

New Voice Column Debuts

Kids Ask Katie is a column in which neighborhood resident and writer Katie Burke gives answers to Noe Valley kids' questions about their neighborhood. Children and teens ages 3 to 16 can address their questions to Katie. See page 15, for her first effort.

In the photo at right, 8-year-old Billie Wagner Hogg joins a lineup of officers at Mission Station. At Billie's side is Officer Alexandra Medina, who helped to answer Billie's question.

Photo by Art Bodner



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THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Recycling Clothing Gets a Second Look

Meanwhile, Plastic Bags Cleared for the Blue Bin

By Matthew S. Bajko

In the past, San Francisco residents with old clothing they wanted to clean out of their closets had four options to dispose of it. They could throw it into the trash, resell it through a consignment shop, give it to friends or family, or donate it to any number of local thrift stores that benefit nonprofits.

Now, they have a fifth option for clothes recycling. The city is piloting a new program where a Bay Area nonprofit sets up collection boxes for people to drop off their tired threads. The fabrics are then sold wholesale to raise money for sustainable development projects in southern Africa or South and Central America.

As noted in the Rumors column in the April issue of the *Voice*, Recycle for Change will be setting up one of its green clothing collection boxes in the city-owned Harry Aleo public parking lot on 24th Street near Castro. The Richmond-based nonprofit received a \$50,000 grant from the San Francisco Department of the Environment to install three of its boxes on public sites around the city.

Clothing recycling is now a part of San Francisco's plan to reach "Zero Waste by 2020." Set back in 2003, the initiative aims to see that everything tossed into the garbage is either recycled or, if organic matter like food waste or paper plates, turned into compost to be sold to local farmers and wineries.

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Home on the Range: When she's not booking events at the Noe Valley Town Square or working with the Farmers Market, Leslie Crawford keeps grounded with the help of her chicken Alice B. Toklas. Crawford recently added book author to her string of titles.

Photo by Pamela Gerard

Local Author Breathes Life Into Animal Rescue Stories With Sprig

By Olivia Boler

The true story of a piglet leaping off a truck bound for a factory farm was the inspiration for Leslie Crawford's debut picture book, *Sprig the Rescue Pig* (Stone Pier Press). Crawford—freelance journalist, Noe Valley Farmers Market co-founder, and event coordinator for the Noe

Valley Town Square—celebrated the book's launch last month.

"It's a modern-day fairy tale about a heroic and very lucky pig, who miraculously escapes an otherwise grim fate and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Lick Students Rattle 24th Street

Merchants, School, Police Respond to Series of Incidents

By Heidi Anderson

Spring fever seemed to have sprung early for a few James Lick Middle School students a couple of months ago, and more than a few merchants noticed it.

"We'd been hearing about students grabbing free lollipops at Chase Bank and throwing them at customers, a scooter stolen in front of Navarrete's [Black Belt Academy], and that students harassed a woman behind the counter at Happy Donuts," said Rachel Swann, current president of the Noe Valley Merchants & Professionals Association.

Swann said she herself had seen kids on skateboards in the afternoon, swatting at pedestrians as they passed.

"Some stores lock their doors when they see kids coming down the block," said Swann.

In fact, the incidents got to the point by mid-March that extra police were dispatched to 24th Street near Church in the afternoons at Swann's request.

"School cars and foot-beat officers from Mission Station are patrolling the corridor in response to merchant complaints," said San Francisco Police Department spokesperson David Stevenson.

Stevenson said police officers had identified several students—all 13 years old and younger—who allegedly had been involved in incidents at local stores.

"School officials and parents have been notified by police," he said.

Swann reached out to James Lick

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Rolling by the Future Square. Heading east on 24th Street in 1947, this streetcar of the H-Hoffman line passes through a Noe Valley bereft of bagels and lattes, much less a public performance and gathering place. But there were movie theaters.

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



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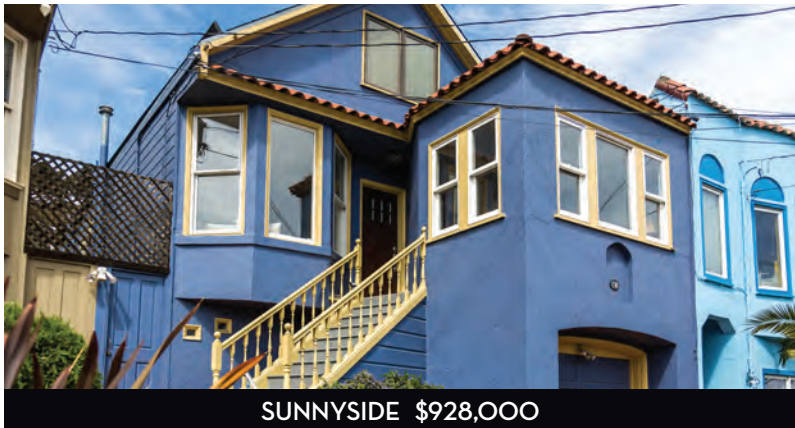
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Vote NO on E

San Francisco has never been about telling adults what they can and cannot do.

So why is City Hall rejecting the City's progressive traditions by imposing this nanny-state ban? When has banning things and prohibition ever worked? And, what happened to our well-deserved reputation as a tolerant city that values personal freedom?

San Francisco has REAL problems.

If the Board of Supervisors would spend less time trying to give the appearance of progress and focus more time on actually governing, San Francisco could once again become a city that is welcoming to all—regardless of income, race, or origin.

This ban appears to be paternalism, or more, at its worst.

Who would think that San Francisco, of all places, would intentionally target and ban the tobacco products most preferred by communities of color, while the most popular tobacco products will remain legal in the City? That's what this ban does, it targets the choices of adult menthol and shisha tobacco consumers.

All tobacco products are already banned for anyone under 21.

In addition to the new increased age restriction, California voters recently passed a 200% increase on the tobacco tax. These taxes—which generate over \$1 billion per year—are supposed to be going to education, healthcare, and enforcement. Government leaders should give these new laws a chance to work and actually enforce the existing regulations that are intended to keep tobacco products out of the hands of minors. Education and enforcement are the real solutions and California laws already provide tens-of-millions of dollars for both.

Noe Valley says NO on Prop E!

NoPropE.com

Paid for by No on Prop E - Stop the Prohibition Proposition, A Coalition of Concerned Citizens Supporting Freedom of Choice, Adult Consumers, Community Leaders, and Neighborhood Small Businesses, Committee major funding from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company
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THE CARTOON BY OWEN BAKER-FLYNN



Landlords, Take Heed

Next Mayor Could Impose a Tax on Empty Storefronts

By Matthew S. Bajko

As the retail landscape transforms and increasingly moves online, the number of city neighborhoods with a glut of empty storefronts continues to expand in San Francisco.

The commercial corridors in Noe Valley and the Castro, as well as on the west side of town, are pockmarked with vacant retail spaces. Efforts to fill them can be hampered by a range of issues, from landlords asking for unreasonably expensive leases to the square footage being too large for the needs of locally owned businesses.

The city has strict rules on where chain stores can locate, with some neighborhoods banning them outright or restricting the number that can open. The cost to do business in the city, from taxes to payroll, can also be prohibitive for many merchants.

The problem will continue to grow as newer buildings, required to have ground-floor retail spaces, are constructed. Many of those that have already opened have struggled to attract commercial tenants.

The situation has led to a chorus of voices, from business leaders and residents, beseeching City Hall to deal with the rising numbers of store vacancies. Proposals have run the gamut from helping merchants associations market themselves to assisting entrepreneurs in opening their doors.

Annual Fee Now \$711

Currently, landlords with a vacant commercial space are required to register it with the city's Department of Building Inspection within 30 days of it becoming empty and pay a fee of \$711. Until they

lease the space, landlords are supposed to pay the fee each year.

Now there is a legislative effort to see the city increase the fee for landlords who fail to lease their storefronts. And there also have been calls for better enforcement on the city's part to ensure landlords are registering when they have vacant storefronts.

Landlords could face even stiffer penalties following the outcome of the special mayoral election on the June 5 primary ballot. The leading candidates in the race are all on record in support of seeing San Francisco institute a commercial vacancy tax on owners of property with empty retail spaces.

Former state lawmaker Mark Leno, who lives in Noe Valley and represented the neighborhood at City Hall when he served as District 8 supervisor in the early 2000s, has called for such a tax. He has not yet determined, however, what it would cost or when the tax would kick in.

"As mayor, I would support a vacancy tax on commercial properties to prevent neighborhood blight and discourage landlords from kicking out small businesses that are good neighbors and good tenants," said Leno.

Penalties Should Pinch

The tax is needed, argued Leno, because the current fee landlords must pay to register their vacant storefronts is too small to induce them to lease them out.

"Clearly, \$700 is not doing it. So I don't know what the figure is, but it needs to be a pinch painful enough so they are getting the message. And traditionally, we tax behavior we want to change," said Leno. "The vacancy of commercial spaces, of ground-floor retail spaces, has a negative impact on a block, on an entire neighborhood, and can create blight and can be contagious. So that vacancy tax needs to be able to correct that behavior."

District 6 Supervisor Jane Kim has also spoken out in favor of instituting a retail vacancy tax. But she too has not determined exactly how it would work, as she

pointed out that during a downturn in the economy landlords may have difficulty leasing out storefronts even when they are actively trying to do so.

"I definitely support the general notion of a vacancy tax. I think where we have stumbled is we haven't figured out what to do in a recession, where landlords are truly endeavoring to find a tenant and literally can't because of the economics," said Kim, who lives in the South of Market area. "So we have to figure out a way to distinguish [between] good landlords that really are trying but really can't find a tenant and the landlords that I think we're talking about who just are, frankly, greedy, and expect far too much per square foot, making it impossible for any real small business owner to come in and rent for retail."

Better Enforcement

District 5 Supervisor London Breed, currently the board president, has also suggested a retail vacancy tax is needed.

"I will be open to exploring opportunities to try and address what is happening in certain neighborhoods in our city for the purposes of getting landlords to rent their properties to people, or to at least treat their current tenants better and not try to raise their rent by a ridiculous amount of money in order to get them out for the next tenant," said Breed, who served as mayor for a month and a half after the sudden death of Mayor Ed Lee in December.

"We've got to do something different, and so I am open to that for sure," said Breed, a resident of the Lower Haight.

She also would see that the city does a better job of enforcing the registration requirement for landlords with vacant storefronts and monitoring their progress in renting out the spaces.

Former supervisor Angela Alioto has long championed the idea of imposing a tax on property owners with vacant retail spaces. North Beach, the city's Little Italy neighborhood near where she has her law office, "is devastated," she said, due to all of the empty storefronts.

"I think that we need to start taxing them at six months for keeping it vacant, at a percentage that would give them an incentive to rent it," said Alioto, who lives in Pacific Heights. "I think six months might be a long time, but again, this is something we would just be trying."

Should she become mayor, Alioto would convene local financial experts to


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CO-PUBLISHERS/EDITORS
Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND EDITORS
Corrie M. Anders, *Associate Editor*
Olivia Boler, *Other Voices Editor*
Heidi Anderson, Steve Anderson, Matthew S. Bajko, Owen Baker-Flynn, Karol Barske, Katie Burke, Helen Colgan, Jan Goben, Liz Highleyman, Laura McHale Holland, Andrea Carla Michaels, Suzanne Herel, Florence Holub, Tim Innes, Jeff Kaliss, Doug Konecky, Richard May, Joe O'Connor, Roger Rubin, Olivia Starr, Steve Steinberg, Tim Simmers, Karen Topakian, Heather World

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Pamela Gerard, Beverly Tharp, Najib Joe Hakim, Art Bodner

ACCOUNTING
Jennifer O. Viereck

PRODUCTION
Jack Tipple, André Thélémaque

DISTRIBUTION
Jack Tipple

WEB DESIGN
Jon Elkin, Elliot Poger

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Pat Rose, Jack Tipple

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figure out how to make the vacancy tax "painful" enough to make landlords act, especially those who live out of town.

"If it's not painful, [it] doesn't matter, right? I mean, you're not going to get altruistic landlords that live in New York City and own the building here unless it's painful to their pocket," contended Alioto.

Would a Vacancy Tax Work?

Not everyone is so sure a commercial vacancy tax would be effective in making storefronts fill up with new businesses as tenants. Noni Richen, president of the Small Property Owners of San Francisco group, questioned whether such a tax would have much of an impact.

"Whether an owner's property is vacant because no one wants to rent it or because the owner wants to keep it unoccupied, a tax will make no difference in changing the situation," Richen said. "A similar tax has been proposed for vacant residential units, and one exists for totally vacant buildings; no one who is keeping units off the traditional rental market wants to re-enter in our strictly regulated market. They pay the tax and continue to operate their property as they choose."

