



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



Thanks for the Spiffiness: Neighborhood volunteers, including Supervisor Rafael Mandelman (center), pose at the monthly cleanup launched from the Noe Valley Town Square on third Sundays, 10 a.m. to noon. For the scoop on the latest event, go to Rumors Behind the News, page 23. *Photo courtesy Olga Zubashko*

Music Royalty Reigns at James Lick

Students Perform a Tribute to Pop, Soul and Latin Icons

By Emily Hayes

You can catch local kids singing their hearts out during a music royalty tribute concert at the newly renovated and reopened auditorium at James Lick Middle School on Thursday and Friday nights, Nov. 6 and 7. The show—*A Royal Tribute: Celebrating the Kings and Queens of Latin, Pop and Soul Music*—is led by the school’s theater teacher and arts

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Part of the Crew: Terrier-poodle Buddy, 14, and pit-lab-shepherd Sadie, 5, are eager to provide support to filmmakers Stephanie Rapp and Jay Rosenblatt, especially if they make another documentary like *Tripawds*. *Photo courtesy Rapp-Rosenblatt family*

Local Directors Find Heart and History

Films Reveal Resilience—From Dogs to Diplomacy

By Matthew S. Bajko

Sometimes inspiration comes in surprising packages—like a poster at a vet’s office announcing a picnic in a park for three-legged dogs aiming to break a Guinness World Record. That’s what caught the eye of Noe Valley writer and filmmaker Stephanie Rapp. She hurried home to tell her hus-

band, Oscar-nominated documentarian Jay Rosenblatt. “I said, ‘Jay, we have to film it and meet these dogs and their owners,’” recalled Rapp. So that’s what they did. With cameras trained on the canines playing on the grass, the couple turned the event into a nine-minute short called *Tripawds*. For filmmaker Yuriko Gamo Romer,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

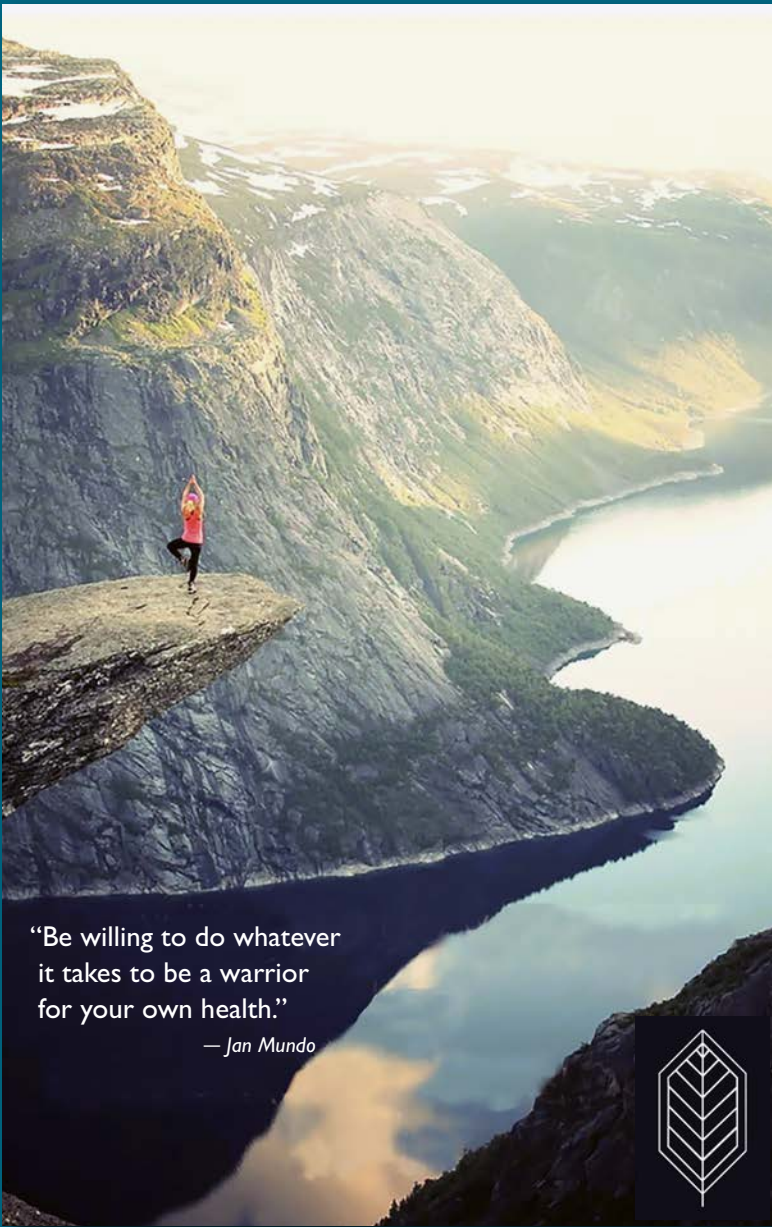
Handbell Choir Rings Out for New Members

‘Bell Appeal’ Seeking New Recruits for Holiday Concerts

By Matthew S. Bajko

Growing up in Washington state, Andrea Peng had performed with the handbell choir at her school, as had her mother. Peng’s own three children were in the handbell choir at their schools, first in the Bay Area and then in Seattle after the family had moved to the Puget Sound region. After moving to Noe Valley several years ago, Peng was looking for a way to meet people in the neighborhood. She happened to learn about Bell Appeal, the handbell choir sponsored by Bethany United Methodist Church at the corner of Sanchez and Clipper streets, a short walk from her Elizabeth Street home. Last fall, she took part in her first rehearsal with the group. Having also played piano and the clarinet in her youth, Peng was able to put her music-reading ability to use again. “It is a fun outlet and not a huge commitment. It gets you to be playing in a group,” Peng, a world champion speed jigsaw puzzler, said of joining Bell Appeal. The handbell choir first came together in the summer of 1996 after Steve

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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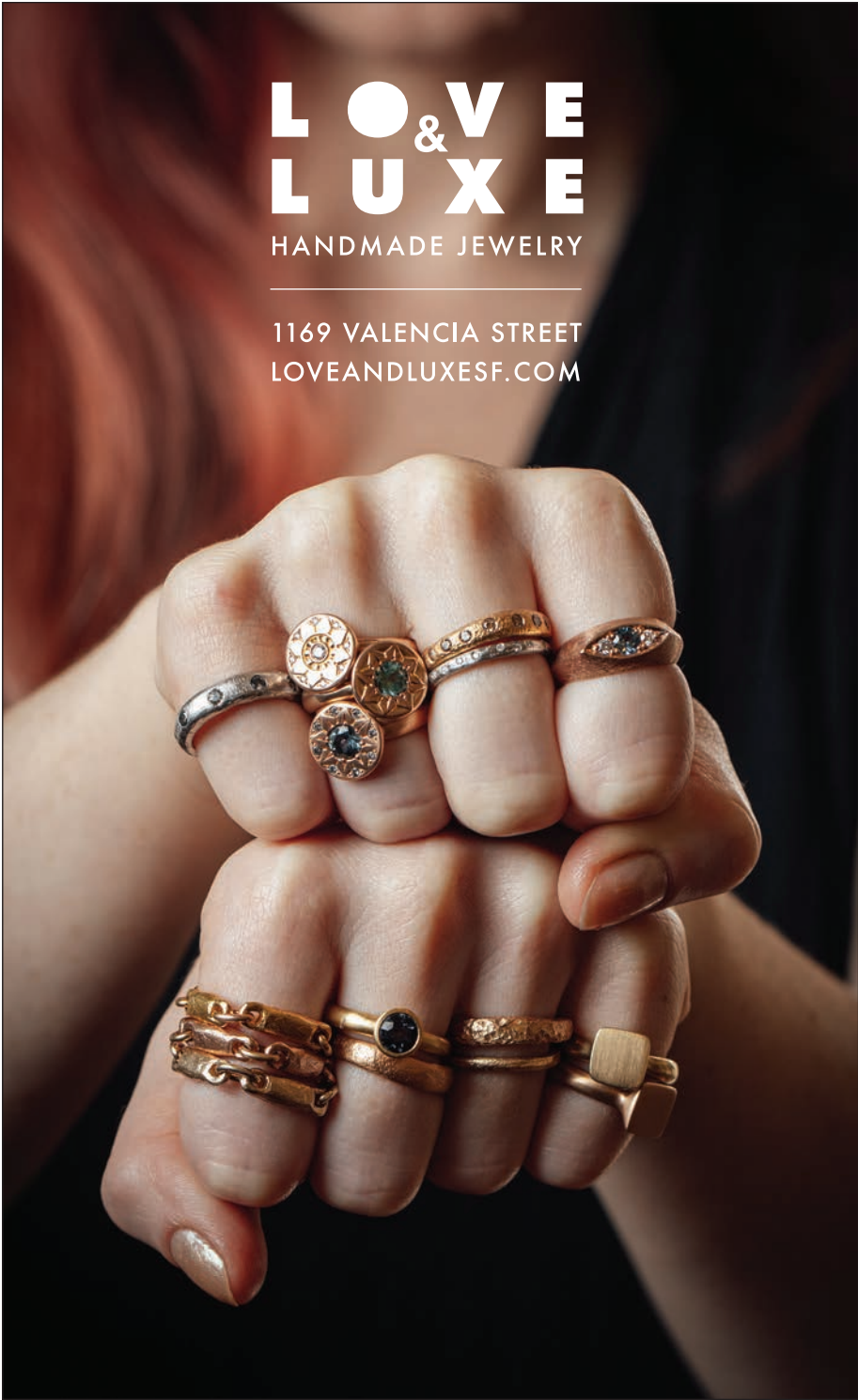
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CRIME SNAPSHOT

Burglars Fail to Get Message

Crime in Noe Valley held steady in August, maintaining a relatively low level of activity for the third consecutive month.

According to the San Francisco Police Department’s digital map of incident reports, police logged a total of 65 incidents in the neighborhood, in the 10 crime categories that the *Noe Valley Voice* tracks monthly.

The August tally was on a par with incidents in July (65) and June (60). All three months were two-thirds that of May, which recorded the highest total so far this year, 95 incidents.

As usual, the category with the most recorded incidents was larceny/theft. Among the 31 thefts plotted on the digital map in August, three were designated as package thefts and 18 as shoplifting incidents. The rest (10) gave no further details.

Of potential greater concern was an uptick in burglaries in August. Noe Valley reported 18 incidents, including 10 residential burglaries, four break-ins at retail stores or other businesses, and four thefts from inside “other” properties. Two of the burglaries were deemed “hot prowls,” where residents were home at the time.

On the positive side, there were no reported robberies or assaults in Noe Valley in August. Also, “only” four vehicles were reported stolen, as compared to 10 in August a year ago.

