



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



The throngs who visited the first Noe Valley Night Market at the Town Square on Oct. 29 sampled tacos from Casa Mexicana and pumpkin donuts from Mr. Digby's while relaxing to live music under the stars. The next market is set for Tuesday, Nov. 26, 4 to 9 p.m. Photo by Art Bodner

## Pumpkins and Politics Cross Paths at Noe Courts

Still, Scott Wiener Carves Out a Fun Day for Families

By Matthew S. Bajko

Scampering about the pumpkin field set up in Noe Courts Park on the last Saturday of October was Eli Chandler with his mom, Katya Korepanova. The 2-year-old was dressed like a circus strongman, with a mustache penciled above his mouth.

"It is a great way to connect with the community and spend time with people," said Korepanova, who was joined by her husband, Matthew Chandler, at the Halloween-themed gathering.

For Korepanova, it was her first time carving a pumpkin. Growing up in Izhevsk, Russia, she didn't celebrate Halloween and had never heard of trick-or-treating until coming to America for college.

"We are going to do a classic pumpkin with a smiling face," she said.

Chandler noted it was also their son's first experience pumpkin-carving.

"It's just a great thing to bring the community together," he said. "Plus, it is a free event and a safe, fun place for kids to be themselves."

The event is the 11th annual Pumpkin Carving and Legislative Update, a contest hosted by state Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) in the small park at 24th and Douglass streets. Each year, Wiener invites a panel of local drag queens to judge the gourds and declare a winner.

"People love that drag queens are the

judges," said Wiener, a gay man who lives a few blocks away in the Castro District. To Wiener it's clear why. "Because drag queens are very good at judging."

He started the event in 2014, when he was a city supervisor, and held it that fall in the former parking lot that became the Noe Valley Town Square on 24th Street. It has since become one of his favorite events of the year.

"It is just a really fun, festive time," said Wiener, who didn't carve pump-

kins as a child growing up in New Jersey.

Wiener spends a few hundred dollars on the event, which drew about 300 people over a three-hour span on Saturday, Oct. 26.

As part of the program, Wiener discusses his legislative achievements of the year.

He also provides free pizza for attendees, from Escape from New York

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## A String of Events To Put You in the Holiday Spirit

From Night Markets and Crafts Fairs to a Tree Lighting and Chanukah Wonderland

By Corrie M. Anders

Okay, Noe Valley, get ready for two months of holiday pageantry

There will be enough fun things to see and do in the neighborhood during November and December that even Ebenezer Scrooge could work up a smile.

The events, all of them kid friendly and free, range from night markets and holiday window contests to a Baltic fair and the lighting of a Christmas tree and the menorah at Chanukah Wonderland. And, of course, the streets will be filled with the sounds of music from jazz to tuba-playing to yuletide caroling.

Most of the fun will occur along 24th Street, especially at the Noe Valley Town Square.

The merrymaking gets under way Sunday, Nov. 17, with Friendsgiving, an event designed to bring people of all ages together. It runs from 1 to 3 p.m. at the square, 3861 24th St., between Sanchez and Vicksburg.

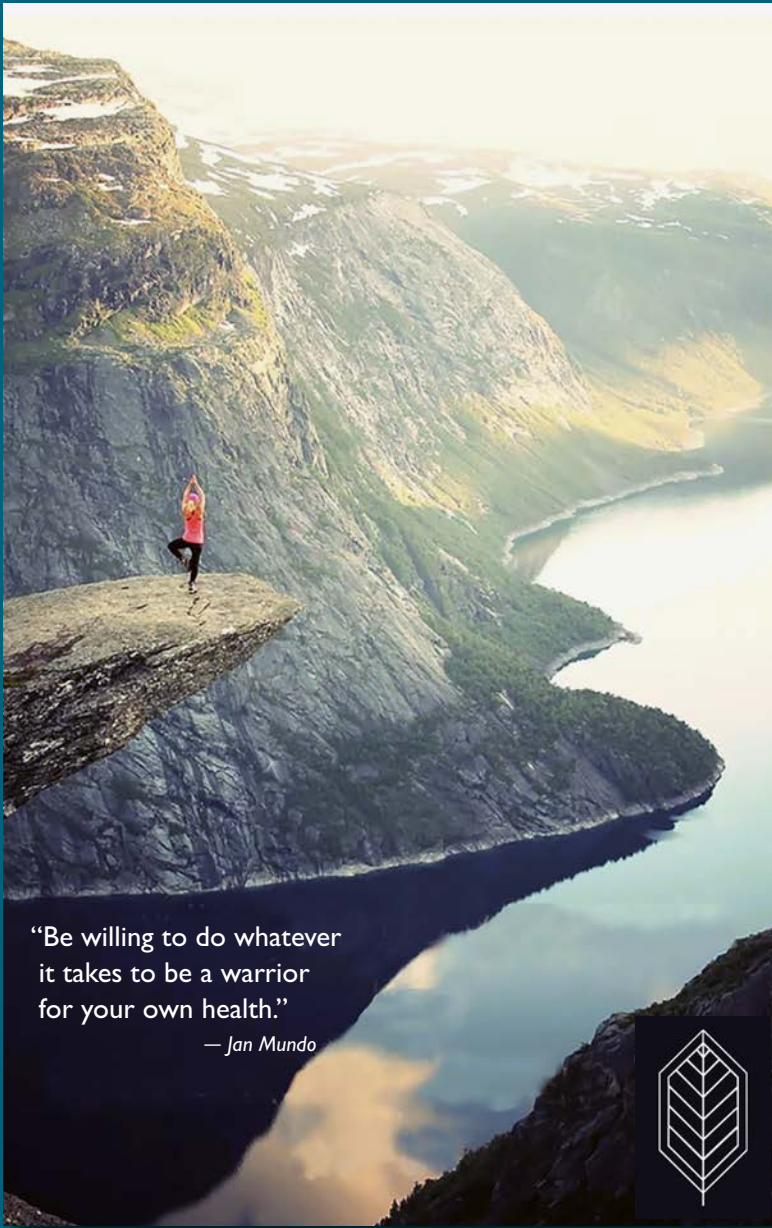
Neighbors can mingle over pie and apple cider. In the manner of speed-dating, attendees can "speed-meet," going from table to table to introduce

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



Despite interruptions from protesters, state Senator Scott Wiener happily hands the Most Creative Pumpkin award to Morgan Ly-Howard at the 11th annual pumpkin-carving event held in Noe Courts Park on 24th Street. Photo by Art Bodner





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LETTERS  
66 CENTS

Single-Family Giants Not Helping  
Editor:

Thank you for your coverage of our District 8 town hall in the October issue of the *Noe Valley Voice*. Your in-depth article about Mayor London Breed’s upzoning proposal that was the topic of this town hall was balanced and informative, as it covered the issues from both sides, which is hardly seen in other major media and news outlets in our city.

I’m also glad that you featured the comments and concerns of the couple who’d been renting in Noe Valley since 2021. While we don’t agree with their point of view, it’s important for us to see their reaction after attending the town hall because maybe we should have done a better job showing how single-family homes in our neighborhood can already be converted to four- and six-unit apartment buildings, even within the current height and mass zoning regulations.

Per the San Francisco Planning Department’s own data published in San Francisco Neighborhoods Socio-Economic Profiles 2012-2016, 37 percent of all structures in Noe Valley are single-family homes.

I doubt that this figure has changed much since 2016, given that the vast majority of construction projects in Noe Valley have not produced multi-family apartment buildings. Instead, we’ve mostly seen the replacement of modest single-family homes with giant versions plus tiny ADUs (accessory dwelling units), which don’t even come up for sale or rent.

The fact is that the great majority of structures along our commercial corri-

dors are not single-family homes whose conversion to multi-unit apartment buildings will produce more dwellings. Next time when you walk on 24th Street or Church Street between 30th and 21st streets, see how many single-family homes you’ll encounter. For the most part, you’ll find apartment buildings and shops whose residents and small business owners will face the risk of displacement from the upzoning proposal.

A better policy would be to force developers to use our current zoning capacity of four and six units on every single-family lot to produce the missing middle, instead of allowing them to replace one single-family home with a giant version of the same thing.

Ozzie Rohm

Upzoning Is a Tool We Can  
Live With

Editor:

We’re writing in response to the article “Upzoning Plan Splinters Support for New Construction” in the October 2024 issue. We strongly believe that we need new housing at all income levels across the city, and Noe Valley is no exception. New housing, and new neighbors, will increase the vibrancy of our community and ultimately benefit us all.

Opponents of the city’s proposed upzoning have focused on supposed negative impacts that are unsupported by facts. Meanwhile, we have a real, state-mandated need for housing.

Renderings from Neighborhoods United SF, such as the one featured in the article, present a dystopian vision of a city blotted out by massive featureless squares and bear no relation to what development might actually look like. These images are simply a scare tactic weaponized by those who seek to stop new homes from being built at all.

It is true that new housing would

bring some changes to the neighborhood—there would be some new buildings, new people, and, maybe, some new energy. In the pages of the *Voice*, Noe residents have expressed concerns around ridership on the J-Church, empty storefronts, and even the survival of a bookstore on 24th Street. None of these issues are unrelated to housing. Having more housing and therefore residents in Noe would boost the use of our public transportation, increase foot traffic along our commercial corridors, and support our local businesses. Our community would only stand to benefit from more neighbors!

We reject the false dichotomy we hear echoed by obstructionists between “affordable” on the one hand and “luxury” on the other. What about the people who don’t qualify for affordable housing but are far from wealthy? Is someone making \$125,000 per year unworthy of housing? (This is the base salary for a human resources analyst, as an example.)

Living in San Francisco has become cost-prohibitive for many people, pushing them into the suburbs with long daily commutes. The housing shortage is at the center of this. While new development would bring changes to the neighborhood, we believe that these would be changes for the better.

Carrie Barnes and Sam Maslin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

CRIME SNAPSHOT DATA

Noe Valley Incident Reports September 2023 – September 2024

Incident Type	Sep23	Oct23	Nov23	Dec23	YR2023	Jan24	Feb24	Mar24	Apr24	May24	Jun24	July24	Aug24	Sep24
Larceny/Theft	26	34	39	24	334	32	31	42	42	49	32	49	36	46
Burglary	23	21	20	5	187	19	19	16	14	13	33	39	21	16
Malicious Mischief	8	11	11	7	105	3	8	11	6	9	7	5	8	8
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	11	12	12	173	8	11	11	5	15	8	12	10	10
Assault	2	1	5	7	49	3	4	4	3	5	4	3	3	2
Robbery	1	3	2	2	22	2	1	1	0	1	1	2	3	2
Other Misc.	3	3	7	11	53	3	5	5	6	20	19	7	8	6
Fraud	6	2	5	1	37	4	4	3	4	3	4	0	5	1
Family D.Violence	1	0	1	0	7	3	0	3	0	4	0	0	3	1
Vandalism	0	0	0	2	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Totals	85	86	102	71	976	78	83	96	80	119	108	119	98	92

**Source:** Dataset titled “Map of Police Department Incident Reports: 2018 to Present” at <https://data.sfgov.org/Public-Safety/Police-Department-Incident-Reports-2018-to-Present/wg3w-h783/>. This set includes police incident reports filed by officers and by individuals through self-service online reporting for non-emergency cases. **Disclaimer:** The San Francisco Police Department does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or correct sequencing of the information, as the data is subject to change as modifications or updates are completed. The *Noe Valley Voice* scraped the June, July, and August 2024 data on **Oct. 21, 2024**. “Noe Valley” on the SFPD’s digital map is bounded by 21st Street, San Jose Avenue/Guerrero Street, 30th Street, and Grand View Avenue/Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Noe Valley Voice, November 2024

CRIME  
SNAPSHOT

Petty Thefts Mount

Lawbreaking declined for the second consecutive month in Noe Valley. However, merchants were still plagued by a rash of shoplifting thefts in September.

According to data from the San Francisco Police Department’s digital map of incident reports, there were 92 instances of illegal activity in the 10 categories the *Voice* tracks monthly. That number was down from 98 complaints in August and 119 in July.

Still, incidents classified as larceny-theft rose from 36 in August to 46 in September. About a third of those (14) were shoplifting incidents at businesses on Castro Street near Jersey. Eight more were smash-and-grabs from vehicles. The rest were things like package thefts and stolen license plates.

Police also recorded 16 burglaries at residential and “other” buildings, including five break-ins at or near the Castro/Jersey intersection.

There also were two strong-arm robberies and two reported assaults during the month.

Meanwhile, two trucks, one motorcycle, and eight cars were stolen. One vehicle had been recovered by September’s end.

You can view these and other neighborhoods’ statistics at [Data.sfgov.org](https://Data.sfgov.org). We scraped the September 2024 data from the digital map for “Noe Valley” on Oct. 21, 2024.