Rachel Swann, a real estate agent who is president of the Noe Valley Merchants & Professionals Association, said the neighborhood business group hadn't taken a position yet on the merits of imposing such a tax.

"This is a tough one. I think it depends on the reason for the vacancy," said Swann, whose office is on 24th Street. "There are a few folks on the block who don't want to rent their spaces for unknown reasons, there are a few people who have businesses that never open, and some are in process," she said.

"It would be something the merchants would have to discuss."

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Receptacle Run By Recycle for Change

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Recycle for Change is placing its two other collection boxes accessible to the public in a parking lot at California and Steiner streets and the Mission-Bartlett Garage on 21st Street. The nonprofit encountered a hiccup, however, with the installation of its collection box in the Noe Valley parking lot.

On March 15, it won approval from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to place the receptacle in the left-hand back corner of the small lot. But when the nonprofit inspected the site last month, it discovered the city needed to first repair the pavement.

“Unfortunately, there is a hole in the asphalt in that spot at the moment, and we can’t safely install the box, so we’re awaiting an SFMTA work order and work to be completed to fill the hole to make the surface level so we can deliver the box,” Alexandra Bradley, who handles public relations for Recycle for Change, told the *Voice* in mid-April.

But SFMTA spokesperson Paul Rose informed both the *Voice* and the nonprofit that the problem had been fixed as of Monday, April 23.

“We requested some minor pavement patching at a nominal cost,” said Rose. “They are now free to install at their convenience.”

Bradley said Recycle for Change orders multiple boxes to be delivered at the same time, “so we’re not driving around an empty truck.” She expected the next shipment to arrive in mid-May. Once the box is installed, it will not reduce the

number of parking spaces in the lot, she stressed.

“We absolutely won’t be taking up a parking space, we know better than to do that in San Francisco,” said Bradley. “So I hope that quells any fears of reduced parking. We just want to make recycling convenient and easy, but not to the detriment of your community.”

Box Takes Shoes, Too

It is not just all types of clothing for adults, children, and babies that people will be able to drop into the collection box, once it is in place. Recycle for Change also accepts shoes, belts, handbags, backpacks, suitcases, and other accessory items. People can also donate curtains, bedding, and towels.

Other items Recycle for Change accepts are jewelry, toys, games, books, records, CDs, movies, and picture frames. It takes hand tools and large tools that are in working condition, sports and camping equipment, cameras, and knick-knacks.

But the nonprofit stresses that people need to place all items within the collection box and not leave anything outside of it.

“While we do pick up any items left outside, we don’t want this to become a dumping ground, so I’d reiterate that donations must be placed inside the box,” said Bradley.

That has been an issue in other cities where it has boxes, such as in Oakland, where city leaders imposed new regulations in 2015 on the placement and permitting of receptacles for donated materials. The rules prompted Recycle for Change, which had been doing business as Campus California, to sue the city. As the *San Francisco Examiner* reported in March, the nonprofit has seen its lawsuit rejected by both state and federal courts.

In San Francisco, the nonprofit picks

up at its collection boxes on a case-by-case basis, explained Bradley, based on how much people donate.

“Our route manager is very seasoned, so he’ll know how often to start it out, and

we monitor the pounds collected so we’ll know if we need to increase pickups,” she said. “We operate 24/7, so we can handle

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Lillian Elsholz helps customers find vintage or nearly new clothing at Mary’s Exchange, long a favorite “recycling” location in Noe Valley.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

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Developers around the state are salivating. They're making all kinds of backroom deals to abolish every residential restriction in neighborhoods, through **Senate Bill 827**. It's too radical an attack on our affordability crisis. "Affordable Housing" can be a mantra that stands to make the developers very rich — if they are allowed to build in our beautiful neighborhoods.

While I strongly support building affordable housing, and I promise to build **5000 low and moderate-income housing units every year** as mayor, we have not seen that building more housing brings down housing costs. Rents and homeownership are still out of reach. Mayor Ed Lee's 2014 plan to build 30,000 units by 2020 — four years later — is now halfway complete, so why is the cost of housing rising?

As George Wooding (who is supporting Jane Kim for Mayor) reported in the *Westside Observer*, "Since announcing his Housing Plan in January 2014, over 17,100 units have been built or completely rehabilitated, with ... **6,166 new affordable housing units**, plus 1,838 acquisitions and rehabilitation of existing affordable units in the fifth report issued in May, totaled an increase of **8,004 affordable units citywide**, but that was offset by the loss of **4,182 affordable units** due to a variety of factors (including various types of evictions, Ellis Act conversions, and other reasons). That left a new gain of **3,822 affordable units**."

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Angela's experience, drive, and passion to improve the lives of all San Franciscans is unmatched in this race. She will rise above the petty, divisive politics in City Hall and find solutions to the issues that affect all of us.

www.aliotoformayor.com

Angela ALIOTO

FOR **MAYOR**

Paid for by Angela Alioto for Mayor 2018 Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org

Recycling's Round-About Roundup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

anything."

The nonprofit is also willing to meet with community groups to explain its work and go over what people can place in its collection boxes.

"We want to help promote San Francisco's Zero Waste goals, so we're always happy to do outreach in the local communities," said Bradley.

Since 2015, Recycle for Change has had its collection boxes on 100 privately owned sites around the city. According to its most recent annual report, for 2014, the nonprofit raised more than \$3.6 million from the sale of donated clothing and other goods. Of that money, \$827,060 went toward financially supporting sustainability and educational projects in the Bay Area and overseas.

As last month's Rumors column noted, unwanted clothing, housewares, furniture, and books can still be donated directly to local thrift stores, such as Goodwill and Community Thrift on Valencia. Local animal shelters and wildlife centers are in constant need of towels and washcloths.

People with women's clothing that is less than three years old and in good condition may be able to sell it on consignment at Mary's Exchange, the Noe Valley shop located at 1302 Castro St. It also accepts vintage clothing from the 1970s and older. If the clothing doesn't sell, the store will donate it to a local thrift store if instructed to do so by the owner.

Recology Clothing Collection On Hold

In early January, Recology, the company contracted to pick up the city's garbage and recycling bins at commercial and residential properties, had announced an expansion in what people could place in their blue bins for recycled materials. Among the items the company said it would begin accepting was clothing, as long as it was bundled in a plastic bag.

SFDE spokesperson Peter Gallotta had told the *Voice* in March that people were free to dispose of textiles and clothes, but not shoes, in their blue bins at home. He had recommended people put their clothing in a sealed plastic bag to ensure it was seen and recycled.

Yet in April, Recology spokesperson Robert Reed said the company was now asking people to hold off on putting their unwanted clothing in with their recyclables. The company, he explained, was still determining how it could best handle fabrics and wasn't equipped just yet to accept a large amount of recycled clothing.

"We just finished an \$11.6 million upgrade to Recycle Central (the facility where we sort recyclables in from San Francisco's curbside program), and we have budgeted another \$3 million to invest in new sorting technology this year," explained Reed.

While posters Recology created note that it is now accepting worn textiles, they are asking people to donate any textiles that are in good condition to a local thrift store.

"It is still in the experimental stages," said Reed, adding that the company is currently "sorting it, testing it, and trying to find a long-term market for fabrics. We are not there yet."

Bundled Plastic Bags OK

In the meantime, the company is promoting the fact people can now place their unwanted plastic bags in their blue bins to be recycled. They should bundle any soft plastic into one larger plastic bag and tie it up before adding it to their blue bin.

Recology also delivered larger blue bins and smaller black bins to 2,703 households in Noe Valley in March and April due to the increase in items that can now be recycled. Along with clean plastic bags, people should now be recycling their empty paper coffee cups and plastic lids, gable-top paper milk cartons, and empty aseptic soup and juice boxes in their blue bins. Empty plastic bottles and plastic food containers are accepted, also.

The new blue bins are 64 gallons and the black bins are now 16 gallons. The green bins for composting are still 32 gallons, which had been the old size for the blue and black bins.

New stickers have also been affixed to the bins denoting what materials can be placed into each. The stickers for the blue bins purposefully do not mention clothing.

According to Recology, in the neighborhoods that have received the larger recycling and smaller trash bins, the amount of trash sent to the landfill is down 10 to 15 percent and there has been a corresponding increase in the amount of material being recycled.

"People are coming from all over North America to check that out. They want to replicate this in their own community," said Reed. "We have hosted people from nearly 100 countries in the last five years to see what we are doing. San Francisco is on the path to zero waste."

To learn what materials to put in the three different garbage bins, visit the website SFrecycles.org. It features downloadable signs for what to put in all three bins.

To learn more about Recycle for Change and the programs it supports, visit <http://www.recycleforchange.org/>. ■

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Farm Animals Are the Author’s Heroes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

winds up in, well, hog heaven,” says Crawford, a 24th Street resident for 20 years.

As the title implies (spoiler alert!), Sprig does find rescue. Along the way, he has adventures wandering through the woods and befriending a girl, Rory, and her mother in the big city. Rory and her mom learn how curious, intelligent, and kind pigs can be. And how big.

Porcine critters grow to massive sizes, “between 500 and 1,000 pounds!” says Crawford. “It isn’t possible for a pig like Sprig to live in the city. His happily-ever-after is a bucolic life in an animal sanctuary.”

Clare Ellis, the founder of Stone Pier Press, an environmental publishing house based in San Francisco, recruited Crawford to pen Sprig’s story. “She [Ellis] wants to do a series of children’s books about factory-farmed animals based on true stories, with the intention of presenting these animals as the complex, interesting beings they are,” says Crawford.

To that end, the author is at work on the next book in the series, *Gwen the Rescue Hen*, due out some time in 2019. After that, Crawford will tell the story of McDow the Rescue Cow. “Yes, there is a theme! There may be more books to come after that,” Crawford muses. She’s also planning a book geared toward adults, but since it’s in the early stages—and she’s superstitious—she’s keeping mum on what it’s about.

Crawford offers a teaser of *Gwen the Hen*’s story: A chicken escapes when a tornado, “sort of *Wizard of Oz* style,” sweeps through the factory warehouse where she is being held.

Aspiring Vegan

The priority for Crawford and the publisher is to present these stories in a mild, non-scary manner. Sprig never makes it to the factory farm, and there aren’t any pictures of it in the book. Their target audience is readers in the 5 to 8 age range.

“The books in this children’s series are gently told and not a scold,” Crawford

says. “Our aim is not to convert people to being vegetarian or vegan. There is nothing in the books to scare them or make them feel guilty or bad about being omnivores.”

Still, “the reality is that the way the vast majority of animals are raised is...absolutely brutal. Our hope is to help people see animals for the remarkable beings they are and maybe give some thought to where our food comes from.”

As for her own eating habits, Crawford, who is on the board of the Noe Valley Farmers Market, eats in a mostly vegetarian manner and occasionally enjoys fish. “Now that I have done so much research about factory farming and my blinders are off on the way about 99 percent of farm animals live, I’m sliding closer to being a bona fide vegetarian and have aspirations to be a vegan.”

Educational Message

Another aim of the picture book series is to educate readers about how intelligent and interesting animals are.

“It is very easy to label someone—be it a person or animal. And once we do, that helps us make them the ‘other’ and so dismiss them,” Crawford says. “Certainly, with animals grown for food, it’s easy to only see them as that—food—and not the feeling, thinking creatures they are.”

She points out that calling a person a pig or a chicken is an insult based on ignorance. Calling someone a pig implies they are dirty or messy. In fact, pigs are clean animals who roll in mud because they don’t have fur to protect them from the sun, and mud is nature’s sunscreen.

“Pigs are very intelligent, ranking up there with dolphins and many primates,” she adds. “They also have a rich vocabulary to express different emotions, like joy, fear, sadness, and contentment.”

At Home With Chickens

She also defends chickens as clever in their own way. At home, Crawford and her family are the proud keepers of feathered and scaled friends—no fur due to allergies. They have six chickens (roosters aren’t allowed in the city)—Matilda, Alice B. Toklas, Summer, Jasmine, James Baxter, and Fullerton.

“Alice B. Toklas is especially smart and follows me into the house,” Crawford says. “I think people just need to expand their, forgive me, limited view of ‘smart.’”

Crawford’s daughter Molly, 12, is also caretaker to four rescue pigeons—Marco, Ajax, Guru, and Paix—and Georgia the lizard. Crawford’s son Gideon, 20, and husband Steve Fox round out the family. Fox founded and runs Urban Putt in the Mission.

Sprig’s illustrator is Sonja Stangl, who lives in Vienna, Austria. Crawford has never met her. “She is so talented. Stone Pier Press had an online audition for an illustrator, and Sonja won hands down.” Stangl is also at work on *Gwen the Rescue Hen*. “She’s already sketched out a wonderful chicken!”