CRIME SNAPSHOT DATA															
Noe Valley Incident Reports July 2024 – August 2025															
Crime Category	Jul24	Aug24	Sep24	Oct24	Nov24	Dec24	Yr2024	Jan25	Feb25	Mar25	Apr25	May25	Jun25	Jul25	Aug25
Larceny/Theft	49	36	46	44	55	44	460	42	26	45	29	44	27	28	31
Burglary	39	21	16	17	19	17	243	17	16	13	11	16	6	14	18
Malicious Mischief	5	8	8	7	4	3	79	9	4	5	3	2	5	7	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	12	10	10	8	8	3	109	6	5	6	3	4	7	6	4
Assault	3	3	2	8	5	6	32	2	2	2	0	5	2	2	0
Robbery	2	3	2	0	0	3	16	0	0	3	2	2	0	1	0
Other Misc	7	8	6	17	14	7	117	13	9	8	5	10	2	2	4
Fraud	0	5	1	5	3	4	40	0	3	2	3	9	7	4	1
Family D.Violence	0	3	1	2	5	1	22	0	0	4	4	3	4	1	1
Vandalism	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	119	98	92	108	113	88	1,122	89	65	88	61	95	60	65	65

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 data 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* collected the **August 2025** data on **Sept. 8, 2025**. “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 October 2025

The *Voice* culled the August data from the city’s open data portal on Sept. 8, 2025. To locate the crime dataset, go to [Data.sfgov.org](https://data.sfgov.org) and click on the Public Safety link.

Note that the SFPD defines Noe Valley as the area roughly bounded by 21st Street, San Jose Avenue/Guerrero Street, 30th Street, and Grand View Avenue/Diamond Heights Boulevard.

To report recurring incidents within the Mission Police District, contact Mission Station Captain Sean Perdomo at Sean.Perdomo@sfgov.org. For incidents within Ingleside Police District, email Captain Gerald Newbeck at Gerald.Newbeck@sfgov.org.

—Corrie M. Anders, Sally Smith



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It's Always Witchy in Noe Valley as this photo from 2006 by Pamela Gerard proves.



A Bright Idea: Artists Naomi Murai, Hank Sultan, Everett Snowden, and Paul Kensinger celebrate the re-painting of *RainForest of the Mind*, the mural on the 29th Street side of Alice's Restaurant. Originally created by Sultan in 1993, the work was recently restored and expanded by the group, which also included mural restorer Yano Rivera. Photo courtesy Lisa Gale Garrigues

LETTERS 78 CENTS

Noe Art Shines at Festival Editor:

What fun at the Noe Valley Art Festival on Sunday, Sept. 14th! Perfect weather, amazing art, face painting, fantastic art, friendship bracelets, awesome art, music, crafts, Supervisor Mandelman, and the VIBE truck. It was quite a fabulous day!

Many thanks to our wonderful partners Perez Construction SF, Noe Valley Town Square, Noe Valley Farmers Market, Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, Vibe Events, SF Rec & Park.

Also, we'd like to thank our musicians, Liberty Street Band and Dave Kesler, and the merchants who hosted artists for the Art Walk: Edward Jones Financial, Purplemaroon, Moonshot Studio, Perfectly Seasoned, ArtHaus SF, New Classic Gallery Shop, and Olive This Olive That.

Each year, the Friends of Noe Valley endeavors to have a variety of media to showcase at the festival. We prioritize artists who are new to the festival plus artists who have participated once pre-

viously. That way we can keep the festival fresh each year. Of course, we look for local Noe Valley artists first!

Statistically speaking, this year the participating artists came from several San Francisco neighborhoods: 71% reside in Noe Valley (17 artists); 17% are very close neighbors living in Glen Park, Bernal Heights, 25th at Mission, and Mission Terrace (4 artists); and 12% live in the Sunset, Chinatown, or Berkeley (3 artists)

We have already received many requests about how to participate next year. So we are happily adding names to our existing list of artists.

If you are an artist and would like to add your name, please email Friendsofnv@gmail.com.

Peggy Cling, Linda Lockyer, Rose Griffin
Friends of Noe Valley

Fall Gathering on the Hill Editor:

The Dolores Heights Improvement Club (DHIC), the volunteer neighborhood association for Dolores Heights, is holding its Annual Fall Gathering on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Sanchez Street between Hill and 21st streets.

We invite neighborhood residents to join the socializing, refreshments, discussion, speakers, a great raffle and

other activities.

At noon Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and Police Captain Sean Perdomo will discuss their plans to address the disruptive dirt bikers and fireworks in Dolores Park and the broader community.

The DHIC will also have tables with members sharing committee activities: Green Gardens, neighborhood cleanup activities, planning & land use, and neighborhood safety groups.

For more information, email info@doloresheights.org.

Carolyn Kenady
Dolores Heights Improvement Club

Look for the Plaque Editor:

The Peter Gabel Commemorative Plaque is in the ground!

Fundraising and creating the plaque has been a 2.5-year effort, culminating the morning of Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025, when the excellent Department of Public Works crew poured the cement to seal the plaque in place at the edge of the Noe Valley Town Square, just where Peter stood every Saturday to greet people coming into the farmers market.

All this time, from the plaque's inception to installation, Roger Rubin (aka Mazook) has covered the story in the *Noe Valley Voice*. His attentiveness

aided in the fundraising and publicity needed to make the plaque a reality.

Many thanks to Roger and the entire *Voice* crew!

Lisa Jaicks
Peter's partner



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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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, Kit Cameron, Matt Fisher, Kathryn Guta, Emily Hayes, Liz Highleyman, Jeff Kaliss, Megan Robertson, Roger Rubin, Karen Topakian

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

PRODUCTION
Sally Smith, Jack Tipple

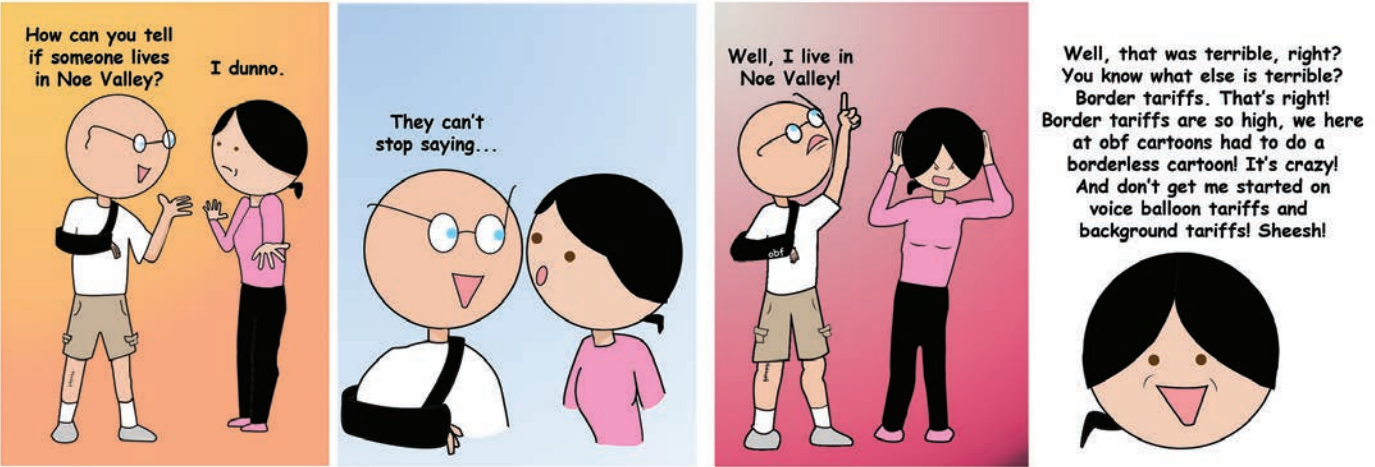
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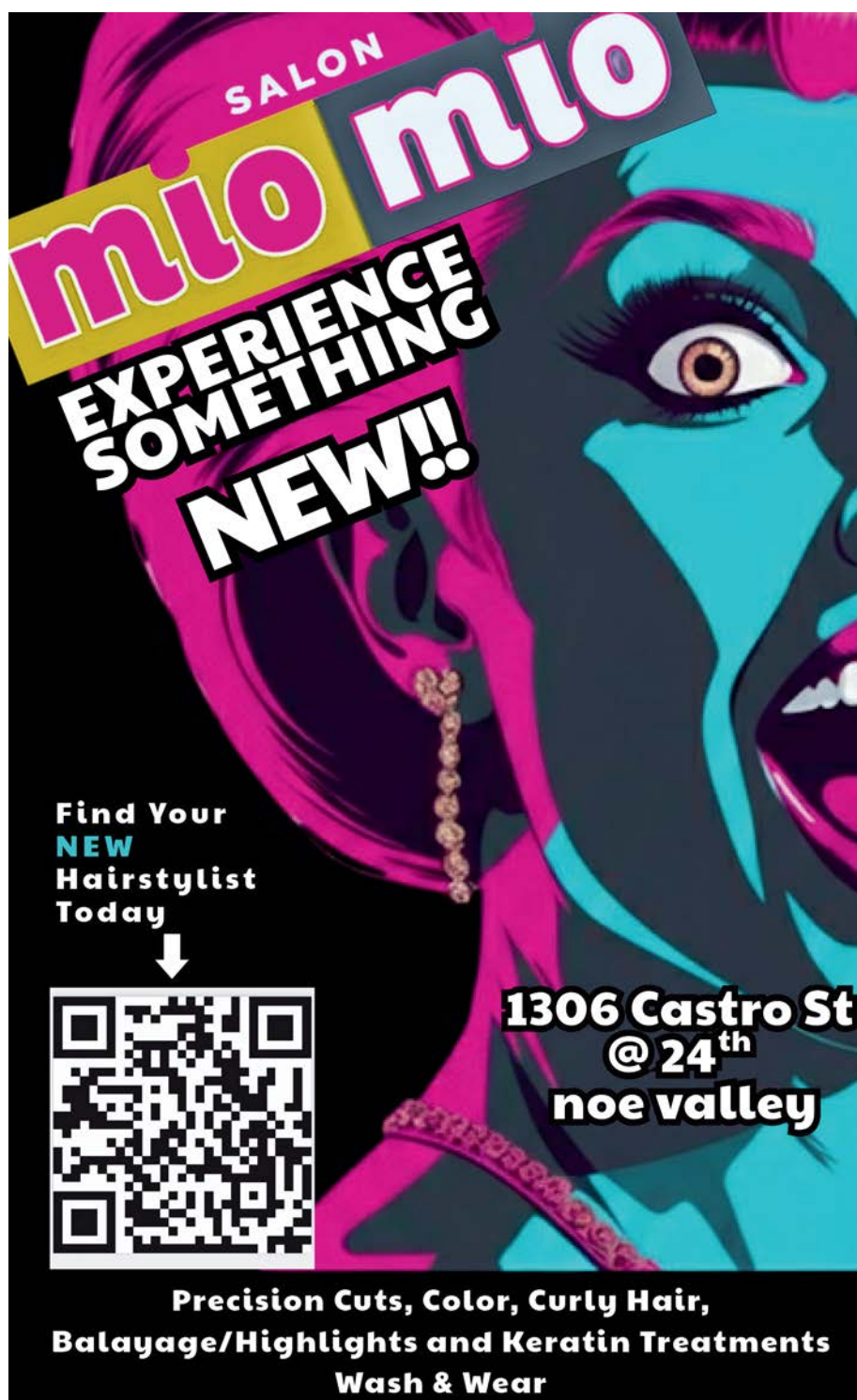
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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Famous Noe Valleons

