.

Fewer People Shopping

A half a block down the street, The Podolls, an upscale women’s clothing store, is closing after three years on 24th Street.

Co-owner and designer Lauren Podoll said she “felt like the street was changing” for the better when she opened, and adding new independent stores.

However, “there’s just not as many people shopping,” she said. “It’s not been supported by customers.” The store will close by the beginning of July, Podoll said.

Carol Yenne, who owns Small Frys children’s clothing store on 24th near Castro, will take over The Podolls’ loca-

tion temporarily as she remodels her store.

“We’re working harder,” Yenne said about Small Frys. “Business is still pretty good, but it’s not getting any better. In fact, it’s getting worse.”

In addition, there are the rising costs of utilities, employee wages and benefits, seismic retrofitting, and insurance, the merchants say.

Rag & Bone, Maybe?

Some people believe the district could thrive more if retailers changed up their product mix and made an effort to recruit a signature store or two that could excite shoppers.

“Times are changing,” said Rachel Swann, president of the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.

Swann is all for bringing in some signature stores to lure shoppers. She suggested Sephora, a cosmetics store; Rag & Bone, a fashionable men and women’s clothing store; or Epicurean Trader, which carries artisan chocolate, spirits, cheese, and other goods. She’d also embrace an Apple store, “along with a few more places to grab a cocktail.”

“If there’s not something here for [neighborhood residents], they’ll go elsewhere,” Swann said. “Give them what they want.”

She believes sticking with all the traditional favorites may not be enough.

A National Trend

A recent report on the state of retail in the city suggests changes in the customer base, and rising retail rents are the norm across San Francisco and the Bay Area. Nationwide, major retailers are closing stores in record numbers. Retailers everywhere are facing increased competition from online sales, according to the study prepared for the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development. The report noted that Americans want more of an experience, such as personal service, fitness, and travel, rather than objects.

There’s also a growing trend for residents to have food delivered to their homes rather than strolling down the street for a meal and browsing in a shop. Lots of stores are closing earlier—at 6 p.m., rather than 6:30 or 7 p.m.

Success Stories

Despite the tough times, there are bright spots along Noe Valley’s main shopping corridor.

Charlotte Nagy opened children’s bookstore Charlie’s Corner just 2½ years ago, and says sales are rising at “a nice, steady little chug.” She expanded into the adjacent store space a year ago.

Her shop at 24th Street and Castro promotes “literacy and community,” Nagy



Rabat Clothing manager Inci Caner (center) and saleswomen Raya Foreman and Andrea Rundgren (right) have been greeting tearful customers over the past month, many of whom can’t believe the store is closing, after 46 years on 24th Street.

said. It offers several free half-hour story readings a day, as well as book clubs and a store newspaper written by local kids.

That approach to getting to know customers—both parents and kids—is clicking. Nagy and her staff are hands-on about showing kids books and suggesting ones they’d like. The store is prospering and has become a neighborhood magnet. There’s even a “great bathroom” where moms and dads can change their baby’s diapers, Nagy said.

“We’re doing our own thing here, and it’s working,” she said. Nagy isn’t opposed to anchor-type retailers coming in, but understands why other merchants oppose the idea. For now, she’s just happy offering something creative and different. That seems to be the key for local success.

“You have to make retail an adventure,” said David Eiland, co-owner of Just for Fun, which has been in Noe Valley 31 years. “You’ve got to change your product mix to keep viable.”

Eiland is opposed to adding chains to spark business. He saw Radio Shack, General Nutrition Center, and others come in, and he believes they drove rental prices up.

“It’s proven not to work,” he said. “They’ve left us, and landlords still want that high rent.”

Art supplies and housewares are doing well at Just for Fun, and Eiland has added bath and body products, and candles, which are selling too.

Innovative and Green

Tej Greenhill opened Artisana about a year ago. She sells unique jewelry, ceramics, fine art paintings, and leather and metal craft, made by artists.

“We’re bringing the earth back to the digital world,” said Greenhill. She hopes for stronger sales, and is trying events like art receptions and wandering minstrels to attract shoppers.

On June 9, she’s hosting a Pride fashion and performance show in the late afternoon. She’s also considering a film festival and outdoor events in the lush

garden behind the store.

“I like the small-town, European feel here, with the small independent venues,” she said. That’s what brought Greenhill to Noe Valley.

Dona Taylor, owner of When Modern Was, would happily welcome a new anchor tenant on 24th Street. Business is off 40 percent over the last three years, and she’s struggling. Her rent is also high, but she’s trying to adapt and “hang in there.”

“It’s their time,” said Taylor of the neighborhood’s younger residents. She thinks retailers should cater more to their demographic.

“If you’re not selling something unique, you’re not going to make it,” Taylor said. “Anything mass-produced is all over the Internet.”

She sells antique furniture, jewelry, and home décor. “The young people aren’t buying. We’ll hang on as long as we can,” she said.

Taylor’s lease is up in two years, and the prospect of a rent hike makes her uneasy. ■



A favorite storytime destination, Charlie’s Corner bookstore at 24th and Castro is one of the bright spots in Noe Valley’s retail economy. Photos by Pamela Gerard

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Healthy Spot Debate Continues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

awareness and education on the pet industry,” said Boonnark, who has a degree in mass communications.

They moved back to Southern California, where they’d both grown up, and in 2008 launched their new business, Healthy Spot. They focused on carrying pet food and other products that, as the company’s website notes, “meet a stringent pre-selection criteria for premium quality of ingredients, and quality in procurement and manufacturing.”

With a dozen locations in Southern California, Healthy Spot sells pet products that are “organic, natural, raw, and/or eco-friendly.” It also offers full-service grooming at all of its locations, and provides daycare services at certain stores.

It is now aiming to expand to Northern California and wants to open its first location in the Bay Area at 4049 24th St. in Noe Valley, where the former Radio Shack had been. The store would offer grooming but not daycare services.

In looking at opening a store in the neighborhood, Boonnark said they checked out the nearby pet stores and didn’t see much overlap in the products they carried.

“Our strategy has never been to come into a neighborhood and put people out of business,” said Boonnark. “We are not trying to carry the same products they have and undercut prices, despite what is being said in that regard.”

Fur Stands Up

As the *Voice* reported in February, the company’s quest to open on 24th Street has sparked a fierce fight to keep the new store out of the neighborhood. Since

Healthy Spot announced its plans in the fall, local pet store owners and their customers have banded together to block the out-of-town chain.

They have circulated petitions online and in the neighborhood, and are planning to raise their objections before the San Francisco Planning Commission when it meets June 21 to vote on Healthy Spot’s permit request. Because Healthy Spot is deemed a formula retailer under the city’s zoning codes—meaning it has 11 or more locations in the U.S.—it needs a conditional use permit in order to open.

While chain stores are not banned along Noe Valley’s main business corridor, they have faced opposition due to concerns they can pay higher rents than locally owned businesses. But as brick-and-mortar stores struggle to compete with online shopping, not everyone opposes seeing chain stores occupy vacant storefronts.

Concerned Spots Will Spread

In the case of Healthy Spot, the owners of four pet-based businesses in Noe Valley are concerned that the chain will undercut them on prices and force them out of business. They argue that if small independent stores can’t survive, the result will be a loss of local flavor and a new round of store vacancies.

Paula Harris, co-owner of Noe Valley Pet Company on Church Street, is part of the coalition opposing Healthy Spot. While she doesn’t believe her customers will stop shopping at her store, Harris told the *Voice* she is concerned about what impact the chain will have on other pet stores throughout the city.

“I don’t think Healthy Spot is coming in to open one store in San Francisco. They are looking to blanket San Francisco with many, many spots,” said Harris, who has owned her store with her

wife, Celia Sack, for 19 years. “They have a much larger vision than just one Noe Valley location.”

Also opposing Healthy Spot are Bill and Ellen French, who own the Animal Company on Castro Street, and Lancy Woo, who owns VIP Grooming on 24th Street and co-owns VIP Scrub Club on Church Street with her fiancée, Sage Cotton. Earlier this year, in interviews with the *Voice*, both couples argued that there was no need for another pet business in the area.

Harris, in an interview in early May, noted that she carried many of the same products as Healthy Spot did.

“There are some different products that they sell. But it is a lot of repetition of the exact same foods already being sold in my store,” said Harris, who also owns a pet store in Petaluma.

Pet Stores Link Up

Earlier this year, a group of local pet store owners from around the city banded together to oppose Healthy Spot. They launched their own website—<https://www.mylocalpetshop.org/>—to voice their concerns and elicit public support.

In addition to the Noe Valley businesses, the coalition includes the Fillmore’s Animal House and the Castro stores Best in Show, Mudpuppy’s, and Jeffrey’s Natural Pet Foods. Mission Critter and Bernal Beast also have joined the campaign.

The local pet store owners are hopeful they will be able to convince the planning commissioners to vote against granting a permit to Healthy Spot. They point to how another pet store chain, Pet Food Express, twice was denied a conditional use permit—in 2009 and 2013—in the Marina District because existing small pet stores were likely to be hard hit.

“Sometimes it’s necessary to fight to

keep out chain stores and formula retailers who seek to encroach on our neighborhoods because they have tremendous business advantages that cause irreparable harm to small businesses,” stated Ellen French in a news release. “We’ve been building our customer bases and supporting our neighbors for many years.”

Labeling Unfair, Spot Says

Healthy Spot’s Kim and Boonnark pushed back against their company being branded as a corporate chain aimed at putting local pet stores out of business, in a phone interview with the *Voice* in late April.

“We understand the spirit of the formula retail ordinance. We didn’t think being a community-based store it would be as large an issue for us,” said Kim. “There is a wide mix of emotion, and we were really shocked in learning some of the characterization of us being a chain or a price discounter or trying to put other businesses out of business. That is not who we are and not what our business practices.”

Kim insisted that Healthy Spot would not be in direct competition with the Animal Company, but instead would drive business to both stores. With the Animal Company known to specialize in products for birds, Kim said, Healthy Spot doesn’t plan to cater to bird owners.

“We know a lot of the products that Rick [French] carries we won’t, and we will happily send people over there,” said Kim. “We believe with us [on 24th], he will still be able to exist and thrive. We feel we have a different mix of business. We can work well together and thrive together in this community.”

Despite the opposition they are facing, Healthy Spot’s co-owners say they are confident their permit application will be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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Kids Ask Katie

Kids Ask Katie is a column in which Katie Burke—a neighborhood resident, writer, and family law attorney—answers kids’ questions about Noe Valley. Children and teens ages 3 to 16 can address their questions to Katie at katie@noevalleyvoice.com. Katie will write you back to schedule an interview and photo session.