—Corrie M. Anders and Sally Smith

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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

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Email: [Editor@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:Editor@noevalleyvoice.com)  
or [Sally@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:Sally@noevalleyvoice.com)

Website: [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)

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CO-PUBLISHERS/EDITORS  
Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND EDITORS  
Corrie M. Anders, Associate Editor  
Heidi Anderson, Matthew S. Bajko, Owen Baker-Flynn, Karol Barske, Michael Blake, Jan Brittonson, Kit Cameron, Chris Faust, Michael Feliciano, John Ferrannini, Matt Fisher, Jan Goben, Kathryn Guta, Emily Hayes, Suzanne Herel, Liz Highleyman, Jeff Kaliss, Doug Konecky, Elliot Poger, Roger Rubin, Tom Ruiz, Karen Topakian, Megan Wetherall

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

ACCOUNTING  
Jennifer O. Viereck

PRODUCTION  
Jack Tipple, André Thélémaque

DISTRIBUTION  
Jack Tipple

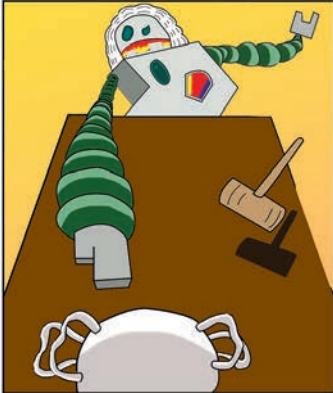
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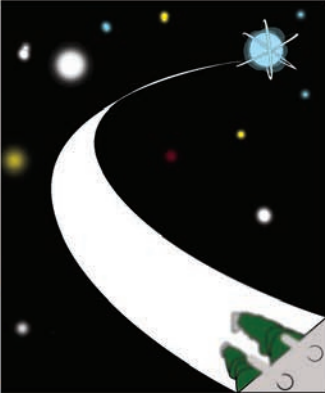
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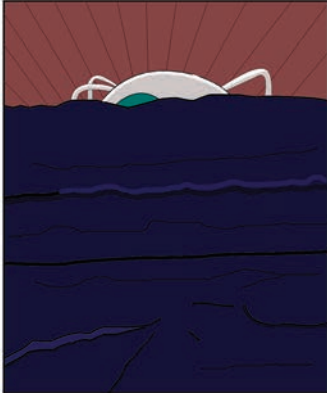
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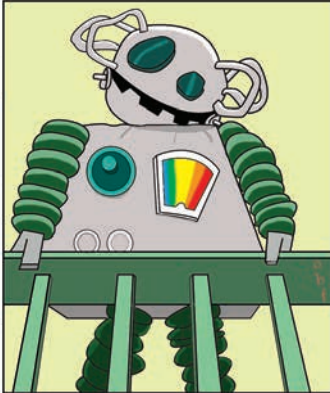
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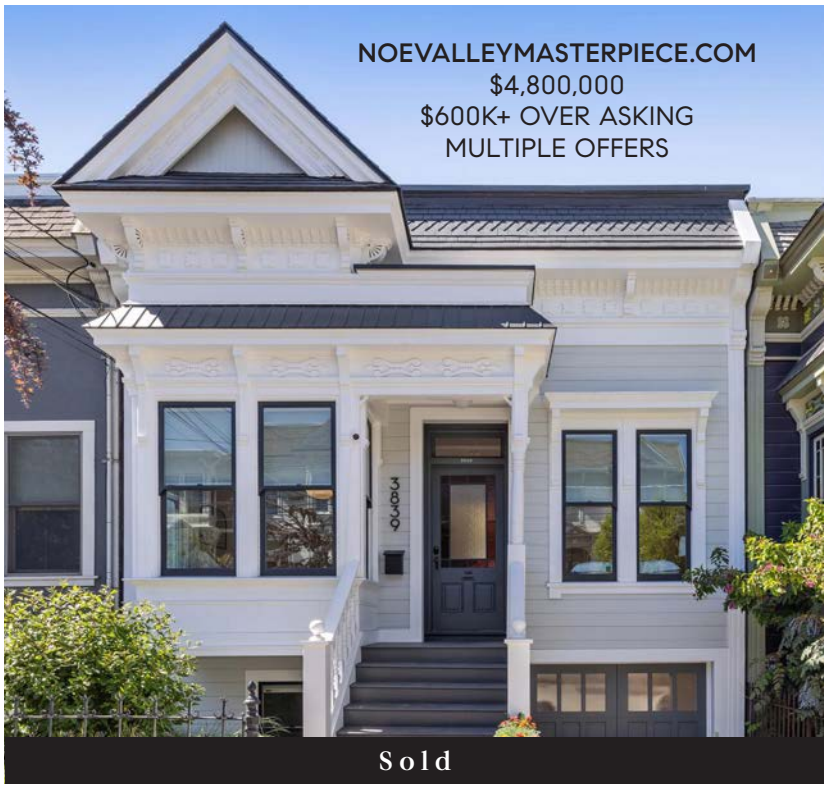


"Meh, 26th Street aint so bad for obsoiving, 'spechelly since it became a slow street.

And now you know.....the rest...of the story!



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# Wiener Comes Through the Pumpkin Patch

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Pizza in the Castro. People are welcome to pick out one of the 200 pumpkins already cut around their stems and cleaned of their seedy insides that dot the grass lawn.

“I just decided I wanted to do an annual community event that we did every year, and I thought about it, and it just came to me. It seemed like a great idea,” Wiener said when asked about pairing politics with pumpkins. “People come because of the pumpkins and drag queens. We get to talk about some of the work we are doing.”

## A Protest March

His enjoyment of the day has not diminished even as the get-togethers have drawn protesters.

This year saw a group of about 100 people supportive of Palestine march up 24th Street and block the roadway in front of the public greenspace as they chanted for about 40 minutes.

They alternated between various chants, from “Wiener, how many kids have you killed today?” to “F--k Israel, Free Palestine.”

Their ire was directed at Wiener, a co-chair of the California Legislature’s affinity group for Jewish lawmakers, and his support of Israel following the Hamas terrorist attack on Oct. 7, 2023, which killed 1,200 people and took several hundred more hostage. A flyer the protesters handed out argued Wiener was “using his role as a U.S. politician to ensure the deaths of kids who could be carving pumpkins.”

Wiener told the *Voice* he had called for a ceasefire to the war and wanted to see both Palestine and Israel be successful and prosperous. But he said his idea of a peaceful resolution was one where Israel would not continue to be attacked by its enemies.

“I want to see Israel and a Palestinian state living side by side in peace. But calling for the violent destruction of Israel is an issue for me,” Wiener said.

Elay Cohen, a Noe Valley resident of 17 years who had come to the park with his dog, engaged with several of the protesters and asked why they were targeting a “kids’ event.” He said he found their behavior and rhetoric “very disappointing.”

## Dinosaurs Also Attend

Once that group of protesters departed, a group of women who oppose transgender youth receiving gender-affirming care showed up. They have been protesting Wiener’s pumpkin carving three years in a row.

About a dozen came this year dressed in dinosaur outfits and holding



State Senator Scott Wiener (left) joins guest judges BeBe Sweetbriar and D’Arcy Drollinger in reviewing the kids’ pumpkin creations on the Noe Courts terraces. Photo by Art Bodner

signs that read, “Democrats Against Puberty Blockers” and “Stop Telling Gay Girls They’re Trans Boys.”

Protect Kids California Director Erin Friday, an attorney from Palo Alto, said the group also objected to having drag queens at an event that drew a lot of children. She contended drag queens should only be seen by adults.

“Because having drag queens be around children is grooming,” said Friday, who is a co-lead of the advocacy group Our Duty USA. “Children are born perfect and should not be confused about their sex, ever.”

Asked why the group routinely showed up at the event hosted by Wiener, Friday said it was because Wiener and his staff had refused to meet at his legislative office. “He is my nemesis,” she said.

Unlike the Palestine supporters, who remained on the street, Friday and her counterparts paraded through the park and attempted to speak to Wiener directly.

He dodged their interruptions, with several of his staffers keeping the women away from him. San Francisco police officers were also on hand to provide security.

“It is gross, to be honest,” Wiener said of their message.

## Kids Just Want to Have Fun

Ironically, Jennifer Wang’s seeing the dinosaur-costumed protesters tipped her off that the pumpkin-carving was happening. She had attended last year with her son, Wyatt, now 9, but hadn’t seen the invite for this year’s event. At lunch with a friend who wanted to bring his toddler to the playground, they ended up enjoying Wiener’s event.

“I guess we like the free pumpkins,” Wang joked. “We also like Halloween. It is nice to see people come together for some fun and to be able to talk to people at the carving tables.”



There were two sets of protesters at Scott Wiener’s Oct. 26 pumpkin-carving contest in Noe Courts Park, including a group wearing dinosaur costumes. Photo by Art Bodner

absolutely love your look! It is amazing,” as one young girl told her, doesn’t hurt.

“It makes me want to dress like this every day,” joked Sweetbriar.

She is nonplussed by the political aspect to the event and doesn’t see it as dissuading family participation.

“There is a little political atmosphere around it. But kids are not too young to be active participants in politics,” said Sweetbriar.

D’Arcy Drollinger, the city’s drag laureate, returned for her fourth year in a row as a judge. She told the *Voice* she found it “really sort of sad” that the event had become the target of the anti-trans protesters.

“It isn’t actually going to change anything,” said Drollinger, who owns the LGBTQ nightclub and drag venue Oasis in South of Market. “Actually working with legislators changes things.”

As for the Palestinian protesters, Drollinger said she agrees that the U.S. should stop providing funds to Israel to pay for its bombing of Gaza. But she added a federal policy change like that wouldn’t be brought about by protesting a local pumpkin-carving contest for families.

“Parents and children are coming here because this is where they want to bring their children. I hope I can inspire them to grow up to be their authentic selves,” said Drollinger.

## Picking a Winner

So what does she look for in choosing among the carved pumpkin entries?

“I am a real fan of a classic jack-o-lantern,” said Drollinger. “I am a purist.”

She said she also had been awed by some modern designs. She recalled one carver who had depicted a city skyline on their pumpkin.

“I vote for those too,” she said.

Sweetbriar recalled being amazed one year by a carver who had depicted the city’s lack of housing on their pumpkin.

“Let your creativity flow,” Sweetbriar said. That’s her advice to those who want to win the carving contest. “Think outside the box than your typical jack-o-lantern. Those are usually the ones that catch our eyes.”

And should Wiener one day be elected to Congress—he is already laying the groundwork to run for the House seat held by Speaker Emeritus Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco)—that is, when she decides to retire—he plans to keep the pumpkin carvings on his official calendar.

“I would love for this to continue and be a long-term regular event for the community,” said Wiener. ■

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SAT NOV 9	FRANCO FUBINI • IN SEARCH OF THE PERFECT PEACH.... WHY FLAVOUR HOLDS THE ANSWER TO FIXING OUR FOOD SYSTEM • 3:00 P.M. FREE!
TUES NOV 12	OFFSITE EVENT! MICHAEL SOLOMONOV & STEVEN COOK • ZAHAV HOME: COOKING FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY • 7:00 P.M. AT THE JCCSF • TIX: <a href="https://jccsf.org">JCCSF.ORG</a>
WED NOV 13	JUSTINE DOIRON WITH LIZ MOODY • JUSTINE COOKS: RECIPES (MOSTLY PLANTS) FOR FINDING YOUR WAY IN THE KITCHEN • 5:00 P.M. FREE!
THURS NOV 14	NICOLA LAMB • SIFT: THE ELEMENTS OF GREAT BAKING • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
SAT NOV 16	PASCALE BEALE WITH DIANNE JACOB • FLAVOUR, SAVOURING THE SEASONS: RECIPES FROM THE MARKET TABLE • 3:00 P.M. FREE!
SUN NOV 17	CLARICE LAM WITH FLORA TSAPOVSKY • BREAKING BAO: 88 BAKES AND SNACKS FROM ASIA AND BEYOND • 3:00 P.M. FREE!
WED NOV 20	OFFSITE EVENT! MATTY MATHESON • SOUPS, SALADS, SANDWICHES • 7:30 P.M. HOSTED BY CITY ARTS & LECTURES • TIX: <a href="https://cityarts.net">CITYARTS.NET</a>
THURS NOV 21	CHRISTINA TOSI WITH LIZ PRUEITT • BAKE CLUB: 101 MUST-HAVE MOVES FOR YOUR KITCHEN • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
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# Noe Valley Gets Into The Holiday Spirit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

themselves. Guests can also write a note of thanks to someone special, to be displayed at the square on a bulletin board, or they can pen an overdue thank-you card to a relative or friend.

“I’ll put a stamp on and mail it myself,” said 24th Street resident Leslie Crawford, who coordinates the Town Square events.

Friendsgiving also will include people from organizations that residents may have heard or read about but never met in person. They include staff from the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, the On Lok Senior Center on 30th Street, and Noe Walks, which offers weekly walks around the neighborhood. “All of this is about connection and community and extending friendship in as fun a way as possible,” Crawford said.