ACROSS

1. Perhaps
6. The "double helix"
9. Put two and two together
14. Really bothered
15. -y, pluralized
16. Not tight
17. Noe Valley-based artist whose SFMoMA Retrospective just finished a six-month run
19. Midler or Davis
20. ___ SF: longtime nightclub with cross-dressed performers
21. Former Saudi king ___ Saud
22. Used a rod and reel
23. ___ Bornes (classic card game)
25. Apollo 13 director Howard
26. Smooth guitarist and a graduate of Lick Jr. High
31. Red ingredient at Casa Mexicana
33. Total
34. That woman
35. Make a knot
36. With "West," 49ers' div.
39. Big name in outdoor gear
41. Grp. that stages plays at Toni Rembe Theater
42. Org. for dentists
43. Bob Hope tour grp.
45. ___ Way galaxy
47. Law and Order Emmy winner and a graduate of Lick Jr. High
52. First lady?
53. Instruct
54. Became weepy (with "up")
57. Title for Prince William, for short
58. "Gomer Pyle, ___"
62. Children's author Horatio
63. Douglass Street resi-

- dent who wed Phyllis Lyon in a historic 2004 ceremony
65. Areas of urban decay
66. ___ Fridays (Applebee's rival)
67. Look fixedly
68. Rapper who changed his name to Ye
69. Native ___: Carl Nolte's *Chronicle* column
70. "War ___ the answer"

DOWN

1. Actress Rooney or Kate
2. "Look ___" ("Aren't we a pair!")
3. Hairy Himalayan
4. Nassau's chain, with "the"
5. SFO abbr.
6. Contra Costa County peak
7. Quality of novelty
8. "___ matter of

- fact..."
9. Street near Mission Dolores with a plaque saying it's SF's oldest
10. "What ___ kill you makes you stronger"
11. "The lady ___ protest too much": *Hamlet*
12. Ninety degrees from norte
13. Monopoly card
18. Pie-cooling window part
22. Picture border
24. Modern Persia
26. Unsullied
27. Big ___, California
28. Grind to ___ (stop suddenly): 2 wds.
29. Big giraffe feature
30. Ostentatious, in a way
31. Use a fork
32. Congressional gofer
37. Was irate
38. ___: NY (cop show spinoff)

40. Apple desktop introduced in 1998
44. Constantly busy
46. Patient's complaint
48. Irons of films
49. Risk ___: unlikely to take chances
50. Capital of Germany
51. ___ Emanuel, Obama's first chief of staff
54. Honey-do list component
55. First lady of scat, familiarly
56. Have ___ to one's head: be threatened
59. Friend of Cartman, Eric, and Kyle
60. Spanish Surrealist Joan
61. Tech-review site based in SF
63. Excessive drinker's "shakes"
64. "___ was saying..."

10/2025 Noe Valley Voice
Solution on Page 21

James Lick Kids Ready to Shine in Music Tribute

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

coordinator Keith Carames, with music direction by Jorell Chavez and in collaboration with San Francisco Community Music Center.

Concertgoers can expect to hear 18 songs made famous by music legends, including Prince’s “Purple Rain,” Selena’s “Como la Flor,” and Whitney Houston’s “I Wanna Dance with Somebody.” The repertoire also includes hits by Aretha Franklin and Michael Jackson.

Students have researched the greats and will be discussing fun facts and celebrity biographies as part of the entertainment. They will be backed by a live professional band, featuring Chavez on keyboard and a trio playing drums, bass, and guitar.

The performances in November are a new iteration of a tribute show Carames and Chavez conceived several years ago and showcased at James Lick in 2018. But the song selection is new, and so is the student-written script, Carames says.

“We crafted the skeleton for this production to have students have some agency and voice in what they were performing and who they were celebrating,” Carames said. “The majority of our students at this school are of Latin American or African American descent. We wanted to find heroes with whom they identified and associated and looked up to.”

This November’s royal tribute will



Future Stars: Music director Jorell Chavez directs students rehearsing for *A Royal Tribute: Celebrating the Kings and Queens of Latin, Pop, and Soul Music*, to be held Oct. 6 and 7, at 7 p.m., in the newly renovated JLMS auditorium at 1220 Noe St. Photo courtesy Keith Carames



also be the first performances in the auditorium since its closure five years ago for a \$4 million renovation.

“We have brand new lighting, brand new sound, brand new curtains, and brand new acoustic panels,” Carames said. “So, the theater has had a 21st century upgrade, and we’d like to invite the community to come and celebrate in our new space.”

Showtime is 7 p.m. both nights at the school, at 1220 Noe St. Parking can be found on the 25th Street upper yard.

Tickets are available at the door, with a suggested donation of \$20. You can also order at www.brownpapertickets.com (see Event 6724493). Questions? Email caramesk@sfusd.edu.

You can help underwrite the production by sending a tax-deductible donation by check made payable to James Lick Middle School (memo theatre arts). Send to JLMS, c/o Keith Carames, 1220 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94114. ■

Race for District 8 Supervisor Begins ‘Manny’ Yekutieli and Gary McCoy Lead the Competition

By Matthew S. Bajko

The contest to become the next District 8 representative on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors has officially begun, with two well-known community leaders launching their bids. The election will take place on the 2026 November ballot.

Gary McCoy, a longtime aide to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco), and Emanuel “Manny” Yekutieli, the owner of the eponymously named cafe and event space on Valencia Street, filed to run in late September and have already begun raising money. The seat includes Noe Valley along with Diamond Heights, Glen Park, the Castro, Duboce Triangle, Twin Peaks, Corona Heights, and parts of Cole Valley.

The current officeholder and president of the board, Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, is term-limited from running again. He will officially step down in January of 2027.

Due to the importance of LGBTQ issues in District 8, the seat has long been held by gay leaders. Like Mandelman, McCoy and Yekutieli are both gay men.

They also have long been active in the city’s politics.

Yekutieli is a former member of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors, who had flirted with running for mayor last year but decided against doing so.

McCoy currently serves as the manager of Pelosi’s Save Our Health Care



Campaign. He and his husband, Kory Powell-McCoy, who is Pelosi’s district director in her local office, and their dog Xander, reside in Twin Peaks.

Yekutieli lives in the Castro and cofounded the Civic Joy Fund with Mayor Daniel Lurie prior to his election last November. It funds night markets across the city, including the ones held in Noe Valley and the Castro.

Because the District 8 seat is open, other candidates are likely to seek it. The filing deadline to do so is next summer. ■



Stylish Curbs

Volunteers were painting murals at two intersections along Slow Sanchez in September—at Clipper Street and 29th Street (shown)—as part of a SFMTA pilot project to increase safety and visibility at “day-lit” corners. San Francisco artists Hollis Callas and Matley Hurd (at left) were chosen to design the murals via a community survey this summer. Extra funding came from the Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative.

Photos by Art Bodner



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Handbell Choir Making a Holiday Appeal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rausch, then serving as the congregation’s music director, bought a set of handbells for \$3,000 from an organist friend of his who was retiring. He wanted Bethany to have a handbell choir similar to the ones he’d directed at past churches along the Central Coast.

He was also friends with members of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band—it put on free community concerts at Bethany—so several of those musicians answered his call to become members of the handbell choir along with congregants of the church.

Rausch then reached out to the marching band’s director at the time, Jadine Louie, about having the handbell choir be part of the city’s Dance-Along Nutcracker performances that December. It is a holiday tradition for what is now known as the San Francisco Pride Band.

“I begged and pleaded with Jadine to get us to play at it,” recalled Rausch, who left Bethany in 2002 and now lives with his husband in Rancho Mirage outside of Palm Springs.

The choir made its public debut playing for the Nutcracker attendees as they made their way into the theater.

“Members of the band and the church collaborated on this one-time Dance-Along Nutcracker event. That is how it started,” recalled Darwin Choy, who played with the band and was a founding member of the choir.

From Ounces to 10 Pounds

Since Bell Appeal’s founding, half of the choir members have been Bethany congregants and the rest performers in the marching band, though anyone from the public is welcome join. While the church sponsors the choir and provides practice space, the choir operates independently.

“While the practices are held at the church and we do perform there for services three to four times a year, it is independent, and we also perform our own mini concerts,” explained Peng.

Founding member Michael Eaton, a lay leader at the church, continues to perform with the choir. He played guitar and piano as a child, so didn’t find it difficult to take up the handbells.

“Each bell is a note, but it is different than playing the piano. The trick is to get all of the handbells to be playing at the right time but also the different handbells to be playing either soft or loud notes,” said Eaton, a San Francisco resident now retired from his career in finance.

Each member of the choir can cover four musical notes using three to six handbells. The handbells of differing sizes come in five unique octaves.

“The giant ones are 10 pounds, maybe, while the little ones are a few ounces,” noted Eaton.

‘If You’re Into It, It’s Hip’

As it readies for its fall and holiday performances this year, and prepares to mark its 30th anniversary in 2026, the handbell choir is looking to recruit new members.

“It would be nice to make a little bit of a splash,” said Eaton, and bolster the choir’s ranks for the milestone next year.

With its tagline “not your mama’s handbell choir,” Eaton said, the group has “tried to make it hip” for younger



Bell Appeal members (l. to. r.) Steve Lundy, Andrea Peng, George Kuniholm, Pam Nicholas, Darwin Choy, Adrienne Krug, Caroline Orsi, Julie Vaquilar, Kate Armstrong, and Michael Eaton are carrying on a tradition that dates back to 1996. Photo courtesy Andrea Peng

people to join, and not just retirees.

Added Peng, “If you like it and are into it, it is hip.”

There are currently nine people on the roster of handbell ringers, while the choir would ideally like to have 13. Having a larger group would mean people could miss a rehearsal or performance if they had a schedule conflict, noted Eaton.

Plus, with more members playing different notes, the choir might have a greater repertory.

“We could try more difficult songs,” said Peng. “I’d also like to see the group growing. It is a nice way to meet people. It is very casual. Nobody is going wag a finger at you if you play the wrong note.”

Music Secular and Sacred

As for the choir’s name, it plays off the musicality of the instruments, explained Eaton.

“Bells have a pealing sound,” he said.

Choy had suggested the name. Born and raised in San Francisco, at one time living on the border of Diamond Heights and Glen Park, Choy took up the clarinet in the fifth grade and played it in college with the marching band at UC Berkeley, from which he graduated in 1990.

Now living with his husband in Vallejo, he continues to perform with Bell Appeal but is no longer with the Pride band, in which he had first played clarinet and then percussion. One reason he likes to play the handbells is they have a unique sound, said Choy.

“I like the musicality and the diverse repertoire of songs. We do everything from the secular to the sacred,” said Choy, an administrative coordinator with McDonald’s corporate offices. “I just love the variety of the music.”

At its Pride concert in June, one choir member had rearranged “Brave,” by pop musician Sara Bareilles, for Bell Appeal to perform. Written as a love letter to a friend struggling to come out, the song has become an anthem for the LGBTQ+ community.

The concert also included “Shake It Off” by Taylor Swift, “Hallelujah” by Leonard Cohen, and the Judy Garland classic “Over the Rainbow.”

A Joyful Noise

Assisting the handbell choir with its holiday performances this year as its conductor is Evan Alparone, Bethany’s current music director. He has held the part-time position since 2021 and has worked with Bell Appeal over the years, but this is his first time having a formal role with the group.

He performed with the handbell choir at his middle school in Hayward.

“It is a great way to learn music,” Alparone said of being part of such a musical ensemble. “You are playing a couple of notes, but you get very involved. It is an interesting type of group ensemble.”

Being part of a handbell choir is a good option for someone who had musical training as a child but may have stepped away from it as an adult, he said, and now is feeling “an itch” to pursue it again.

Tolling Against Gun Violence

The first Friday of each month Reverend Rob Herrmann, the pastor at Bethany United Methodist Church, borrows a handbell normally used by the Bell Appeal choir and rings it for five minutes.