Why are there fewer abandoned people living on the streets in Noe Valley than in the Mission?

—Asked by Jasper Machule, 10

In March, I met Jasper Machule—who will be 11 years old in July and a sixth-grader at Alvarado School this fall—inside Folio Books on 24th Street. Jasper was with his mom, Phyllis Chen, who explained that their family had moved from the Mission to Noe Valley five years ago.

While walking to and from their new home on Dolores Street the first few months after their arrival, Phyllis said, she and Jasper noticed they saw fewer people sitting or lying on the sidewalks in Noe Valley than they’d seen in the Mission. That prompted Jasper to ask, “Why are there fewer abandoned people living on the streets here?”

To tackle his question, I started by contacting two people who work alongside and in service of our city’s homeless population: Ruth Nunez, program director of the Mission Neighborhood Health Center (MNHC), and Jennifer Friedenbach, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness.

“San Francisco has a lot of working poor individuals who are homeless, who at one point were residents of the Mission. They are accessing [MNHC’s] services to stay in the community that

they grew up in and where they feel comfortable,” Nunez said. She added that by 10 a.m. each day, 200 people had already come through the doors of MNHC, many availing themselves of the organization’s shelter services.

“San Francisco ordinances don’t vary by district,” Nunez explained. She attributed Jasper’s distinction between

neighborhoods to “the boom of housing in the Mission and overall high, above-market-rate housing compared to what rent was even three years ago. With gentrification, a lot of affordable housing has gone away. For every homeless person out there, there are seven people waiting for one bed.”

Nunez pointed to groups trying to

help, such as Homey SF, which works with youth in the Mission, and Dolores Community Services, which does case management and housing advocacy.

Nunez has daily conversations about homelessness with her own 10- and 13-year-old sons, who notice people on the street as Jasper does.

A Poverty Issue

Friedenbach shares many of Nunez’s sentiments.

“Homelessness is a poverty issue,” Friedenbach said. “Folks become displaced and tend to stay around their neighborhoods because that’s where they have some form of support and feel safe. Maybe they have an auntie whose shower they can use.

“[Homelessness] disproportionately impacts people of color,” Friedenbach continued. “There are a lot of Spanish-speaking homeless people, and they prefer to stay in Spanish-speaking neighborhoods, where they can communicate their needs in their language.”

According to Friedenbach, homeless people spend a lot of time and energy trying to find places where no one will bother them and they can rest. The Mission has a “light industrial aspect to it,” she said, adding that the freeway running through the north end provides natural shelter. “The population suffers from severe sleep deprivation,” she said, “and studies show this shortens their life spans by 25 years.”

Need for Compassion

Hillary Ronen, city supervisor representing District 9, which covers the Mission, Bernal Heights, and Portola, was unavailable to talk.

I relayed Jasper’s question to Jeff Sheehy, supervisor for District 8, spanning Noe Valley, the Castro, and other neighborhoods, including Mission Dolores. From the Castro Street Philz coffee shop, Sheehy replied, “There are fewer homeless people in Noe Valley because there aren’t any services there and it is not very accessible by transit.”

According to Sheehy, there is an “emerging lack of compassion” for homeless people among San Francisco’s citizens. If we had more compassion, he said, we’d invest more money in housing.

Sheehy views homelessness as fundamentally a public health issue, whose solution entails a “supportive housing ladder” that includes navigation centers, supportive housing, and transitional housing. He added, “I would love to work on a housing ladder for youth, which our city doesn’t have now, even though one out of every five homeless people in San Francisco is young.”

Volunteering at Martin de Porres

On May 20, Phyllis, Jasper, and I served food at Martin de Porres Hospitality House, a self-described “free restaurant” in the Mission. Several enthusiastic volunteers greeted us, including Cyndy Young, who has served there on the first and third Sundays of every month for seven years. Young says she keeps coming back because she appreciates the sense of community the patrons and volunteers share.

Jasper liked handing out utensils to the patrons. Phyllis later said Jasper and his sister had become Martin de Porres’s newest regular volunteers.

Thank you, Jasper, for your compassionately phrased question, which allowed me to learn more about homelessness in our city, and which introduced me to Martin de Porres’s great work serving homeless people in the Mission.

See you in the neighborhood!

—Katie Burke



Jasper Machule and his mom, Phyllis Chen, enjoy a visit to Folio Books. Photo by Art Bodner

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Healthy Spot Still Lobbying for Chance to Open

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

approved. They launched their own website—<http://noevalley.healthyspot.com/>—to seek support for their plans.

They’ve been criticized, however, for offering a financial incentive to those who sign up in support of their permit. Those who do are emailed a coupon redeemable for a free bag of Healthy Spot treats when the Noe Valley store opens.

“It is something we’ve always done. I wouldn’t characterize it as a bribe,” said Boonark.

Having joined the neighborhood’s merchants association, Boonark and Kim have been traveling to San Francisco to explain their business model and their plans for the 24th Street store. At its meeting in May, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association voted to support Healthy Spot’s permit application.

“We are confident that when people hear us, they will understand that a lot of the fears and concerns out there are not an accurate depiction of who we are,” said Kim. ■



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The Cost of Living in Noe

Condos in High Demand

By Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley home shoppers in April purchased 11 single-family homes at an average price of \$2.5 million, according to recent sales data provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

Buyers also bought 10 condominiums, paying on average \$1.9 million for their piece of Noe Valley real estate.

The main difference was the condo shoppers had to pay quite a bit more, relatively speaking, than the house hunters. The condo buyers gave sellers an average 19 percent more, while the detached-home buyers offered a modest 5 percent above the sticker price.

Zephyr insider Randall Kostick said condos were “on a tear” because they generally cost less—though still a king’s ransom for many—than detached homes.

Noe Valley’s lowest-priced house in April sold for \$1,650,000, Kostick noted.

“You can’t buy a house in Noe Valley anymore” if you can only spend \$1.5 million, he said. “If you can’t afford \$2 million plus, then you’re looking at a condo and not a house.”

Not that condos don’t have their share



This four-bedroom home on Noe Street was the most expensive house sold in April. Listed at \$5.25 million, the property sold for \$4.9 million. Included in the bargain were a gourmet kitchen, media room, an elevator, private garden, two-car parking, and sweeping bay and downtown views.

of high price tags. The most expensive condo in April cost the buyers \$3,729,000.

Located in an eight-year-old modern building in the 400 block of Elizabeth Street between Noe and Sanchez, the unit attracted a winning offer in only 15 days. Buyers paid 6.7 percent above the asking price to land the three-bedroom, 2.5-bath dwelling with 3,282 square feet of living space. Amenities included a chef’s kitchen, fireplace, floor-to-ceiling glass walls, a roof deck with 180-degree views, a private elevator, and a two-car garage.

April’s most expensive house sold for \$4.9 million. It was on the market for 83 days before an offer came in for 6.7 percent below the \$5,250,000 list price.

The four-level, four-bedroom, 3.5-bath home with 4,337 square feet of living space is located in the 1300 block of Noe Street between 27th and Cesar Chavez streets. Set on a double lot, the house features spacious living areas, glass walls, a chef’s kitchen with Gaggenau appliances, a gas fireplace, a media room, two decks (including one with a fire pit), bay views, an elevator, enclosed garden, and parking for two vehicles.



This is not your garden variety condominium. Buyers paid \$3.7 million for the three-bedroom, 2.5-bath home, located in a two-unit building on Elizabeth Street. The lure was floor-to-ceiling glass walls, a rooftop deck with 180-degree views, a private elevator to the top floors, and a two-car garage. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

LETTERS TO EDITOR
 THEVOICE welcomes your letters to the editor. Please email editor@noevalleyvoice.com. Include your name and contact information. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) Be aware that letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.

| Total Sales | No. | Low Price (\$) | High Price (\$) | Average Price (\$) | Avg. Days on Market | Sale Price as % of List Price |
|-------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Single-family homes | | | | | | |
| April 2018 | 11 | \$1,650,000 | \$4,900,000 | \$2,541,818 | 27 | 105% |
| March 2018 | 10 | \$1,400,000 | \$3,150,000 | \$2,363,900 | 12 | 119% |
| April 2017 | 16 | \$1,450,000 | \$4,000,000 | \$2,445,375 | 28 | 104% |
| Condominiums | | | | | | |
| April 2018 | 10 | \$1,350,000 | \$3,729,000 | \$1,894,200 | 14 | 119% |
| March 2018 | 14 | \$1,135,890 | \$1,805,000 | \$1,469,750 | 12 | 115% |
| April 2017 | 8 | \$930,000 | \$2,160,000 | \$1,484,750 | 17 | 116% |
| 2- to 4-unit buildings | | | | | | |
| April 2018 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — |
| March 2018 | 5 | \$1,725,000 | \$2,950,000 | \$2,310,000 | 23 | 121% |
| April 2017 | 2 | \$2,300,000 | \$2,695,000 | \$2,497,500 | 23 | 103% |
| 5+unit buildings | | | | | | |
| April 2018 | 2 | \$2,200,000 | \$4,995,000 | \$3,597,500 | 46 | 98% |
| March 2018 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — |
| April 2017 | 0 | — | — | — | — | — |

* Survey includes all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley for purposes of this survey is loosely defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The Voice thanks Zephyr Real Estate (zephyrre.com) for providing sales data. NVV6/2018

| Unit | No. in Sample | Range May 2018 | Average May 2018 | Average April 2018 | Average May 2017 |
|---------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Studio | 12 | \$1,950 - \$2,750 | \$2,261 / mo. | \$2,355 / mo. | \$2,475 / mo. |
| 1-bdrm | 25 | \$2,450 - \$4,900 | \$3,296 / mo. | \$3,266 / mo. | \$3,113 / mo. |
| 2-bdrm | 24 | \$2,950 - \$6,399 | \$4,341 / mo. | \$4,172 / mo. | \$4,057 / mo. |
| 3-bdrm | 17 | \$4,300 - \$12,000 | \$7,622 / mo. | \$6,308 / mo. | \$6,750 / mo. |
| 4+-bdrm | 6 | \$5,650 - \$19,950 | \$11,824 / mo. | \$9,640 / mo. | \$10,138 / mo. |

** This survey is based on a sample of 84 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist.org from May 4 to 10, 2018. NVV6/2018



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Local dog owners and their frisky friends held a party May 12 to celebrate recent upgrades to Joby's Run dog play area at Upper Noe Recreation Center. Photo courtesy Marty Fatooh

Repaired Dog Run Reopens

By Matthew S. Bajko

Joby's Run, the play space for neighborhood pooches at Upper Noe Recreation Center, has received a partial makeover. Dogs and their owners joined city officials at the L-shaped dog play area the morning of May 12 to christen the repairs.