## Night Market in November

On Tuesday, Nov. 26, the Town Square will be the setting for the Noe Valley Night Market, an evening of music, entertainment, food, and seasonal gifts to buy from local vendors and artisans.

“We could have upwards of a thousand” people coming to the event, which will run from 4 to 9 p.m., said Rachel Swann, co-president of the sponsoring Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.

Gift browsers or those sitting down to share tacos from restaurants like Casa Mexicana and Mr. Digby’s can listen to jazz artist Lambert Moss croon tunes on the square’s main stage. They also might want to dress up in holiday costumes. Prizes, which include gift cards and dinners out in Noe Valley, will be given in three costume categories.

The Night Market launched Oct. 29 with a test run. Swann said the merchants plan to continue the event on last Tuesdays (except in December), and if all goes well, the happening could be expanded “to go full on” beyond the square to closed-off streets.

## Elves to Decorate Windows

One of the holiday season’s most popular events—the annual Christmas Tree Lighting—will take place in the Town Square on Sunday, Dec. 1, from



Santa plans to make a visit to this year’s Baltic Christmas Fair at the Latvian Lutheran Church Hall on Hoffman Avenue Saturday, Dec. 7. 2023 Photo courtesy SF Baltic Christmas Fair

5 to 7 p.m. Hundreds of revelers are expected to make a joyful noise when lights start twinkling on a 25-foot artificial tree.

Tree watchers can sip hot chocolate donated by Martha & Bros. Coffee and nibble on cookies from Noe Valley Bakery. An added attraction will be singing and caroling provided by the Loosies, an all-female a cappella group (also known as the Loose Interpretations). There will be face painting for children and a juggling and acrobatics act by ABC Circus.

Meanwhile, starting in late November and picking up steam in early December, merchants will compete to see who can best dress up their businesses with colorful window displays or lights.

The Noel Valley Holiday Windows Contest is an invitation to all to come shop in the neighborhood, said Dave Karraker, a merchants association volunteer and co-owner of MX3 Fitness on 24th Street. “And it is our chance to show everyone in San Francisco that Noe Valley has the holiday spirit.”

Karraker said the association will be handing out prizes for the funniest window, the most elaborate window, and the most San Francisco-themed window. Businesses that decorate their parklets also are eligible to win gift certificate rewards in the contest.

Any proprietor or business can participate—they don’t have to be a member of the merchants group. The competition kicks off Dec. 4, with judging on Dec. 17 and winners announced the next day.

## The Fair at Latvian Hall

Not to be missed is the holiday market at the San Francisco Baltic Christmas Fair. It will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Latvian Lutheran Church (“Latvian Hall” to old-timers), 425 Hoffman Ave., between 24th and 25th streets.

The event, which attracted 500 people last year, is a celebration of Latvian, Estonian, and Lithuanian crafts, food, gifts, and music by singers universally known for their beautiful voices.

Santa Claus will be on hand to greet visitors. And each guest will get a raffle ticket for the chance to win vendor-donated items.

Co-organizer Sylvia Vientulis, who is of Latvian descent, said the fair will feature work by dozens of artisans. Festival guests can shop for “traditional Baltic things like jewelry, linen, woven things, handmade ceramics, ornaments, and prints.”

Visitors also can sample Baltic foods, from sausage and potato dishes to Latvian piragi (bacon buns), sweets, and preserves, and cookies and breads.

“I’m going to make a Latvian celebratory bread called klingeris,” said Vientulis, a pretzel-like treat that is slightly sweet with golden raisins and covered in sliced almonds.

Vientulis notes the fair is now in its 10th year. It’s “a great way to invite people from outside of those Baltic communities to become familiar with a unique set of cultures,” Vientulis said.

## Tubas and Other Wonders

If you are ready for some unique

music, then the Town Square is the place to be on Sunday, Dec. 15. The occasion is Tuba Christmas, returning to the Town Square for a second year to give a concert of brassy Christmas carols.

Organizer and conductor Lori Karns said the 3 p.m. concert will bring together some 50 tuba and euphonium players, ranging from middle and high school enthusiasts to professionals and retirees.

The playlist will be spontaneous. “We get together the morning of the concert and do a quick rehearsal,” Karns said.

The local Tuba Christmas event is one of hundreds that will take place around the country. In case you’re wondering about the connection between tubas and Christmas, it’s a decades-old story. Harvey Phillips, a tuba player, founded the event in 1974 to honor his teacher, William Bell, who was born on Christmas Day in 1902.

Lastly, December wouldn’t be December without 24 Holidays on 24th Street. Look for news of daily events to bring holiday cheer (and maybe another visit from Santa to Noe Valley).

Also, Chabad of Noe Valley will hold its Chanukah Wonderland on Sunday, Dec. 29, 3:30 p.m., in the Town Square. It features a giant menorah lighting, crafts for kids, and a gelt parachute drop with the assistance of the San Francisco Fire Department.

For more information about these events, go to [noevalleytownsquare.com](http://noevalleytownsquare.com). For information about the Night Market, see [noemerchants.com](http://noemerchants.com). Holiday Windows Contest question? Email [Dave@MX3Fitness.com](mailto:Dave@MX3Fitness.com). For details on the Latvian arts festival, visit the San Francisco Baltic Christmas Fair on Facebook. ■



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## Victorian Alliance’s Annual Historic Home Tour Comes to Noe Valley

On Sunday, Sept. 8, the Victorian Alliance of San Francisco held its annual Historic Home Tour in Noe Valley. Gail Baugh and Joe Mallet of the Alliance, who did the hands-on work of organizing the tour, were equally hands-on throughout the day, meeting, greeting, and docenting at stops along the entire course of the tour itinerary.

Noe Valley author and historian Bill Yenne, who wrote the popular books *San Francisco’s Noe Valley* and *Noe Valley Past and Present*, held court at an afternoon book-signing at Small Frys on 24th Street, sharing good cheer and stories from his 49 years in the neighborhood.

More than 700 people from across the world—the Alliance heard there was a bus tour of Europeans!—enjoyed visits to eight historic Victorian homes from 26th Street to Chattanooga Street on a beautiful sunny

afternoon. The participating homeowners included those pictured above. From left to right, they are Lucy Irwin, Mark and Kathy Perl, Tom Baker, Tom and Ellen Abels, Mike Underhill and S.A. Kushinka. They are holding illustrations of their homes done by photographer and artist Anson Moran, owner of Project Turtle, which produces books on interiors of historic homes, designed to “preserve them for our historic cultural future.”

The Victorian Alliance is in its 51st year of educating, preserving, and advocating for San Francisco’s historic structures and cultural heritage. Proceeds from the home tours enable them to continue their mission. Their preservation grants fund is used to support preservation and restoration projects across the city.

Text courtesy Bill Yenne / Photo Carol Yenne

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Anja S.

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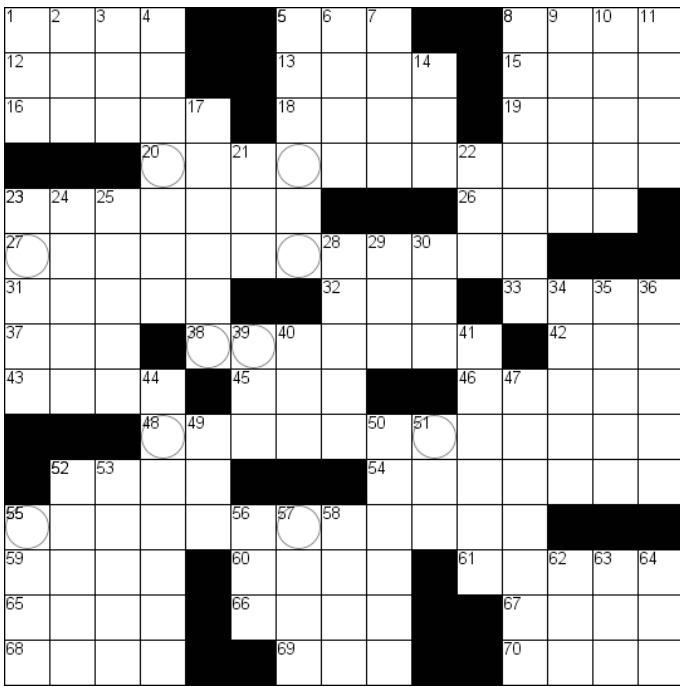
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### THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

#### Aw Phooey!

##### ACROSS

- 1.VW model
- 5.Atlanta-based channel
8. Get-out-of-jail money
12. Frost work
13. Hooligan
15. “Raggedy” fellow
16. \_\_\_\_ as a tack
18. Singles
19. Excedrin target
- 20.What northern wildfires cause in SF
23. Narrow bikini top
- 26.What loses to an open hand in rock, paper, scissors
27. Cessna snapshots
31. One of only 9 at Yamo, the Burmese place
- 32.Yale collegian
- 33.Anti-DUI org.
- 37.Atlanta-based channel
38. 24th Street shop previously called Peasant Pies, and this puzzle’s inspiration
42. Scot’s synonym for “sma”
43. Apiece
45. Part of SFMOMA
46. Exams for attys.-to-be
48. Like *Fast & Furious* movies
52. Prozac or Lexapro, for short
54. Greasy spoon dare
- 55.TV channel with a lot of critters
59. Singer Perry
60. Lightly brown, as a pork roast
61. ’70s dance fad
- 65.The “fierro” in SF



- motto “Oro en Paz, Fierro en Guerra”

66. Inspiron computer maker

67. Bloke

68. Declare to be false

69. Tampa Bay player

70. *Daily Planet* employee
10. Chowderhead

11. Nashville’s Loretta

14. High-speed inits.

17. \_\_\_\_ mode: dessert

21. N.C. capital: Abbr.

22. E.T.’s transport

23. Moisten the turkey

24. Insurance giant

25. College org. for sailors-to-be

28. One hundred: pref.

29. Pay ending?

30. Computer image file type

34. No longer sleeping

35. Discourage

36. Since, to a Spaniard

39. Boston footballer, for short

40. \_\_\_\_ Lanka

41. Joyous

44. Backup vocal part

47. Stand-up comic’s
- bit

49. Hush-hush grp.

50. Almost

51. Pipe player of myth

52. “Zzzzzz” sound

53. Neil or Paul

55. 56-Down, slangily

56. Popular hallucinogen

57. Jury member, in theory

58. Refrain syllables

62. Ship’s pronoun

63. “Yes, We \_\_\_\_”

64. Choose

November 2024 Noe Valley Voice  
Solution on Page 21  
Find more Crosswords at  
www.noevalleyvoice.com



# Your Two Cents On the Next Fest at Christopher Park?

Friends Group Seeks Your Input On the Party and the Grant

By Matthew S. Bajko

Back in the fall of 2018, the Friends of Christopher Park hosted what had been its annual celebration of the greenspace somewhat hidden to the right of the Diamond Heights Safeway shopping center. Its main entrance is easy to miss when one is driving by on Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Thus, the community party was given the tongue-and-cheek name “Where in the World Is Christopher Park? Festival.” Five years ago, the fest was turned into a going-away party of sorts, since the children’s playground was being closed for remodeling.

The playground and its new amenities, from more modern play equipment and a new irrigation system to repaved walking paths and new plantings, opened to the public in the spring of 2021. The park’s unveiling came the second year into the Covid pandemic, which prevented the friends group from hosting an event then.

One positive result of the health crisis was it sent people looking for more outdoor recreation opportunities. Over the next two years, with word spreading about the improvements to its facilities, Christopher Park grew in popularity.

It remains a popular spot for dog walkers, seniors, and families with children, including those attending the adjacent Noe Valley Nursery School.

Now, the booster group for Christopher Park would like to revive



Friends of Christopher Park invites you to go to their website ([friendsofchristopherpark.org](https://friendsofchristopherpark.org)) or scan the QR code to take a seven-question survey. Photo courtesy Brynna McNulty

the annual festival in 2025, possibly in the fall when the weather is warmer.

To see if park users and nearby residents agree, the friends group is doing a seven-question survey on its website, <https://friendsofchristopherpark.org/>. “We feel we have come full circle and want to celebrate the park and everything we’ve achieved,” says Diamond Heights resident Brynna McNulty, who has served as coordinator of Friends of Christopher Park since 2017.

In addition, the group wants to share the news it retains more than half of a \$20,000 grant it had been given in 2019 by the city’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development. It has spent about \$6,800 on past events, so there is more than \$13,000 remaining to use.

Since the grant was meant to go toward the annual festivals, McNulty says, “We feel the thing to do with the funds is to just do what we were origi-

nally awarded the grant for.”

However, because of the duration of time, the group wants to see what other park users think. “It’s been so long,” says McNulty, “is there a better use of the funds for the park? We wanted to engage the community before we spend a huge chunk of money.”

She says currently the survey is open-ended. Signs with a QR code for people to scan with their phones are still posted around Christopher Park.