Rain or shine, Herrmann stands in the street outside the church at the intersection of Clipper and Sanchez streets and tolls the bell beginning at 9:35 a.m.

He has done so every month since joining the church in July last year. His bell-ringng is part of Ring Out Danger, an ecumenical campaign to end gun violence led by faith communities and houses of worship around the state..

“It is a tolling mourning the people who have died due to gun violence and for sane, reasonable gun laws in this country,” said Herrmann as he clanged a bell the morning of Sept. 5.

Anyone is welcome to join in the ringing and should arrive by 9:30 a.m. to the church at 1270 Sanchez St. Bells will be provided.

The Unitarian Universalists of Petaluma in California’s Sonoma County north of San Francisco began the monthly actions on June 2, 2023, as it fell on the first Friday of June, which is yearly observed as National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Leaders of the church recruited clergy and parishioners from other churches and synagogues in town to join in.

They chose the starting time of 9:35 a.m. because it was the time that the Columbine High School massacre took place in 1999. Twelve students and one teacher were killed by two other students at the Colorado school.

Herrmann began participating in the bell tolling as pastor for both St. John’s UMC in Rohnert Park and Petaluma UMC. He has only missed ringing bells on two first Fridays ever since.

“I think it is important to participate in something visual,” he said. “It is an outreach and an opportunity to engage with the community.”

—Matthew S. Bajko

“It is a great way to get back into it, maybe in a new way but still utilizing your talents in a fun way and a social way,” said Alparone. “It is a great group of people who enjoy hanging out with each other.”

The choir holds practice on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in a basement room of the church where members can set up tables for their bells. (Enter through a door to the right of the church’s main gate at 1270 Sanchez St.)

Bell Appeal’s next public performance will be during the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, Nov. 2, in the Bethany Church sanctuary.

In late September, the choir was still finalizing its holiday concert schedule. To learn more about Bell Appeal and its upcoming events and see videos of past performances, visit its website at <https://www.bellappeal.org/>.

Those interested in joining the choir can email bellappealsf@gmail.com. ■

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Films Spotlight Good Will in Dogs And Diplomacy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the idea came from a TV screen in a Society of California Pioneers exhibit in downtown San Francisco 10 years ago, showing “home movies” made by a player on the San Francisco Seals minor-league baseball team while on a 1949 U.S. diplomatic tour of Japan.

“I didn’t know anything about it. I was amazed and thought what a cool story this is,” recalled Romer.

At first Romer thought she’d make a short film. But once she discovered how baseball had been used to forge relationships between the U.S. and Japan for over a century, she expanded the project into a 90-minute documentary, *Diamond Diplomacy*.

“I started opening the history books and it turned into a giant project,” said Romer, who directed the award-winning 2012 documentary *Mrs. Judo: Be Strong, Be Gentle, Be Beautiful*, about the late Keiko Fukuda (co-

emy Award nominations were for the documentary shorts *How Do You Measure a Year?* (2023) and *When We Were Bullies* (2022).

From the dogs’ POV, they broke the world record—94 three-legged dogs gathered in the park that day. (A month before, picnic organizers had dropped the ball on registering with Guinness, so the win was not considered official.)

“It was fun and wonderful to see,” said Rapp.

On the Festival Circuit

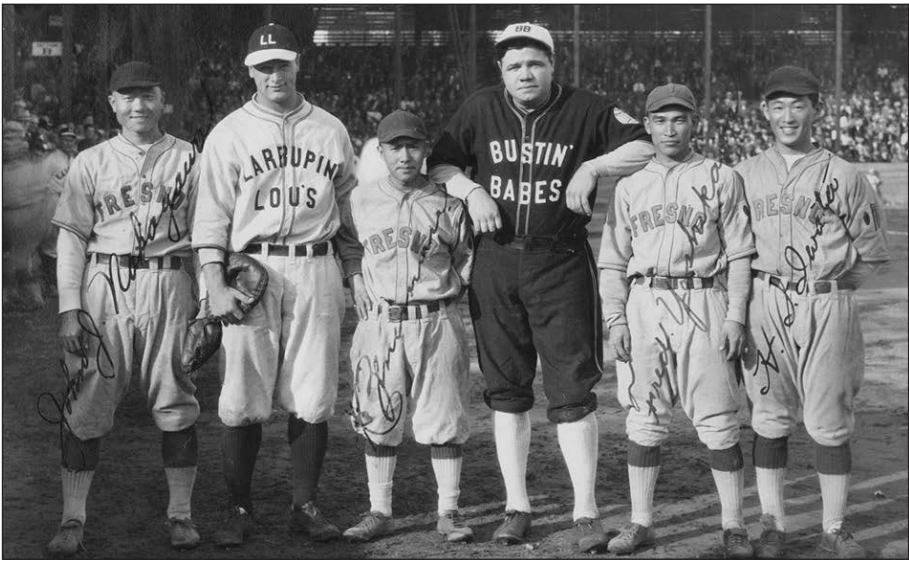
Both films are making their debuts this month at the Mill Valley Film Festival, running Oct. 2 to 13.

Rosenblatt and Rapp were awaiting word in mid-September on whether their short would be accepted at other festivals.

Romer’s film will screen in October at both the Tallgrass Film Festival in Wichita, Kansas, and the Newport Beach Film Festival.

She had just delivered the final cut to the Mill Valley festival the day she spoke with the *Voice*.

Romer, who lives on 25th Street, has long been a baseball fan and enjoys sharing season tickets to the San



Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig stand alongside members of the Fresno Nisei, Japanese American all-stars, who in a famous game in 1927 played on Gehrig’s team and beat Babe Ruth’s 13-3.

Pioneers museum.

“It was a mind-awakening thing. I had no idea that the government [at the urging of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, American administrator of Occupied Japan] had done something like that,” said Romer, who was born in Japan but mainly grew up in Southern California.

“I found it really interesting that baseball had gone through these many phases of history,” she said. “It went through good times and bad times, and both countries somehow held on to this love of baseball.”

Her research took her from American legends like Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and Lefty O’Doul to modern-day Japanese standouts like Shohei Ohtani and Ichiro Suzuki, inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame this summer.

A Cultural Bridge

In *Diamond Diplomacy*, Romer made use of archival footage, photos, artwork, and posters to show how baseball arrived in Japan in the 1870s, grew in popularity over the centuries, and opened Japan’s ties with the U.S.

She traveled to Japan to interview people for the film, from former players to historians, and captured commemorative events hosted by the Giants, marking the team’s role in strengthening diplomatic efforts as well.

“Nowadays you see how international baseball has become. More and more around the U.S., people are familiar with Japanese names being put on jerseys and with Japanese players being very good,” said Romer, noting that she is of both countries.

“For me, it was fascinating that a sport could capture the hearts of these two countries that had very differing cultures. In a sense, there was a bridge between these two countries through the sport.”

She also was able to talk with Babe Ruth’s daughter, Julia Ruth Stevens, prior to her death at the age of 102 in



A Japanese ballplayer enjoys an American snack during one of many cultural exchanges documented in *Diamond Diplomacy*. Photos courtesy Yuriko Gamo Romer

2019, and with Tom O’Doul, a cousin of the left-handed pitcher born in San Francisco, whose career stretched from the Pacific Coast League to Major League Baseball.

Delay of Game: Trump

Earlier this year, Romer learned the \$600,000 grant she’d received from the National Endowment for the Humanities to make the film would be reduced by half by the Trump administration. She spoke to NPR about it, and a subsequent crowdfunding campaign allowed her to raise the full amount.

“It got a lot of interest from people who cared,” said Romer, who is hopeful the film will be chosen to air on PBS.

While she didn’t intend for the film-making process to be so lengthy, Romer sees the timing of *Diamond Diplomacy*’s release this fall as fortuitous.

“I don’t think anyone sits down and says they are going to spend the next decade making a film,” she said. “In retrospect, it is kind of interesting it is now coming out, because I think way more people are aware of Japanese baseball than even five years ago. Part of it is the number of players from Japan has increased. Their visibility has increased.”

Animals Always Uplifting

Rosenblatt and Rapp too feel their film is being released at the right moment. They hope *Tripawds* will be a welcome breather in a social and political climate that has many people feeling despair.

“These dogs, for us, represent resilience,” said Rosenblatt. “We all need some of that right now, with the state of the world and the state of this country,” he said.

The couple say they may return to the topic of three-legged dogs in the future and make a longer film.

“If you are an animal lover, it is hard not to be drawn to doing more,” said Rapp. ■



Noe Valley filmmaker Yuriko Gamo Romer relaxes at home between festival screenings of her new documentary, *Diamond Diplomacy*. Photo by Art Bodner

founder of the Soko Joshi Judo Club at 26th and Castro streets).

Rapp and Rosenblatt, who live on 20th Street with their two four-footed dogs—Buddy, a 14-year-old terrier poodle, and Sadie, a 5-year-old pit lab shepherd mix—recruited their friends to help film the 15th annual Tri-Pawed Picnic at Little Marina Green on June 23, 2024.

The filmmakers weren’t sure what they would encounter, Rapp recalled. More than 75 dogs (the existing world record) were expected to line up and be counted.

“It just seemed like it would make a really compelling film,” said Rapp, who once wrote a script about a couple with a three-legged dog.

At the event, they recorded interviews with the humans and filmed the dogs, many of them amputees, cavorting with one another on the grass.

One of their friends was able to attach a Go Pro camera to the dogs, using a special harness.

“We cut that footage into the film, so you get a sense you are seeing the POV from a dog’s perspective,” said Rosenblatt, whose most recent Acad-

Francisco Giants.

She also happens to be friends with Dave Dempsey, the son of the late professional ballplayer Con Dempsey. The elder Dempsey took part in the goodwill mission in 1949. It was his home-movie footage of Japan that was shown on the TV screen in the Society of



Three-legged dogs and their indomitable spirit are the stars in *Tripawds*, a nine-minute documentary by local residents Stephanie Rapp and Jay Rosenblatt. Photo courtesy the filmmakers

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Pumpkin Carving Time

State Senator Scott Wiener will host this annual Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest on Saturday, Oct. 25, from noon to 3 p.m., at Noe Courts Park at 24th and Douglass streets.

“It’s so much fun,” says Wiener (D–San Francisco). “We’re looking forward to this year’s event, along with kids, adults, and our celebrity drag queen judges.”

The judges will award prizes to those who make the funniest and scariest faces among the 200 pumpkins Wiener will provide attendees.

“The pumpkin carving reflects what San Francisco is about: bringing people together, celebrating our beautifully diverse community, and having a great time,” Wiener says.

2025 will be the 12th year that Wiener has sponsored the contest. As at past events, there will be free pizza and soft drinks, as well as a short speech by the host.

Wiener says he’ll talk about his latest legislative efforts in Sacramento, “to protect San Francisco values during these difficult times.”

Wonder Dogs Available

Want a companion to cuddle with who also will help you get free daily exercise?

Noe Valley Pet Company has the answer: adopt a dog.

The shop is hosting a pet adoption event with Wonder Dog Rescue on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wonder Dog, a foster network with more than 35 years of experience rescuing dogs in the Bay Area and New York, will bring its sweetest dogs for you to meet. In September, the rescues included small terriers, French bulldogs, and even a border collie-lab mix.

“Come find your next true love,” says pet store owner Paula Harris.