As the *Voice* reported in April, the dog park had been showing its age after receiving an overhaul a decade ago as part of a restoration of the multi-use recreation facility at 295 Day St., between Church and Sanchez streets. The irrigation system at the dog park no longer worked and its special granite covering had worn away.

After lobbying by the Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUND OG), the city's Recreation and Park Department agreed to fix up the main section of the dog park that is entered from a gate on 30th Street. In April, workers installed a new decomposed granite surface to the area and upgraded the irrigation system.

Members of FUND OG held a party to celebrate once the work was done, with

snacks provided by dog groomer VIP Scrub Club.

Rec & Park General Manager Phil Ginsburg brought his 13-year-old basset-beagle mix, Barney, and Rec & Park Area 5 Manager Carol Sionkowski came with her little chiweenie, Nugget. District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, who supported the dog group's repair request, also attended.

Ginsburg said the neighbors who support the rec center and dog park had reason to be proud. "There is probably no more collaborative, collegial, happy community around any single facility in our park system than this one," he said.

The Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center is hopeful more work can be done this summer to freshen up the facility in time for the Ten Together block party it is hosting Sept. 15 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the recreation center's transformation.

Additional repairs are needed to upgrade the Day Street dog run section that is behind the athletic field, while the blacktop basketball court and the tennis court both need to be resurfaced. Chris Faust, who chairs the stewardship committee for the Friends group, said the goal was "to have the park in tiptop shape" in time for the party this fall. ■

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SHORT TAKES

Celebrate Pride, Love, and Family

This June, Charlie's Corner children's bookstore will celebrate LGBTQ Pride all month long with LGBTQ-themed story times, authors' readings, and a Pride Fun Run through Noe Valley.

The first annual Fun Run starts at 9:30 a.m., Friday, June 15, at the bookstore's front door at 4102 24th St., near Castro Street. Participants will circle the block and end up at the Noe Valley Town Square, where they can enjoy stories, crafts, and face-painting, plus snacks provided by Urban Remedy. Charlie (Charlotte Nagy) promises a free T-shirt to "all runners/walkers/crawlers!"

A \$15 donation to the event will go to OurFamilyCoalition.org.

Earlier in the month, on Saturday, June 2, at 3:30 p.m., author and licensed clinical psychologist Michael Genhart will come by the store to share his new picture book, *Love Is Love*. The book's message is that gay families and straight families are just "different kinds of normal. What makes a family real is the love that is shared."

Genhart will be followed on Saturday, June 9, 3:30 p.m., by local authors Beth Reichmuth and Marcus Ewert. Reichmuth wrote *I'm Jay, Let's Play*, about a day at preschool with gender-fluid kids. Marcus Ewert's picture book *10,000 Dresses* is a story about a boy who dreams of being allowed to look and act the way he feels.

An LGBTQ Family Story Time will be held Saturday, June 16, at 3:30 p.m. Free snacks and music will be provided.

Finally, on Pride Weekend (June 23-

24), all story times at the store will feature LGBTQ-centered stories and books. Everyone is invited to come hear stories, sing songs, and make crafts "that celebrate the uniqueness of you!"

Voting Is Groovy

California is holding an election June 5 and hopes you'll come. In Noe Valley, you'll be voting for District 8 supervisor, mayor, congressperson, and all the statewide offices (including governor and state senator). There are also nine city and five state propositions to wrestle with.

It's too late to vote by mail but you can vote at City Hall Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on the weekend, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Election Day, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., vote at your polling place, the one on the back of your voter pamphlet. Tossed it? You can find the information online at sfelections.org/tools/pollsite or by calling the San Francisco Board of Elections at 415-554-4375. And if you voted by mail but didn't mail the ballot back, you can hand it over in person on Election Day at any polling place and at City Hall until polls close at 8 p.m.

Laurie Coyle's Adios Amor

Adios Amor: The Search for Maria Moreno, a film directed by Valley Street resident Laurie Coyle, premieres at the 17th annual San Francisco Documentary Festival (SF DocFest) this month.

Maria Moreno was a farm worker rights activist and union organizer who predated Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. Her story was largely lost until Coyle's discovery of 50-year-old photographs taken by George Ballis, a chronicler of the farm labor movement. (Ballis' teacher was photographer Dorothea Lange, who famously documented the Great Depression.)

Coyle says she found out about



Noe Valley filmmaker Laurie Coyle premieres her documentary *Adios Amor: The Search for Maria Moreno* June 8 and 9 at the Roxie Theater.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim

Moreno in 1995 while working on a PBS documentary on Cesar Chavez. "I came across hundreds of photographs of a migrant mother, organizing with her children at her side." She asked herself, "Who was this remarkable woman...and why hadn't I ever heard of her?" Coyle had a personal connection to the movement. Her father volunteered at the United Farmworkers clinic in Delano, Calif., during the 1960s grape strike.

In 2009, after years of writing and producing documentaries about men (including the American Masters film *Orozco: Man of Fire*), Coyle returned to the life of Maria Moreno. "My own mother had died the year before, and I wanted to pay tribute to the heroism of ordinary women who sacrifice to care for their families and with tremendous energy and imagination juggle family life, careers, and social justice."

Adios Amor premieres Friday, June 8, 7:15 p.m., at the Roxie Theater, 3117 16th St., and plays again Saturday, June 9, at 12:30 p.m. Director Coyle and Moreno's daughters Lillian and Olivia will be at both performances and will answer questions. The daughters appear in the film. The Pena-Govea Family will play some traditional Mexican songs before the film begins. Tickets are \$13 general admission at sf indie.com and \$15 at the door.

SF DocFest runs through June 14, at three venues in San Francisco: the Roxie, the Brava Theater, and New People Cinema. For a complete schedule of the festival, visit sf indie.com.

Find out more about Coyle and her films at www.lauriecoylefilms.com.

Blood Orange Bug Juice, Anyone?

It's summer! Time to make a reservation at a state park or pitch a tent in the backyard and have a cookout. To help you with your *al fresco* menu planning, Marnie Hanel and Jen Stevenson have written *The Campout Cookbook* and are coming to Omnivore Books on Food on Saturday, June 9, 3 p.m.

The authors, both from Portland, previously wrote *The Picnic*, a book for daytime outdoor dining. Now, they're taking care of nighttime, too, with 75 recipes for meals to cook ahead or under the stars, including stews, chilis, pizza, and of course

chocolate raspberry caramel s'mores. They cover breakfast, lunch, and libations, too, including their now famous "Blood Orange Bug Juice."

The event is free. For all June events at Omnivore, see www.omnivorebooks.com. The lineup also features Josh Donald, who owns Bernal Cutlery (June 8); Diana Henry, food writer for the *Sunday Telegraph* (June 10); and Gayle Pirie and John Clark, chef-authors of *The Foreign Cinema Cookbook* (June 12). The bookstore is located at 3885A Cesar Chavez St.

42 Years of LGBTQ Movies

This year, Frameline42, also known as the San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival, will run for 10 days, from Thursday, June 14, to Sunday, June 24, the day of the Pride Parade along Market Street. More than 160 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer films from around the world will be screened in theaters in San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley. Here in the city, they'll be at the Castro, the Roxie, and the Victoria theaters in the Mission.

The opening night movie is *Transmilitary*, a documentary telling the story of four transgender U.S. military people. The festival closes with another documentary, *Studio 54*, about the notorious New York City nightclub. In between, you'll see dramas, comedies, and more documentaries, from 39 countries. Twenty-five world premieres are scheduled.

You can buy tickets online at www.frameline.org or at the Frameline box office, 470 Castro St., in the Strut health services building across from the Castro Theatre.

Art, Music, and Fashion

Culture is blooming along with the flowers this month. ClimateMusic and Civic Symphony concerts are tuning up at the Noe Valley Ministry, Lola Herrera is showing her figurative and "house" paintings, and Artisana Functional Art is holding a Queer Pride fashion fundraiser.

The fashion fundraiser is Saturday, June 9, at the Artisana store, 3947 24th St., from 5 to 8 p.m. Local drag queens

SHORT TAKES CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

Meet NVCM's New Artistic Directors

Karen Heather, founder and retiring artistic director of Noe Valley Chamber Music, accomplished so much in her 25 years with the series, she had to be replaced by two people. Meena Bhasin and Owen Dalby, a 30-something married couple who met at Carnegie Hall and now live in Glen Park, have been tapped to take over for the 2018-19 season.

Bhasin, a violist originally from Long Island, N.Y., attended Tufts University and the New England Conservatory of Music. At home in an array of musical genres, she has performed Mozart at Lincoln Center, played Persian classical music with the New York Philharmonic, and toured as a soloist with the rock band Jethro Tull.

"I played on a [NVCM] program a few years back with Livia Sohn and the St. Lawrence String Quartet," she noted.

Dalby, a violinist, was born and raised in Berkeley. "Dawn Harms and Emil Miland were mentors of mine," he said. He attended the Crowden School, and went on to receive bachelor's and master's degrees from the Yale School of Music.

Bhasin and Dalby met through Ensemble Connect, a post-graduate partnership of the Juilliard School and Carnegie Hall. While living in New York, the couple founded Decoda, a chamber music affiliate of the Hall with an emphasis on outreach. "We started our relationship working together 10 years ago, and I think that combination, with both of us being chamber musicians, makes us a really great team," said Dalby.

In keeping with Heather's vision, Bhasin and Dalby will present a variety of artists performing both traditional and innovative

music in the upstairs sanctuary at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

However, the new season, renamed Sundays at Four and starting in October, will offer four concerts (at 4 p.m.) during the year, at a subscription price of \$135. (A "VIP Series" for \$175 gives priority seating at all four performances and two guest passes.)

Among the 2018-19 artists will be the Anderson and Roe Piano Duo (Oct. 14), Carnegie Hall's Decoda (Dec. 2), and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, this time performing with clarinetist Todd Palmer (Feb. 10). The final concert, on May 12, will feature Bhasin and Dalby themselves and local favorites Tom Stone, Eric Zivian, and Tanya Tomkins.

"We are thrilled to be stepping into a community that seems really striving," Bhasin said.

"We want to continue to see the interest grow, expand it, and think about bringing in the next generation."