Fun fact: Crawford’s daughter makes an appearance in *Sprig the Rescue Pig*. “You’ll see a red-headed girl walking a dog.” The dog in question is the companion of publisher Ellis. “Reality, though, is



The illustrations for *Sprig the Rescue Pig*, the first in a series of children’s books by Noe Valley author Leslie Crawford, were done by Austrian artist Sonja Stangl.

stranger than fiction. Molly walks her pigeons in a stroller down 24th Street.”

Crawford will have a book launch party at Urban Putt on Wednesday, May 16, 4 to 6:30 p.m. “All are welcome!”

She’ll also be doing a reading at Charlie’s Corner on 24th Street, Saturday, May

19, at 10:30 a.m. The book is for sale there and at Folio Books.

For more information about Leslie Crawford, visit her at her website lesliecrawford.net. For more on *Sprig the Rescue Pig* and Stone Pier Press, visit stonepierpress.org. ■



Author Leslie Crawford will be reading *Sprig* at Charlie’s Corner, 4102 24th St., on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30 a.m.

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Students' Behavior A Touchy Subject

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Principal Tim Reidy, who is new this year to the school, located at 1220 Noe St.

Swann said Reidy thanked her for the call and said he had been notified by police of some but not all of the incidents she described.

"It's hard for us to know about it if we don't hear from the merchants," said Reidy. "I'm glad we are getting this information now."

Reidy said staff immediately talk with students when they hear about inappropriate behavior.

"We review what our expectations of them are while at school, and we talk about how the neighborhood is also their community," said Reidy.

He traced the uptick in student misbehavior to the recent loss of a beloved security guard at the school. The guard, who left his position in March, used to stand on 24th Street after school and keep watch on students as they made their way home from school each afternoon.

Other school staff have been seen on 24th Street in recent weeks.

Restorative Practices

Ben Kauffman, supervisor for SFUSD's Office of Pupil Services, says that if similar things happen at school, they are handled by a process called Restorative Practices.

"When someone does something that has a negative impact on others, we ask how we can help students and others increase their understanding of each other," he said.

For instance, in the case of a student throwing something at other people,

Kauffman would first address the student about the incident.

"I would speak directly to the student, saying, 'I see you are upset about something. But I feel unsafe when you throw things at people.'"

Then, said Kauffman, there would be a formal or informal conversation with the student and those who'd been harmed.

"It begins with the question: What just happened, and what were you thinking when it happened?"

From there, the student would be expected to talk about what he or she was thinking or doing, and reflect on how it harmed others. Then the student and the harmed people would come up with ways to restore the relationship.

Kauffman said calling the police was often the wrong approach to solving situations like this. "It actually increases the distance between neighbors and kids," he said.

"Not at 100 Percent"

At a Parent Teacher Student Association meeting April 18, Principal Reidy and Safe & Supportive Schools coach Amanda Barnett talked with parents and teachers about Restorative Practices as a problem-solving and discipline method.

"You have to have a sense of belonging to a community," said Barnett, "before you can even know that you've done harm."

She described the many steps that could be taken to build community, both at school and in the neighborhood. "It can be as simple as smiling at students when they walk in the door."

After Barnett's review of issues related to community-building, like trust and trauma—and a reminder that the students are young—Reidy took the floor and described the practical realities at Lick.

"I've been here since August," he said.

"This school currently has high staff turnover. A lot of work was done to build RP last year, but with limited time this year, we didn't have room to do the training for our new teachers."

Reidy emphasized how much he supported the Restorative Practices approach to problem-solving. But he made it clear it was a challenge to sustain it.

"We are just not at a hundred percent."

What it all boiled down to was time and money.

"We need about 15,000 dollars and two staff days to really do it right next year," Reidy said.

Straight Talk

Bernie Melvin, who owns Bernie's Coffee on 24th Street, says she's familiar with teenagers acting up in her store.

"They know I'll call them out," said Melvin. A James Lick alumnus herself, she has been running the 24th Street store for over 10 years.

She has a simple approach to deal with rude behavior.

"I look them straight in the eye," said

Melvin. "I say, 'Do you go to Lick? Hey! I went to Lick.'"

She then talks to the students like they are adults, and tells them how their behavior is affecting others around them.

"You know, like, 'You're talking too loud,' or whatever it is they are doing."

She said kids usually calm down, or leave.

Melvin, who grew up in Noe Valley, also regularly donates to the James Lick community and routinely employs local teenagers.

Public Input

While Swann says she hasn't felt the need to request additional police presence since mid-March, the Merchants Association will continue to discuss ideas to improve relations between students and store owners.

"If any of the general public have ideas, we are open to them," said Swann.

Rachel Swann can be reached at President@NoeValleyMerchants.com.

James Lick Middle School administration can be reached at 415-695-5675. ■

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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.

Are there any robbers in Noe Valley?

—Asked by Billie Wagner Hogg, 8

In March, I met 8-year-old Billie Wagner Hogg inside Two Birds, a clothing store on Castro Street. She was shopping with her brother, Ty Wagner Hogg, 6, and their mom, Tara Wagner. Billie and Ty live in Noe Valley with Tara and with Ty's dad, Chris Hogg.

When I asked them if they had any questions about the neighborhood for the *Voice*, Billie responded, "Are there any robbers in Noe Valley?"

I sometimes wonder about robbers too, so I searched for the answer for both of us.

I took the question to Officer Alexandra Medina, the permit and code enforcement officer at Mission Station, the police station that protects the northern half of Noe Valley. (Ingleside Station covers the neighborhood south of Cesar Chavez Street.)

Medina said 142 police officers, among them 26 women, work in the



Ty and Billie Wagner Hogg "line up" with police officers after receiving SFPD sticker-badges during a tour of Mission Station.
Photo by Art Bodner

Mission Police District. The district includes not only northern Noe Valley but also the Castro, Lower 24th Street, and the Inner Mission from Division all the way to Potrero Avenue.

Medina works for Gaetano Caltagirone, the captain of Mission Station, at 630 Valencia St. Medina, who was born in San Francisco and raised in the Mission, has worked at that station for about 20 years! She was excited to answer Billie's question because she has a daughter, so she understands that kids sometimes worry that robbers might target their neighborhood.

Medina looked up the reported robberies between Nov. 1, 2017, and Jan. 1, 2018, from the north boundary of 22nd Street to the south boundary of 25th Street, and from the west boundary of Douglass to the east boundary of Guerrero. In that area, over those two months, there were zero reported rob-

beries. Good news for "downtown" Noe Valley.

(By the way, the California Penal Code defines robbery as "the felonious taking of personal property in the possession of another, from his person or immediate presence, and against his will, accomplished by means of force or fear." People often confuse it with burglary. "Robbery" requires the element of force or fear in the taking of personal property.)

In even better news, Medina said the San Francisco Police Department has officers on foot beats in Noe Valley, which means police are walking around 24th, Church, and other streets to make sure people are safe. The department also has police cars patrolling the neighborhood. She said the numbers on the foot beats and patrol cars varied from day to day.

Medina also said the Mission Police District's two full-time resource officers

delivered safety talks at schools throughout Noe Valley, to make sure the children had good safety awareness skills.

Touched by Billie's interest, Medina invited her to come to Mission Station for a visit. When Billie, Ty, and Tara arrived on April 19, Medina issued Billie and Ty shiny silver, star-shaped sticker-badges reading "SFPD," then ushered Billie over to the lineup: department vernacular for the shift change, where officers stand side by side and front to back at an appointed time. Mission Station is open 24 hours, seven days a week, with officers starting and ending their shifts at different times and overlapping with each other. The lineup ensures that each officer receives simultaneously shared information at least once per shift.

Billie got to line up with all the officers on shift, and then she met Captain Caltagirone. Then all the male officers dispersed, and the six female officers on shift stayed to talk to Billie and Ty and answer their questions.

Medina next took Billie and Ty on a tour of the police station, including the captain's office, the report-writing room, the sergeants' shared office, the holding cells, and the parking lot, where Medina taught them to distinguish between regular police cars, undercover police cars, and paddy wagons. They met the two school safety talk officers Medina had told me about; and they even got to see Medina's office, including a photo of her former police dog.

Thank you, Billie, for asking such an important question. I'm sure it made people think about neighborhood safety. And the Mission Station officers delighted in showing you around the station, especially Officer Medina.

See you in the neighborhood!

—Katie Burke

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The Cost of Living in Noe

Quick Turnover in March

By Corrie M. Anders

Ten single-family homes in Noe Valley were snatched up in March, by buyers willing to pay an average 19 percent above the sellers’ asking price, according to data provided to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

All 10 sellers received a bonus, ranging from 5 to 40 percent.

Zephyr president Randall Kostick said the overbids occurred because buyers were “getting exhausted or panicked, one or the other,” after months of hunting for homes in the neighborhood.

Some buyers, he said, feared they had to offer 15 to 20 percent more to even have a chance at a winning bid—the competition was so stiff.

But the main reason was lack of inventory.

The supply of homes for sale in Noe Valley “has been trending down for four or five years, and it’s reaching near crisis levels,” Kostick said. “That’s what driving prices up.”

In the most dramatic example, a three-bedroom home on Hoffman Avenue sold for 40 percent above the asking price. The house had an original price of \$995,000 and closed escrow for \$1.4 million.

The majority of homes sold in March were priced in the mid-range—that is, the mid-range for Noe Valley. Their average value was \$2.4 million. That was about 24 percent below March a year ago, when four homes topping \$4 million pushed the average price to \$3.1 million.

The most expensive house this March was a renovated three-bedroom, 2.5-bath, 2,700-square-foot property in the 4200 block of 23rd Street, between Douglass



Built by the prominent developer John Anderson, this 1912 home on 23rd Street sold for \$3,150,000 in March, 21.2 percent over the asking price (\$2.6 million).

and Eureka streets.

Buyers paid \$3,150,000—21.2 percent above asking—for the two-story home, originally built in 1912 by developer John Anderson. Amenities included a chef’s kitchen, open floor plan, a master suite and deck, hillside views, and one-car parking.

Run on Condos

Residential shoppers were also excited about condominiums, purchasing 14 in March at an average 12 percent above asking. Like their detached-home counterparts, the condo buyers closed their deals quickly—on average just 12 days after the homes were listed for sale.

The average price of a condo in March was \$1.47 million—about the same price as in March 2017 (\$1.52 million).

Buyers paid \$1,805,000 for the most expensive condo, located in a six-unit building in the 4100 block of Cesar Chavez Street between Castro and Noe streets. The final price was 23.2 percent over list (\$1,465,000), Kostick said. The home featured two bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 1,282 square feet of living space, and an elevator that stopped at the unit’s door. There was parking for one car, a private patio, a shared garden, and city views.

Five TICs Sold

Kostick also noted an increase in the sales of two-unit buildings, which generally cost less per owner than condominiums or detached homes.

Buyers purchased five—all suitable for subsequent conversion to condos. None were purchased in March last year.

“It looks to me like TICs are back,” Kostick said.

Tenancies-in-common are those where buyers purchase a share of the building but live in a specific unit or space. The buyers often plan to convert their TIC units into condominiums, which can sell at higher prices.



A two-bedroom condominium in this modern six-unit building on Cesar Chavez Street sold in March for \$1,805,000—23 percent more than the list price.

Photos by Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley Home Sales*

Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price as % of List Price
Single-family homes						
March 2018	10	\$1,400,000	\$3,150,000	\$2,363,900	12	119%
February 2018	12	\$2,225,000	\$5,500,000	\$3,592,167	30	107%
March 2017	15	\$1,350,000	\$6,260,000	\$3,105,200	33	107%
Condominiums						
March 2018	14	\$1,135,890	\$1,805,000	\$1,469,750	12	115%
February 2018	6	\$975,000	\$2,120,000	\$1,607,720	13	117%
March 2017	8	\$1,012,500	\$2,050,000	\$1,517,063	16	110%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
March 2018	5	\$1,725,000	\$2,950,000	\$2,310,000	23	121%
February 2018	3	\$2,437,500	\$2,930,000	\$2,639,167	38	97%
March 2017	0	—	—	—	—	—
5+-unit buildings						
March 2018	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2018	0	—	—	—	—	—
March 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. NVV5/2018

Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range April 2018	Average April 2018	Average March 2018	Average April 2017
Studio	9	\$1,800 - \$2,900	\$2,355 / mo.	\$2,171 / mo.	\$2,399 / mo.
1-bdrm	34	\$1,760 - \$4,900	\$3,266 / mo.	\$3,331 / mo.	\$3,136 / mo.
2-bdrm	26	\$3,150 - \$6,399	\$4,172 / mo.	\$4,310 / mo.	\$4,165 / mo.
3-bdrm	16	\$4,100 - \$11,500	\$6,308 / mo.	\$6,224 / mo.	\$6,395 / mo.
4+-bdrm	5	\$5,900 - \$22,500	\$9,640 / mo.	\$9,191 / mo.	\$9,916 / mo.