One advantage of hosting a party is it brings people together who may not be aware of the group, says McNulty. She recalled that in 2019 the Friends surveyed festival attendees about the city’s planned renovation of the park. “That festival really got us more cohesive as a community,” McNulty said. “It got people thinking about the design and if we could maybe influence it, and really kicked off our community advocacy.”

The group convinced planners to preserve three play sculptures that had debuted when the park first opened in 1971. It is named after George Christopher, the city’s 34th mayor. Today, the trio of sculptures sits in an area separate from the newer and safer equipment in the children’s playground. “Another thing happening is Rec and Park is going to prepare interpretive signage for the play sculpture garden,” notes McNulty.

The signs will be in place well before a revived festival next fall. Whether the event’s former name will make a comeback is anybody’s guess.

“Now everyone knows about the park. The word is out,” says McNulty.

*Friends of Christopher Park is hosting a garden workday with coffee and a community building event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Nov. 17. Up to 20 people will be able to work in the park’s gardens that Sunday. Anyone interested in joining the friends group can email McNulty at [friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com).*



Thanks to Friends of Christopher Park, three pieces of play equipment designed by Jim Miller-Melberg and David Aaron, including this one from the 1970s, were preserved during the 2020–21 renovation of the children’s playground at the park in Diamond Heights. The sculptures now sit in their own “garden” so we all can enjoy them as art. Photo by James LaCrocce

# James Lick Is Ready to Rock the Block

The School Will Throw Its First-Ever Multi-Cultural Bash

By Leslie Crawford

The fact that James Lick Middle School takes up an entire city block should give it reason enough to throw a bonafide block party. But Noe Valley’s middle school, made of some 485 students from throughout the city, is taking its party one step further by hosting a cultural block party.

“We’ve had plenty of block parties,” says Adele Faataui, the school’s athletic director and director of school events. “But we’ve never had a cultural block party. This year, we wanted to celebrate our many cultures at James Lick and invite the community to join us.”

The block party—on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., on the school campus at 1220 Noe St., which spans the city block framed by Castro and Noe streets and Clipper and 24th streets—has plenty of room and reasons

to celebrate the many cultural influences that make up the school body.

“We’re very diverse,” says Faataui, noting that the party is their way to “embrace our school’s many cultures and show people that we can all come together and join as one.”

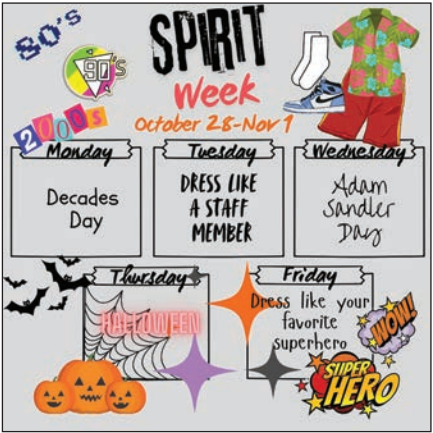
Faataui adds she hopes those who don’t have an immediate connection to the school but live in Noe Valley are inspired to attend to have fun and learn more about the kids, family, and staff.

“I’m super excited we’re coming together and doing this block party,” says Principal Marisol Arkin, who started at James Lick this year after most recently serving as the assistant principal at San Francisco’s Galileo High School. “This is a day to celebrate our school community and share it with the community we live in. A lot of our kids don’t live here [in Noe Valley], so it’s a special way to put a special highlight on the many cultures we have at James Lick.”

Arkin credits the birth of the cultural block party idea to Faataui and other staff members who “go above and beyond to support our kids so they can grow up to be happy and successful adults.”

Along with dance performances—everything from Polynesian dance to Talinklink, a folk dance from the Philippines—there will be food for purchase and a range of family resources, including free dental care. Performers from Mission High will also be part of the entertainment. The event will also feature live music, including a mariachi band, and, the school promises, “good vibes.”

All are welcome. For information, call 415-695-5675. ■



Spirit Week at James Lick last month encouraged students to have fun dressing in all kinds of crazy ways. Like a staff member?

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# 4-Way Stop Coming to 28th And Church

J-Stop Changes and Traffic Signals  
Not Too Far Behind

By Matthew S. Bajko

After more than a decade of calling on city officials to install a four-way stop at Church and 28th Street, Upper Noe Valley residents are finally getting their wish. As had been expected, the board that oversees the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency approved the reconfiguration of the intersection in October.

“Everyone wants the stop signs. We have been asking for that for years,” said Douglas Pierce, a longtime resident of Duncan Street.

But the victory was bittersweet for many advocates who had pushed for the four-way stop, because it comes with changes to the locations of two J-Church Muni line stops that the neighborhood and train riders had overwhelmingly opposed. Their criticisms of moving the two J stops went unheeded by the SFMTA board members, as all six at their Oct. 15 meeting voted to approve them.

Thus, the line’s current stop at 27th and Church streets will move to the 28th Street intersection. In addition, the J-line stop for passengers on Church Street at Clipper Street will be moving to 26th Street.

“In general, I think it is going to be an improvement,” said board member Janet Tarlov.

SFMTA board vice chair Stephanie Cajina noted she had attended St. Paul School, the K-8 Catholic school at 1690

Church St at 29th. She recalled how dicey it could be to cross the street because of the speeds that cars could get up to, since there currently are no stop signs between 27th and 29th streets on Church.

“It can be quite challenging, as folks are trying to find parking there, to safely cross the street,” said Cajina.

Transit agency staff contend the changes they are making will provide additional safety for pedestrians along Church Street and more reliability for Muni passengers. They also wanted to relocate the two J-Church stops in order to even out the spacing between them along the thoroughfare.

“It will create a balanced, easy-to-understand transit stop spacing that will align with the new stop signs,” project manager Jessica Kuo told the transit agency’s oversight body.

The SFMTA had also said moving the train stops would improve travel times for the J-Church, but residents opposed to doing so noted the trains would now have to make an additional stop at 28th Street due to the new stop signs there. Even without a Muni stop for passengers at 27th Street, the trains will still stop there because that intersection with Church Street is already a four-way stop.

“The website says the relocation of the stops will speed up Muni’s J-Church, which is silly,” said Noe Valley resident Marc Norton, because the changes aren’t resulting in a reduction of places where the trains must stop along Church Street.

J-Church rider Christopher Peterson expressed concern about the changes slowing down the trains. Already the line “is so slow and unreliable,” he said. “I don’t have a problem adding stop signs or changing the spacing of

stops,” said Peterson, who noted he isn’t a Noe Valley resident. “I do have a problem making the J stop more times.”

If transit officials “really do want stop signs all along Church,” said Peterson, then the trains should be replaced with buses, he said.

“It is really time Muni starts considering the effects of all these small, piecemeal changes on speed and reliability,” Peterson said.

Director of Transit Julie Kirschbaum noted to the SFMTA board that the agency’s main priority was “pedestrian safety over transit speed and reliability.” Future upgrades, she added, could allow the transit agency to achieve both. “We are hopeful future technology will allow us, in some cases, to have our cake and eat it too,” said Kirschbaum.

## Green Lights Could Favor Trains

The changes are to go into effect this fall and are likely to be the first of several revisions to the traffic infrastructure along Church Street.

Next year, SFMTA staff will be looking at making additional changes to improve both pedestrian safety and travel times for J-Church trains.

Turning four-way stops on Church Street to ones with traffic lights rigged to turn green for subway trains was one proposal mentioned by Kuo, who will remain the project manager for what is officially known as the J-Church Safety and Accessibility Project. She said the traffic signals could be installed at intersections where the J-Church has to stop because of a stop sign but doesn’t pick up passengers.

Thus, traffic signals could be going in at Cesar Chavez Street, or at Clipper Street since the J stop there is being relocated. The signals are tied into

SFMTA’s Muni Forward program, noted Kuo, which is aimed at providing “more robust reliability and efficiency improvements” along transit lines.

“The future project gives us an opportunity to evaluate the rest of the project and see what might be best for balancing safety with reliability for the J,” said Kuo.

Upper Noe Neighbors President Chris Faust said there would be significant community support for seeing a traffic light at the Cesar Chavez and Church Street intersection. It currently has a four-way stop for vehicles.

“It could alleviate the stop time at 28th if it is timed for trains to move through Cesar Chavez where there is not a Muni stop,” he said.

## Will Travel Times Improve?

During last month’s meeting, SFTMA board member Mike Chen had raised concerns about the impacts the changes would have on J-Church trains’ travel times. He encouraged SFMTA staff to look at ways to speed up the times along that part of the route as they undertake the additional review of the Church Street corridor in 2025.

“I want to make sure we are delivering consistent, reliable, fast service for customers,” said Chen.

Kuo acknowledged, “It is true adding the stop sign at 28th and Church might add a little delay right now” for the J. But she added that the delay could be addressed with the next phase of changes for the J-line the SFMTA is considering.

To learn more about the J-Church project and to sign up for emailed updates on proposals and meetings, visit the SFMTA’s project site at <https://www.sfmta.com/sfmta-projects/> and search for J-Church Safety. ■

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# The Cost of Living in Noe

## September Sales Perky

By Corrie M. Anders

The sale of a \$6.8 million “modern masterpiece” helped rejuvenate Noe Valley’s residential market in September, as buyers purchased 11 single-family detached homes. Condominium sales languished, how-



This modern gem on 24th Street sold in September for \$6.8 million. That price made it the most expensive of the 11 detached homes sold during the month.

ever, with only three sales reported during the month, according to data supplied to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Corcoran Icon Properties. There were five condo sales in September a year ago.

The recording of 11 house sales was the first time in four years that that many detached homes had changed hands in the month of September.

Falling mortgage interest rates may have helped grab the attention of fence-sitting shoppers, noted Randall Kostick, the CEO of Corcoran Icon. “People’s anticipation of rates going down was enough to get them started,” he said.

Rates had been stuck around 7 percent for most of 2024, but they started to go down this summer, dropping to 6 percent in September.

In response, home shoppers made sky-high offers to get the properties they coveted.

One buyer, said Kostick, paid 33 percent more than the sellers’ asking price, while four others outbid rivals with tenders that were 28, 26, 20, and 20 percent higher than the initial price.

To be sure, not all offers were extravagant. One property sold at the original price. Three other homes sold for less than what the sellers sought. On average, the 11 buyers paid 107 percent of what sellers were asking.

The month’s most expensive house got an offer within 15 days and sold for \$5,000 more than its \$6,795,000 asking price. Located on an extra-wide lot in the 4200 block of 24th Street between Douglass and Diamond streets, the 86-year-old property had been renovated to encompass four bedrooms and six baths

on three levels in 4,371 square feet of living space.

Aside from its eye-catching cedar, slate, and glass façade, the home offered myriad luxuries. Each level had a retractable glass wall that opened the interior to an outdoor deck or patio with stunning views. The gourmet kitchen featured Thermador appliances and a waterfall marble island with counter seating.

The home also sported retractable skylights, a fireplace, a primary bedroom with a spa-like soaking tub and walk-in shower, a media room with a kitchenette, solar energy, smart-house technology, EV-charging, and a garage with space for four cars.

September’s most expensive condominium was a four-bedroom, four-bath property in the 900 block of Sanchez Street between 22nd and 23rd streets. It sold for \$2,655,000—33 percent more than its asking price (\$1,995,000).

The residence was one of two separate homes on the lot. Originally built in 1916, the building had been remodeled in 2005 to create a dwelling with 2,085 square feet of living space.

The two-story home, marketed as



September’s costliest condominium was one of two houses on a single lot on Sanchez Street. The four-bedroom, four-bath residence sold for \$2,655,000. Photos by Corrie M. Anders


“move-in ready,” featured a large open kitchen that led to a private deck ideal for entertaining. The home also had updated kitchen appliances, three skylights, and two-car garage parking. ■

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						
September 2024	11	\$1,885,000	\$6,800,000	\$3,170,775	39	107%
August 2024	4	\$1,450,000	\$5,200,000	\$2,996,250	16	99%
September 2023	3	\$1,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$2,596,667	74	105%
Condominiums/TICs						
September 2024	3	\$1,075,000	\$2,655,000	\$1,826,667	46	118%
August 2024	6	\$1,210,000	\$2,700,000	\$1,746,667	23	104%
September 2023	5	\$1,050,000	\$3,490,000	\$1,588,000	26	102%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
September 2024	1	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	10	100%
August 2024	2	\$1,720,000	\$2,006,000	\$1,863,000	76	104%
September 2023	2	\$2,100,000	\$2,504,000	\$2,302,000	26	99%
5+-unit buildings						
September 2024	1	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	31	84%
August 2024	1	\$2,675,000	\$2,675,000	\$2,675,000	71	96%
September 2023	0	—	—	—	—	—

\*This survey includes all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley is loosely defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The *Noe Valley Voice* thanks Corcoran Icon Properties, San Francisco, for providing sales data. NVV11/2024

Noe Valley Rents**					
Unit	No. in Sample	Range October 2024	Average October 2024	Average September 2024	Average October 2023
Studio	4	\$1,995 – \$2,395	\$2,223 / mo.	\$2,252 / mo.	\$2,384 / mo.
1-bdrm	25	\$1,950 – \$4,500	\$2,975 / mo.	\$3,274 / mo.	\$3,117 / mo.
2-bdrm	19	\$2,995 – \$5,995	\$4,195 / mo.	\$4,418 / mo.	\$4,534 / mo.
3-bdrm	19	\$4,000 – \$11,000	\$6,683 / mo.	\$6,133 / mo.	\$6,196 / mo.
4+-bdrm	8	\$4,795 – \$15,900	\$9,197 / mo.	\$10,598 / mo.	\$9,797 / mo.