"Our goal is to provide an on-ramp for people unfamiliar with NVCM," added Dalby. "We want to introduce a new series called 'Snapshots,' which will be hour-long programs in slightly different locations around the city in a more casual environment. We've seen this done very successfully and we've done it ourselves."

They also may sponsor "house concerts" in Noe Valley, said Bhasin. "Neighborhood residents can host a concert and invite their friends and neighbors."

To find out more details or subscribe to the new season, call 415-648-5236 or email NVCM executive director Tiffany Loewenberg at Tiffany@nvcm.org.

—Wayne Goodman



Owen Dalby and Meena Bhasin

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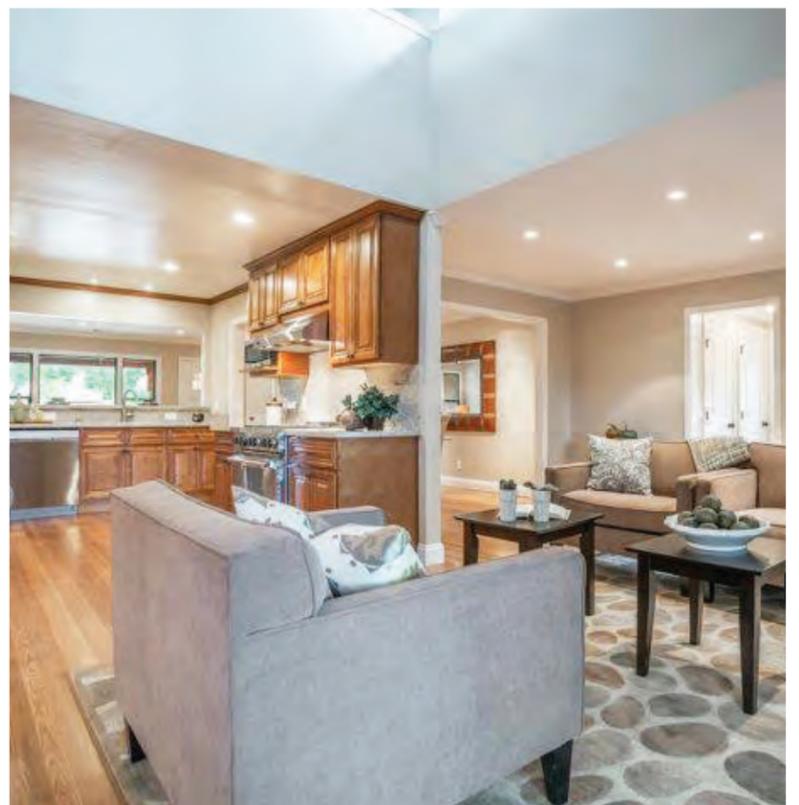


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SHORT TAKES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

will model clothing and perform, and there will be free food and drink for all. A raffle will benefit Queer LifeSpace, a Castro nonprofit that offers mental health services to the queer community. Prizes include Ragdoll Clothing dresses and Heather Blaikie jewelry.

Also on June 9, at 7 p.m., the Climate-Music Project presents the premiere of *Icarus in Flight* by composer Richard Festinger at the Ministry, 1021 Sanchez



At Lola Gallery on Sanchez Street, artist Lola Herrera displays her own paintings this month, including the oil *Figure in Pink*.

St. The piece is a musical take on climate change, and a call for action. The evening begins with a talk by William Collins, director of the Climate and Ecological Sciences Division at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$45 reserved seating, at www.brownpapertickets.com. Learn more about the ClimateMusic Project at www.theclimatemusicproject.org.

The Civic Symphony of San Francisco offers an Afternoon of Chamber Music at the Ministry Saturday, June 16, at 3 p.m. Compositions to be performed are Brahms' Symphony No. 2 (arranged for violin, cello, and four-hand piano), Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, and a trio for oboe, clarinet, and bassoon. The suggested donation is \$10 per person at the door.

And you can appreciate art within walking distance all month at Lola Gallery, 1250 Sanchez St. Owner and artist Lola Herrera curates different art exhibits at her store, but in June she will finally feature her own paintings, both figurative work and "house" paintings, which began as studies for sculptures. "I really liked the two-dimensional aspect, so I continued" creating paintings, rather than sculptures, she said. Store hours are Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.

Queer Words With Rob Rosen

Folio Books welcomes back its quarterly literary series, Queer Words, curated by local writer Wayne Goodman. On Tuesday, June 19, 7 p.m., Noe Valley author Rob Rosen will be the guest. Goodman and Rosen will sit down and chat, and Rosen will read from his latest novel, *And God Belched*. Free admission, refreshments, and laughs are guaranteed.

Rosen, a longtime resident of Dolores



Author Ron Rosen discusses his popular "gay romantic comedies" at the Queer Words series at Folio Books on June 19.

Street, has written 12 novels, which he calls "gay romantic comedies." He confides, "They're fun to write, and I like making people laugh. Also, I've always been a romantic kind of guy. All in all, the genre is a perfect fit!"

Rosen said he began writing gay novels after reading all of those he could get his hands on. "I decided to give it a try myself. I sat down. I wrote. I wrote a book. And somehow, 18 years, 12 books, eight anthologies, and several hundred short stories later, here I am."

That's a lot of literature for a man with a day job. How does he do it? "I write all weekend," he explains. "I'm a fast writer, so I get a lot done."

Among his best-selling titles are *Divas Las Vegas*, *Fate*, *Queens of the Apocalypse*, *Queerwolf*, *Sparkle*, and *Vamp*. Folio Books is located at 3957 24th St., across from Whole Foods.

Short Takes are compiled and written by Richard May.

Free Dog Safety Tips

A Noe Valley resident who operates a dog training business will hold a free workshop June 7 that is designed to help children and dogs get along more amicably.

Beverly Ulbrich, also known as the Pooch Coach, said her "Kids and Dog Workshop" will teach children how to overcome their fear of dogs as well as show those who are already comfortable with canines how to safely meet new dogs.

"Recently, I have been disappointed watching so many children run and scream from my small little puppy in Noe Valley," said Ulbrich, who has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and worked as a canine behaviorist for 15.

"When I had a puppy 13 years ago, most of the children wanted to run up and pet her. But now most children seem to be afraid. Not only is this sad to me, because I would love children to love dogs, but also it's dangerous because these kids often act inappropriately, which could cause them harm around the wrong dog," she said.

"There is also the issue of kids who have their own dogs and therefore think it's okay to run up to any dog and grab and/or pet it," Ulbrich said. "This is also dangerous."

At the class, she will introduce children to a friendly, trained puppy to help them overcome their fears.

The workshop, which is co-hosted by San Francisco Dog Owners Group, is open to kids of all ages (and their parents), but no dogs are allowed. It will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th St.

The event is free. "A \$5 donation to SFDOG will be accepted, if people are so inclined," said Ulbrich.

For more information, go to <https://poochcoach.com/kids-dogs/> or email info@poochcoach.com.

—Corrie M. Anders

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

How to Place A Class Ad

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10 for 10 discount: The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the same class ad in 10 issues, you get a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total due for 10 issues. The next *Voice* Class Ads will appear in the **July/August 2018** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of July. **The deadline for Class Ads is June 15.**

The Class Ads are also displayed at www.noevalleyvoice.com.

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STORE TREK

Stores Trek is a regular Voice column featuring new stores and restaurants in the neighborhood. This month, we profile Seokyo, a Korean-Japanese grill that in less than three months has created a following on Church Street.

SEOKYO
1740 Church Street near Day Street
415-875-9881

Chef Andy Go is serving up visually stunning Korean food at his first restaurant in Noe Valley. At the same time, he's satisfying the desires of throngs of sushi fans in the neighborhood.

The menu at Seokyo—whose name is a portmanteau of the capital cities Seoul, South Korea, and Tokyo, Japan—features dishes from both culinary traditions.

Kimchi, fermented cabbage leaves that are a staple of Korean cuisine, has a starring role. Go stuffs it into gyozas (\$8) or uses it to cover gently fried chunks of tofu (\$8). Other Korean specialties include bulgogi, made with thinly sliced beef (\$14), and kalbi, Korean-style short ribs (\$16).

"As we know, around Noe Valley we don't have any Korean food, and we are good with Japanese food, so why not try to give some new impact to the neighborhood," Go, 39, explained in an emailed response to *Voice* questions.

The Sunset District resident was born in Hong Kong and has worked in various restaurants over the years. That experience, and an interest in trying out new dishes, led him to experiment with his menu at Seokyo, which soft-opened Feb. 18 and held an official grand opening celebration May 18.

In May, Go tweaked the menu to adjust the pricing and add some new options. On the Japanese side of the menu, Go offers an assortment of eight pieces of sashimi (\$22) or a deluxe 18-piece sashimi seafood dish (\$48).

There is a classic sushi roll list, each six pieces, featuring common offerings like cucumber, avocado, or sweet potato (\$6) or spicy tuna, California, and salmon avocado rolls (\$8). Go focuses on how he plates each dish, with an eye toward those customers who like to photograph their entrees and share them via social media.

His Pink Lady special sushi roll (\$14),

for instance, is arranged so that the pieces resemble pink hearts. It features fried eggplant, zucchini, and carrot wrapped in pink soy paper.

Among the more popular dishes he serves are his house spicy (or honey) chicken wings (\$12), grilled whole squid (\$16), hamachi (yellowtail) kama (\$16), and a seafood pancake (\$16). Two other bestsellers are the hamachi carpaccio (\$18) and rainbow crayon roll (\$16), made with crabmeat and avocado topped with five different slices of fish.

The space has been home to several sushi restaurants over the years, most recently ones called Noe, Tataki South, and Deep Sushi.

Go worked at Tataki South as did his two silent partners who helped him open Seokyo. They jumped at the chance to take over the location, he said, because "we all love this neighborhood."

Another passion for Go is the Golden State Warriors basketball team, which he honors on his menu with a sushi roll dubbed Warriors (\$18). It features ebi (shrimp) with green apple and topped with seared scallops. The dish is plated to resemble the team's logo, with the Bay Bridge's new eastern span created out of a yellow sauce and the blue sky made from a jelly-like substance.

"I've been a Warriors fan for a couple years, and why I chose the Warriors was because they were the best!!!" wrote Go.

His love for the five-time NBA championship team inspired him to turn the restaurant's back room into the Warriors Room, with several television screens so patrons could catch the team's games. The walls feature artwork of the team's players created by Go's friend, artist and illustrator Kevin Deng.

"I really love his arts, so I try to put his masterpiece in the Warriors Room to share with all the Warriors fans!" wrote Go.