** This survey is based on a sample of 90 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist.org from April 5 to 8, 2018. NVV5/2018

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nvcn.org/classical-kids

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SHORT TAKES

Art in the Gardens

Nine neighborhood gardens will be available for public view at the Noe Valley Garden Tour, held Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. An 2018 innovation is that art will be featured in every garden. The tour, an annual project of the Friends of Noe Valley, benefits local beautification projects. This year, proceeds will go to the rooftop garden at 30th Street Senior Center and to sprucing up bushes and trees along 24th Street.

Tour highlights include several mature gardens and works by Noe Valley artists. There is a lush Mediterranean garden paired with the drawings of Sylvie Guillot, the senior center garden with neighborhood painters Jenny Badger Sultan and Henry Sultan, and a 118-year-old garden with the sculpture of Tachina Rudman-Young and Brion Chaples. For a full list of gardens and artists, go to www.friendsofnoevalley.com. Local playwright Terry Baum is giving away free candelabra euphorbia plants at her tour garden!

Tickets are \$18 general, \$15 for seniors

(65 years of age and up), and free for kids under 12. Buy online at Friends' site or in local stores and businesses, including Folio Books, Just for Fun, Olive This Olive That, Omnivore Books on Food, and Umpqua Bank. The tour is self-guided, using a map supplied with each ticket purchase.

Several neighborhood businesses and individuals are sponsoring the 2018 tour. The Swann Group/The Agency real estate is the lead financial sponsor. Umpqua Bank is hosting and paying for the volunteers party, and Stephanie Johnson of Pacific Union Realty is once again sponsoring the raffle.

Grand prize in the raffle is a \$300 Sloat Garden Center gift certificate and four hours of labor in the winner's garden. Additional prizes are two \$50 gift certificates from Flora Grubb Gardens. Raffle tickets are 10 for \$20, three for \$10, and one for \$5. Buy them at the garden tour table outside the Saturday Farmers Market and wherever tour tickets are sold.

Play Bingo With Perpetual Sisters

Bingo, disco, and queer nuns come to the Town Square Saturday, May 12, for Out in the Park, part of the annual Shop Out Day benefiting the San Francisco LGBT Center. The event starts off



A Mediterranean garden on this year's Noe Valley Garden Tour, Saturday, May 19, will feature drawings by artist Sylvie Guillot.

with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence calling bingo numbers for just a quarter a card and dishing out free rainbow sorbet sponsored by The Agency Noe Valley real estate broker from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to stick around for a free 1980s dance party with the music mix by a live deejay from 5 to 7 p.m.

(For anyone new to San Francisco, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organized in 1979 to do good works, first during the AIDS crisis but since then more generally. The Sisters have orders throughout the world.)

Other upcoming events at the Town Square include Heroes Day, Sunday, June 3, 1 to 4 p.m. Kids small and big can board a fire truck, sit in a police car without being arrested, and meet local firefighters, EMT professionals, and police officers. Also in June is SummerFEST, Noe Valley's celebration of midsummer before the fog rolls in, Sunday, June 10. Expect music, ice cream, a petting zoo, and summer frolicking.

Events at the square during the remainder of our winter—er, summer—include the second annual neighborhood barbecue July 8, Best in Show (a rescue animal fair) Aug. 12, and a movie night Sept. 8 with *My Neighbor Totoro*, an award-winning Japanese animated fantasy.

Chamber Music Crescendo

The Noe Valley Chamber Music 2018 fundraising gala April 22 was "a phenomenal success, far surpassing our financial goal" of \$10,000, says executive director Tiffany Loewenberg. The sold-out event welcomed 150 guests. Now Loewenberg's attention has turned to the final concerts of the 2017-18 season.

The Telegraph String Quartet will play at the last event of NVCM's 25th anniversary season on Sunday, May 20. The group is a former NVCM Emerging

Artists selection and was the 2016 winner of the prestigious and remunerative Naumberg Prize in chamber music. They will perform Mozart's Quartet in D Major, Ravel's String Quartet, and the West Coast premiere of New York composer Robert Sirota's String Quartet No. 3, at 4 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. General admission is \$25. The audience is invited to a free after-party, with food, drink, and a presentation by musicologist Kai Christiansen.

Another NVCM series calling it a wrap for now is Classical Kids. On Saturday, June 2, the Thalea String Quartet will play Haydn, Piazzolla, Wu Man, and Garth Knox music "suitable for all ages," according to Loewenberg. The 45-minute program, also at the Ministry, begins at 10:30 a.m. Tickets at nvcm.org are \$15 per person or \$40 for a family of four.

Tickets and further information on both concerts are to be had at www.nvcm.org.

Tours of Civil War Homes And a Moorish Castle

Each month, Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project volunteers lead walks through local history. This month's five strolls include "Cowbells in the Spring" on Sunday, May 12, and "Castles, Cows, Communists, and Champions" Saturday, May 26. Both will be led by Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose.

Cowbells in the Spring is a "moderately strenuous" tour (meaning some stairs and hills) of the history of Fairmount Heights, the neighborhood between Noe Valley and Glen Park. Some of the sights to be seen are Civil War era homesteads, where Southern Pacific trains rolled through, and the home of a forgotten aviation pioneer. This is a three-hour tour, 9 a.m. to noon, beginning at the Walter Haas Playground on Addison Street.

Castles, Cows, Communists, and Champions is also listed as moderately strenuous. Along the way, Rose will discuss the Communists of Diamond Heights, a forgotten Moorish castle, and a Glen Park connection to boxing, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at Christopher Playground on Diamond Heights Boulevard.

The suggested donation for each history walk is \$10. Reserve your space by emailing GlenParkHistory@gmail.com. For more information, go to <http://glenparkhistory.wixsite.com/glenparkhistory>.

In other Glen Park history news, the Native Sons of the Golden West have laid a plaque in Glen Canyon Park, marking the first dynamite factory in the United States. The site is a designated state historic landmark. Find it on your own or take the tour "Bovines, Dynamite, and High-Flying Shows," Saturday, May 19.

SHORT TAKES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Film Fest Season Starts With CAAMFest

By Corrie M. Anders

Three film festivals get under way this month with 350 screenings ranging from documentaries to movies to silent film gems. The events are expected to attract 65,000 film lovers to theaters in the city and across the bay.

The Center for Asian American Media kicks off its 15-day CAAMFest 2018 on May 10. Twenty-three world premieres will be among the 119 films or videos playing through May 24.

Filmmaker Jennifer Chang Crandall of Noe Valley will present *Whitman, Alabama*, the 10th in a 52-part series of human stories about the American South. The Church Street resident's six-minute film features the Vietnamese owners of a Huntsville, Ala., restaurant as they read a verse of Walt Whitman poetry and go about their daily lives.

Directors with roots in the Mission District top the CAAMFest marquee. H.P. Mendoza will show his feature-length tragicomedy *Bitter Melon*, plus two short films. Leah Nichols offers *73 Questions With Steve Jones*, and Chelsea Chang shows her film *Hella Stranger*.

The screenings will be held at 18 venues around the Bay Area, including the Castro Theatre, the Kabuki, and the Roxie Theater. Tickets are \$12 or you can pay \$500 for a pass to all the events. For more information, go to caamedia.org.

SF's Doc Providers

The 17th edition of the San Francisco Documentary Film Festival, running May 31 to June 14, is expected to attract 8,000 fans to more than 100 films.

Headliners include *The Brewmaster*, a film about the beer industry, and *Rodents of an Unusual Size*, which examines the environmental impact of "the hordes of monstrous 20-pound swamp rats that have overrun the Louisiana swamplands."

The festival also will feature the works of two Mission District residents. Quinn Kanaly co-directed *Point of No Return*, about the first solar-powered flight around the world. Jamie Meltzer was executive producer for *The*



Noe Valley filmmaker Jennifer Chang Crandall will present her short film, *Whitman, Alabama*, at the Center for Asian American Media's CAAMFest 2018, running May 10-24.

Providers, about the chronic shortage of health care providers in New Mexico.

Films will screen at the Roxie Theater, Brava Theater Center, and New People Cinema. Prices range from \$13.50 per ticket to \$250 for access to all events. For more information, go to sfindie.com.

Before Talkies

Twenty-three pictures will flicker on the Castro Theatre's silver screen during the 23rd San Francisco Silent Film Festival May 30 to June 3. Happily, the movies won't be soundless, because each will have live musical accompaniment.

The program includes films from the United States, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Sweden, and Soviet Republic countries. Eleven of the films have been restored, including one creating a lot of buzz, *San Francisco, 1906*.

The newly discovered "reel" shows nine minutes of devastating footage shot in the days after the 1906 Earthquake and Fire. Two years ago, a vintage film dealer purchased the rare footage, and it was subsequently digitized. It plays on the June 2 bill with *Trappola*, a film about an orphan who ends up becoming a screen goddess.

Tickets for entry to festival events range from \$12 to \$260. For more information, go to silentfilm.org.



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SHORT TAKES

Shani Heckman's New Film

The House on Lucky Street by Noe Valley director Shani Heckman premieres Friday, May 4, at Artist Television Access, 992 Valencia St., with two screenings, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Heckman runs Shanestar Productions, which specializes in films supporting LGBTQ social justice issues. The new film explores gentrification in the Mission District through the fictional story of artist Matteo Florez, who is living in a haunted house, and of Carmelita Reyes, the ghost who is haunting it. After Matteo receives his eviction notice, he and the ghost take action to save Matteo's home. Dialogue is in English and Spanish.

The film's actors include Tommi Aviccoli Mecca, a real-life tenants rights activist in San Francisco. Matteo is played by Gabe Sanchez, whose other credits include Killing My Lobster, the long-running local sketch comedy series. Actress



Gabe Sanchez, of Killing My Lobster fame, plays a resident facing a Mission District eviction in Shani Heckman's film *The House on Lucky Street*, showing May 4 at Artists Television Access.

and singer Amytra is the ghost.

Although the film is fictional, director Heckman says it is based on hundreds of true stories. Lucky Street is a real, two-block long road between 24th and 26th streets in the Mission.

Go to eventbrite.com for more information about the flick and to purchase \$10 tickets. Like the Facebook page to hear about future screenings and festival runs, www.facebook.com/HouseOnLuckyStreetFilm.

Electoral, Beautiful, and Green

Upper Noe Neighbors offers an impressive list of topics at the group's upcoming meeting. Representatives of the Department of Elections will present information on registering to vote (no later than May 21), discerning the June 5 ballot, and using ranked-choice voting.

Two beautification topics will also be on the agenda. San Francisco Beautiful, a nonprofit NGO that promotes the livability and beauty of our city, will make a presentation on its Muni art and annual beautification awards programs. The organization began in 1947 and helped save the last cable cars, among other accomplishments.

The second beautification project will be local, a discussion of greening outer Church Street between 28th and 30th streets. Sidewalk gardens would be added, in coordination with Friends of the Urban Forest. The project, according to UNN spokesperson Sara Fenske Bahat, is in "early-stage exploration." UNN is soliciting community feedback about the idea.

The meeting is open to everyone and will be held on Wednesday, May 16, beginning at 7 p.m., at the Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez

streets. For more information on UNN, go to www.uppernoeneighbors.com.

A New Cinderella Story

Bay Area Vocal Academy ends its second concert season with an original retelling of the Cinderella story, common to cultures across the world and from classical Greece onward.

In the BAVA version, teenage singers will weave together art song, opera, and musical theater pieces from Brahms, Massenet, Rossini, Rodgers & Hammerstein, and Sondheim, among other composers. Tiaras and handsome princes will abound.

Both the Thursday, May 17, 6:30 p.m., and the Saturday, May 19, 7 p.m. performances will be at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. A light reception will follow both shows. Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com for \$20 general admission and \$5 for students.

BAVA provides vocal training and career support for high school age students. Go to www.bayareavocalacademy.org for information on applying and auditioning. Applications for a summer workshop are due by May 15.



The Cinderella story, performed by teens from Bay Area Vocal Academy on May 17 and 19, will be enhanced by music from Brahms, Massenet, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Rossini, and Sondheim.

est milestone was the completion of landscaping along both stairways, funded by a second Community Challenge Grant. California fuchsia, hummingbird sage, and monkey flower were favored along with other plants (see names and locations on the group's webpage, junglestairs.wordpress.com).

Is the work finally done? Volunteer Ken Fisher says no. There's still a dead tree to be removed and that area needs to be landscaped. And there's always maintenance—although the cohesive group of 20 volunteers will be working next on more sheet mulching to cut down on weeding.