\*\* This survey is based on a sample of 75 Noe Valley rental listings appearing on Craigslist.org from Sept. 16 to Oct. 12, 2024. In October 2023, there were 115 listings. NVV11/2024



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

**Community Outreach Public Notice**

Prepared by The Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Pursuant to Administrative Code, Section 2.81



**San Francisco Board of Supervisors Board or Commission Vacancies:**

*Participate on a Board or Commission!*

The Assessment Appeals Board (AAB)

The AAB resolves legal and value assessment issues between the Assessor’s office and property owners. Hearings are quasi-judicial, conducted in a manner similar to a court setting, with evidence and testimony presented by the parties. The Board then evaluates the evidence and testimony and renders its decision.

To be eligible for seat appointment, you must have a minimum of five years professional experience in California as either a: (1) public accountant; (2) real estate broker; (3) attorney; or (4) property appraiser accredited by a nationally recognized organization, or certified by either the Office of Real Estate Appraiser or the State Board of Equalization.

**For a full list of current or upcoming Boards, Commissions and Task Forces, please visit** <https://sfbos.org/vacancy-boards-commissions-task-forces>.

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**Department Announcements**

**Department of Public Health**

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WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for women, infants, and children. You may qualify if you:

- Are pregnant, breastfeeding, or just had a baby;
- Have children under age 5; and
- Have low to medium income; and/or
- Receive Medi-Cal, CalFresh (Food Stamps), or CalWORKS (TANF) benefits; and
- Live in California

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[Email for link: Action-SFTeam@gmail.com](mailto:CharlesSpiegelLaw@gmail.com)

**Thursday, November 7 at 6 pm.**

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Bear Care. Chilling on 24th Street.

Photo by Jack Tipple



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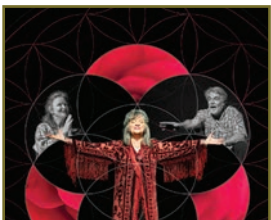
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# STORE TREK

*Store Trek is a regular feature on new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month we introduce a restaurant that strives to bring the tastes of Mexico City to the tables of Noe Valley.*

**TODO EL DÍA**  
4063 24th Street at Castro Street  
holla@todoeldiasf.com  
<https://www.todoeldiasf.com/>

New enticements are debuting this month at Todo el Día, the “tortilleria” that opened mid-April on 24th Street near Castro in the space once occupied by Village Rotisserie (and Le Zinc for 15 years).

To complement the four meal-size salads on the menu, the chef is adding a salad with fruit, specifically pomegranate.

“We are excited because it is the first time we are using fruit,” said Fernando Guzman, food and beverage director for the eatery. The juicy red pomegranate salad, often associated with yuletide, will be served with winter greens and veggies such as delicata squash and sweet potato.

Guzman is also introducing another dish: tamales. They will be part of the happy hour menu at the restaurant as well as sold at the Saturday farmers market in the Noe Valley Town Square.

“We just had a taste-tasting and were pleased with the results. There will be two kinds, one with chicken and one with veggies,” said Guzman.

The ones sold at the market will be refrigerated (not frozen) for people to take home and reheat later. All are made fresh daily. “Masa works best fresh,” said Guzman, referring to the corn-based dough used in tamales.

Todo el Día, open all day 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., is the latest creation of Tacolicious, a food group launched in 2009 by former Noe Valley residents Joe Hargrave and Sara Deseran. The chain currently operates four eateries in the Bay Area and one in Los Angeles.

With Todo el Día, Hargrave and Deseran hoped to satisfy their cravings for Mexican street food—soft tacos made with blue corn tortillas, and tortas, hearty sandwiches made with telera rolls and various combinations of spicy meat, seafood, and vegetables.

The restaurant’s tacos and tortas each feature a main ingredient—like grilled shrimp, chicken, pork, or veggies—and come with a side salad. Torta plates are \$19, while the tacos are two for \$15 or



Miguel Lopez (left) and Alexander Cornejo invite you to dine inside or relax on the sunny patio at Todo el Día, open all day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Photo by Art Bodner

three for \$19.

Tacos brighten the breakfast menu (at two for \$13), served Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, and Friday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. But they may compete for your taste buds with huevos rancheros (\$18), apple-ginger granola (\$11), and tres leches French toast made with Noe Valley Bakery sourdough (\$16).

During the “happiest hours,” Monday through Friday, 3 to 6 p.m., customers can try a Holy Trinity Dip Sampler, with queso, guacamole, and refried beans (\$10), or the Clown Tacos, two crispy ground beef tacos for \$10. An all-day juice bar offers three kinds of smoothies (\$13), including the “Gween,” made with apple, kale, fennel, lemon, celery, and mint.

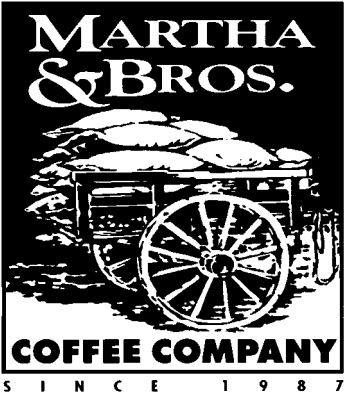
A big fave with customers, said Guzman, is the restaurant’s chile-rubbed rotisserie chicken. It comes in a family pack with Rancho Gordo yellow-eye beans, mint-cilantro rice, house-made tortillas, and the eatery’s

signature “orange sauce” (\$38 for a whole chicken, \$26 for a half).

—Matthew S. Bajko



Todo el Día, 24th Street’s newest Cal-Mex eatery, is easily recognized by its bright yellow exterior and specials on the window. Photo by Art Bodner



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## For an Unknown Soldier

By Elise Kazanjian

A loud bang punctures 6th Street  
then a high scream. Harry the pawnbroker  
looks up from the computer, his daughter  
Elizabeth asks “Who’s screaming?”  
outside, a figure dressed in camos  
bends, zig zags across the street  
rockets through the pawnshop’s front door,  
catapults over the back counter  
dives into the computer/printer, lands  
on his back, arms above his head surrendering.  
Harry, a veteran, runs up, places his foot  
on the young man’s chest “Hey man, it’s ok  
“The war is over, that was a truck backfiring  
you’re going to be ok, just lie still.”  
Rocket man obeys, his eyes half mast  
climbs onto the chair, accepts  
the glass of water, doesn’t drink  
air hangs heavy in the pawnshop.  
“When you’re ready I’ll help you.”  
Harry braces him, together they amble  
a cadenced walk to the front door  
as if two friends on a stroll.  
Harry watches the receding figure  
he wonders how men and women survive  
the barbed wires rusting their minds  
while traffic flows on 6th Street.

Elise Kazanjian is a San Francisco poet and writer.



Local Pride. Noe Valley is a neighborhood like no other.

Photo by Jack Tipple

## MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

### Action SF, the National Movement in Your Neighborhood

https://m.facebook.com/ActionSFactivism/  
Website: http://www.action-sf.com/  
Email: ActionSFTeam@gmail.com  
Meetings: Usually First Tuesdays, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 6-7:30 p.m. Confirm.

### Al-Anon Noe Valley

Contact: 834-9940; office@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).  
Thursdays, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Bethany UMC, 1270 Sanchez St. (enter through Clipper Street side door and go up the stairs)

### Castro Merchants

Contacts: Masood Samereie, President; Dave Karraker, 415-710-0245  
Email: Dave@mx3fitness.com  
Address: 584 Castro St. #333, SF, CA 94114  
Meetings: Email info@CastroMerchants.com

### Comerford Greenway

Contact: Howard Fallon  
Email: ComerfordGreenway@gmail.com  
Website: www.sanfranciscoparksalliance.org/partners/comerford-greenway/  
Monthly workdays in Comerford Alley.

### 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 Lili Wu, 647-0235. Address: 560 Duncan St., SF, CA 94131. Meetings: Call for details.

### Eureka Valley Neighborhood Assn.

Contact: Board@evna.org  
Address: P.O. Box 14137, SF, CA 94114  
Meetings: See website Events. Castro Meeting Room, 501 Castro St., 7 p.m.

### Fair Oaks Neighbors

Email: hello@fairoaksneighbors.org  
Address: 200 Fair Oaks St., SF, CA 94110  
The Fair Oaks Street Fair is traditionally held the day before Mother’s Day.

### Friends of Billy Goat Hill

Contact: Lisa and Mo Ghotbi, 821-0122  
Website: www.billygoathill.net

### Friends of Dolores Park Playground

Contact: Nancy Gonzalez Madynski, 828-5772  
Email: friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com  
Website: friendsofdolorespark.org

### Friends of Glen Canyon Park

Contact: Jean Conner, 584-8576  
Address: 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA 94131  
Plant restoration work parties, Wednesday mornings and third Saturday of the month.

### Friends of Noe Courts Playground

Contact: Laura Norman  
Email: noecourts@gmail.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: friendsofnoevalley.com  
Meetings: Two or three annually.

### Friends of Slow Sanchez

Contacts: Christopher Keene, Andrew Casteel  
Email: info@SlowSanchez.com  
Website: SlowSanchez.com

### Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

Contact: Chris Faust  
Email: info@uppernoerecreationcenter.com  
Website: uppernoerecreationcenter.com  
Meetings: Email or check website.

### Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUND OG)

Contact: 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 Schweiguth, M17-6290  
Email: dave@schweiguth.org  
Website: meetup.com/Juri-Commoners  
The group is on hiatus and seeking a new leader. Contact Dave.

### Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association

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

### Noe Neighborhood Council

Contact: Ozzie Rohm or Matt McCabe  
Email: info@noeneighborhoodcouncil.com  
Website: 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 or debris on 24th Street, call Billy Dinnell, 802-4461.  
Email: info@noevalleyassociation.org.  
Website: noevalleyassociation.org  
Board meetings: Quarterly. See website.

### Noe Valley Democratic Club

Contact: Carrie Barnes, President  
E-mail: noevalleydemocrats@gmail.com  
Website: www.noevalleydemocrats.org  
Meetings: Monthly at the Valley Tavern, 4054 24th St., with dates publicized on website.

### 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: Usually last Thursdays, Doggy

Style, 3927 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  
noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

### Noe Walks

Contact: Chris Nanda  
Email: christopher.n.nanda@gmail.com  
Website: NoeWalks.com  
Meetings: Saturdays, 10 a.m. Starts 24th and Sanchez. Ends Noe and Duncan for photo.

### Progress Noe Valley

Facebook: ProgressNoeValley  
Email: progressnoe@gmail.com  
Website: progressnoe.com  
Meetings: Check Facebook page for current meeting and event schedule.

### Resilient Noe Valley

Contact: Antoinette  
Email: resilientnoevalley@gmail.com  
Newsletter: http://eepurl.com/gYuCD5  
Website: www.resilientnoevalley.com

### San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)

Contact: Noe Valley NERT Neighborhood Team co-coordinators Maxine Fasulis, mfasulis@yahoo.com; Carole Roberts, carole\_roberts@faludi.com  
Website: https://SF-fire.org/nert  
Visit the website to sign up for trainings.

### Upper Noe Merchants

Contact: Info@UpperNoeNeighbors.com; https://uppernoeneighbors.com/merchants/

### Upper Noe Neighbors

Contact: Chris Faust  
Email: Hello@UpperNoeNeighbors.com  
Website: www.uppernoeneighbors.com  
Meetings: Bi-monthly on third Wednesday. Confirm by email or check website.

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All phone numbers are in the 415 area code, unless otherwise noted.