Noe Valley Pet Company is at 1451 Church St., at the corner of Cesar Chavez. Call 282-7385 for information about the event or the store’s “Adoption Discount.”

Stroll for Treats

Noe Valley residents who want to try out their costumes six days

A New Year’s Countdown

Mark your calendars for 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 31, 2025, says local resident Barrie Grenell. That’s when the community will gather in the Noe Valley Town Square to ring in the new year by counting: “10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1-happy New Year!”

“This is a special event,” says Grenell, “which will synchronize our neighborhood countdown with the one in Times Square—at midnight in New York City, 9 p.m. in San Francisco.”

To make the countdown work, Grenell needs more help on the Town Square’s Noe New Year Committee. “Volunteers are needed to engineer the ball drop—should it be a piñata lowered from a ladder? A glittery ball?—and to figure out how to visually sync Times Square and our Town Square so we can participate in both venues simultaneously,” Grenell says. The party also will need help with publicity and set-up and cleanup.

To learn more, contact Grenell at sercle@sbcglobal.net and put “Noe New Year” in the subject line.

—Sally Smith

SHORT TAKES



The Horner’s Corner of 1941-42 bore signs for Dr. Pepper and Kist soda. Today, the building boasts a banner, “125 Years,” lauding a history of support for small businesses. Come meet the entrepreneurs, new and old, on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2 to 6 p.m. Photos courtesy Gilbert Pickett



before All Hallows Eve are invited to take the Halloween Stroll in Daylight from 3 to 5 p.m. on Slow Sanchez Street on Saturday, Oct. 25.

For the fifth consecutive year, Friends of Slow Sanchez (FSS) is sponsoring the promenade along the traffic-free blocks of Sanchez from 23rd to 30th Street.

There will be candy stations where children can trick-or-treat if they dare, including in front of Bethany Church at Sanchez and Clipper streets.

The event is going to be “very homey and cutesy for family and kids,” says FSS member Yuko Shah.

Last year’s stroll was “packed,” Shah notes, especially along the two-block section between 24th and 26th streets. Look both ways before crossing intersections.

If you’d like to boost the Friends of Slow Sanchez Fun(d) for Candy, go to <https://Go.Rallyup.com/SlowSanchez>.

Oktoberfest Is Hoppin’

You’d think October could not get any busier, but don’t forget Oktoberfest, the annual fall celebration at St. Paul’s School at 1690 Church St.

The free community event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 18, from noon to 4 p.m., and lives up to its name, with a beer garden, games, music, and food, including soft pretzels and grilled “bräts” and hot dogs.

While listening to The Hooks rock band (starting at 1 p.m.), you can play carnival games such as Sumo Wrestling, Obstacle Course, and Whack-a-Mole. Kids will enjoy getting their faces painted, seeing their balloons twisted into amazing shapes, and taking mom and dad to the Mister Softee ice cream truck.

A raffle will offer the chance to win

four Golden State Warriors home-opener tickets as well as gift certificates donated by local merchants. There are too many sponsors to list here but among them are Barons Meats, Valley Tavern, Mitchell’s Ice Cream, Chuck’s Sun Valley, La Copa Loca, NOVY, Noe Café, Just for Fun, and Lovejoy’s Tea Room.

Fair-goers can preorder tickets for the games and other concessions at <https://www.stpaulschools.org/oktoberfest>. For more information, email oktoberfest@stpaulsf.net.

Streets Haunted on Halloween

Little ghouls and goblins will find safe passage through Noe Valley when they go trick-or-treating on Halloween.

The SFMTA has okayed the closure of several streets in and around the neighborhood on Friday, Oct. 31.

Fair Oaks Street from 22nd to 26th Street will be closed to cars from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

At the southern end of Noe Valley, Sanchez Street from 30th to Randall streets will welcome trick-or-treaters from 5 to 9 p.m.

The same spooky night, Randall Street will be closed from Sanchez to Harper Street (4 to 9 p.m.)

Of course, Sanchez from 23rd to 30th streets in the heart of Noe Valley will be walkable on Halloween. As a capital-S slow street, it may even have parked its bicycles to make way for those on broomsticks.

And 24th Street is accepting creepy visitors. It’s not closed to traffic, but its sidewalks often have cauldrons of candy stirred by merchants in costume, starting at 4 or 5 p.m.

Other streets in Noe Valley are host-

Celebration at Horner’s Corner

A building that has stood on the southwest corner of 24th and Castro streets since the turn of the 19th century will celebrate that feat with a proclamation and a campaign to promote small businesses.

Known affectionately as Horner’s Corner—a reference to the Mormon farmer who mapped out Noe’s streets in the early 1850s—the two-story Victorian at 1300-06 Castro and 4101-07 24th St. is home to 13 businesses, including Subs Inc., Mary’s Exchange, Salon Mio Mio, and Karizma on the ground floor and a rainbow of stylists, estheticians, and therapists in suites above.

On Saturday, Oct. 18, with light snacks and prosecco, the group will toast their success and welcome walk-ins at a 125th anniversary party from 2 to 6 p.m., at Salon Mio Mio, 1306 Castro St. “We are getting together to support one another and we also hope to meet other Noe Valley merchants,” says Salon Mio Mio owner Gilbert Pickett.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Rafael Mandelman will stop by at 2 p.m. to present a certificate of honor posthumously to Peter and Evelyn Pappageorge, owners and caretakers of the building for most of the last 50 years. The award will be accepted by their children, current owners Stephanie Noryko and Nick Pappageorge.

“Over the past five decades,” notes Pickett, “their building has nurtured independently owned businesses based not on maximum profit but on personal connection, trust, and a shared belief in the neighborhood.”

In keeping with that tradition, Pickett is dedicating one of his storefront windows facing the bus stop on Castro Street to a rotating display of local entrepreneurs. In the spotlight this month will be skin-care specialists Glo Rituals, Unfiltered Beauty, and Romani Roots.

“I believe small businesses are the heart of this city,” says Pickett. “It’s crucial to honor families like the Pappageorges, who quietly support our dreams, and for me as a business owner to support my fellow small business neighbors.”

To find out more about the event, email gilbertpickett@gmail.com.

—Corrie M. Anders

ing block parties a week or two before Halloween.

These blocks are among those with permits to close:

- Alvarado Street between Noe and Sanchez, Sunday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- 23rd Street between Hoffman and Douglass, Saturday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Finally, Slow Sanchez Street is doing the Halloween Stroll at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25 (see *Stroll for Treats* above).

SHORT TAKES

Hot Dates in the Town Square

Grab your partner and do-si-do with the **Skillet Licorice** band at the annual Noe Valley Town Square Dance on Saturday, Oct. 25.

The hoedown, featuring hot fiddle and banjo breaks, slinky blues, ragtime, and dreamy waltzes, is one of the Town

Square’s top attractions this month, along with a Liberty Street band concert and the always lively night market.

Skillet Licorice, a crowd-pleasing band that plays up and down the state, will take the stage at 6 p.m. for a 90-minute set.

Don’t worry if your two-step is rusty—a professional dance caller will be there to guide you through the moves.

Liberty Street, Noe Valley’s own Americana/blues band, performs Sunday, Oct. 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. Pack a picnic and enjoy a mix of bluegrass, R&B, roots music, country, and original folk songs. Then on Tuesday, Oct. 28,

at the Noe Valley Night Market, expect to see popular crooner **Lambert Moss**, accompanied by a smooth jazz trio.

The market, running 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., will include more than 40 local food and beverage vendors, artisan booths, and arts and crafts for kids. October’s event will spill onto 24th Street, which will be closed to traffic between Sanchez and Vicksburg streets.

This month’s Short Takes were written by Sally Smith and Corrie M. Anders



Baked Goods for Sale: Ceramics by Brazilian artist Lucas Antony were just one of the many artisanal crafts at the Aug. 26 Noe Valley Night Market in the Town Square on 24th Street. There were cutting boards made by Alfonso, Gems by Jennie, strawberry patterned vases, chimes made to look like mushrooms, gourmet jams, el burgers and tamales from Tacolicious, and vegan dessert bars called superfoods. More than 40 vendors are expected at the next event, on **Tuesday, Oct. 28, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.**, along 24th Street between Vicksburg and Sanchez streets.

Photo by Art Bodner

Coyote Moms on Guard

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department sends word that due to the warm weather, we’re still in coyote pupping season in San Francisco.

“While coyotes are generally wary of humans, parent coyotes may become territorial if you or your pet stumbles upon their den,” Rec and Park warns.

It also advises:

- Never feed a coyote or any wildlife in our parks;
- Keep dogs on a leash, unless you’re in a designated off-leash area; and
- Only admire coyotes from a distance.

If you’re wandering Glen Canyon and you see a coyote, slowly back away carrying any small children or pets with you. Don’t run.

Another strategy is to stand tall and make loud noises. That might scare the coyote away.

If you encounter a coyote, report it to Animal Care and Control at 415-554-9400 or email acc@sfgov.org.

—Sally Smith

HALLOWEEN STROLL IN DAYLIGHT

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The Cost of Living in Noe

Off-Market Homes Dominate

By Corrie M. Anders

With fewer shoppers around in late summer—and very few homes on the market anyway—Noe Valley recorded sales of only four single-family detached homes in August.

That was three fewer than in July but the same tally as in August of 2024, according to data supplied monthly to the *Voice* by Corcoran Icon Properties.

Condominium buyers showed a bit more spirit. They bought six in August, matching what they’d purchased in July and in August a year ago.

“It was a typical August,” said Christine Lopatowski, manager of Corcoran Icon’s 24th Street office. “A lot of [potential] buyers were out of town or getting the kids back to school,” she said. In addition, inventory was “super low,” about half of what it was in August of last year.

Still, there was plenty of interest. Of the four single-family homes that sold, Lopatowski said, three changed hands



A buyer paid \$1,862,500 for a two-bedroom condominium in this luxury four-unit building on 23rd Street.

“off-market”—the sales were quiet deals that came together quickly without being publicly advertised.

Among those three was the most expensive home sold in August, a property located in the 1500 block of Diamond Street between 28th and Duncan streets. It sold for its asking price of \$4.9 million.

The three-story home featured four bedrooms and five baths in 4,140 square feet of living space. Highlights of the renovated property, originally built in 1921, included a gourmet kitchen with Miele appliances, radiant floor heating, a glass atrium with a water fountain, “flex” rooms for media or office space, two-car parking, a custom-built iron front gate, and a new rooftop deck with panoramic views.

The month’s priciest condominium was located in a four-unit luxury address built two years ago in the 3500 block of 23rd Street, between Guerrero and Valencia streets. The unit sold for \$1,862,500, or 6.6 percent below the seller’s asking price (\$1,995,000).

The two-bedroom, 2.5-bath residence spanned two floors and offered an array of modern amenities: a light-filled living, dining, and kitchen space, bedroom suites with spa-like walk-in showers and soaking tubs, and a private rooftop terrace with an outdoor kitchen and sweeping views of the Mission and Bernal Heights. Plus, there was parking for one car. ■



Noe Valley’s most expensive sale in August was a renovated four-bedroom home on Diamond Street offering spectacular views of the city.