But so much *has* been done. Take a walk and see for yourself.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Noe Valley Voice welcomes your letters. Email editor@noevalleyvoice.com or write Noe Valley Voice Letters, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include your name, address, or other contact information. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.

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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

The (Word) Origins of Sanchez Street

ACROSS

1. Eastertime marshmallow treats

6. "...face that would ___ clock"

11. [Snore!]

14. Bright

15. Be victorious in

16. 3 on a sundial

17. Etymologically, 38-Across of "Sarcasm"

19. Form filler's abbreviation for one with nothing between first and last name

20. Past due, in Italy?

21. Former Presidential aspirant Paul

23. Etymologically, 38-Across of "Muscle"

27. Theater award

28. "Am ___ longer a part of your plans..." (Dylan line)

29. Defensive spray in a purse

33. Possessed

34. Often ___ (half the time)

36. Former Presidential aspirant Ralph

37. "... Lord, is ___?" (Matthew 26:22)

38. Midwifery center on Sanchez Street

40. 551, in old Rome

41. Kind of bracelet

43. Letter a Cockney may drop

44. "___ for Innocent" (1992 Sue Grafton novel)

45. Game in a casino in Reno, poetically?

46. ___ 'wester (storm type)

47. Tolstoy's Karenina

48. Etymologically, 38-Across of "Mortgage"

53. Ailment

56. Joe Montana asset

57. Altar promise

58. Etymologically, 38-Across of "Juggernaut"

64. MADD target

65. Came to a stop

66. Speechify

67. Longtime Noe Valley newsstand owner Salameh

68. Point ___ National Seashore

69. Varnish component

DOWN

1. Local setting until March 11: Abbr.

2. Comic Phillips

3. Word above "Toast" at Toast

4. Attractive

5. Commence

6. Personal ad abbr.

7. Before, briefly

8. ___ a customer (sale limit)

9. Pari ___ (equally)

10. Musketeer with Porthos and Aramis

11. Zest

12. "Zomething different" from Coors

13. Some red wines, informally

18. Burger topper

22. High-rise apartment building across from Twitter HQ

23. More than dislike

24. Like the food at Holy Kitchen

25. Prefix meaning "nine"

26. Like Shakespeare's Othello

27. Good adjective for a milkshake

30. Summing

31. Singer Dion

32. Pension law that created IRAs

34. Sterling Bank

convenience

35. From bottom ___: fully

36. Advanced degree?

39. Eye-related

42. Took a Lyft

47. Esteem

49. Enthusiastic

50. In harmony

51. A Roosevelt

52. Miscue on a diamond

53. Video Wave rental

54. Early caucus state

55. Enjoy the pool

59. Cheer leader?

60. Poppups, annoyingly

61. Batteries in TV remotes

62. Volkswagen model

63. "Hallow" suffix

Solution on Page 28

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

Off the Beaten Path

What Is a Slickenside?

By Joe O'Connor

This month's "San Francisco neighborhood attraction" is Corona Heights Park. Surrounded by 15th Street, Roosevelt Way, and Beaver Street, it is only a 15-minute bus ride from Noe Valley. There are four reasons to visit Corona Heights. First, the Corona Heights Natural Area, maintained by the city's Rec and Park Department and neighborhood volunteers, is wildflower heaven this time of year. Second, the park is home to the Randall Museum, which features delightful exhibits of local natural history. Third, both kids and adults will enjoy the secluded Peixotto Playground, with its sandbox, slide, and climbing structures.

Fourth, and most interesting to earth lovers, there are several geological wonders on display at the park, also called Rock Hill. They include ancient sea beds, serpentinite rock (our "state rock"), and an abundance of chert, the stone that has been called the birthstone of mankind. Why? Because humans have been making chert tools for hundreds of thousands of years. Head first to the Randall Museum. At the west end of the parking lot, you'll see ancient seafloor rocks made of pillow basalt. There's also a wonderful blob of green serpentinite trapped in the basalt. Above all that is layer after layer of red, brown, and gray chert. You know chert. You've seen chert as



A young visitor views the slickenside towering above Peixotto Playground in Corona Heights Park. The cliff is a testament to the powerful tectonic forces that built the California coastline.

blocks on Twin Peaks or Billy Goat Hill, in ribbon-like layers on Bernal Hill, or folded like paper along O'Shaughnessy Boulevard. The chert at Corona Heights, particularly the wall of chert by Peixotto Playground (enter on 15th or Beaver Street), is a world-class act of nature: a massive cliff, 300 feet long and 50 feet high, made up of shining, polished chert known as a "fault mirror," or a "slickenside." The cliff at Peixotto is one of the largest exposed slickensides in the world, and has been featured in geology textbooks for decades. The chert in the slickenside was laid down many millions of years ago in the open ocean. Chert comes from the silicon skeletons of trillions of microscopic

animals called "radiolarians." They sank to the bottom and accumulated in thick layers of ooze. As time passed, the ooze was compressed into the rock we know as chert. The various colors come from trace minerals, like iron, that are trapped in the chert. Plate tectonics brought these rocks to our coast, scraping them from the seafloor and lifting them as outcroppings. Chert is very hard. It resists erosion more than other rocks, so most of San Francisco's hills (Corona, Bernal, Eureka Peak, Mt. Davidson) are made of chert. Chert was quarried widely in the city during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Gray Brothers' quarry that was blasted out of the hill at Corona Heights exposed the fault mirror we see today. The chert on one side of the fault has been removed, but the mirrored surface remains for us to see—and touch. What happened was that there was a vertical fault in the chert deposit, and the rocks on either side of the fault moved against each other under tremendous pressure. The sliding, scraping motion over millions of years polished the chert as smooth as glass. After you've seen the slickenside, walk west through the playground. On a low concrete wall, you'll see memorials to pets long gone. Years ago, kids buried their pets here. Last month at Peixotto I counted carefully, and as many as 43 pet memorials had been painted on the wall.



Touch the side of a slickenside and feel layers of rock formed under the sea millions of years ago. Photos by Art Bodner

Next month, a visit to another of our natural areas: Tank Hill.

Joe O'Connor is a retired professor of Ecology with an avid interest in local plants, wildlife, and natural history. He's also a docent at the California Academy of Sciences. *Off the Beaten Path* is a guide to some of his favorite "hidden" nature spots in San Francisco.



An adventure at Peixotto Playground can be anything from a bounce on a trampoline to a hike to the top of Rock Hill.

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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a feature of the Noe Valley Voice, profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we introduce a boutique that specializes in clothing imported from the owner's native Korea.

ARTE BELLA
3920A 24th Street near Sanchez
Street
415-658-7549
www.artebellaf.com

Since opening her women's clothing boutique in December, owner Young-jee Ahn has been working overtime to meet demand for her sleekly designed dresses and coats.

Due to customer feedback, she is working to expand the selection of sizes she carries. And she is looking to launch her own skincare line after fielding compliments about her own complexion and questions about what products she uses.

The new goals reflect the philosophy of her business: assisting clients in becoming the most attractive they can be. They also fit the definition of her store name, Arte Bella.

"I was researching a lot of names for a clothing store and picked the one name that was the most attractive. My customer wants to be art's beauty," explained Ahn, 34, who lives in Union Square. "My clothing is really limited and special because my customer is special."

Last summer, Ahn entered into negotiations with her friend, Joanne Kim, to take over the lease for the small retail space at 3920A 24th St. Kim had opened her own clothing store, Shop Monroe, there in August of 2016 following the shuttering of bath products purveyor Common Scents.

But juggling Shop Monroe and her other business, Top Dog Boutique & Grooming on Geary Street, became too time consuming. So Kim reached an agreement with Ahn, who took over the Noe Valley space in October.

For the next two months, Ahn traveled to Seoul, Korea, where she grew up and worked as a fashion model, to line up investors and sign contracts with manufacturers to make her clothes. "No child labor. That is my goal," said Ahn.

Seventy percent of the clothing she sells carries her Arte Bella label, with the other 30 percent coming from overseas vendors that are unique and hard to find in the United States.

"But I am pretty picky about it," Ahn said of the other brands she buys. "So far, customers are really satisfied."

In addition to attracting local residents, Ahn is marketing to the large numbers of professional Asian women, in their 20s and 30s, living all over San Francisco. She purposely prices her clothing to be competitive with department stores, with most items less than \$300. For certain clothing that is harder to fashion, such as coats, her prices range in the low \$500s.

"I want to be here a long time and I want to be offering a fair price," said Ahn,



A fashion model turned clothing designer, Young-jee Ahn is offering classic, elegant style at Arte Bella, the boutique she opened last fall in the former Shop Monroe on 24th Street.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

who for now is focused on women's fashions but may add men's clothing in the future.

Everything she carries, from jewelry and clothing to custom-made shoes, is manufactured in Korea.

"In Korea, they have really good fabrics," said Ahn. "Even in the U.S., they will import materials from Korea and not China. Manufacturing is very superior in Korea to China."

Asked to characterize her design aesthetic, Ahn described it as "sleek, minimal and classic."

A black sheath dress (\$250) she designed, made from polyester and spandex, has been very popular with shoppers. As has been her red dress coat (\$268). A handmade 100 percent wool coat she carried in December, priced \$520, sold out in two weeks.

Recent arrivals include a white mini-dress (\$96) and a grey cotton dress (\$195). "The prices depend on the materials and the designs," explained Ahn.

Ahn said she guarantees that the earrings (\$28-\$60), necklaces (\$99 and up), and rings (\$49-\$99) she sells "are of the same quality as Swarovski," the Austrian jewelry maker. As for shoes, she is selling two different styles at the moment. A satin and sparkles shoe (\$120) and a pink leather version (\$200) both take two weeks to manufacture and ship to the store.

Ahn first came to California, where her sister also now lives, to attend college. She had looked at enrolling at the University of California, Davis, but didn't like its more rural setting. Instead, she opted for the Academy of Art in San Francisco, where she graduated in 2015 with a degree in fashion.

Until launching her own business, Ahn worked for various startup companies, fo-

cusing on social media and marketing. She also helped style visual content online, parlaying that experience into a job with Macy's as a visual merchandiser.

"I felt some kind of limitation. I wanted to do something more exciting and with production," said Ahn in explaining why she took the leap last year to become her own small business proprietor.

This spring, she has been focused on finishing her store's website. Once it launches, Ahn plans to offer online sales.

"This spot is my opportunity," said Ahn of her storefront. "I really love this shop and fashion."

Arte Bella is open from noon to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and every other Sunday.
—Matthew S. Bajko

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May 1: May 1: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.

May 1-6: Shaping SF and Oakland's ProArts Gallery host “Imagining Post-Capitalism,” with performances, films, and discussion. For a schedule: proartsgallery.com.

May 1 & 15: 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; bethanysf.org.

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

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

May 1-29: John McClean Wolf leads SACRED YOGA Tuesdays at Holy Innocents. 7-8:15 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142; holyinsf.org.

May 1-31: Noe Valley OVEREATERS Anonymous meets Monday through Saturday, 7 am, at St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine. oasf.org.

May 1-31: BootCampSF conducts FITNESS training Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8:30 am. SF Rec Center Basketball Court, 30th and Whitney. 567-9009; sfbootcamp.com.

May 1-31: 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.

May 1-31: Dylan Phillipy leads BOOTCAMP on the Square, Tuesdays at 6 pm and Thursdays at 11 am. Noe Valley Town Square, 24th & Vicksburg.

May 1-31: The On Lok 30th Street SENIOR CENTER serves lunches for people over 60, weekdays and Saturdays. Noon & 1 pm. 225 30th. 550-2211.

. MAY 2018 .

May 2: Create a small ceramic piece that will be fired at Terra Mia at adult CRAFT NIGHT at the Noe Valley Library. 7-8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 2 & 16: 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.

May 2-30: The Noe Valley Town Square hosts TAI CHI classes with Alex Medel. 7:15 am. 3861 24th.

May 2-30: Folio Books offers STORYTIME for toddlers Wednesdays at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 2-30: Chris Sequeira leads free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1 to 3 pm, at Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com

May 2-30: 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.

May 2-30: The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesdays, 4 to 7 pm, through November. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

May 2-30: 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.

May 2-30: 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.

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

May 2 & June 6: The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107; GLBThistory.org.

May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31: Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 3-31: Shrawan Nepali leads Thursday Morning MEDITATION in the Noe Valley Town Square; bring a pillow. 3861 24th. 8-9 am.

May 3-31:Newcomers welcome at the AL-ANON Literature Discussion, meeting Thursdays at Bethany UMC, from 7:15 to 8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez.

May 3-31: Bring your storehouse of random knowledge to TRIVIA NIGHT on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

May 3 & June 7: Regulars Liz Stone, Ruby Gill, and Drew Harmon, and guests perform COMEDY GOLD on the first Thursday of the month. 9:30 pm. Valley Tavern, 4054 24th. 285-0674; lizziestone@gmail.com.