This summer, Go plans to begin offering brunch on the weekend. He offers a special Happy Hour menu every day from 5 to 7 p.m., with discounts on food, beer, and sake.

The restaurant, which seats 52, is open for dinner from 5 to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights.

Patrons can make reservations by calling the restaurant (it currently does not have a website or take online reservations). But on Fridays and Saturdays the restaurant only reserves tables for parties of six or more.

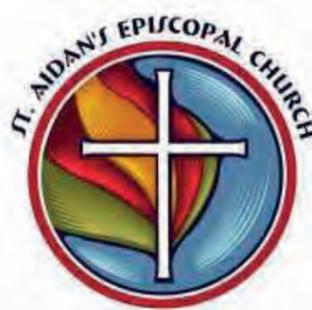
—Matthew S. Bajko



Chef Andy Go shows off one of his favorite dishes: the Warriors Roll. A blend of shrimp, apple, and scallops, it's plated to resemble the team's Bay Bridge logo. Photo by Art Bodner

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June 1-3: The 23rd SF SILENT FILM Festival offers films from nine countries at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. For info: silentfilm.org.

June 1-14: The 17th SF DOCUMENTARY FILM Festival screens at the Roxie and New People Cinema. 662-FEST; sfndie.com.

June 1-29: BootCampSF conducts FITNESS training Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8:30 am. SF Rec Center Basketball Court, 30th and Whitney. 567-9009; sbbootcamp.com.

June 1-29: The Friday-night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett bookstore. 5:30-8 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

June 1-29: Chris Sequeira leads a free Friday KARAOKE for adults gathering at Upper Noe Rec Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. 295 Day. 970-8061.

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

June 1-30: Charlie's Corner offers children's STORY TIMES every day. Mon.-Fri., 10 am, noon, 3 & 5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 10:30 am, 12:30 & 3:30 pm. 4102 24th; 641-1104.

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

June 1-July 12: CREATIVITY EXPLORED exhibits "Mind Place," a multimedia show curated by instructor Leeza Doreian. Reception May 10, 7-9 pm; Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm (Thurs. until 7 pm), Sat., noon-5 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org.

June 2: Noe Valley Chamber Music's CLASSICAL KIDS hosts a concert by the Thalea String Quartet 10:30 am. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. nvcn.org.

June 2: Learn to knit or crochet at the Noe Valley Library's KNITTING CIRCLE. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 2: Psychologist Michael Genhart discusses his picture book *Love Is Love* at Charlie's Corner Bookstore. 3:30 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

June 2: Bongo leads a free DRUMMING and dance class from 4 to 5 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th.

June 2: Johnny Harper & Carnival perform a CONCERT at 8 pm. SF LIVE ARTS (formerly Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

June 2-30: Each Saturday, the Noe Valley FARMERS' MARKET brings you fresh produce and live music from 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

June 2-30: Upper Noe Rec Center offers free YOGA CLASSES Saturdays 9:15-10:15 am. Day & Sanchez. 970-8061; noevalleyreccenter.com.

June 2-30: Meet under the rainbow flag at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro and Market) for a City Guides walking tour of the CASTRO. Sat., Sun. & Tues., 11 am. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

June 2-30: The Randall Museum offers a close-up of California wildlife in "Meet the ANIMALS," on Saturdays at 2 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9605.

June 2-30: Saturday night JAZZ at Bird & Beckett features local performers from 7:30 to 10 pm; refreshments available. 653 Chenery. birdbeckett.com.

June 3: HEROES DAY at the Noe Valley Town Square features a fire truck and a police car for kids to explore, plus music, games, and food. 1-4 pm. 3861 24th.

June 3: Sara Franklin introduces *EDNA LEWIS: At the Table with an American Original*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

June 3 & 17: The Noe Valley Town Square hosts DRUMMING and dancing on first and third Sundays; check noevalleytownsquare.com for times. 3861 24th.

June 3 & 17: SF City Guides leads a free WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays at 1:30-3:30 pm. Meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

June 3-24: Taylor Pangman and Lauren Cohen from Yoga Mayu offer a free YOGA CLASS at the Noe Valley Town Square; bring your own mat. 9-10 am. 3861 24th.

June 3-24: Meet at the gold fire hydrant at 20th and Church at 11 am Sundays for a City Guides walking tour of the area around MISSION DOLORES. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

June 3-24: MARIPOSA STUDIO is open on Sundays from 12:30 to 4 pm. 2808 Mariposa, at Project Artaud. 861-4330; mariposastudio.org.

June 3 & July 1: The Asian Art Museum offers FREE ADMISSION on the first Sunday of the month, courtesy of Target. 200 Larkin. 581-3500; asianart.org.

June 4, 11, 18 & 25: The ACC Conversation Club meets from 4:30 to 5:30 pm at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey. For details, email krismoser@aol.com.

June 5: ELECTION DAY! Vote in the Primary for xxx 7 am-8 pm.

June 5 & 19: Bethany United Methodist Church offers free KNITTING lessons on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. 6:30-8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393; bethanyusf.org.

June 5-26: The Eureka Valley Library tells TODDLER TALES on Tuesdays, 10:30 am. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

June 5-26: John McClean Wolf leads SACRED YOGA Tuesdays at Holy Innocents. 7-8:15 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142; holyinsf.org.

June 5-28: Dylan Phillipy leads BOOTCAMP on the Square, Tuesdays at 6 pm and Thursdays at 11 am. Noe Valley Town Square, 24th & Vicksburg.

June 5 & July 3: The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

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

June 6: Make a stamp to decorate cards, gift wrap, or tote bags at adult CRAFT NIGHT at the Noe Valley Library. 7-8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 6 & 20: Children 4 and up can read to a dog named Oliver at PUPPY DOG TALES. 6:30-7:30 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

June 6-27: The Noe Valley Town Square hosts TAI CHI classes with Alex Medel. 7:15 am. 3861 24th.

June 6-27: Folio Books offers STORYTIME for toddlers Wednesdays at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

June 6-27: Chris Sequeira leads free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1 to 3 pm, at Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com

June 6-27: The Eureka Valley Library hosts BABY RHYME and play time on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:15. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

June 6-27: The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesdays, 4 to 7 pm, through November. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

June 6-27: Holy Innocents Episcopal Church holds Candlesong, a TAIZE-style service followed by a potluck on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142.

June 6-27: 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.

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

June 7: The ZOOMOBILE visits the Noe Valley Library from 4-5 pm. 451 Jersey. Call for reservations: 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 7: The Pooch Coach and SF Dog Owner's Group offer a "KIDS AND DOGS Workshop," to encourage proper handling of pets. 6 pm. Noe Valley Town Square. 3861 24th.

June 7: Elizabeth Minchilli discusses *Eating My Way Through Italy*; Heading Off the Main Roads to Discover the Hidden Treasures of the ITALIAN TABLE. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

June 7, 14, 21 & 28: Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 7-28: Shrawan Nepali leads Thursday Morning MEDITATION in the Noe Valley Town Square; bring a pillow. 3861 24th. 8-9 am.

June 7-28: Newcomers welcome at the AL-ANON Literature Discussion, meeting Thursdays at Bethany UMC, from 7:15 to 8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez.

June 7-28: Bring your storehouse of random knowledge to TRIVIA NIGHT on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

June 8: The Noe Valley Library screens the 2009 FILM *Milk*, starring Sean Penn as the late Supervisor. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.



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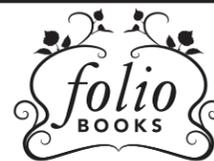


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— William Saroyan

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• CALENDAR •

June 8 & 9: Noe Valley resident LAURIE COYLE screens her film, *Adios Amor: The Search for Maria Moreno* at the SF DocFest. Fri., 7:15 pm; Sat., 12:30 pm. Roxie Theater, 3117 16th. 863-1087; roxie.com.

June 9: LADYBUG GARDENERS work on the Upper Noe Rec Center park grounds on second Saturdays. 9 am-noon. Day & Sanchez. info@noevalleyreccenter.com.

June 9: DAVE EGGERS and Shawn Harris discuss their book *The Storyteller and the Artist*. 11 am. Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin. sfpl.org.

June 9: The Noe Valley Library hosts a free discussion, "A MEDITATION to Help the World." 2 pm. 451 Jersey. share-international-west.org.

June 9: Natural Resources offers an ongoing opportunity to meet doulas (2-4 pm) and home-birth MIDWIVES (4-6 pm). 1367 Valencia. 550-2611; naturalresources-sf.com.

June 9: Beth Reichmuth introduces *I'm Jay, Let's Play*, and Marcus Ewert discusses his picture book, *10,000 Dresses* at Charlie's Corner Bookstore. 3:30 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

June 9: Artisanafuncionalart hosts a Fashion and Fundraiser PRIDE EVENT, featuring Ragdoll Clothing and jewelry designer Heather Blaikie. 5-8 pm. 3927 24th. 500-2257; artisanafuncionalart.com.

June 9: SF Neon offers a NEON WALKING TOUR of Chinatown, from 7:30 to 9 pm. For particulars, neonbook.xyz.

June 9: The ClimateMusic Project premieres "Icarus in Flight," introduced by Dr. William Collins from Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. theclimatemusicproject.org.

June 9: Vanessa Vo performs a concert of traditional and modern Vietnamese music blended with Western sounds. 8 pm. SF LIVE ARTS (formerly Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

June 10: Political group SWING LEFT meets at 2 pm, and ACTION SF meets from 3 to 4:30 pm, to discuss local citizen resistance to the Trump agenda. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. actionsolidarity@gmail.com.

June 10: Diana Henry introduces *How to Eat a Peach: MENUS, Stories, and Places*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

June 12: The Noe Valley Library offers a "drop-in" eReader and ONLINE RESOURCE workshop from 10:30 to 11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 12: LITQUAKE hosts free "Poetic Tuesdays," with readings by Arvind Nandakumar, Fisayo Adeyeye, Lark Omura, Kim Shuck, and Golda Supernova. 12:30-1:30 pm. Esplanade, Yerba Buena Gardens, Mission between 3rd and 4th. 543-1718.

June 12: Artists' Television Access screens *The Pleasure Garden (1953)* and *Chickens Come Home (1931)*. 6:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 824-3890; atasite.org.

June 12: Gayle Pirie and John Clark discuss *The FOREIGN CINEMA Cookbook: Recipes and Stories Under the Stars*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

June 12: Artists' Television Access screens FILMS *The Pleasure Garden (1953)*, and a Laurel and Hardy short. 6:30-8 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 12: PFLAG meets at the Women's Building, 3543 18th, on the second Tuesday of the month, 7 to 9 pm. 921-8850; pflagssf.org.