Photos by Corrie M. Anders

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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						
August 2025	4	\$1,725,000	\$4,900,000	\$3,338,750	20	98%
July 2025	7	\$1,525,000	\$5,244,500	\$2,410,000	43	101%
August 2024	4	\$1,450,000	\$5,200,000	\$2,996,250	16	99%
Condominiums/TICs						
August 2025	6	\$1,550,000	\$1,862,500	\$1,687,500	107	110%
July 2025	6	\$815,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,250,500	39	106%
August 2024	6	\$1,210,000	\$2,700,000	\$1,746,667	23	104%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
August 2025	2	\$1,325,000	\$1,610,000	\$1,467,500	43	98%
July 2025	0	—	—	—	—	—
August 2024	2	\$1,720,000	\$2,006,000	\$1,863,000	76	104%
5+-unit buildings						
August 2025	0	—	—	—	—	—
July 2025	1	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	0	100%
August 2024	1	\$2,675,000	\$2,675,000	\$2,675,000	71	96%

*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. NWV10/2025

Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range September 2025	Average September 2025	Average July-Aug 2025	Average September 2024
Studio	2	\$1,700 – \$2,850	\$2,275 / mo.	\$2,865 / mo.	\$2,252 / mo.
1-bdrm	12	\$1,725 – \$4,680	\$3,557 / mo.	\$3,581 / mo.	\$3,274 / mo.
2-bdrm	7	\$4,595 – \$8,000	\$5,544 / mo.	\$5,074 / mo.	\$4,418 / mo.
3-bdrm	9	\$6,000 – \$9,500	\$7,781 / mo.	\$7,359 / mo.	\$6,133 / mo.
4+-bdrm	1	N/A	\$10,000 / mo.	\$15,000 / mo.	\$10,598 / mo.


** This survey is based on a sample of 31 Noe Valley rental listings appearing on Craigslist.org from Aug. 19 to Sept. 15, 2025. In September 2024, there were 51 listings. NWV10/2025



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



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
Child Support Services
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There's still time to register for late-start classes. Visit us in person or explore your options at www.ccsf.edu/.
Open the door to your brighter future—**Enroll today!**
Emergency Management
sf.gov/ReadySF - The place to find everything you need to know before, during, and after an emergency. Stay ready, so you don't have to get ready. Brought to you by the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

Housing Authority
The Housing Authority of the City and County of San Francisco (Authority) is actively seeking new property owners to participate in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. The program provides housing assistance to eligible individuals and families by paying a portion of their rent to private property owners.
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2. **Expanded Tenant Pool:** Property owners gain access to a broader pool of prospective tenants.
3. **Community Impact:** Partnering with the Authority supports

affordable housing and the community.

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Rent Board
IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR LANDLORDS

San Francisco landlords need a license before imposing annual and banked rent increases on tenants according to the City's rent control laws. To obtain or renew a license, property owners are required to report certain information about their residential units into the San Francisco Housing Inventory each year. Property owners can submit their Housing Inventory information to the Rent Board in a few ways, but are strongly encouraged to complete the process online at portal.sfrb.org. Once the system accepts the submission, a rent increase license will be automatically generated and readily available. Owners can also deliver a paper Housing Inventory form to 25 Van Ness Ave., Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94102 or to rentboard.inventory@sfgov.org. Assistance is available by calling 311 or emailing rentboard.inventory@sfgov.org. Visit sf.gov/rentboard for more information.

San Francisco International Airport
San Francisco International Airport (SFO) is offering exciting upcoming concession opportunities, including prime retail and food & beverage leases, as well as small business set-asides. While information conferences for the RCC Café Lease (Small Business) and the HMT1 & Terminal 3 Traveler's Retreat Lease were held in July, these opportunities are still available. Additional upcoming opportunities include two Terminal 3 Boarding Area E Pop-Up Retail Concession Leases (Info Conference: 9/25/2025), Terminal 3 West Food and Beverage Phase 1 Concession Leases and Travel Convenience Stores (both with Info Conferences on 11/5/2025), and the Terminal 3 Boarding Area E Candy Kiosk Lease, a Small Business Set-Aside (Info Conference: 10/29/2025). To learn more, visit flysfo.com/business/small-business-development. Don't miss your chance to do business at one of the world's premier airports!

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

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FRI OCT 17	ARNOLD MYINT WITH HEENA PATEL • FAMILY THAI • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
MON OCT 20	HETTY LUI MCKINNON WITH KRISTINA CHO • LINGER: SALADS, SWEETS & STORIES • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
TUES OCT 21	OFFSITE EVENT! DORIE GREENSPAN WITH KATE LEAHY • DORIE’S ANYTIME CAKES • 7:00 P.M. AT THE JJCSF!
THURS OCT 23	BRYANT TERRY • THE BEST AMERICAN FOOD AND TRAVEL WRITING 2025 • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
MON OCT 27	ADAM REINER WITH MACKENZIE CHUNG FEGAN • THE NEW RULES OF DINING OUT • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
TUES OCT 28	JOSHUA MCFADDEN • SIX SEASONS OF PASTA • 6:30 P.M. FREE!
THURS OCT 30	KAT LIEU AUTHOR EVENT • 108 ASIAN COOKIES • 6:30 P.M. FREE!

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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular feature of the *Noe Valley Voice*. This month we introduce a restaurant whose roots lie in Nepal but whose menu spans the world.

INGREDIENTS
1298 Church St. at 25th Street
415-594-8059
TheIngredients333@gmail.com
<https://ingredientsssf.com/>

Co-owners and chefs Shuk Dev Tamang and Prem Lama are combining traditional Nepali recipes with French culinary techniques at Ingredients, their month-old restaurant at Church and 25th streets.

After soft-opening in July to test the menu and train their staff, the longtime friends and co-workers cut a red ribbon on Aug. 29 to officially open at 1298 Church St.

“We love to cook food,” Lama said as he prepared for the dinner service that Friday.

He and Tamang are eager to share their unique menu offerings, such as the Heritage of Kathmandu Chicken Momo appetizer, a twist on Chinese dumplings created by the Newar people of the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal. A popular street food that Tamang ate as a child, the dumplings are stuffed with minced chicken, the Nepalese fruit lapsi—also called dry hog plum—and hemp seeds in a spicy tomato sauce.

“You are supposed to eat them whole with a spoon,” advised Tamang as he served a bowl of the dough-wrapped momos.

Another starter is the Bangoor ko Sekuwa, eastern Nepal-style braised pork belly with curry spices, radish, and greens served with deep-fried chiu-ra (beaten rice). The Delight of East Asia features lightly seared saku tuna, wakame, pickled ginger gel, nori sea-



Shuk Dev Tamang, Jordi Barrientos (a district representative for state Senator Scott Wiener), Prem Lama, and Laxmi Lama celebrate the grand opening of Ingredients on Aug. 29.

Photo by Matthew S. Bajko

weed, and a tobiko-infused tapioca crisp, served with a sweet mirin and soy reduction and togarashi (mild spice) seasoning. The appetizers, ranging in price from \$12 to \$24, also include seared gambas (jumbo prawns), grilled octopus Spanish-style, and a soupe du jour.

As for entrees (\$20 to \$46), diners have a choice of New Zealand king salmon with glazed rainbow cauliflower, Australian rack of lamb with asparagus and fingerling potatoes, or a New York steak with garlic mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

In addition, there is an organic half roast chicken sourced from Petaluma, brined in a curry infusion and served with creamy polenta and sauteed leafy greens.

Among the vegan options is a wild mushroom risotto made with Italian arborio rice and served with asparagus tips, shaved parmesan, and truffle essence.

The Carne Asada—a Latin inspired dish—has already become popular, the chefs say. It features an eight-ounce grilled hanger steak marinated with garlic and achiote, and comes with Peruvian purple potato gratin, vegetable mélange, chimichurri, and Bordelaise sauce.

The Gourmet Burger (\$24) is made with a half-pound of chuck/brisket from Creekstone Farms, served on a brioche bun, with butter lettuce, tomato, caramelized onion, pickle, aioli, and cheddar or blue cheese, plus fries.

For children, there is the beef slider, made with three ounces of ground chuck, on a brioche with lettuce, tomato, and fries (\$16). Chicken tenders and spaghetti are also available.

In addition to several salads on the menu, the restaurant has a number of daily specials. At the opening, Ingredients featured a 12-ounce braised short ribs plate with polenta and vegetables, in a cabernet reduction sauce.

Desserts included homemade apple gratin (\$16) and gelato (\$10).

“The vision behind the menu is to bring something new to the neighborhood,” said Tamang, noting they were blending Nepalese dishes and global

cuisine. As time goes on, he said, they may add weekday lunch or a weekend brunch.

Tamang and Lama took over the corner space in early summer. It was previously home to the Turkish-inspired Bistro Ember (since 2023), and before that to Inle Burmese Cuisine. The interior remains largely the same: it’s an intimate setting, for 40 to 50 diners, with high ceilings, soft gray walls, and wood and lighting accents throughout.

The restaurant is a friends and family affair, with Lama’s daughter, Laxmi, also a co-owner, and her cousin, Marley Dong, helping out as a manager. Dong’s father, Kumar, is among the co-owners. Prem Lama’s wife, Kalpana, a registered nurse, is also helping to run the restaurant.

The Nepalese-born clan moved to San Francisco over a decade ago and now live around the Bay Area. Tamang initially had moved to Miami before relocating to the West Coast. He and Prem Lama met while working on the kitchen staff at the Mark Hopkins Hotel on Nob Hill.

“We were dreaming of one day opening the best restaurant in the city,” said Tamang. “This year, we made it. We found the right space.”

Ingredients is open Tuesday through Sunday, 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., and closed on Monday.

—Matthew S. Bajko



Chef and co-owner Shuk Dev Tamang invites you to explore Ingredients’ unique blend of Nepali and international cuisine. He and partner Prem Lama met while working on the kitchen staff at the Mark Hopkins Hotel on Nob Hill.

Photo by Art Bodner



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UPPER NOE RECREATION CENTER



Green Day: A clean field invites activity at Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St. As the crowds grow, the park is looking for volunteer gardeners. *Photo by Chris Faust*

An Alliance With the Mayor

Here's the latest scoop from Chris Faust, of Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center:

Fall Session is moving ahead at a fine clip and will continue through Dec. 19. To check whether classes have slots available, see the 2025 Fall Daily Schedule at Upper Noe, review the Rec & Park Fall Catalog, or register at <https://uppernoerecreationcenter.com/sf-rec-and-park-classes/>.

The hot tickets this fall are Flag Football, Girls Volleyball League, Pee Wee Basketball, and Girls Basketball Fundamentals.

Note that equipment for pickleball, ping-pong, and other activities in the rec center is available from the office—call 415-970-8061 or visit www.uppernoerecreationcenter.com for more information.

Meanwhile, Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center is thrilled to learn that Mayor Daniel Lurie has secured donations in excess of \$2 million to restore funds to park groups like ours, who lost everything in the Parks Alliance collapse this spring. Friends is working with those groups to reorganize an alliance or collective, with fiscal sponsorship, so that we can get back to supporting events and park projects. Much thanks to Upper Noe staff for jumping in and hosting the Upper Noe Block Party this year when it looked like it wouldn't be able to happen. The party was a perfect day.

Volunteer Gardeners Needed

Are you interested in gardening at the park? Rec & Park is looking to support a volunteer group to help keep the flower beds, gardens, and borders flourishing. Email info@uppernoerecreationcenter.com to find out more.

Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center is your stewardship group. Get involved. If you see something, please say something. Contact office personnel and/or San Francisco Customer Service (3-1-1) to report park problems.

For issues related to Joby's Dog Run, open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., call 3-1-1 or email info@fundogsf.org.