May 4: *The House on Lucky Street*, about gentrification in the Mission is directed by Noe Valley resident Shani Heckman. 7 & 9 pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia. 824-3890; atasite.org.

May 4:Vocal ensemble Volti performs a CONCERT, “Bay and Beyond.” 8-10 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 771-3352; voltisf.org.

May 4: The ROVA Saxophone Quartet performs a CD release concert for their 40th anniversary. 8 pm. SF LIVE ARTS (formerly Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

May 4-25: The Friday-night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett bookstore. 5:30-8 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

May 4-25: Chris Sequeira leads a free Friday KARAOKE for adults gathering at Upper Noe Rec Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. 295 Day. 970-8061.

May 5: Learn to knit or crochet at the Noe Valley Library's KNITTING CIRCLE. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 5: Maggie Hoffman introduces The One Bottle COCKTAIL 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

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

May 5-26: 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.

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

May 5-26: The Randall Museum offers a close-up of California wildlife in “Meet the ANIMALS,” on Saturdays at 2 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9605.

May 5-26: Saturday night JAZZ at Bird & Beckett features local performers from 7:30 to 10 pm; refreshments available. 653 Chenery. birdbeckett.com.

May 6: Celebrate Children's BOOK WEEK with a reading from *Down by the River* by Andrew Weiner at 11 am, and a story hour featuring Nadia Reddy's Mr. Green and the Pirate Iguana and Tiki ABC at 1 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

May 6: Chef Gino, author of *Chef Gino's Taste Test Challenge*, makes easy recipes at Charlie's Corner Bookstore. 12:30 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

May 6: Adam Weintraub discusses *PISCO Patrimonio*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore

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

May 6 & 20: The Noe Valley Town Square hosts DRUMMING and dancing on first and third Sundays; check noevalleytownsquare.com for times. 3861 24th.

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

May 6-27: 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.

May 6-27: MARIPOSA STUDIO is open on Sundays from 12:30 to 4 pm. 2808 Mariposa, at Project Artaud. 861-4330; mariposastudio.org.

May 7: ODD MONDAYS hosts poetry readings by Mel Ash, Andrew Chen, and Eveline Kanes. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

May 7, 14 & 21: 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.

May 8: Peter Eisner discusses MacArthur's Spies at Folio Books. 7 pm. 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

May 8: PFLAG meets at the Women's Building, 3543 18th, on the second Tuesday of the month, 7 to 9 pm. 921-8850; pflagsf.org.

May 9: The GREAT BOOKS discussion group meets from 6:15 to 8:15 pm at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 10: Laura McLively introduces *The BERKELEY BOWL Cookbook*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 10: The DIAMOND HEIGHTS Community Association meets on the second Thursday of the month, at 7 pm. Call 867-5774 for location; dhcasf.org.

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SUN MAY 6	ADAM WEINTRAUB • PISCO PATRIMONIO • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • A photographic exploration of the history, process, bodegas and use of pisco in the current culture of Peru. Peruvian pisco is never diluted after it is distilled and enters the bottle directly at its distillation strength. Nico Vera, of Pisco Trail, will be on hand to pour pisco samples for us!
THU MAY 10	LAURA MCLIVELY • THE BERKELEY BOWL COOKBOOK • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Celebrating the unfamiliar yet extraordinary produce from California's most iconic market, Berkeley Bowl, this cookbook offers recipes for a panoply of fruits and vegetables that have been largely overlooked or forgotten in popular cuisine.
FRI MAY 11	BILL KIM • KOREAN BBQ: MASTER YOUR GRILL IN SEVEN SAUCES • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Kim teaches the fundamentals of the Korean grill through flavor profiles that can be tweaked according to the griller's preference, then gives an array of knockout recipes.
SAT MAY 12	JUSTIN CHAPPLE • JUST COOK IT!: 145 BUILT-TO-BE-EASY RECIPES THAT ARE TOTALLY DELICIOUS • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Justin Chapple is the host of Food & Wine's award-nominated Mad Genius Tips video cooking series, and appears regularly on TODAY and other television shows as their resident kitchen hack expert.
SAT MAY 19	DAVID BRANSFIELD • PIZZAPEDIA: AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO EVERYONE'S FAVORITE FOOD • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE, WITH PIZZA! • In lavish illustrations and hand-lettered text, <i>Pizzapedia</i> celebrates all there is to fixate about: the stories behind its origin (we have the ancient Greeks to thank before the Italians); the delectable ingredients, from San Marzano tomatoes to buffalo mozzarella.
THU MAY 24	LINDA CIVITELLO • BAKING POWDER WARS: THE CUTTHROAT FOOD FIGHT THAT REVOLUTIONIZED COOKING • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • First patented in 1856, baking powder sparked a classic American struggle for business supremacy. For nearly a century, brands battled to win loyal consumers for the new leavening miracle, transforming American commerce and advertising even as they touched off a chemical revolution in the world's kitchens.

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CALENDAR

May 10-24: CAAMfest 2018, formerly the Sf International Asian American FILM FESTIVAL screens at venues in the city and around the Bay Area. For a schedule: caamfest.com.

May 10-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.

May 11: The Noe Valley Library screens the 2015 FILM *Crimson Peak*, directed by Guillermo del Toro. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 11: Artisana features a reception for the show “Seeing Double,” new PAINTINGS by Tej Greenhill, with live music by Sweet Trade. 5-8 pm. 3927 24th. 500-2257; artisanafunctionalart.com.

May 11, 12 & 14: The Resound Ensemble’s SPRING CONCERT, “She Walks in Beauty,” features two west coast premieres, and guest artist Peggy Gyulai, who will paint during the performance. 8 pm, Fri. and Sat.; 7:30 pm, Mon. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. resoundensemble.org.

May 12: LADYBUG GARDENERS work on the Upper Noe Rec Center park grounds on second Saturdays. 9 am-noon. Day & Sanchez. info@noevalleyrecenter.com.

May 12: Fairmount Elementary’s 16th annual FIESTAVAL features a talent show, games, music, and food. 11 am-3 pm. 65 Chenery. wearefairmount.com.

May 12: 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.

May 12: Justin Chapple discusses *Just Cook It! 145 Built-to-Be-Easy RECIPES*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 12: The Noe Valley Town Square’s “Out in the Park” neighborhood PARTY features bingo led by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (3:30 to 5 pm), music, rainbow sherbet. 3:30-7pm.

May 12: The Noe Valley Library offers an introduction to KANOPY film streaming. 3:30 to 4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 12: Community Music Center’s SPRING GALA includes performances, dinner, and an auction. 6-9:30 pm. Four Seasons Hotel, Veranda Ballroom, 217 Stevenson. 647-6015; sfcmc.org.

May 12: Manring, Kassin & Burr perform a CONCERT with Jeff Titus. 8 pm. SF LIVE ARTS (formerly Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian’s, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

May 13 & 27: Noe Valley political group ACTION SF meets on 2nd and 4th Sundays. 3-4:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. actionsfsolidarity@gmail.com.

May 15: 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.

May 16: The Crosspulse Rhythm Duo performs a percussive CONCERT for all ages at the Noe Valley Library. 4-5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 16: The Noe Valley Ministry offers a LABYRINTH WALK at 6 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

May 16: Upper Noe Neighbors hosts a presentation by the SF Department of Elections about Ranked Choice VOTING. 7 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, 295 Day. uppernoeneighbors.com.

May 16: The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group talks about *Beastly Things* by Donna Leon. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 17 & 19: The Bay Area Vocal Academy (BAVA) performs their season finale, “A Cinderella Story.” Thu., 6:30-9:30 pm; Sat., 7-10 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 723-2282; bayareavocalacademy.org.

May 18: Joanne Rocklin discusses *Love, Penelope* at the BOOKWORMS club at Folio Books. 6-7 pm. 3957 24th. RSVP required: 821-3477, tiny.cc/followorms.

May 19: Friends of Noe Valley’s annual GARDEN TOUR features nine sites and local artists. 10 am-4 pm. For tickets: friendsfnoevalley.com/news.

May 19: LESLIE CRAWFORD introduces *Sprig the Rescue Pig* at Charlie’s Corner Bookstore. 10:30-11 am. 4102 24th. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

May 19: David Bransfield introduces *PIZZAPEDIA: An Illustrated Guide to Everyone’s Favorite Food*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 20: STAND UP San Francisco discusses local citizen resistance to the Trump agenda at its monthly meeting. 2-4 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. standupsf.net.

May 20: Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC hosts a concert by the Telegraph String Quartet. 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 648-5236; nvcm.org.

May 21: ODD MONDAYS hosts readings by “a pot-pourri of fragrant and spicy Noe Valley writers.” 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

May 22: The Noe Valley Library hosts a talk on the warning signs of ALZHEIMER’S disease and Dementia. 1:30 to 3 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 22: 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.

May 23: 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.

May 23: Ages 5 and up are invited to It’s YOGA KIDS at the Noe Valley Library. 3:30 to 4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 24: Ages 10 through 17 are invited to a “Flavors of Spain: Tapas” COOKING WORKSHOP. 3:30-5 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Limit 10 participants, register at 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 24: Linda Cicitello discusses *Baking Powder Wars: the Cutthroat FOOD FIGHT that Revolutionized Cooking*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 25: HERCHURCH offers a Women’s Drumming Circle the fourth Friday of the month. 6-7:30 pm. 678 Portola. 731-2953; herchurch.org.

May 26: Join a group driving to Modesto to canvas against Republican Congressman Jeff Denham. Leave Noe 8 am, return by 4:30 pm. resistry.net. RSVP required: charlesspiegellaw@gmail.com.

May 26: Volunteer at JURI COMMONS 9 am to noon-ish, 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.

May 26: The Glen Park Neighborhoods HISTORY PROJECT offers a walking tour, “Castles, Cows, Communists, and Champions.” 10 am-1 pm. Meet at George Christopher Playground, 5210 Diamond Heights. glenparkhistory.wixsite.com.

May 29: Michael Fox from SF State Osher LIFELONG LEARNING Institute screens two documentaries about the school. 1-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 29: MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of every other month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia.

May 29: Trina Lopez discusses “A Second Final Rest: The History of SF’s Lost Cemeteries” at the SF HISTORY Association. 7 pm. Congregation Sherith Israel, 2800 California. 881-7342; sanfranciscohistory.org.

May 30: Leslie Shimmin leads a QI GONG class at the Noe Valley Library from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 30-June 3: The 23rd SF SILENT FILM Festival offers films from nine countries at the Castro Theater, 429 Castro. For info: silentfilm.org.

May 31-June 14: The 17th SF DOCUMENTARY FILM Festival screens at the Roxie and New People Cinema. 662-FEST; sfndie.com.

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. nvcm.org.

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 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.

That Sweet Tune is June

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

Thank you.

noe valley chamber music

TELEGRAPH STRING QUARTET

Sunday, May 20
Noe Valley Ministry | 4pm

Eric Chin & Joseph Maile, violins | Pei-Ling Lin, viola
Jeremiah Shaw, cello

Recent winners of the prestigious Naumburg Competition as well as the Grand Prize in the 2014 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, the exciting Telegraph Quartet returns to NVCM to wrap up our season. After the concert, join us for an AfterParty moderated by Kai Christiansen.

The AfterParty is generously sponsored by Terri & Bob Ryan.

TICKETS and INFO: nvcm.org | 415-648-5236

The Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation

Additional support is generously provided by
Ray Walton & Jack Comerford

The Noe Valley Voice

Herbst Foundation

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A Meditation to Help the World

At this time of crisis, many are searching for ways to make a positive difference in the world – while deepening their own spirituality. Thousands across the globe have found a way to accomplish both these goals: Transmission Meditation.

Transmission is a simple, group meditation that provides both a dynamic service to the world and a powerful means of personal spiritual development. It was introduced in 1974 by a great spiritual teacher, a Master of Wisdom. A group of Masters are now emerging into the public arena to help us solve our most critical global problems.

AN INTRODUCTORY TALK AND MEDITATION
Saturday, June 9th @ 2:00 pm
Noe Valley Branch Library
451 Jersey Street
FREE ADMISSION
share-international-west.org • 510.841.3738

CLASS ADS

Furnished Noe Apartment: Parents coming to town? Renovating? Transferring to SF? Our fully furnished 2 bedroom flat in the heart of Noe is available for stays of 30+ days. \$4,350 / month (\$145 / night) all-inclusive with discount for longer stays. Email sf.noere.al@gmail.com or call 415-706-4867. Check my online listing for additional details and up-to-date availability at sabbaticalhomes.com/120222.

Housecleaning: First-class detailing. Serving Noe Valley since 1988. Excellent references. Sullivan, 415-285-7279.