June 12: Harold Tuchfeld discusses "SF-Hawaii Commercial Embrace, 1878-1902" at the SF HISTORY Museum meeting. 7:30-9 pm. Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello. Reserve a seat at 537-1105; sfhistory.org.

June 13: The GREAT BOOKS discussion group meets from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 13: Upper Noe Neighbors hosts their monthly meeting. 7 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, 295 Day. uppernoeneighbors.com.

June 14: The DIAMOND HEIGHTS Community Association meets on the second Thursday of the month, at 7 pm. Call 867-5774 for location; dhcasf.org.

June 14-24: Frameline42's SF International LGBTQ FILM Festival screens at the Castro, Roxie, and Victoria theaters, and around the Bay Area. For a schedule: frameline.org.

June 16: Imogene Tondre introduces *CUBA: The Cookbook*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

June 16: The SF Civic Music Association performs "An Afternoon of CHAMBER MUSIC" at the Noe Valley Ministry. 3-4:30 pm. 1021 Sanchez. sfmusic.org.

June 19: The Eureka Valley Library hosts Radar Productions' DRAG QUEEN Story Hour. 2:30 pm. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

June 19: QUEER WORDS at Folio Books features Noe Valley author Rob Rosen in conversation with Wayne Goodman. 7 pm. 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

June 19: Ingleside POLICE STATION holds a community meeting on third Tuesdays. 7 pm. Community room, 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane. Confirm meeting location at 404-4000; inglesidepolicestation.com.

June 20: The Noe Valley Library hosts "Build It!" with KEVA contraptions for ages 7 and up. 3-4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 20: The Noe Valley Ministry offers a LABYRINTH WALK, on third Wednesdays, at 6 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

June 20: The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group takes on *Zero K* by Don DeLillo. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 21: In Tree Frog Treks, naturalists introduce a variety of amphibians and reptiles to ages 5 and up. 3-4 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 22: HERCHURCH offers a Women's Drumming Circle the fourth Friday of the month. 6-7:30 pm. 678 Portola. 731-2953; herchurch.org.

June 23 & 24: The LGBTQIA PRIDE Celebration and Rally in Civic Center Plaza includes speakers and performers. Sat., noon-6 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. Parade begins 10:30 am Sunday, at the Embarcadero. sfpride.org.

June 24: The Glen Park Neighborhoods HISTORY PROJECT offers a Sunnyside walking tour, "The Wild 1890s, the Jail Next Door, and the Making of City College." 11 am-1 pm. Meet at CUP Cafe, 6 Monterey, near the BART station. glenparkhistory.wixsite.com.

June 26: The Noe Valley Library hosts a talk on legal planning for ALZHEIMER'S disease and Dementia. 1:30 to 3 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 26: 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.

June 26: Will Maynez discusses "Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and San Francisco: A Love Affair" at the SF HISTORY Association. 7 pm. Congregation Sherith Israel, 2800 California. 881-7342; sanfranciscohistory.org.

June 27: The #FOODIE RANGERS meet with a park ranger, to discuss food in the wild, at the Noe Valley Library. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 27: 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.

June 28: The Noe Valley Library hosts a CHOCOLATE TASTING for teens and tweens. 4-5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

June 30: Volunteer at JURI COMMONS 9 am to noon with coffee and pastries. The park cuts through the block bounded by Guerrero, San Jose Avenue, 25th, and 26th. RSVP to meetup.com/juri-commoners.

June 30: Carpool to a Republican congressional district to protest against Congressman Jeff Denham. Leave at 8 am, return 4:30 pm. RSVP to charlesspiegellaw@gmail.com. More info: registry.net.

July 1: Historian EVELYN ROSE gives a talk about early aviation pioneers at the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project meeting. 2:30-4:30 pm. Glen Canyon Rec Center, 70 Elk St.

July 1: LIEDER Alive! hosts a concert featuring mezzo-soprano Kindra Scharich and pianist John Parr. 5 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. liederalive.org.

Sum Sum Summertime

The next *Noe Valley Voice* Calendar will appear in the **July/August 2018** issue, distributed the first week of July. The deadline for items is June 15. Please email calendar@noevalleyvoice.com. Events in Noe Valley receive priority.

Thank you.



JUNE EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| SUN JUN 3 | SARA FRANKLIN • EDNA LEWIS: AT THE TABLE WITH AN AMERICAN ORIGINAL • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Edna Lewis wrote some of America's most resonant, lyrical, and significant cookbooks. In this first-ever critical appreciation of her work, food-world stars gather to reveal their own encounters with Edna Lewis. |
| THU JUN 7 | ELIZABETH MINCHILLI • EATING MY WAY THROUGH ITALY: HEADING OFF THE MAIN ROADS TO DISCOVER THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE ITALIAN TABLE • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE Elizabeth Minchilli wants to show her devoted readers that far from being a monolithic gastronomic culture, each region of Italy offers its own specialties. |
| FRI JUN 8 | JOSH DONALD • SHARP: THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO KNIVES, KNIFE CARE, AND CUTTING TECHNIQUES, WITH RECIPES FROM GREAT CHEFS • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • From knife expert Josh Donald, the owner of Bernal Cutlery, this comprehensive guide details the elements of buying and caring for good knives; with 15 recipes from great chefs. |
| SAT JUN 9 | MARNIE HANEL AND JEN STEVENSON • THE CAMPOUT COOKBOOK: INSPIRED RECIPES FOR COOKING AROUND THE FIRE AND UNDER THE STARS • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • With more than 75 recipes for wood-fired skillet pizzas; stews and chilies; and cast-iron breads; unexpected dips, jerkies, and high-energy bars; breakfasts to satisfy that yawning hunger that comes from sleeping in the fresh air; and of course, s'mores. |
| SUN JUN 10 | DIANA HENRY • HOW TO EAT A PEACH: MENUS, STORIES AND PLACES • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Best known as the food writer for the Sunday Telegraph, Diana Henry has twice been named Cookery Writer of the Year by the Guild of Food Writers in 2007 and 2009. The 24 menus and 100 recipes in this book reflect places Diana loves, and dishes that are real favorites. |
| TUE JUN 12 | GAYLE PIRIE & JOHN CLARK • THE FOREIGN CINEMA COOKBOOK: RECIPES AND STORIES UNDER THE STARS • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Now, for the first time, chef-owners Gayle Pirie and John Clark share the best from their distinctive North African, California-Mediterranean menu. |
| SAT JUN 16 | IMOGENE TONDRE • CUBA: THE COOKBOOK • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • <i>Cuba: the Cookbook</i> delves into Cuba's diverse and vibrant cuisine, which is a remarkable blend of cultural influences, flavors, and colors. 350 traditional recipes geared to home cooks of varying levels of expertise span Cuba's fascinating culinary and political history. |

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YOU'RE INVITED!



JOIN US ON JUNE 13, 2018 AT DBI'S EARTHQUAKE SAFETY FAIR!

At this event, you will have the opportunity to meet with various City agencies, contractors, design professionals, and financial institutions to answer your building and earthquake preparedness questions! This **FREE** event will feature an exhibitor hall and informative workshops, along with hands-on emergency training.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>EVENT DETAILS DATE: June 13, 2018 TIME: 10am - 4pm LOCATION: Bill Graham Civic Auditorium - 99 Grove Street WEBSITE: www.sfdbi.org/earthquakefair</p> | <p>ATTEND ONE OR ALL OF THE INFORMATIVE WORKSHOPS: • 11:30AM: Home Remodeling Process Made Stress Free Meet the Experts • 1:30PM: Making the Best use of the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) & Unit Legalization Programs • 2:30PM: Complying with the Accessible Business Entrance Program <i>Space is limited. Register at www.sfdbi.org/earthquakefair.</i></p> |
|---|---|



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UPPER NOE REC CENTER

Sunny days in May (well, foggy days too) drew visitors to the children's play area at Upper Noe Rec Center, which had recently received a truckload of fresh sand. *Photo courtesy Chris Faust*

Get Out and Play

Basketball day camps dominate the programming this summer at Upper Noe, but there are plenty of alternatives for recreation and play, or to just soak up the sun. While there can be no congregating or loitering inside the lobby during summer day camp hours, there is lots to do outside.

To read the park's newsletter, find out more information, or get updates on the schedule of classes and events, visit www.noevalleyrecenter.com, call 415-970-8061, or just drop by the rec center office at 295 Day St., open Tuesday through Saturday year-round and also on Mondays during summer.

To register for Summer Activities, visit sfrecpark.org.

—Chris Faust, Chair, Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center

UPPER NOE REC CENTER SUMMER SESSION MAY 30 – AUG. 17, 2018

Check www.noevalleyrecenter.com for updates.

MONDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Open Gym | 3-4 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 10 a.m.-4 p.m.* |
| Basketball Camp (8-12 yrs) | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| 3x3 Basketball Tournament Skills (6-17 yrs) | 1:30-2:30 p.m. |

TUESDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Open Gym | 4-8:30 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 2:30-5:30 p.m.* |
| Basketball Camp (8-12 yrs) | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| Petite Bakers (3-7 yrs, drop-in okay) | 10-11 a.m. |
| Feldenkrais (18+, drop-in) | 1-2 p.m. |
| Pickleball (all ages, free) | 1:30-3:30 p.m. |
| Tennis (18+, intermediate/advanced) | 6-7 p.m. |
| Yoga-Vinyasa (18+, all levels) | 6:30-7:30 p.m. |
| Adult Boot Camp | 7:45-8:45 p.m. |

WEDNESDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Open Gym | 2-5:30 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 3-4 p.m.* |
| Basketball Camp (8-12 yrs) | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| Pilates (18+, intermediate) | 9:30-10:30 a.m. |
| Pilates (18+, beginning) | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| Qi Gong (55+, free) | 1-2 p.m. |
| Little Kickers (4-8 yrs) | 4:30-5:30 p.m. |
| Karate Kids (6-13 yrs) | 5:30-6:30 p.m. |
| Tennis (18+, beginning) | 6-7 p.m. |
| Drop-in Volleyball (18+, free) | 6:30-8:30 p.m. |

THURSDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Open Gym | 4-8:30 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 10 a.m.-5 p.m.* |
| Basketball Camp (8-12 yrs) | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| Petite Bakers (3-7 yrs, drop-in okay) | 10-11 a.m. |
| Argentine Tango,(55+, free, drop-in okay) | 1-4 p.m. |
| Pickleball (all ages, free) | 1:30-3:30 p.m. |
| Zumba (all ages, drop-in only, free) | 5:30-6:30 p.m. |
| Yoga-Gentle Hatha (18+) | 6:45-7:45 p.m. |

FRIDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Open Gym | 2-5:30 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 1-5:30 p.m.* |
| Basketball Camp (8-12 yrs) | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| Pilates (18+, intermediate) | 9:30-10:30 a.m. |
| Pilates (18+, all levels) | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| Karaoke (18+, drop-in okay) | 6:30-8:30 p.m. |
| Drop-in Volleyball (18+, free) | 6:30-8:30 p.m. |

SATURDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Open Gym | 9-4:30 p.m.* |
| Auditorium Free Play | 12-4:30 p.m.* |
| Yoga-Hatha Traditional (18+ all levels) | 9:15-10:15 a.m. |
| Zumba (all ages, drop-in only, free) | 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE |

SUNDAY (Center closed; outside activities only.)