Upper Noe Fall Session (Sept. 2 to Dec. 19, 2025)

Rec Center Hours, 295 Day St.: Tues.–Fri., 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.–5 p.m.;
Sun. & Mon., closed, outside activities only.
Park Grounds Daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tuesday

9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE
10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE
10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pickleball (all ages)
12 to 1 p.m. Pilates (18+)
1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Strength & Flexibility (18+)
2 to 5 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE
5 to 7:45 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE
6 to 7 p.m. Tennis – Beginning (ages 8-10)
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+)
7 to 8 p.m. Tennis – Beginning / Intermediate (18+)

Wednesday

10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE
10 to 11 a.m. Basketball – Pee Wee (ages 3-5)
12 to 1 p.m. Feldenkrais (18+)
12 to 2 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE
2 to 5 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE
5 to 7:30 p.m. Advanced Drop-In Volleyball (18+)

Thursday

10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE
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. Strength & Flexibility (18+)
2 to 4 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE
4 to 5 p.m. Petite Bakers (3-5)
4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Girls Basketball Fundamentals (ages 9-12)
4:30 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play FREE

5 to 7:45 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+)

Friday

9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE
10 to 11 a.m. Futsal for Tots (ages 3-5)
10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE
12 to 2 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE
2 to 4 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE
2 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play FREE
4 to 5 p.m. Flag Football Junior Division (ages 8-10)
4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 8-10)
4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 10-12)
5 to 6 p.m. Flag Football Senior Division (ages 11-13)
5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 10-12)
5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 12-14)
6:15 to 7:45 p.m. Girls Teen Drop-in Volleyball (12-17) FREE
6 to 7 p.m. Tennis – Beginning (ages 8-10)
7 to 8 p.m. Tennis – Beginning / Intermediate (18+)

Saturday

9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Open Basketball (all ages) FREE
9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Family Zumba – Play Pass \$5
11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. A Place to Play FREE

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MORE FOOD TO EAT

The Lady Giana at Dolores Deluxe

One fine Saturday, I suggested to my partner, Katie, that we try a salad for this column. Her enthusiasm hovered at a six out of 10. But when I audibled to a sandwich from **Dolores Deluxe**, the mood spiked to a nine—and post-sandwich, I'd say we were sitting at a solid 10.

The corner deli at 22nd and Dolores streets had come to us last spring by way of reader Trynne Miller. We couldn't be more grateful. Her recommendation quickly captured the hearts of our household.

Dolores Deluxe is a charming place to stop for supplies, especially if you're walking en route to Dolores Park. The shop stocks a mix of sandwiches, salads, cheeses, wines, and other picnic-ready delights.

According to the store's friendly staff, the sandwich menu is the brainchild of owner Ramzi Budayr, a man with a distinguished fine-dining background. For that reason, the "Sandos" are more than the sum of their parts.

This month's standout, the **Lady Giana** (\$16.50), is the kind of sandwich that makes you pause mid-chew to marvel at how good it tastes. Every bite is both familiar and elevated. Served hot, it layers caramelized eggplant, char-roasted tomato arrabiata (with crushed Calabrian chili), melted mozzarella, and the occasional garlic clove between two slices of toasted focaccia bread, its crunch dialed up further by parmesan potato crisps tucked inside. Fresh basil cuts through the richness. A layer of melted fontina cheese tops it all off.

The Lady Giana is technically part of the seasonal menu, but the staff hints it has become so beloved it may graduate to "classic" Mt. Rushmore status. Let's hope it does.

—Matt Fisher, on the beat for More Food to Eat



Have a tasty suggestion for More Food to Eat? Send an email to Matt Fisher at: morefoodtoeatnoevalley@gmail.com.



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A View from Diamond Heights.

Photo by Sally Smith

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Oct. 2-30: Family STORYTIMES are Thursdays, at 10:15 am and 11 am. Tickets are available at 10 am (and at 10:30). Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 3 & Dec. 5: A free Interfaith LABYRINTH WALK is accompanied by meditative music. 7 pm. Bethany United Methodist Church, 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393.

Oct. 3-31: The Noe Valley RUN CLUB meets Fridays at Noe Cafe, 1299 Sanchez. 6:45 am for 4 miles, and 7:30 am for 2.5 miles. noevalleyrunclub.square.site

Oct. 3 & Nov. 7: Ring a HANDBELL on first Fridays at Bethany UMC’s “Ring Out Danger” against gun violence. 9:30-9:45 am. 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393; bethanysf.org

Oct. 4: The KNITTING CIRCLE at the Noe Valley Library tries not to drop stitches from 10 am to 12:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 4: The Dolores Heights Improvement Club hosts its annual FALL GATHERING on the Hill, featuring speakers, activities, and refreshments. 11 am-1 pm. Sanchez between Hill and 21st. doloresheights.org

Oct. 4-25: The FARMERS MARKET has fresh produce, food, and music Saturdays, 8 am to 1 pm. Noe Valley Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

Oct. 4-25: NOE WALKS on Saturdays. Meet at 24th and Sanchez at 10 am.

Oct. 4 & Nov. 8: Noe MUSIC KIDS features “Whirlwinds,” with three master woodwind players on Oct. 4, and the Poiesis Quartet on Nov. 8. 10:30 am. 1021 Sanchez. noemusic.org

Oct. 5: 23rd Street hosts a BLOCK PARTY between Hoffman and Douglass, from 9 am to 5 pm.

Oct. 5: The 51st annual CASTRO Street Fair runs along Castro, Market, and 18th streets. 11 am-6 pm. Castrostreetfair.org

Oct. 5 & 19: ACOUSTIC SUNDAY features Projecto Novo on Oct. 5 and the Liberty Street band on Oct. 19. 1 to 3 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26: Free Sunday morning FOLK YOGA all-level classes; bring water and a mat. 11 am-noon. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

CALENDAR

Oct. 6, 20 & 27: Toddler STORYTIMES are Mondays, 11:15-11:45 am. Tickets are available starting at 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 6-27: Michéle Shank leads a Monday HANDBELL ringing workshop for all levels at Bethany UMC. 7-9 pm. 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393; bethanysf.org

Oct. 7: The 1st Marine Division Brass BAND performs as part of Fleet Week at the Noe Valley Town Square. 6-7 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

Oct. 7: Bernal Heights OUTDOOR CINEMA screens 2025’s winning films at the season finale. 6:30-8:30 pm. Bernal Heights Library, 500 Cortland. bhoutdoorcine.org

Oct. 7-28: The BAR on Dolores hosts free BINGO for prizes Tuesdays, 8 pm.; mahjong Saturdays. 1600 Dolores. 695-1745.

Oct. 8: Teens ages 10 through 18 are invited to HOMEWORK HANGOUT from 3:30 to 5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 9: The Slow Sanchez HAPPY HOUR for neighbors runs from 4 to 6 pm. Meet in front of Noe Cafe, 1299 Sanchez. 234-0592.

Oct. 10-Nov. 14: On Lok leads a six-week DIABETES Empowerment Program for older adults. 1-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Registration req’d: 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 11: Test snacks at the Latin American SNACK Trials, 2:30-3:30 pm, at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 12: CSU Professor Paul Steward speaks on Indigenous Californian HISTORY, at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 2-3 pm. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 12 & 26: City Guides offers a WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley starting at 2 pm at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey, Register 375-0468; sfcityguides.org

Oct. 14: It’s LEGO and Board Game Night at the Noe Valley Library. 6-7:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 14: Deshia Sakarah discusses *Caribe: A Caribbean Cookbook With History* 6:30 pm at

OMNIVORE BOOKS on Food. 3885 Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com

Oct. 17: The Short Stack BOOK CLUB discusses *The Promise* by Damon Galgut. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 17: The CASTRO Night Market features booths, art, and live entertainment. 5-10 pm. 18th between Hartford and Collingwood. castronightmarket.com

Oct. 18: High-energy RHYTHM & MOTION offers a workout for all ages. 4-5 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

Oct. 18: St. Paul’s Church and School holds its OKTOBERFEST, with music, carnival games, and refreshments, from noon to 4 pm. 1690 Church. 648-7538; stpaulsf.org

Oct. 18: Celebrate the 125th anniversary of the building at 4101 24th St. and 1300 Castro St. known as HORNER’S CORNER. 2-6 pm. Salon Mio Mio, 1306 Castro.

Oct. 19 & Nov. 16: The volunteer Noe Valley CLEANUP crew meets at the Town Square to pick up supplies, 10 am. 3861 24th. DPW,TogetherSF, RefuseRefusesf.org

Oct. 19: Noe Valley Pet Company hosts a PET adoption event with Wonder Dog Pet Rescue from 11 am to 2 pm at the store, 1451 Church St. 282-7385.

Oct. 21: ACTION-SF meets to strategize on third Tuesdays, 6 to 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey; action-sf.com

Oct. 23: Nonprofit Root Division hosts its 24th annual ART AUCTION., 7-10 pm. 1131 Mission. 863-7668; rootdivision.org

Oct. 25: State Sen. Scott Wiener hosts a PUMPKIN-carving contest with free pizza. Noon-3 pm. Noe Courts, 24th & Douglass.

Oct. 25: 23rd Street hosts a BLOCK PARTY between Hoffman and Douglass streets, from 9 am to 5 pm.

Oct. 25: Join Noe’s Halloween STROLL in Daylight, 3 to 5 pm on Sanchez. To help or get candy: Yuko.Shah@SlowSanchez.org

Oct. 25: Swing your partner at the

SQUARE DANCE in the Town Square to the tunes of the Skillet Licorice band. 6-7:30 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com

Oct. 28: The Noe Valley NIGHT MARKET offers local vendors, food, and entertainment, 4:30 to 7:30 pm, on last Tuesdays. 3861 24th. Noemerchants.com

Oct. 28: PAJAMA STORYTIME happens at the Noe Valley Library at 6:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 29: The CA Department of Financial Protection offers a presentation, “Protect Yourself from FRAUD.” 5:30-6:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 30: Kat Lieu discusses *108 Asian Cookies* at 6:30 pm at OMNIVORE BOOKS. 3885 Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com

Oct. 31: Costumed Noe Valley merchants may offer CANDY to celebrate Halloween on 24th Street—is the witching hour at 4?

Oct. 31: HALLOWEEN on Fair Oaks Street from 22nd to 26th is 5 to 8:30 pm.

Oct. 31: TRICK-or-treat on Randall, closed from Sanchez to Harper 4 to 9 pm, or Sanchez from 30th to Randall 5 to 9 pm.

Nov. 1: Children can celebrate the Day of the Dead by making a SUGAR SKULL-inspired mask. 2:30-3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1: MUERTO MERCADITO features dozens of artists and craftspeople. Friday, 3-8 pm; Saturday, noon-4 pm. 2868 Mission. missionculturalcenter.org

Nov. 2: The BELL APPEAL choir performs at All Saints Sunday at Bethany UMC. 10:45 am. 1270 Sanchez. BellAppeal.org

Nov. 6 & 7: James Lick Middle School students present the CONCERT *A Royal Tribute: Celebrating the Kings and Queens of Latin, Pop and Soul Music* in the school’s newly renovated auditorium at 1220 Noe. 7 pm. 695-5675; caramesk@sfusd.edu

Autumn Leaves: The next *Voice* Calendar will be for the **November 2025** issue. The deadline for calendar items is **Oct. 15**. Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Email items to calendar@noevalleyvoice.com.