Noe Valley Voice writer needs new home: High rents are squeezing me out, but I want to stay in the Noe Valley area with my gardener wife. Looking for a miracle, a two bedroom home, flat or apartment rental. Thank you! Tim 415-801-5220.

Over 15 Years Pet-Sit Experience: Cats and small animals. 13 years shelter background assisting with medical and behavior support. Dependable, responsible and caring. Noe Valley resident. Kathleen Marie 415-374-0813.

Creative Cleaning: House or apartment. Call Marlene Sherman 415-375-2980.

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.


Cleaning Professional: 28 years of experience. Apartments, homes, or offices, and buildings. Roger Miller, 415-794-4411.

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How to Place A Class Ad

Type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by 40¢ per word, and send us a check for the total. (A phone number, including area code, counts as one word.) Then mail your ad text and payment, made out to the Noe Valley Voice, so that we receive it by the 15th of the month before the month in which you'd like to advertise. The address is Noe Valley Voice Class Ads, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. (Sorry, we don't accept Class Ads by phone or email.)

10 for 10 discount: The Noe Valley Voice publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the same class ad in 10 issues, you 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 June 2018 issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of March. The deadline for Class Ads is May 15.

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

Only the first few words of the ad will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets are provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refunds are not granted unless we have made an error.

ON SALE ...at The Good Life Grocery

Milton's Gluten Free Crackers 4.5 oz -reg 3.79 **\$3.29**

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Annie's Homegrown Mac & Cheese 6 oz -reg 2.79 **2/\$4**

Justin's Peanut Butter Cups 1.4 oz -reg 2.29 **\$1.69**

Papalote Salsa 15.75 oz -reg 6.99 **\$5.99**

Sabor Mexicano Home Made Corn Chips 12 oz **\$5.49**

Harmless Harvest Raw Organic Coconut Water 16 oz -reg 5.99 **\$4.49**

Santa Cruz Organic Lemonades 32 oz -reg 3.29 **2/\$5**

Happy Mother's Day Sunday May 13th Make Mom Feel Special!

Store Hours: 7:00 am - 9:30 pm Every Day!

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The fun continued every Sunday rain or shine at Upper Noe Recreation Center for these enthusiastic Jose Coronado Indoor Soccer League players. With summer approaching, look forward to lively entertainment from baseball and basketball at the park. *Photo courtesy Chris Faust*

It’s Almost Summer

Want to learn how to shoot hoops? Upper Noe is hosting week-long basketball day camps (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) for kids 8 to 12 from June 11 to Aug. 10. Some sessions are still available. Register now.

Registration for other Summer Activities at the park—from Petite Bakers to Karate Kidz—begins Saturday, May 12, at 10 a.m. Check out the schedule below. Besides Zumba and Adult Boot Camp, you’ll find Argentine tango, qi gong, and three kinds of yoga classes—Vinyasa, Gentle Hatha, and Hatha Traditional.

To sign up for the rec center’s newsletter or get updates to the schedule of classes, visit www.noevalleyreccenter.com, call 415-970-8061, or just drop by the rec center office at 295 Day St., open Tuesday through Saturday year-round and on Mondays too during the summer session. Morning visitors should take note, however: the rec center does not permit congregating or loitering in the lobby during summer day camp hours.

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.noevalleyreccenter.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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Hot Lunch Daily * Volunteer Opportunities * Student Council * Yearbook * Speech Tournaments * Spanish * Music

VOLUNTEER NOW:

ELECTION MONTH in the CENTRAL VALLEY:

Daily SF Phone Banks; Weekly Saturday Canvassing; Voter Registration Trips

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The National Movement In Our Neighborhood

ADULTS / TEENS

eReader and Online Resource “Drop-In”: Bring your mobile device or laptop, your library card and PIN, and any passwords you might need to download apps, to a workshop on using the SFPL’s library catalog, Kanopy for streaming films, Flipster and RBDigital for magazines, OverDrive and Axis360 for eBooks, and Hoopla for movies, music, and audiobooks. Tuesday, May 1; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Craft Night: Paint a small ceramic piece using the same tools and materials available at Terra Mia Decorative Art Studio. Your artwork will then be glazed and fired, and it can be picked up a few days later. Space is limited; sign up by calling 415-355-5707 or asking at the info desk. Wednesday, May 2; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Noe Valley Knitting Circle: Learn to knit or crochet or work on your skills the first Saturday of every month. The library has supplies to practice on but bring your own yarn and needles or hooks if you have a special project in mind. Saturday, May 5; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The AAC Conversation Club explores Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) via smartphone and tablet applications, as well as devices like Dynavox, QuickTalker, Tobii Sono Flex, and Talk Bar. The meetings are co-sponsored by Support for Families of Children with Disabilities. For details, contact Kris Moser at krismoser@aol.com. Mondays, May 7, 14 & 21; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Discuss outstanding works of writing at the **Great Books Discussion Group**, led by the non-profit Great Books Council of San Francisco. For more information, contact Elena at eschmid@sonic.net. Wednesday, May 9; 6:15 to 8:15 p.m.

Friday Matinee: The library presents Guillermo del Toro’s R-rated *Crimson Peak* (2015), a film about a young woman lured by a stranger to a mansion inhabited by spirits. Friday, May 11; 2 to 4 p.m.

Films on Kanopy: Learn how you can watch films on Kanopy in this introductory session. All resources are free to holders of a San Francisco Public Library card. Saturday, May 12; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Noe Valley Book Discussion Group: The May selection is *Beastly Things* by mystery writer Donna Leon. Pick up a copy at the circulation desk before checkout. Wednesday, May 16; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Alzheimer’s Disease Education: A discussion about dementia includes tips to guide you in having difficult conversations about such things as going to the doctor, deciding when to stop driving, and making legal or financial plans. Tuesday, May 22; 1:30 to 3 p.m.

A Taste of SF State OLLI: Michael Fox, film critic, journalist, and SF State Osher Lifelong Learning Institute instructor, will screen two documentaries and lead a discussion demonstrating the style of a typical OLLI class. Tuesday, May 29; 1 to 3 p.m.

Qi Gong: Leslie Shimmin leads a course in qi gong, gentle movement that promotes energy and physical well-being by developing coordination, stability, and capacity. Wednesday, May 30; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.



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

MORE BOOKS TO READ

Stride Into Summer

Put on your jogging shoes. **Summer Stride**, the San Francisco Public Library’s summer reading program, begins mid-May and runs all summer long. Starting May 19, you can pick up a tracking guide at any branch to help you record your reading and win a SFPL tote bag featuring artwork by Shawn Harris, illustrator of the new Dave Eggers picture book *Her Right Foot*. All ages are eligible to receive the prize after completing 20 hours of reading, listening, learning, or library time. Turn in your record by Aug. 19. Rising 8th to 12th graders may apply to join the library’s **Summer Squad**, whose members help out the Summer Stride program. The Squad application period opens May 1. For information, visit sfpl.org/summerstride.

Fortunately, there are zillions of books to choose from. Below are the latest arrivals at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, provided by Children’s Librarian Catherine Starr and Branch Manager Denise Sanderson. You might like the tale of a mouse named Mona, a history of the Bowery in New York, or a book on how YouTube is changing the world.

To check on their availability, call 415-355-5707 or drop by the Noe Valley branch at 451 Jersey St. You can also visit the San Francisco Public Library online at www.sfpl.org. Remember: all San Francisco libraries will be closed on Monday, May 28, for **Memorial Day**.

Children’s Fiction

🐭 Blip has wonderful adventures when she disconnects from her computer in *Unplugged*, written and illustrated by Steve Antony. Ages 3 to 6.

🐭 Louis XIV of France tries to make himself taller in *King Louie’s Shoes*, written by D.J. Steinberg, illustrated by Robert Neubecker. Ages 3 to 8.

🐭 A city girl moves to the country in *On the Other Side of the Garden*, written by Jairo Buitrago, illustrated by Rafael Yockteng, and translated by Elisa Amado. Ages 4 to 7.

🐭 Harriet Muncaster’s series about a little girl who is half fairy and half vampire continues with *Isadora Moon Goes to School*. Ages 6 to 9.

🐭 Mona the Mouse finds a good place to live in *Heartwood Hotel: A True Home*, written by Kallie George, with illustrations by Stephanie Graegin. Ages 7 to 10.

🐭 A boy tries to figure out how to stay in the Music and Art Academy in *Jake the Fake Keeps It Real*, by Craig Robinson and Adam Mansbach; illustrated by cartoonist Keith Knight. Ages 8 to 12.

🐭 A New York subway rat goes on an adventure to find his little brother in *Raffie on the Run*, written by Jacqueline Resnick and illustrated by Joe Sutphin. Ages 8 to 12.

🐭 In the graphic novel *Castle in the Stars: The Space Race of 1869*, by Alex Alice, a woman disappears in a hot air balloon, and her husband and son go on a quest to find her. Ages 10 to 16.

Children’s Nonfiction

🐭 A girl becomes pen pals with a wisecracking lizard in *Dear Komodo Dragon*, written by Nancy Kelly Allen, illustrated by Laurie Allen Klein. Ages 4 to 8.

🐭 *Animalkind*, written and illustrated by Pablo Salvaje, explains the connections between human and animal life. Ages 5 to 9.

🐭 Mark Twain, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Beverly Cleary are represented in *Kid Authors: True Tales of Childhood From Famous Writers*, written by David

Stabler and illustrated by Doogie Horner. Ages 9 to 13.

🐭 Kris Waldherr tells the stories of more than 30 royal girls throughout history in *Bad Princess: True Tales From Behind the Tiara*. Ages 10 to 14.

Adult Fiction

🐭 An apparition haunts a high school English teacher in *The Night Child* by Anna Quinn.

🐭 In *All the Castles Burned* by Michael Nye, a manipulative friendship complicates the life of a young man.

🐭 Sam Wiebe’s latest Dave Wakeland mystery, *Cut You Down*, investigates the disappearance of a brilliant but troubled college student.

🐭 A female magician adept at card tricks gets involved in a dangerous con game in *Bluff* by Michael Kardos.

Adult Nonfiction

🐭 Kevin Allocca traces the rapid growth of video-sharing in *Videocracy: How YouTube Is Changing the World...With Double Rainbows, Singing Foxes, and Other Trends We Can’t Stop Watching*.

🐭 Charles C. Mann examines the views of Norman Borlaug and William Vaught in *The Wizard and the Prophet: Two Remarkable Scientists and Their Dueling Visions to Shape Tomorrow’s World*.

🐭 The strange history of New York City’s oldest street is recounted in *The Bowery* by Stephen Paul DeVillo.

🐭 In *The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America’s Enemies*, Jason Fagone tells the story of World War II cryptanalyst Elizebeth Smith Friedman.

eBooks

🐭 The changing role of media is considered in *Overload: Finding the Truth in Today’s Deluge of News* by journalist Bob Schieffer.

🐭 David Adam describes the latest brain research in *The Genius Within: Unlocking Your Brain’s Potential*.

🐭 Janet Fitch’s coming-of-age novel *The*

CHILDREN’S EVENTS

Miss Catherine leads **Toddler Tales**, featuring stories, singing, rhymes, and small movement for children ages 6 months through 2 years, with caregiver. Thursdays, May 3, 10, 17 & 24; 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Crosspulse Rhythm Duo: Local treasures Keith Terry and Evie Laden make music out of bells and banjos, boxes, bouncing balls and, most of all, their own bodies. For all ages. Wednesday, May 16; 4 to 5 p.m.

It’s Yoga, Kids is healthy fun for ages 5 and up sponsored by Friends of the SF Public Library. The class teaches yoga movement, meditation, and mindfulness. Please bring a towel or mat. Wednesday, May 23; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.



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

Revolution of Marina M is set during the Russian Revolution.

🐭 A young woman tries to flee her past in *My Name Is Venus Black*, by new author Heather Lloyd.

Streaming on Kanopy

🐭 The 2016 film *The Odyssey / L’Odyssée* is a biopic about the explorations of aquatic scientist Jacques-Yves Cousteau.

🐭 Anthony Perkins stars in Orson Welles’ 1962 thriller *The Trial*, based on the novel by Franz Kafka.

🐭 *A Swan Lake* (2014), a modern take on Tchaikovsky’s classic work, features the Norwegian National Ballet performing the choreography of Alexander Ekman.

🐭 The award-winning 1953 Japanese film *Ugetsu* is set during the civil wars of the 16th century.

Annotations by Voice bookworm
Karol Barske

BRANCH HOURS

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

The (Word) Origins
of Sanchez Street

By Michael Blake

P	E	E	P	S		S	T	O	P	A		Z	Z	Z
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S	A	M		R	E	Y	E	S		R	E	S	I	N

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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

May Maze

By Mazook

WHOS IN AND WHO'S OUT in Downtown Noe Valley is the subject of rumors galore. Stores are closing, many storefronts are vacant, and new faces are appearing along our commercial corridor.