*Hours are subject to change.



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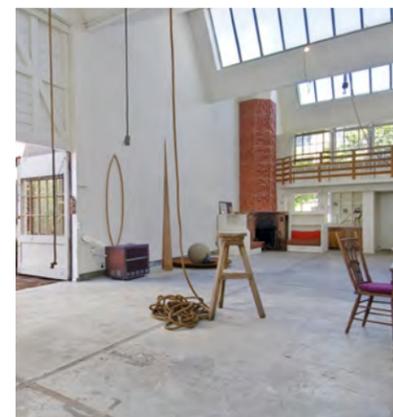
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ADULT/TEEN EVENTS

Noe Valley Knitting Circle: Knitters and crocheters can learn and perfect their skills the first Saturday of every month. The library has supplies to practice on, but bring your own yarn and needles if you'd like. Saturday, June 2; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

AAC Conversation Club: Alternative and Augmentative Communication devices include Dynavox, QuickTalker, Tobii Sono Flex, Talk Bar, smart phones, and tablet applications. Practice using them by exploring topics and themes. For more information, contact Kris Moser at krismoser@aol.com. Mondays, June 4, 11, 18 & 25; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Adult Craft Night: Make your own stamp to add a personal touch to cards, tote bags, or homemade gift wrap. All materials are provided. Sign up by calling 355-5707, or ask at the info desk. Wednesday, June 6; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Friday Matinee: The library screens the 2009 film *Milk*, starring Sean Penn, about the life and assassination of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to political office in California. Friday, June 8; 2 to 4 p.m.

eReader and Online Resource "Drop-In": Bring your mobile device or laptop, your library card and PIN, and any passwords you might need to an informal workshop on using the SFPL's digital resources, including the library catalog and databases. Tuesday, June 12; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

ATA @ SFPL: Experience "reel" cinema, gems from the San Francisco Public Library's 16mm film archive, with members of Artists' Television Access. Showing this month are *The Pleasure Garden* (1953) and a Laurel and Hardy short. Tuesday, June 12; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Great Books Discussion Group: The Great Books Council of San Francisco provides the opportunity for people to discover, discuss, and learn from outstanding works of writing. For more information contact Elena at eschmid@sonic.net. Wednesday, June 13; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Noe Valley Book Discussion Group: This month's selection is *Zero K* by Don DeLillo; copies of the book are held at the circulation desk for checkout. Wednesday, June 20; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

This month's topic at a workshop in **Alzheimer's Disease Education** is "Legal Planning for Alzheimer's Disease," including issues to consider, how to put plans in place, and how to access legal resources near you. Tuesday, June 26; 1:30 to 3 p.m.

ESPECIALLY FOR TEEN/TWEENS

The Hunt for the Best Chocolate: Tweens and teens ages 10 to 17 are invited to sample chocolates, including U.S. standard brands, trendy flavors, and some quirky combinations. Thursday, June 28; 4 to 5 p.m.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Mostly Bunk
By Michael Blake

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MORE BOOKS TO READ

Bookmark This

The Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library will host a healthy share of critters this month. On Thursday, June 7, the San Francisco ZooMobile will bring a few animal friends to the branch from 4 to 5 p.m. "The exact species visiting will be a surprise—possible animals include tortoises, owls, snakes, opossums, and more," reports the library. To sign up for the event, for kids 4 and up, call 415-355-5707.

Then, on Wednesday, June 21, from 3 to 4 p.m., naturalists from Tree Frog Treks will introduce their favorite "creeping, crawling, and slithering co-workers." That group may include a Burmese python and tiny Pacific tree frogs.

While awaiting these appearances, you might like to read *The Night Lion*, about a boy who learns to get over his bedtime fears with the help of a stuffed lion. Or maybe a book on the history of space stations orbiting our planet is more to your taste, or one on the origins of the song "We Shall Overcome." All three are on this month's list of new arrivals at the Noe Valley Library, provided by Branch Manager Denise Sanderson and Children's Librarian Catherine Starr (see list below).

To check on their availability, call or drop by the Noe Valley Branch at 451 Jersey St. Looking to download classic or indie films? Ask about Kanopy, the library's new streaming service. For all things San Francisco Public Library, go to sfpl.org.

Also, remember the library is continuing its Summer Stride reading program (through Aug. 19). You can sign up at any branch. For information, visit sfpl.org/summerstride. Reading the *Voice* will probably count toward your goal!

—Sally Smith, Ed.

Adult Fiction

- A plane crash changes the life of a cable news reporter in *Panorama* by Steve Kistulentz.
- In *Feast Days* by Ian Mackenzie, a young woman expatriate in Brazil becomes involved with the plight of refugees.
- In Tessa Arlen's latest mystery, *Death of an Unsung Hero*, Lady Montfort encounters resistance when she offers a house in her husband's family for use as a hospital for World War I wounded.
- In *Corsica*, a woman remembers the long-ago accident that killed her parents and brother, in the thriller *Time Is a Killer* by Michel Bussi.

Adult Nonfiction

- The story of the ratification of the 19th Amendment is told in *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*, by Elaine F. Weiss.
- Matt Sewell's *A Charm of Goldfinches and Other Wild Gatherings: Quirky Collective Nouns of the Animal Kingdom* features watercolor names and illustrations of 48 groups of animals.
- Scientific discoveries that changed humanity are examined in *A Magical World: Superstition and Science From the Renaissance to the Enlightenment*, by historian D.K. Wilson.
- William Rosen explores the battle to banish deadly infections in *Miracle Cure: The Creation of Antibiotics and the Birth of Modern Medicine*.

Adult eBooks

- In *Cringeworthy: A Theory of Awkwardness*, Melissa Dahl examines the causes, and the surprising value, of embarrassment.
- Jay Chladek describes the space stations and laboratories orbiting Earth in *Outposts on the Frontier: A 50-Year History of Space Stations*.

• *The Overstory*, a book of interlocking fables by technologist-novelist Richard Powers, tells us what trees really think about us.

• The search for a missing teenager has an extraordinary effect on the lives of the inhabitants of a small English village, in *Reservoir 13*, by Jon McGregor.

Adult DVDs

- An eccentric California heiress adds rooms to her mansion to keep away the ghosts that haunt her, in *Winchester*, a 2018 film starring Helen Mirren.
- Benedict Cumberbatch stars as a British intelligence officer during World War II, in the 2016 film *Naples '44*.
- In the 2017 musical drama *The Greatest Showman*, Hugh Jackman stars as P.T. Barnum.
- *Cassette: A Documentary Mixtape* (2016) examines, through interviews with musicians, why audiotapes are still a viable format.

Children's Fiction

- A boy finds a way to overcome his fears in *The Night Lion*, written and illustrated by Sanne Dufft. Ages 3 to 6.
- In *Anywhere Artist*, written and illustrated by Nikki Slade Robinson, a creative girl finds art everywhere. Ages 3 to 8.
- *Smon Smon*, written and illustrated by Sonja Danowski, takes place in a mysterious world of fantasy. Ages 6 to 10.
- Two children learn to work together in *Can I Touch Your Hair? Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship*, written by Irene Latham and Charles Waters, and illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko. Ages 8 to 12.
- A young outcast is swept up in a medieval treasure hunt in *The Book of Boy*, written by Catherine Gilbert Murdock, illustrated by Ian Schoenherr. Ages 8 to 12.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The San Francisco ZooMobile will visit the library, giving humans ages 4 and up a chance to see and touch live animals. Space is limited to 35 children. Call 415-355-5707 for reservations. Thursday, June 7; 4 to 5 p.m.

Build It With KEVA Contraptions: Ages 7 and up are invited to create a path for the KEVA ball to roll down, with ramps, funnels, and jumps, using simple wooden planks. Wednesday, June 20; 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Tree Frog Treks: Naturalists will introduce a variety of amphibians and reptiles, from tiny Pacific tree frogs to 14-foot-long Burmese pythons. Learn about their natural habitats and roles in the ecosystem. For ages 5 and up. Thursday, June 21; 3 to 4 p.m.

#Foodie Rangers: Ages 9 to 12 can join a park ranger to learn how the food you can find in your national parks can also benefit your body and health. Wednesday, June 27; 3 to 4 p.m.

Join **Miss Catherine** for books, songs, chants, and movement at **Toddler Tales** story time. For ages 16 through 36 months with parent or caregiver. Every Thursday, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.



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

- In *It All Comes Down to This* by Karen English, a 12-year-old girl in 1965 Los Angeles comes to terms with changes in her life. Ages 10 to 12.
- A girl wonders about her mother's past in India, in the graphic novel *Pashmina* by Nidhi Chanani. Ages 10 to 14.

Children's Nonfiction

- *Plant, Cook, Eat!* is a "garden-to-kitchen" cookbook for children, written by Joe Archer and Caroline Craig, with illustrations by Sarah Mulvanny. Ages 5 to 12.
- Read about the WASPS, the American women pilots who fought in World War II, in *Fly Girls* by P. O'Connell Pearson. Ages 10 and up.
- *We Shall Overcome: The Story of a Song*, written by Debbie Levy and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, traces the roots of the famous protest song. Ages 7 to 10.
- *Because I Was a Girl* is a collection of true stories for girls of all ages, edited by Melissa de la Cruz. Ages 12 to 16.