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**Nov. 1, 8 & 15:** A workshop, “HEALTHIER LIVING for Older Adults,” continues 2 to 4 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 1 & Dec. 6:** The self-guided Castro ART WALK features local artists on first Fridays. 5-8 pm. For a map, castroartwalk.com

**Nov. 1 & Dec. 6:** The Dubliner bar hosts first Friday COMEDY Nights. 9 pm. 3838 24th. 826-2279; gleckler.joe@gmail.com

**Nov. 2:** The Left Coast Chamber Ensemble performs Schoenberg’s *Pierrot Lunaire* at 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317; noevalleyministry.org

**Nov. 2-30:** The FARMERS MARKET has fresh produce, treats, and music, Saturdays, 8 am to 1 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

**Nov. 2-30:** Step lively with **NOE WALKS** on Saturdays. Meet at 24th and Sanchez, 10 am.

**Nov. 3:** The Noe Valley Library screens the DOCUMENTARY film *Climate Back*. 3:30-4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 3, 10 & 17:** YOGA Flow SF offers free classes; bring water and a mat. 11 am-noon. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

**Nov. 4:** Olive This Olive That hosts a Sustainable **GIFTS** WORKSHOP. 304 Vicksburg. 251-7520. For details email info@olivethisolivethat.com

**Nov. 5:** It’s ELECTION DAY! Polls are open from 7 am until 8 pm. 554-4375; SF.gov

**Nov. 5:** Simon Barrad and Kseniia Polstiankina Barrad perform a **CONCERT** of Ukrainian songs at the Noe Valley Ministry, 5-7 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317; noevalleyministry.org

**Nov. 6-Dec. 21:** CHUNG 24 Gallery shows photographs by Mark Citret. Reception Nov. 9, 2-5 pm; Wed.-Sat., 1:30 to 6 pm. 698 Pennsylvania. 795-1643; chung24gallery.com

**Nov. 7:** ACTION SF’s post-election meeting is scheduled for 6 to 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey; action-sf.com

**Nov. 7, 14 & 21:** Family STORYTIMES are on Thursdays, at 10:15 am and 11 am. Space

C A L E N D A R

is limited to 20 children. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 7, 14, 21 & 28:** The BAR on Dolores hosts Mutiny Radio’s free OPEN MIC comedy. Sign up 8 pm. 1600 Dolores. 695-1745

**Nov. 8:** Lola Gallery opens a month-long show by **ARTISTS** Linda Trunzo, Shiva Pakdel, and Ellen Rosenthal, 5-7 pm. 642-4875

**Nov. 8, 9 & 10:** Original **MUSICAL COMEDY** *Stage Fright* offers performances at 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr. 285-9540 x3; staidansf.org

**Nov. 8, 9 & 10:** The Resound Ensemble performs a FALL CONCERT, “Homeward Bound.” 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317; noevalleyministry.org

**Nov. 9 & 30:** City Guides offers WALKING TOURS of Noe Valley led by Cathy and Paul Staley. 2-3:30 pm. Starts at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Space is limited, register sfcityguides.org; 375-0468

**Nov. 10:** Acoustic Sunday features INNUENDO, performing music from mid-century French cabarets. 1-3 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

**Nov. 12:** The Noe Valley Library hosts LEGO & Board Game Night. 6-7:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 14:** Take a meditative LABYRINTH WALK, on second Thursdays, at the Noe Valley Ministry, 6:30-7:30 pm. 1021 Sanchez. noevalleyministry.org

**Nov. 16:** The Balourdet Quartet stars in the first of six interactive **NOE MUSIC KIDS** concerts at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 10:30 to 11:15 am. noemusic.org

**Nov. 16:** The Noe Valley Library hosts a JIGSAW PUZZLE swap. 1-2 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 16:** Rhythm & Motion offers a free DANCE workout, 4 to 5 pm. Town Square,

3861 24th. noe-valleytownsquare.com

**Nov. 16:** Best Medicine hosts standup at SF COMEDY Underground, aka Noe Valley Farms, every third Saturday. 7:30-9:30 pm. 1828 Castro. Eventbrite; Bestmedicinethebay@gmail.com

**Nov. 17:** Volunteers for the monthly Noe Valley CLEANUP DAY meet at the Town Square to pick up supplies. 10 am to noon. 3861 24th. Sign up togetherSF.org

**Nov. 17:** The first annual Noe Valley **FRIENDSGIVING** features a meet your neighbor game, a talking bench, and pie and cider. 1-3 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalley-townsquare.com

**Nov. 17:** A concert and community sing will be part of a TRANS Day of Remembrance, 3-4 pm, at Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Ct. 355-5616

**Nov. 17:** Noe Music hosts a CONCERT by the Balourdet String Quartet. 4-6 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. noemusic.org

**Nov. 17, 21 & 23:** Omnivore Books welcomes a feast of CHEF authors, including Clarice Lam (*Breaking Bao*) Nov. 17, 3 pm; Christina Tosi (*Bake Club*) Nov. 21, 6:30 pm; and Victoria Granof (*Sicily, My Sweet: Love Notes to an Island*) Nov. 23, 3 pm. 3885 Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com

**Nov. 20:** Teens can join the 826 Valencia WRITERS CLUB at the Main Library. 4-6:30 pm. 100 Larkin. 557-4554; sfpl.org

**Nov. 20:** James Lick Middle School’s Cultural BLOCK **PARTY** features music, dance, family resources, and food. 4:30-7 pm. 1220 Noe, 695-5675

**Nov. 20:** The Noe Valley BOOK CLUB discusses *The Hive and the Honey* by Paul Yoon. 6:30-7:45 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 20:** Upper Noe Neighbors COMMUNITY MEETING starts at 7 pm at the Upper Noe Rec Center, 295 day. uppernoeneighbors.com

**Nov. 23:** The Noe Valley Pet Company

hosts a DOGGIE PHOTO shoot with **SANTA**, from 11 am to 3 pm. 1451 Church. 282-7385; noevalleypet.com

**Nov. 25:** Make a Huichol YARN PAINTING at the Noe Valley Library. 4-5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

**Nov. 26:** Noe Valley Merchants’ **NIGHT MARKET**, with local vendors, food, and entertainment, is open from 4 to 9 pm, on the last Tuesday of the month. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

**Dec. 1:** The **TREE LIGHTING** at the Town Square also features caroling, hot cider and cookies, and face painting. 5-7 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

**Dec. 1:** Noe Music screens the 1928 SILENT FILM *The General*, with live music by Stephen Pruts-man and the Telegraph Quartet. 5-6:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. noemusic.org

**Dec. 2 & Jan. 6:** Get 2 for 1 studio time to paint pottery from 6 to 9 pm at Terra Mia’s first Saturday DATE NIGHT. Reserve 415-642-9911.

**Dec. 4:** The Noel Valley **HOLIDAY WINDOW** Competition begins! For info, contact Dave@mx3fitness.com or call 415-710-0245.

**Dec. 5:** Sip and shop at the Noe Valley Holiday WINE WALK. 4-7 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. Tickets at Eventbrite.com.

**Dec. 6:** CREATIVITY EXPLORED’s Holiday Art Shop opens with a party from 5 to 8 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org

**Dec. 7:** The 10th annual SF Baltic Christmas FAIR offers Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian crafts and edibles, and **SANTA!** 10 am-4 pm. 425 Hoffman. 647-9398.

**The Days Grow Short:** The next Voice will be the December 2024 issue. The deadline for calendar items is Nov. 20. Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Email calendar@noevalleyvoice.com



CHILDREN’S FICTION

Celebrate autumn with the picture book **Love and Hugs: Fall** by Tracey Colliston. Ages 3-5.

An Iranian boy in America doesn’t want to wear his sheepskin vest in **Rostam’s Picture-Day Pusteen**, by Ryan Bani Tahmaseb, illustrated by Fateme Mokhles. Ages 3-7.

People encounter all sorts of things in **From Park to Playa: The Trails That Connect Us**, by Nell Cross Beckerman, and illustrated by Sophie Diao. Ages 5-7.

In **Grow Up, Luchy Zapata**, by Alexandra Alessandri, three middle school girls work to keep their friendship. Ages 8-12.

After the Civil War, Elly and Halle head north to find their families, in **This Opening Sky** by Kelly Hollman and Charlotte Watson Sherman. Ages 8-12.

CHILDREN’S NONFICTION

The DK Publishing book **My Encyclopedia of Very Important Dinosaurs** includes descriptions of over 80 prehistoric creatures. Ages 3-6.

The Sesame Street gang is featured in DK’s **Let’s Cook Together: With 40 Fun, Healthy Recipes**. Ages 3-7.

**Simone Biles** is a biography of the remarkable athlete by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara, with illustrations by Nadia Fisher. Ages 4-7.

Author Nell Cross Beckerman explores the earth’s “radioactive wonders” in **Volcanoes**, illustrated by Kalen Chock. Ages 4-8.

**Kindred Spirits: Shilombish Ittibachvffa** by Leslie Stall Widener, illustrated by Johnson Yazzie, draws parallels between the Irish during the 1845 Potato Famine and Native American tribes during the Covid epidemic. Ages 5-8.

CHILDREN’S EBOOKS

In **Stacey Speaks Up**, by voting rights activist Stacey Abrams and illustrator Kitt Thomas, Stacey sees some kids can’t afford the school’s TacoPizza FryDay. Ages 4-8.

Maya discovers the cure for boredom during summer vacation, in **Between My Hands** by Mitali Perkins, with illustrations by Naveen Selvanathan. Ages 4-8.

In **Lola Reyes Is So Not Worried** by Cindy L. Rodriguez, a Guatemalan girl tries to break the curse of the worry dolls she has hidden in her luggage. Ages 8-12.

A family is on a quest to find Mommy in the Lost Dimension, in **Amazing Grapes** by Jules Feiffer. Ages 8-12.

An awkward preteen becomes the hero of his own story in the graphic novel **Weirdo**, written by Tony Weaver Jr. and illustrated by Jes and Cin Wibowo. Ages 10-14.

TEEN FICTION

A technomancer and a handsome thief team up to save a lost sister in the fantasy **A Magic Fierce and Bright** by Hemant Nayak. Ages 12 and up.

In **A Darker Mischief** by Derek Milman, a queer teen from Mississippi wins a scholarship to an elite New England boarding school. Ages 13 and up.

In **Sleep Like Death**, Kalynn Bayron’s retelling of the Snow White story, Princess Eve must fight for her family and her queendom. Ages 13-17.

Jill Baguchinsky’s **So Witches We Became**, a queer, feminist spin on Stephen King’s *The Mist*, takes a group of high schoolers to a private island in Florida haunted by an invisible beast. Ages 13 and up.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

*Aw, Phooey!* by Michael Blake

GOLF	CNN	BAIL
POEM	HOOD	ANDY
SHARP	ONES	PAIN
	AIRPOLLUTION	
BANDEAU	FIST	
AERIALPHOTOS		
STOOL	ELI	MADD
TNT	APSCAFE	WEE
EACH	ART	LSATS
	ACTIONPACKED	
SSRI	EATHERE	
ANIMALPLANET		
COMO	SEAR	DISCO
IRON	DELL	CHAP
DENY	RAY	KENT

MORE BOOKS TO READ

Turning Leaves, Turning Pages

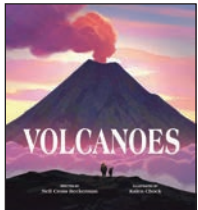


With the election in the rear-view mirror, it may be time to get cozy with a novel about Jimi Hendrix fans in the Ukraine of 2011 or to watch *Babes*, a buddy comedy about two friends in the throes of motherhood. (Yes, the library has movies too.) Or maybe just read a book about what’s on the trails in *From Park to Playa*.

Those books and lots of dvds are among the new arrivals at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library

patiently gathered by Adult Services Librarian Amy Lewis, Children’s Librarian Madeleine Felder, and Branch Manager Mary Fobbs-Guillory, then eagerly annotated by *Voice* bookworm Karol Barske.

To put the items on hold, click your heels together three times. Better yet, go online to SFPL.org or get the San Francisco Public Library mobile app at <https://sfpl.org/services/mobile-resources/library-catalog-mobile-apps/>.



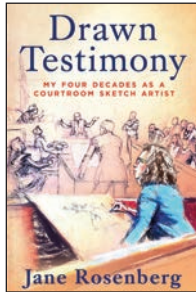
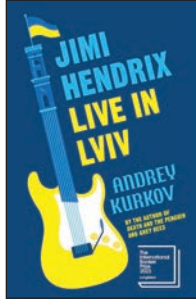
Or take a stroll to the beautiful Carnegie building at 451 Jersey St., and browse to your heart’s content. If you need to speak with librarians Lewis, Felder, or Fobbs-Guillory, call the branch at 415-355-5707.

You also may find peace on the library deck or in its garden.

The librarians note that all San Francisco Public Libraries will be closed on Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11, and on Thanksgiving and the day after, Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29.

We thank them for their contributions to the neighborhood and city, and to the *Voice* over decades.

—Sally Smith, Noe Valley Voice



An ambitious teen starts a dating advice column with her childhood frenemy in **Asking for a Friend** by Kara H.L. Chen. Ages 14-17.

TEEN EBOOKS

In **Payal Mehta’s Romance Revenge Plot** by Preeti Chhibber, 17-year-old Payal tries to win over her crush Jon by flirting with Philip, her longtime archnemesis. Ages 12-17.

A witch’s grandson hunts a water nymph who wants to become mortal, in **This Fatal Kiss** by Alicia Jasinska. Ages 14-17.