At the top of everyone's list: What's happening at Real Food's? Last year, we happily reported that after almost 15 years vacant, the building at 3939 24th St.—and the Nutraceutical Corporation that owned it—had been acquired by an investment company co-owned by former 49ers quarterback Steve Young. He and partners had put it up for sale and were taking bids, which were to be considered after a Dec. 15 deadline.

Well, five months later, the place is still looking for a buyer.

The property has a land area of just over 5,800 square feet, and the commercial store sits on about 4,000 square feet, abutting the street.

The whole shebang is currently listed with Cushman & Wakefield. They described the location like so: "From Church Street three blocks west to Castro Street, 24th Street is lined on both sides with over 40 different retailers selling everything from baked goods and coffee, to high end restaurants, and many cool boutiques selling the latest in clothing and shoes. There is even a Whole Foods squeezed in across the street from the subject property.

"On a typical sunny day," they continued, "the sidewalks of this relatively flat three-block-long strip are heavily traversed by pedestrians of all ages, from young families window-shopping while pushing baby strollers, to neighborhood regulars having spirited discussions with each other at the outdoor cafes. 3939 24th Street is right at ground zero of this three-block retail strip on the shady south side of the street."

Prospective buyers are offered the admonition: "This property has been watched by the neighborhood for about 14 years since the parent company of Real Foods elected to close the store.... [P]rospective buyers are urged to study the zoning as well as the neighborhood needs and trends before submitting an offer."

Cushman's representative regarding the property, Tom Christian, appears to be too busy or unwilling to talk about the status of Downtown Noe Valley's oldest eyesore. Phone calls have been limited to seconds, and voicemails go unanswered. So, all seems to be status quo. Déjà vu all over again.



MOVIN' ON OUT: Store closings, meanwhile, are the trend in our quaint little village.

After 40 years in Noe Valley, Rabat clothing and shoe store at the corner of Noe and 24th will be leaving by the end of the summer.

The owner of the space on 24th near Chattanooga where Mill clothing store used to be is rumored to be asking around \$9,000 a month to rent that space.

Reportedly the owner of the building where See Jane Run was, on 24th near Sanchez, is leaving it vacant for seismic retrofitting required by City Hall. The same can be said for the space next to

Shufat Market last used by Cardio-Tone, and also for the long-vacant storefront near Church (3789 24th), where vintage clothing store Always and Forever once thrived.

As for the space just vacated by Pete's Cleaners, next to the Noe Valley Town Square, it appears to be ready for occupants, according to the owner's representative, real estate broker Mike Foor. He says the 1,265-square-foot space is available at the rate of \$4 per square foot, which translates to \$5,060 a month on a "triple-net lease." That means the tenant pays part of the owner's property taxes, insurance, and maintenance.

Foor says the space was listed at the end of April, about two weeks after he put up the "For Lease" sign in the front window, "and we got calls from all kinds of people but mostly from people who lived in the neighborhood, who just wanted to find out what was happening."

A "For Lease" sign was posted in the window of The Podolls boutique last month, signaling the clothing designers will be moving out of 3985 24th St. soon. The Podolls have closed their other retail store at 251 Primrose Road in Burlingame. The building owner's real estate broker, Mark Kaplan, says the Podolls (Josh and Lauren) are currently in negotiations with another Noe Valley retail merchant who is hoping to step into the current lease, and that the Podolls are looking for another location to move their store by summer. Stay tuned for updates since apparently there are, to quote one of the parties involved, "a lot of moving parts to this deal."



TO LET OR NOT TO LET: Down the block, real estate broker Terry Trevino also reports that the offices that were recently vacated by Opes Mortgage Advisors and Climb Real Estate (3961 24th) have become the temporary executive offices of Compass Real Estate. Trevino says Compass will be there for around six months while their new corporate offices are being completed in Eureka Valley (Upper Market near Dolores). The building currently has an earthquake warning sign posted by the city, declaring it to be "unsafe." That means it will no doubt have to undergo a seismic upgrade, although a permit has not yet been applied for.

The latest rumor about the fate of the space vacated last year by La PanotiQ, at 4018 24th, is that it will become a restaurant featuring Mediterranean cuisine. The new culinary experience is being created by Samir Salameh, who has been living upstairs for the past 10 years. "We are going through the conditional-use process right now, so it's hard to say when we will open," says Samir. Look for an update next month.

Finally, we come to Hamlet, the bar on the corner of Church and 24th, which officially closed last month. According to the building's owner, the Japanese restaurant that had been interested in the space has now decided not to go forward. So the bar will remain closed indefinitely.



C'EST LE JAZZ: An "Under New Management" sign was pasted on the awning of the French bistro Chez Marius (4063 24th) in mid-April, signaling a changing of regimes. The new owners are Alfredo Gonzalez and his sister, Sandra Gonzalez, who will be the restaurant's chef. The menu will not change. Hours will be expanded. And yes, there will still be live jazz music there on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

As many of you know, when Glen Park's Le P'tit Laurent's very popular French restaurateur, Laurent Legendre, took over the space left by Le Zinc last

year, there were great expectations. However, it appears that Legendre found it very difficult running two restaurants, and recently had put Chez Marius on the market for sale, so he could refocus on operations at his Glen Park location.

The Gonzalez families recently moved to San Francisco from Old Kensington, a suburb of Silver Spring, Maryland, after working there in the restaurant business for 15 years.

"We wanted to move to San Francisco and open up a restaurant with French cuisine, and we learned that this restaurant was for sale, so we decided to buy it and make the move," says Alfredo. "We have not changed the menu, and continue to have daily 'neighborhood specials' with a fixed price."

New is their "Early Bird Special" Tuesday through Thursday from 5 to 6:30 p.m., which will be posted on the blackboard at the entrance. They will also add Sunday dinners from 5 to 8 p.m. to the schedule.

The jazz nights (6 to 9 p.m.), by the way, are a real treat for live-music-starved Noe Valleons and are well attended. During the last week of April, neighborhood favorite James Byfield and Blind Lemon Pledge were setting up for their three-set gig. And world-class violinist Cal Keaoola was on his way to play with the ensemble. You might also have seen them on a Saturday morning at the Farmers Market. Set for Thursday night is jazz and blues vocalist Emily Hayes.



ON THE BANKS OF NOE: First Republic Bank will be opening its doors on the corner of Castro and Elizabeth on May 14, according to the new location's manager, Renzo Lujan, who is currently at the Laurel Village branch. "We are so happy to be opening this branch since we have

so many clients in Noe Valley and Glen Park," he says. "Many of them come over to our Laurel branch, and have kept asking us when we will be open."

While it is a "cold opening" (no fanfare except the usual cookies and coffee), many folks may see a dessert truck parked in front on an upcoming sunny day. Oh, by the way, their new commercial telephone number will not have a 415 prefix but rather one of the new commercial prefix numbers. It's 1-628-208-8100.

The Noe Valley branch of Umpqua Bank, at 3938 24th, has generated a lot of shredded paper this spring after inviting anyone and everyone in the neighborhood to bring in papers they wanted the bank to shred, and offering the service for free.

"We have had three 'shred-ins'—one at the end of March," said bank manager Tony Roldan, "and then from April 3rd to the 5th and the 20th and 21st. I would say we were averaging about 50 people per day with some or many filled boxes for shredding, so we were very happy to provide the neighborhood this service."

Their next event will be on Saturday, May 19, from noon to 2 p.m., and will include an "ice cream happy hour."

You also might want to visit Umpqua for another reason. The bank features various local businesses and artists who create displays of their products as a centerpiece at the entrance. Currently featured, through June, are the earring designs of local artist Lilli Lanier. She has lived on 23rd Street for all 36 years of her life and is a granddaughter of another longtime 23rd Street resident, the world-renowned artist, teacher, and arts activist Ruth Asawa. Looks like Lilli is a chip off the old block, as it were.

"Yes, I have had a lot of very positive responses for my earring display at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



photo: Amanda Brauning

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Action SF—The National Movement in Your Neighborhood Website: www.facebook.com/actionsfsolidarity Email: actionsfsolidarity@gmail.com Meetings: Second Sunday, 3 p.m., at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St.

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

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

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

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

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA) Contacts: Deanna Mooney, 821-4045; Diane McCarney, 824-0303; or Sally Chew, 821-6235 Address: 560 Duncan St., SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Call for details.

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

Fairmount Heights Association Contact: Kathy Keller, 912-9365 Email: Kathy.Keller44@gmail.com <http://fairmount-heights.org> Meetings: Monthly social mixer and discussion, 350 Amber Drive

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

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

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

Friends of Glen Canyon Park Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862, or Jean Connor, 584-8576 Address: 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA 94131 Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of Noe Courts Playground Contact: Laura Norman Email: lauranor@yahoo.com Address: P.O. Box 460953, SF, CA 94146 Meetings: Email for dates and times.

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

Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center (Upper Noe Rec Center) Contact: Chris Faust Email: info@noevalleyreccenter.com Website: www.noevalleyreccenter.com Meetings: Email or check website.

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

Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUND OG) Contacts: Chris Faust, David Emanuel Email: info@fundogsf.org Website: www.fundogsf.org

Glen Park Association Contact: info@glenparkassociation.org Website: glenparkassociation.org Address: P.O. Box 31292, SF, CA 94131

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

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association Contact: Dr. Lisa Fromer, president Email: efromer3@gmail.com Meetings: Quarterly. Email for details.

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

Noe Neighborhood Council Contact: Ozzie Rohm or Matt McCabe, Co-founders Email: info@noeneighborhoodcouncil.com Website: www.noeneighborhoodcouncil.com Meetings: Quarterly at Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., with date publicized on website and Nextdoor.com.

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

Noe Valley Democratic Club Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042; hls5@ibew1245.com Website: noevalleydems.com Meetings: Fourth Tuesdays, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 6:30 p.m.

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

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA) Contact: Rachel Swann, 225-7743 Meetings: Last Thursdays, Old Republic, 4045A 24th St., 9 a.m. Call to confirm. Website: www.NoevalleyMerchants.com

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

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

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

Progress Noe Valley Facebook: facebook.com/ProgressNoeValley Email: progressnoe@gmail.com Website: progressnoe.com Meetings: Check Facebook page for current meeting and event schedule.

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


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

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

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

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

*All phone numbers are in the 415 area code.






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RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

Umpqua,” says Lanier, “but I was delighted to have that opportunity to show my works, and have been contacted by a lot of people who saw [my work at the bank], which was somewhat surprising.”

“The materials I used to make the earrings are wood, origami, and paint,” she says. The prices are in the modest \$50 to \$100 range. You go, girl. Have a look at her website, lillilanier.com.



IN THE GENTRIFICATION DEPARTMENT: New to 24th Street are the just completed residential condos called “noe” at 4171 Diamond St., with five residential units and one (ground-floor) commercial space. There are some two-bedroom, two-bath residences (one with one bath) and one with three bedrooms and two baths.

Two of the units are full-floor flats with decks and a private elevator. Keller Williams is the real estate broker. The commercial unit will first be used as an office by the selling agents, and then offered for rent. Nothing was offered by way of asking prices, and it’s your guess what the selling prices will be.

On the crime beat, there was an interesting item posted on Nextdoor last month: an attempted stroller theft. The stroller was parked in front of Charlie’s Corner at 24th at Castro where “a woman clasping a baby chased [the wannabe thief] and shouted that he had taken a stroller, [whereupon]...he violently pushed the stroller down [the sidewalk

and ran off] and it was retrieved by the determined mom who gave chase.” Go, mom.

In the Whole Foods department, many of us were very disappointed to find that among those items which are fading from the shelves are the 365 Brand 1.75-quart tubs of both butter pecan and coffee ice cream. At \$5.99 it was a true bargain, especially when compared to the various ice creams offered at almost 10 bucks a pint.

According to the store’s management team, the two flavors have been discontinued at this store, although they are available at some other Whole Foods. Because of the limited shelf space in the Noe Valley store, says store co-manager Melanie Holt, items that are not selling well are discontinued and replaced with items that do sell well. Kind of a survival of the fittest. She says that if you see a green label on any item, which they call “reset,” that means it is your last chance to buy that item in this store. Apparently, butter pecan and coffee are not very popular in the neighborhood, since I couldn’t even find those flavors in the high-priced pints.

THAT 30, FOLKS. It was nice to see the return of the little yellow rubber ducks to Noe Valley. Hundreds of them appeared in front of Alvarado School on the morning of April 1, with a message that on the world scene either means peace or protest against global oligarchs.

The flock had not visited Noe Valley since last June, when they were lined up on the stairs of the 22nd Street hill just above Church (as reported in Rumors last July).

See ya for the June swoon. Ciao for now.



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