Annotations by *Voice* bookworm
Karol Barske

BRANCH HOURS

| Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library 451 Jersey St., 355-5707 | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1-5 | 12-6 | 10-9 | 1-9 | 10-6 | 1-6 | 10-6 |
| Mission Branch Library 300 Bartlett St., 355-2800 | | | | | | |
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1-5 | 1-6 | 10-9 | 10-9 | 10-9 | 1-6 | 10-6 |
| Glen Park Branch Library 2825 Diamond St., 355-2858 | | | | | | |
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1-5 | 10-6 | 10-6 | 12-8 | 12-7 | 1-6 | 1-6 |
| Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Branch Library 1 José Sarria Ct. (3555 16th St.), 355-5616 | | | | | | |
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| 12-6 | 10-9 | 12-9 | 10-6 | 1-6 | 12-6 | |

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behind the news

Something's Happening, Hopefully

By Mazook

THE SURREAL HAS FINALLY BECOME REAL at 3939 24th St., the vacant storefront where the Real Food Company closed down and locked out their workers on Labor Day weekend in 2003. The space has been empty and an eyesore for nearly 15 years.

Shortly after the *Voice* hit the streets last month, signs went up on the doors of 3939, posted by the realtor's representative, Jennifer Hibbits. They informed the neighborhood that the property had been sold to "local investors who will remodel and seismically retrofit the building, and lease it to small neighborhood retail tenants."

Assessor records show the old structure was built in 1921. Real Food opened there as a natural foods grocery in 1970, in the west two-thirds of the space, with Ver Brugge's butcher shop in the east one-third. Real Food expanded into the Ver Brugge's space in 1986.

The Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation paid a visit to City Hall and looked up 3939 in the Assessor-Recorder's Office and found that the property had been deeded from "3939 24th Street, Inc.," with headquarters in Park City, Utah, to "MWA, LLC," on May 4, 2018. That led me to California secretary of state filings, which said the new headquarters were in San Francisco on Bayshore Boulevard, at an address occupied by Aralon Properties, a real estate investment group headed by a Mr. Tom Murphy.

Mr. Murphy answered my first telephone call, and unlike the representatives of previous owners, he was more than willing to share his plans for the 4,000-square-foot store.

The plans are very simple and, hopefully, very quickly implemented. "There are not going to be a lot of changes to the building," Murphy said. "We are going to divide up the space to create three retail stores and add one more front door to the two already there." First, he points out, they will commence work on the seismic retrofit of the foundation in the back, and then complete the partition of the space.

"We are having the designers work on the project now and should soon be able to file our plans with the planning department, and hopefully get quick approval of the plans and design and start the work as soon as possible," he said. "So we will be ready, hopefully, to rent the spaces out by this fall."

Hopefully, City Hall will expedite the process so there will be holiday lights in those long-barren windows by December. Merry Christmas. By the way, based on the San Francisco Assessor's records, the purchase price for the space was \$2.25 million.



WHAT'S SUP: 1199 Church is for sale, lock, stock, and liquor license. As you all know, Hamlet bar and restaurant locked its doors recently (after closing two months before) and was "sold" to people who were opening a Japanese eatery. That deal fell through, and the bar/restaurant, owned by John Dampeer, is back on the market, at an asking price of \$325,000. The agent, Gilbert Dair of Vanguard Properties, says "great lease terms remain and it's super easy to show."

The building has residential units upstairs, and the owner, Wayne Basso, confirmed that he has listed it for sale and is including the bar/restaurant with the liquor license as part of the deal.

Basso, a longtime Noe Valleyan, used to own and operate the very popular Noe's Bar, which opened in 1982. The family opened Basso's Restaurant behind the bar 10 years ago, when Cybelle's Pizza closed after being at that location for many years. In the 1990s, Wayne's brother, Gaetano Basso, operated Noe's Grill there.

The asking price for the corner building is \$3.5 million. Basso says, "We have received several offers, but I have mixed feelings about selling the building at this point, because the bar and restaurant [including the liquor license and leasehold] has not yet sold and is still on the market."

Meanwhile, Dampeer, who also owned the former Caskhouse, is opening a beer and wine bar at 639 Divisadero at Hayes, appropriately called Fool's Errand.

In further news on the food front, Hi-Way Burger should be opening its doors on the corner of 24th and Vicksburg by the end of June, according to owner Randy Kaplan.

"We will be serving meat and veggie hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, fries, and a green salad," says Kaplan, "with soda and shakes as well as beer and wine." He points out that all the burgers (and chicken) will be cooked to order on a flat-top grill. And, "all the fries will be fresh and hand-cut." There will also be a kids menu, and Kaplan is toying with the idea of serving chocolate malts, "but I can't commit to that right now."

Hi-Way will be open every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Kaplan is considering staying open later on weekends.



ICE WORK: The new commercial store with three residences above, in the building next to St. Clair's Liquors, is nearing completion after years of waiting for planning department approval and after that a year of construction. Once upon a time (until 1998), all that stood on the site was a garage and an ice-vending machine.

Mousa Khouri and brother-in-law Mike Khouri have owned and operated St. Clair's on the corner of 24th and Sanchez since 1991. They own the St. Clair's building and the one next door, at 3904 24th St. The liquor store, by the way, is named after its original owner, Bob St. Clair. A Poly High graduate, Bob crossed the street to Kezar Stadium and became a star player for the San Francisco 49ers in the 1950s. That was when he opened the liquor store, since back in those days NFL pros had to have a day job to support their families. St. Clair died in 2015 at the age of 84. But I digress.

According to Mousa Khouri, the spaces at 3904 24th will be leased, not sold as condos. He says the commercial unit has 1,500 square feet on the ground floor and a 900-square-foot basement. He says he is working with some realtors now to determine what the lease terms and rent will be for both the residential and commercial units.

Khouri is reluctant to talk about when the building will be ready for tenancy but said he hopes to find a suitable commercial tenant in the near future. "At this point, I just am focused on completing the construction." Amen.



STORED-UP NEWS: New to Downtown Noe Valley is Modern Family Law. The Colorado law firm has opened its first California branch in the offices on the ground floor of 4126 24th near Castro

Street. That space was long occupied by local realtor B.J. Droubi, and more recently by a title insurance company.

According to Modern Family's resident lawyer, Paul P. Dumont, "We opened the office here in Noe Valley at the beginning of April [and it] is the first of three planned for the Bay Area, the others being in Oakland and San Jose."

The firm, says Dumont, "provides quality family law services at affordable fees, or in some cases a flat fee, and in many cases there is no dispute. It's just an administrative matter in accurately completing all the forms required by the Family Court."

Dumont says he has been practicing family law in the Bay Area for almost 20 years, primarily in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Alameda counties.

"I had never really been to Noe Valley until we opened our office here, and I absolutely love this location. What a great place this is."

The office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Also new to Noe Valley is an Irish dance school, founded by Bernal resident Jaelyn "Jackie" Flynn and called appropriately the J. Flynn Irish Dance Academy. Classes are held at the popular MoBu dance studio at 1605 Church at 28th. Flynn has been a competitive Irish dancer for the last 20 years and has placed in world championship competitions for 10 years.

"I just started the school since I have now become a certified Irish dance teacher and am renting time at Mobu and starting to hold classes for children and adults," says Flynn. She is registered with An Coimisiún Le Rincí Gaelacha (CLRG) in Ireland and the Irish Dance Teachers Association of North America, among other groups.

Classes are on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to noon, with the first hour devoted to beginners, and during the summer also on Wednesday afternoons from 5:45 to 7:45. Drop-ins are always welcome. According to Flynn, the dance movements are pretty basic but can be challenging.

And speaking of movements, moving out of the neighborhood last month after three years was TMI Colonics, owned and operated by Marianne Morrison, a certified colon hydrotherapist. TMI was located at 1478 Church and has relocated to 1340 Haight.

TMI's motto, as reported in these pages and on their website, is quite simply stated: "We really know our shit."

Whoever moves into that space next might find TMI a hard act to follow.



SHORT SHRIFTS: The "clearance sale" sign you see on the front windows of Shoe Biz at 3810 24th near Church means that ownership and management of the store has changed. The new owner/operator is Anthem Shoes, which has also taken over the Shoe Biz locations in the Haight and on Valencia Street. Shoe Biz is out of biz...

Seen in Small Frys recently were Mark Zuckerberg and wife Priscilla Chan, shopping for their two young children. They have a house somewhere along the Noe Valley/Mission border...

So sorry for misspelling the name of one of the members of the Blind Lemon Pledge, in last month's column. The correct spelling of the violinist's name is Cal Keaola...

Note on your calendars that this year's SummerFest at the Noe Valley Town Square will be held not in June as it normally is, but on Sunday, July 29...

There are rumors, which cannot be confirmed, that despite our front-page story, Rabat may remain in Downtown Noe Valley by downsizing its store to just the corner space (24th and Noe), where it



Out on a Limb: In April, stuffed animals began appearing in trees along Diamond Street between Alvarado and 23rd streets. An octopus, a cat, monkeys, even some pandas. Could this be the latest work of the rubber duck fairy? Or is there another playful sprite? No one seemed to know the answer. If you do, send an email to editor@noevalleyvoice.com. Photo by Bill Yenne

started over 40 years ago...

And listen up, all you Downtown Noe Valley shoppers who might be parking your car in the Whole Foods lot: they are starting to enforce the "one hour while shopping at Whole Foods" rule by marking your tires with blue chalk and towing offenders' cars away. One of the attendants said that they discovered some drivers had left their cars in the lot for five hours.



KUDOS GO OUT to longtime (since '81) Noe Valley resident Robert Dawson, who in April received a Fulbright Global Scholar Award to research and photograph libraries and refugees in Italy, Greece, and Israel this year. Dawson is a world-class photographer and has been a lecturer in the Department of Art and Art History at Stanford University since 1996. He is retiring from that position this month. He had been a photography instructor at San Jose State University since 1986 (now retired).

His photographs are displayed in collections around the country, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of American Art (Smithsonian Institution), to mention just a few. He has been very active in the Global Library Project and published a book in 2014, *The Public Library: A Photographic Essay*, with 150 of his photos of libraries around the U.S.

"Starting in September, my wife Ellen and I will be traveling to Italy, Greece, and Israel for six months and probably add two more months at the end to hopefully photograph libraries in Egypt, Turkey, and Sarajevo in Bosnia, as part of the Global Library Project," says a very non-retiring Dawson.

Have a great trip. See you when you and Ellen return. Maybe we can see the photos at a showing in the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library some day.



THAT'S THIRTY: Do not forget to vote on June 5. I hope we have a 100 percent voter turnout in Noe Valley (oh sure!), since we all have realized that the reason things went the way they did two years ago was that certain people did not or would not vote. Get out the vote! Ciao for now.

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