They’re best friends, but everyone thinks they should be a couple, in **How to Lose a Best Friend** by Jordan K. Casomar. Ages 14 and up.

An all-girls school is struck with mysterious cases of screaming, in **The Hysterical Girls of St. Bernadette’s** by Hanna Alkaf. Ages 14 and up.

George M. Johnson’s **Flamboyants: The Queer Harlem Renaissance I Wish I’d Known** describes a culture that started in

the 1920s; illustrations by Charly Palmer. Ages 14-18.

ADULT FICTION

Andrey Kurkov’s novel **Jimi Hendrix Live in Luv** tells the tale of a bygone era with black humor and magical realism.

Set in a West African future world, **She Who Knows** by Nnedi Okorafor is about a teenager coming of age.

Three characters across time, in Nineveh, London, and Turkey, are connected by a single drop of water, in **There Are Rivers in the Sky** by Elif Shafak.

In **There Is a Rio Grande in Heaven** by Ruben Reyes, stories take place in dreamlike Central American climates.

ADULT NONFICTION

**The Secret Life of the Universe: An Astrobiologist’s Search for the Origins and Frontiers of Life** by Nathalie A. Cabrol investigates our most profound mysteries.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs contemplates the legacy of feminist poet Audre Lorde, in

LIBRARY EVENTS

A workshop, “**Healthier Living for Older Adults**,” holds its last three meetings, Fridays, Nov. 1, 8, and 15, from 2 to 4 p.m.

**Storytimes** are on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., Nov. 7, 14, and 21. Limited to 20 children. Tickets available at the reference desk beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Ages 6 and older can make and decorate a **Pinch Pot**, on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 3 to 4 p.m.

The Noe Library screens **Climate Back**, a documentary discussing the impact of climate change, on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Meet at the library for a **City Guides Walking Tour**, “Village Within a City,” exploring historic sites in **Noe Valley**, on Saturday, Nov. 9 and 30, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Space is limited; sign up at [sfcityguides.org](https://sfcityguides.org).

Family **LEGO and Board Game Night** happens on Tuesday, Nov. 12, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Create a **Rubber Stamp** at a workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 13, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

The Noe Library hosts a **Jigsaw Puzzle** swap on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Learn about Navajo **Sand Painting** and create one with simple materials, on Monday, Nov. 18, from 43 to 5 p.m. Space is limited: first come, first served.

The **Noe Valley Book Club** discusses *The Hive and the Honey*, stories by Paul Yoon, on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Copies are held at the circulation desk for checkout.

Make **Beaded Corn** and learn about corn’s importance to Native Americans, at a workshop for families, on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 3 to 4 p.m.

Make a **Huichol Yarn Painting** at a workshop for all ages, on Monday, Nov. 25, from 4 to 5 p.m. Space is limited.

All events take place at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St. For information, call 415-355-5707 or visit [sfpl.org](https://sfpl.org).

**Survival Is a Promise: The Eternal Life of Audre Lorde.**

In **Drawn Testimony: My Four Decades as a Courtroom Sketch Artist**, Jane Rosenberg describes her work on trials, including those of Martha Stewart and Donald Trump.

Efficient, flavorful, and easy recipes comprise **What to Cook When You Don’t Feel Like Cooking** by Caroline Chambers.

ADULT EBOOKS

Beginning with Benjamin Franklin’s shop in Philadelphia, **The Bookshop: A History of the American Bookstore** by Evan Friss traces the bookstore to modern times.

An affluent Japanese family’s buried secrets come to light in Yoko Ogawa’s novel **Mina’s Matchbox**.

In **On the Edge: The Art of Risking Everything**, Nate Silver analyzes the minds of professional risk-takers.

A diverse group of New Yorkers searches for a missing woman in **The Rich People Have Gone Away**, a novel by Regina Porter.



Annotations by *Voice* bookworm Karol Barske

BRANCH HOURS

Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library 451 Jersey St., 355-5707						
Sun 1-5	Mon 11-6	Tues 10-8	Wed 12-8	Thurs 10-6	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6
Mission Branch Library 1234 Valencia St., 355-2800						
Sun 1-5	Mon 10-6	Tues 10-8	Wed 10-8	Thurs 10-8	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 10-7	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6
Eureka Valley–Harvey Milk Branch Library 1 José Sarria Ct. (3555 16th St.), 355-5616						
Sun 1-5	Mon 10-6	Tues 10-8	Wed 10-8	Thurs 10-6	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6
For updates, go to <a href="https://sfpl.org">sfpl.org</a>						



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# MORE FOOD TO EAT

## Chloe’s Crispy Griddle Cakes

Anyone who’s been to Chloe’s at 1399 Church St., at the corner of Church and 26th streets, knows you can close your eyes and point at the menu. Every item is a hit. No wonder the café is one of the most sought-after brunch spots in the neighborhood.

However, I personally believe this month’s culinary find deserves to be on more plates.

**Chloe’s Griddle Cakes** (\$13 for a stack of two plain, or \$15 for a stack of two with pecan or banana-walnut) are something truly special. These aren’t your typical fluffy pancakes. The exterior is a bit crispier than a traditional buttermilk pancake, and the core has a chewier oatmeal-like texture. The combination provides a more exciting mouth feel while also delivering a balance of sweet and savory. The sweet taste is amplified by a scoop of cinnamon butter on top.

I’m partial to the plain varietal, as I already think there is a lot going on. But the nutty options are great too. For those choosing the pecan or banana-walnut, I’d recommend splurging to add strawberries (+\$6). The juice of the strawberries balances the density and crunchiness of the nuts.

Now that my partner Katie and I have discovered this delicacy, all of our weekend crossroads meet at the juncture of griddle cakes. Griddle cakes are the panacea for the stress of the week, the cure for the lingering effects of our Friday night out, and the reward for our efforts if we’ve managed to sneak in a morning workout.

The debate among Katie and me and the friends who’ve been lucky enough to join us isn’t whether we’ll order the griddle cakes but how many we’ll need for the table.

As a bonus for sticking with me through this column, I’ll give you the answer to the griddle cake riddle: when calculating numbers of griddle cakes, always round up.

—Matt Fisher for More Food to Eat



Sporting seasons overlap on the field at Upper Noe Recreation Center on a sunny Friday afternoon in October. Photo by Chris Faust

## Capture the Flag Football

All classes are revving up at Upper Noe Recreation Center. Don’t miss out on the action in flag football, soccer, Zumba dance, or petite baking (for kids 5 and under). Many classes and activities are drop-in and free. Sign up at <https://sfrecpark.org/>. Call the rec center office at 415-970-8061 or visit [www.uppernoerecreationcenter.com](http://www.uppernoerecreationcenter.com) for more information.

Visitors may notice improvements in the works at the children’s playground, at 295 Day St. at Sanchez Street. Rec and Park crews have begun work to replace a few of the slides and to repair the rubber surface. The repairs will improve safety until a new artificial grass play surface is installed next year.

To learn more, join Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center, the park’s stewardship group. If you see something to fix, contact San Francisco Customer Service (311) either by phone, web, or the city’s phone app. Park personnel rely on your 311 reports to support service requests. For issues related to Joby’s Dog Run, open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., call 311 or email [info@fundogsf.org](mailto:info@fundogsf.org).

—Chris Faust, Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

## Upper Noe Fall Session (Sept. 3 to Dec. 14, 2024)

Rec Center Hours, 295 Day St.: Tues. to Fri., 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.;

<b>Tuesday</b> 9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pickleball FREE 12 to 1 p.m. Pilates (18+) 2 to 5 p.m. Open Gym (youth) FREE 5 to 7:30 p.m. Open Gym (18+) FREE 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Beginning (18+) 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+)	6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Beginning (18+) 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+)
<b>Wednesday</b> 11 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open Gym (adult) FREE 12 to 1 p.m. Feldenkrais (18+) 1 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 2 to 5 p.m. Open Gym (youth) FREE 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Advanced Drop-In Volleyball (18+)	<b>Friday</b> 9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 10 to 11 a.m. Tot Soccer (ages 3-5) 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open Gym (adult) FREE 2 to 4 p.m. Open Gym (youth) FREE 3 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Girls Team Volleyball (ages 8-10) 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Flag Football Junior Div (ages 8-10) 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tennis Beginning (ages 8-10) 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Girls Team Volleyball (ages 11-14) 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Flag Football Senior Div (ages 11-13) 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Beginning (ages 10-12) 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. Girls Open Volleyball (ages 12-17)
<b>Thursday</b> 10 to 11 a.m. Petite Bakers (ages 3-5) 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play (Free Play) 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pickleball (18+) FREE 12 to 1 p.m. Pilates (18+) 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Pilates (18+) 2 to 5 p.m. Open Gym (youth) FREE 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tennis Beginning (ages 8-10) 5 to 7:30 p.m. Open Gym (18+) FREE	<b>Saturday</b> 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Open Gym (all ages) 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Family Zumba FREE 1 to 4 p.m. A Place to Play (Free Play)

# What’s in Your Earthquake Kit?

Sally Smith / Illustrations by Karol Barske

It’s been 35 years since the Loma Prieta Earthquake (Oct. 17, 1989) and the birth of San Francisco’s **Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT)**. So, it’s more important than ever to get ready for the Next One. Besides joining NERT, you can put together a quake kit or “go bag” with supplies to manage for two weeks or longer, should the power be shut off.

Get on the waitlist for a six-week training at the [sf-fire.org](http://sf-fire.org) website or sign up to be a mock victim at NERT on [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com). For information, go to [https://sf-fire.org/nert](http://https://sf-fire.org/nert) or call the SF Fire Department at 415-970-2024.



**Water:** One gallon per person to last 3 to 5 days. (Use bleach to purify it, 2 to 4 drops per quart.)

**Food** for 3 to 5 days, such as canned or dried soups, beans, juice.

**Cooking Supplies:** A grill or camp stove, utensils, matches, can opener, foil, plastic wrap, garbage bags.



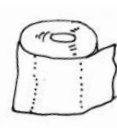
**Clothing:** Light and heavy layers for all, stored to stay dry. Include a pair of shoes and gloves.

**Safety:** Flashlight, radio, batteries, rope, knife, scissors, fire extinguisher, wrench to shut off utilities.



**Supplies** such as cash, house or car keys, pencil and paper, i.d. cards, insurance info, maps.

**Hygiene:** Waterless soap, toilet paper, shampoo, toothbrush and paste, sanitary supplies.



**Special items** for children, the elderly, or people with disabilities.

**Shelter:** Tent, sleeping bags.

**Medical:** First-aid kit, prescriptions, medications, and an extra pair of glasses.



**Pet Supplies,** such as food, water, leash, medications, and carrier.

## Checklist for the ‘Go Bag’

It never hurts to have a “go bag” at home or work or in your car.

- ☐ Comfortable walking shoes
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Extra pair of glasses
- ☐ Crank or battery radio
- ☐ Food and water
- ☐ Cash (\$100 in small bills)
- ☐ Basic first-aid, medications
- ☐ Change of clothes
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Big trash bag, mylar blanket
- ☐ Copy of driver’s license
- ☐ Contact info, paper, pencil, family or pet photos



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and now for the  
RUMORS  
behind the news

The November Surprises

By Mazook

HOLIDAYS, HERE WE COME: Hope you had a safe, fun, sane, and scary Halloween. Noe Valley merchants did their usual heroic job of doling out candy to the crowds of kids combing 24th Street.

I wanted to publish the winners of the wildly successful Howl-a-Ween pet costume contest sponsored by Noe Valley Pet Company (with Noe Café) on Oct. 26, but I got word from Pet Company owner Paula Harris at press time:

“In the chaos of cleaning up our site, it seems like one of [us] threw away our contestant sheet. So unfortunately, the only results I can give now are the dog names of the winners.

1st: Rebel (and Family) as the Flintstones with Dino

2nd: Maya as Australian Olympic Breakdancer Raygun

3rd: Posey as baby hippo Moodang (internet star)

4th: Zion (and Family) as Jailbirds Congrats, Rebel, Maya, Posey, and Zion. Maybe your guardians will send photos.

The next day to celebrate is the Armistice, which ended the First World War on Nov. 11, 1918, at the 11th hour. World War I was called “the war that would end all wars,” but there have been several wars since. After President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation on June 1, 1954, we now call Nov. 11 Veterans Day.

The irony of that day is that when the American Expeditionary Forces came marching home from Europe in the spring of 1918 and held victory parades (down Market Street in San Francisco), they brought with them the “Spanish flu,” which was the Covid-19 of 1918.

But that’s old news now. So may be our Indian summer. Next holiday will be Thanksgiving. We should all give thanks for living and/or working in Noe Valley and for being able to enjoy our autumn before winter comes in January 2025.



DEFACE OF ART: Sadly, Mona Caron’s botanical mural located at Church and 22nd streets—her first public mural in San Francisco—painted on the walls below the Theresa S. Mahler Early Education School at 990 Church, was vandalized in early September by graffiti. Neighbors say it was done at night in the early hours of the morning.

In October, several telephone poles near the mural were posted with the message “Save Our Mural.” The message pointed out, “Our beautiful mural at Church and 22nd Street is at risk of being gone forever. If you want to save it, make your voice heard now. Time is of the essence.”

We were further advised to contact (1) Cadi Poile, the SFUSD’s director of Facilities Service; (2) SFUSD Buildings and Grounds; and (3) District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman. The poster suggested “the untagged/undamaged portions of the mural can be protected with a cifar [?] coat. Removal of the graffiti will help restore and preserve the mural. Covering up/blending over the graffiti that cannot be removed will help deter future damage.”

Mandelman responded almost immediately and visited the site.

Restoration could be very expensive. Based on my conversations with Caron

when she was repainting parts of the mural at the Noe Valley Town Square, I would guess it would take over \$20,000 to do the job. Perhaps a GoFundMe page could raise the money from residents in our neighborhood for the mural at 22nd Street.



BORN TO RUN: Running Wylder opened at the end of October at 1354 Castro St., on the corner of Jersey Street (where First Republic Bank used to be). It’s a true specialty spot for runners.

Says owner/founder (and poetic writer) Katherine Douglas, “This is a beacon for those who find solace in their stride and purpose in their pace. It is founded on the principle that running is not a sport but a way of life. We are more than just a store; we are a community, a haven for runners of all backgrounds and experience.”

Douglas continues, “Running has been in my life since I was little: my parents were runners and I used to bike with my mom when she would train for her races. I spent most of my 30s training and traveling for half marathons, and now in my 40s, as a mom I use it as my outlet—60 minutes of solitude away from the daily demand of life.

“I wanted to open a running store that focuses on running as a lifestyle, offering a highly curated assortment of running shoes, apparel, and accessories, alongside lifestyle and personal care items. Running Wylder will feel like a neighborhood boutique, with the shopping experience in front of mind. Think: shopping while sipping a nice latte or a bottle of Topo Chico in a warm and inviting environment with a rotating assortment of products encouraging exploration. I just really love running and wanted to create a space where I could highlight all the amazing brands that are out there and uplift the run community around me.”

Douglas was the senior designer at Old Navy until two years ago. Before that she was design lead for accessories at Lululemon, and before that an accessories designer at Victoria’s Secret Pink and Abercrombie and Fitch. She studied apparel merchandising and design at Central Michigan University.

Up at 1500 Castro, at the corner of 25th, is a women’s strength training studio called Roar, which opened at the beginning of October.

According to CEO Michelle Kunkel, “After working for 30 years in biotech, I wanted to move back to what is my passion, which is exercise science, which I studied at Michigan State University.” She will lead personal training classes.

“We have a large studio of about 1,850 square feet and want to make it a community space for clients to hang out, meet one another, and a place where people can enjoy not only training but also a lounge for relaxation and enjoyment,” she says.

Joining her in this venture is Meghan Basmajian, also a personal trainer.



AND THE WOMEN ARE STRONG: The brainchild of personal trainer Danielle Repetti, Iron and Mettle is a women-focused strength training gym now operating at 3769 24th St. Its stated goal is to encourage women “to embrace long-term fitness that celebrates strength, empowerment, and community.”

Repetti opened the first Iron and Mettle in 2019 at 1360 Valencia St., then opened the Noe Valley gym in May of 2023. It wasn’t long before neighborhood residents began lining up for private training or group sessions.

Repetti announced in a recent press release that a women-only bench press competition held at the gym on Oct. 19 raised \$19,500 for The Brigid Alliance, an organization that helps provide travel,



**Don’t Wave Back:** Every year about this time, when the evenings cool and the mists cloud the moon, a wraith on Cesar Chavez Street between Noe and Sanchez appears, usually asking for rain but often crying, “My nails, they’re ruined!” If you see this figure, whom some say is a phantom, tell no one.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim

lodging, food, and childcare for individuals seeking abortion services across the U.S.

“The event surpassed its initial goal of \$10,000, with 38 athletes coming together to support reproductive rights,” Repetti noted. “Each participant’s lift was backed by donation-based sponsorships, with sponsors contributing in proportion to the weight lifted.”

The participants represented a wide range of abilities and strengths, said Repetti, “from the youngest lifter, Cleo, age 7, to Savaughn Christman, a coach at Iron and Mettle, who benched the heaviest lift of the day at 175 pounds.

“We believe that abortion is health care, and it is crucial for people to have access to safe and supportive options,” said Repetti. “Iron and Mettle’s community is committed to lifting each other up, not only in the gym but also by standing for the rights and support systems that keep us safe.”



JAM ON IT: Jamaroo Kids had its grand opening on Monday, Oct. 28, at 3870 24th St. According to founder and CEO Jamaica Stevens, “We had our soft opening this past week [Oct. 21-24], and we had a lot of fun and a great turnout. We’ll be offering classes Monday morning, Tuesday afternoon, all day Wednesday, and all day Thursday. Drop-in space is available but limited, based on current enrollment.”

Classes are for kids from infants to age 7. Over the summer, Jamaroo conducted classes outside at Noe Courts.

Stevens says the sprogram in Noe, called the Noe Valley Kids Club, specializes in dance, music, yoga, and art, and parent-tot classes. You can find out the details at the website jamarookids.com.

Local kids also may be jammin’ at the Saturday morning Noe Music Kids classical series at the Noe Valley Ministry (1021 Sanchez). This year’s season starts Nov. 16 with a 10:30 a.m. “interactive concert” led by the virtuoso string players in the Balourdet Quartet. Next comes Teacher Barb and the Musicmakers on Dec. 7, and four more concerts for kids, including “The Carnival of the Animals” by Camille Saint-Saens (March 8, 2025) and an electric guitar/percussion session with composer Danny Clay and The Living Earth Show (April 12).

Each concert is \$15 for ages 3 and up (2 and under free). Find the whole lineup at <https://www.noemusic.org/noe-music-kids-events/>.



THE GARDEN OF EATIN’: Soon opening at 1320 Castro St. (where Birch and Rye used to be before the Russian eatery abruptly closed last February), will be Noe Valley’s first, as far as I can remember, Vietnamese restaurant, Le Quy.

Le Quy currently has a very popular spot in Palo Alto (3906 Middlefield

Road), and another down the road in Campbell. The most popular dishes (according to Yelp) are the restaurant’s Spring Rolls, the Clay Pot, Wagyu Pho, and BBQ Pork.

It looks as if the long-closed Noe Valley Fresca (3945 24th), with their fusion of traditional Peruvian dishes and nuevo culinary techniques, should be opening by December. They first opened a spot in Noe Valley in 2004. They have remodeled and updated the kitchen in the eatery, after closing almost two years ago.

The door was open at the long-vacant restaurant space at 4018 24th St., behind the now famous mural by Palestinian artist Chris Gazaleh, painted to protest the war in Gaza. The site was previously occupied by La PanotiQ Bakery, which closed in 2017.

I walked in and met members of the Salameh family, who own the building. Family members were meeting in the attractive Palestinian-designed dining room, discussing preparations for the opening of the restaurant.

When I asked what the name would be, I was told Wallflower. They said the family planned to open “sometime in December,” and would specialize in Palestinian food. Owner Samir Salameh currently resides upstairs.

The Clay Oven has closed its Indian restaurant at 1689 Church St. after many years at that location. The building, with a three-bedroom, two-bath flat upstairs and the restaurant space on the ground floor, was built in 1908. It has been listed for sale for \$1,695,000 by Jeff Appenrodt of Laurel Realty. The restaurant boasts a fully equipped kitchen, modern appliances, and a dining room with tastefully furnished décor.

Appenrodt points out that it is a turnkey opportunity for some restaurateur.

The restaurant up the street at 1748 Church (formerly Toast) has been taken over by a new eatery called Taffi’s. The sign in front promises that it will be opening soon, serving breakfast and lunch.



POPPIN’ FRESH: A pop-up art store has emerged at 3920B 24th St. The Pinckney Clay Artist Collective, headquartered in the Mission, is opening a second location for holiday shopping and artist-led workshops here in Noe. Says manager Holly Coley, “We have hand-picked eight of our favorite artists to connect Noe Valley with our Bay Area artist community.” The pop-up, running Nov. 1 to Dec. 22, will have pots, planters, figurines, you name it.

Also popping up will be *Stage Fright*, a musical comedy with three performances on Nov. 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 10 at 2:30 p.m., at St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Drive in Diamond Heights. The show, the 18th original production by an ad hoc group of performers, continues the story of the parishioners at the fictitious St. Dymphna’s Church, who engage in a singing contest. As you might guess, it features many memorable show tunes. The show, directed by John Wilk with the help of music director Scrumby Koldewyn and choreographer Deborah Shaw, raises money for St. Aidan’s programs for the community, including the weekly Food Pantry, monthly Diamond Dinners, and Resilient Diamond Heights.

Tickets range from \$10 (kids 5-18) to \$35 for priority seating on Friday and Saturday nights. Find them Sundays, 10 a.m., at the church or at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/6469417](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/6469417).



THAT’S ALL, FOLKS! I hope all of you voted in the general election on Nov. 5. And I hope to have the NOE votes to report next month, if the Department of Elections posts the results in time. Ciao for now. ■





FALL IS HERE! ASK US ABOUT OUR UPCOMING LISTINGS!



## 2955 23rd St. | Inner Mission

**3 BED | 3.5 BATH | \$1,995,000**

Discover this stunning two-level modern condo that beautifully combines luxury and functionality, flooded with natural light. High-end finishes include a custom kitchen, elegant hardwood floors, and soaring ceilings with recessed lighting. The chef's kitchen features top-tier appliances, including a Wolf Range, Sub Zero refrigerator, and Bosch oven, making it perfect for culinary enthusiasts. The spacious primary suite boasts two closets and an ensuite bath, while a secondary bedroom also includes an ensuite bathroom and patio access. The generous family room is ideal for entertaining, complemented by a third bedroom and an additional bathroom. Enjoy the private patio, one-car garage parking, and in-unit laundry for added convenience. Situated in a prime Mission District location, you'll be surrounded by renowned restaurants, cafes, and cocktail bars, such as Flour and Water, Trick Dog, and Tartine Manufactory. With a 100 Walking Score, 84 Transit Score, and 100 Cycling Score, this condo is a commuter's dream. Experience unparalleled urban living in San Francisco's vibrant Mission District!

## 20 Newman St. | Bernal Heights

**2 BED | 1 BATH | \$1,175,000**

Behind its charming facade, this home presents a captivating piece of San Francisco history, having been crafted from two earthquake shacks. Meticulously renovated and modernized, the main level boasts a spacious open-plan living and dining area, characterized by stunning exposed beam ceilings and picturesque views of lush greenery from every window. The chef-inspired kitchen features stainless steel appliances, soapstone countertops, custom cabinetry, and beautiful tiles, creating an inviting space for culinary creativity. The primary bedroom is a serene retreat, complete with double closets featuring custom built-ins, vaulted ceilings, and French doors that open onto a sunny patio adorned with succulents and a raised vegetable garden. A cozy second bedroom is perfectly suited for use as a home office or guest room. Conveniently located in the basement, you'll find laundry facilities and ample storage. Just moments from Holly Park and the vibrant shops and cafes of Cortland Street, this home is also minutes away from Noe Valley, Glen Park, the Inner Mission, and convenient access to Muni/BART and highways 280/101. With an impressive Walk Score of 95, this property truly embodies the essence of urban living.



## 750 Sanchez St. | Eureka Valley

**4 BED | 2 BATH | \$7,495,000**

Rare Home with Adjacent Lot = Endless Possibilities! Perched in one of San Francisco's most sought-after enclaves, this is an extraordinary opportunity a beautifully appointed home paired with a rare adjacent lot. With breathtaking downtown views, this property provides the canvas to create something exceptional: perhaps a pool, a guest house, or a visionary project that's only limited by your imagination. Opportunities like this, with so much potential in one of the city's most prestigious areas, are nearly impossible to find. The home itself is fully detached, offering privacy and charm, surrounded by mature trees and lush greenery. Inside, you'll find a perfect blend of classic elegance and modern comfort, featuring tall boxed ceilings, hardwood floors, and an open-concept living space. The main level includes three spacious bedrooms, while the top-floor primary suite offers panoramic views, a private deck, and an adjacent lounge for ultimate relaxation. Outside, multiple decks and patios provide ideal spaces for entertaining or quiet retreats. Just moments from Dolores Park and the vibrant Noe Valley, this property combines urban convenience with the exclusivity and potential that few properties can offer. Sq.Ft. OHP floor plans, partially includes basement.

## COMING SOON

## 545 Dolores St. | Mission Dolores

**3 BED | 4 BATH | 1 PARKING | RENOVATED | PARK FACING RESIDENCE | CALL FOR PRICING |**



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Rachel Swann



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415.225.7743  
Team@SwannGroupSF.com  
CalRE# 01860456

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