10:30 CHILDREN'S FICTION

The picture book *Let's Rumble! A Rough-and-Tumble Book of Play*, by Rachel G. Payne with art by Jose Pimienta, encourages healthy roughhousing. Ages 2-5.

Anthony has always been Rasheed's hero in *I Got You: A Brother's Promise*, by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Shamar Knight-Justice. Ages 3-7.

A clever kid outsmarts a silly shark in *One Day at the Bottom of the Deep Blue Sea*, by Daniel Bernstrom, illustrated by Brandon James Scott. Ages 4-8.

In *Golden Ghost*, by Terri Farley, Sam discovers a lost palomino in an old mining town. Ages 8-12.

An Encantadora's Guide to Monstros and Magic, by Sarah J. Mendonca, is a fantasy adventure about a tween with magical abilities. Ages 8-12.

CHILDREN'S NONFICTION

Some of Us: A Story of Citizenship and the United States is a picture book by Rajani LaRocca and Huy Voun Lee that explains the process of becoming a citizen. Ages 5-9.

Everything you'd want to know about what you're sitting on is covered in *A Natural History of Bums*, by the UK's Crab Museum and illustrator Inga Ziemele. Ages 6-8.

Sportswriter Joe Tischler traces the local team's NBA championship wins in *Golden State Warriors*. Ages 7-10.

I Know Dino! Amazing Breakthroughs, Mega Mistakes, and Unsolved Mysteries in Dinosaur Science is by Sabrina Ricci, Garret Kruger, and Franco Tempesta. Ages 8-12.

Author Caroline Bingham describes the different shapes, sizes, and colors of crystals in *Rocks and Minerals*. Ages 8 and up.

CHILDREN'S EBOOKS

Ferret tripped on a duffle and caused a ker-fuffle the first day of school in *Embarrassed Ferret* by Lisa Frenkel Riddiough, with illustrations by Andrea Tsurumi. Ages 3-7.

In *The Wishing Leaf*, by Kallie George with art by Paola Zakimi, Bear waits for the last leaf to fall. Ages 4-8.

Some kids wonder why they keep hearing the same question, in *Where Are You From?* an award-winning book by Yamile Saied Méndez and illustrator Jaime Kim. Ages 4-8.

Author/artist Ellen Heck offers a guide to planting and caring for sunflowers in *Sunflower Seeds*. Ages 4-8.

In *The Other Side of Imani* by Lisa Springer, a student whose designs have been stolen takes fashion to new heights. Ages 8-12.

TEEN FICTION

Two BFFs living in different worlds—one wealthy, one not—realize how they can help each other in *Pretty Girl County*, a novel by Lakita Wilson. Ages 12-17.

Everett "Evie" Riley finds herself accidentally placed in the all-boys dorm in *Come As You Are*, by Dahlia Adler. Ages 13-18.

In Mary Shyne's *You and Me on Repeat*, two friends get stuck in a *Groundhog Day* replay of their graduation ceremony. Ages 14-18.

TEEN NONFICTION

Lee Wind points out examples of gender diversity throughout time in *The Gender Binary Is a Big Lie: Infinite Identities Around the World*. Ages 11-18.

TEEN EBOOKS

Glorious Rivals by Jennifer Lynn Barnes follows the fortunes of the seven competitors in this year's *Grandest Game* on Hawthorne

MORE BOOKS TO READ

Something for Everyone

October at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library is looking lively. There'll be Latin American snacks to sample and plenty of history and culture to explore, from California's first peoples to the Day of the Dead. Kids can bring a stuffed animal to Pajama Storytime or dive into Legos on Game Night. Teens can find a homework hangout, while grownups learn how to stay calm, dodge fraud, or knit a scarf.

Borrowing a book is also an option! Just wander over to the branch, at 451 Jersey St., and select from the shelves.

While you're inside the building or out on the deck, you might spot Noe Valley Children's Librarian Madeleine Felder, Adult Services Librarian Amy Lewis, or Branch Manager Mary Fobbs-Guillory. They are the ones who for many years have been graciously sharing the new arrivals at the branch. The *Voice* then writes descriptions of the books (or films), in 30 words or less, and presents the lists on this page.

The librarians also remind us of such things as the library will be closed on Monday, Oct. 13, in observance of **Indigenous Peoples Day**.

They also say to watch for the announcement of San Francisco's **One**

City One Book selection in early October. As the 20th book that everyone in the city will read together, it will be a special pick. —*Sally Smith, ed.*

Island. Ages 12 and up.

The YA romance *On Again, Awkward Again* is by award-winning authors Erin Entrada Kelly and Kwame Mbalia. Ages 13-18.

A survivor of a mall shooting makes a second fateful decision when she signs up to compete in a survivalist reality show, in *We Won't All Survive* by Kate Alice Marshall. Ages 14-17.

ADULT FICTION

Archive of Unknown Universes, by Ruben Reyes Jr., considers alternative outcomes in the 1978 civil war in El Salvador.

Silvia Moreno-Garcia's saga *The Bewitching* tells the interconnected stories of three women in three different eras.

In *Bring the House Down* by Charlotte Runcie, a struggling actress plots revenge on the drama critic who panned her show while smooth-talking her into a one-night stand.

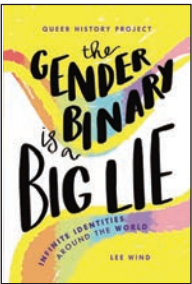
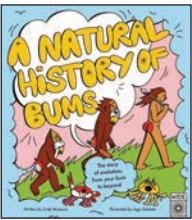
Set during the final days of World War II, *Daikon* by Samuel Jay Hawley imagines the consequences of a third atomic bomb—one that has fallen into the hands of the Japanese.

ADULT NONFICTION

Tre Johnson's *Black Genius: Essays on an American Legacy* celebrates Black ingenuity, beauty, and excellence.

Sam Kean marvels at discoveries in *Dinner With King Tut: How Rogue Archaeologists Are Re-Creating the Sights, Sounds, Smells, and Tastes of Lost Civilizations*.

In *Nothing More of This Land: Community, Power, and the Search for Indigenous Identity*, Joseph Lee gives his personal account of the Wampanoag people whose native home later became Martha's Vineyard.



Environmental journalist Alexandra Morris recalls her *Year With the Seals: Unlocking the Secrets of the Sea's Most Charismatic and Controversial Creatures*.

NEW ADULT EBOOKS

State terrorism in 1970s Argentina led to *A Flower Traveled in My Blood: The Incredible True Story of the Grandmothers Who Fought to Find a Stolen Generation of Children*, by Haley Cohen Gilliland.

Tim Weiner gives a history of the agency in *The Mission: The CIA in the 21st Century*.

A British scientist hiding her zombie husband searches for a cure in the fictional *One Yellow Eye* by Leigh Radford.

NEW DVDS/BLURAY

The Actor, a 2024 action comedy about an actor who witnesses a neighbor's murder, stars Richard Blake and Major Dodge.

Three "creatives" overcome family tensions and tough realities cross paths in *Land's End*, a 2025 drama by Alan Y. Kim.

Misericordia (2024), a film by Alain Guiraudie described as sinister and slyly funny, features Félix Kysyl and Catherine Frot.

The Phoenician Scheme (2025), a dark espionage comedy by Wes Anderson, stars Benicio del Toro, Mia Threapleton, Bryan Cranston, and Scarlett Johansson, among others.

Thirsty, a 2025 drama by Emily Abt, stars Jamie Neumann as a gutsy public defender trying to unseat the mayor of Oakland (Brandee Evans). Other stars include Sung Kang, Tyler Lepley, and Kyra Sedgwick.

—Annotations by Voice bookworm Karol Barske

LIBRARY EVENTS

All events take place at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., and are drop-in unless otherwise noted. Be aware events are first come, first served. For information, visit sfpl.org or call the branch at 415-355-5707.

The **Graphic Novel Memoir Book Club** discusses *Fe* by Bren Bataclan on Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 5 to 6 p.m. Copies are held at the Noe Valley circulation desk for checkout.

Family Storytimes are on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Space is limited to 20 children. Tickets are handed out at 10 a.m. for the 10:15 a.m. storytime and 10:30 a.m. for the 11 a.m. storytime.

The Noe Valley **Knitting Circle**, meeting on Saturdays, Oct. 4, and Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., welcomes drop-ins, including those who crochet or macrame.

A **Mooncake** celebration includes a cake tasting and tales of the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, on Monday, Oct. 6, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Toddler Storytimes, for ages 16 months through 2 years, are on Mondays Oct. 6, 20, and 27, 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Space is limited to 20 children. Tickets are handed out at 11 a.m.

Ages 10 through 18 can work on school projects alone or with friends at a **Homework Hangout** Wednesday, Oct. 8, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Snacks are available by request.

On Lok's **Diabetes Empowerment Education Program** is a six-week workshop for older adults, held Fridays, Oct. 10 to Nov. 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. Registration required at 355-5707.

Test snacks popular in other countries at the **Latin American Snack Trials** on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Meet at the library for a **City Guides Walking Tour**, "Noe Valley: Village Within a City," on Saturdays, Oct. 12 and 26, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Reserve at sfcityguides.org; 415-375-0468.

Native American Studies Professor and Pomo Indian tribal member Paul Steward discusses **Indigenous Californian History** on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2 to 3 p.m.

Family LEGO and **Board Game Night** is Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The **Short Stack Book Club** features *The Promise* by Damon Galgut on Friday, Oct. 17, from 3 to 4 p.m. Copies are held at the circulation desk for checkout.

Children and their caregivers can create a **Sarimanok**, a mythological Filipino bird, out of colorful paper on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Rachel Lozado demonstrates **Ilocano weaving** techniques from the Philippines on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Wellness coach Nicole Lapuyade leads a workshop, "Simple Practices to **Feel Calm and Centered**," on Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 5 to 6 p.m.

Hear a panel discussion, "**Age Well Across Generations** and Navigate Near End-of-Life," on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Registration required: call 355-5707.

Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, and movement at **Pajama Storytime**, on Tuesday, Oct. 28, from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Event limited to 20 children. Stuffed animals welcome.

The California Department of Financial Protection shows how to "**Protect Yourself From Fraud**" on Wednesday, Oct. 29, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Honor the Day of the Dead by making a **Sugar Skull Mask** on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The Ohlone Sisters show how to make and play the game of **Staves** and to recognize indigenous plants in San Francisco on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

BRANCH HOURS

Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library 451 Jersey St., 415-355-5707						
Sun 1-5	Mon 11-6	Tues 10-8	Wed 12-8	Thurs 10-6	Fri 1-6	Sat 10-6

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Action SF, the National Movement in Your Neighborhood

https://m.facebook.com/ActionSFactivism/
Website: http://www.action-sf.com/
Email: ActionSFTeam@gmail.com
Meetings: Third Tues., Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey, 6-7:30 p.m. All welcome.

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: Terry Asten Bennett, President;
Address: 584 Castro St. #333, SF, CA 94114
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.

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

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 Christopher Park

Contact: Brynna McNulty, 818-744-4230
Email: friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com
Website: FriendsofChristopherPark.org

Festival 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 Schweisguth, M17-6290
Email: dave@schweisguth.org
Website: meetup.com/Juri-Commoners
The group is on hiatus and seeking a new leader. Call Dave. "Tidy up when you can."

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.

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: Sam Maslin, President
E-mail: noevalleydemocrats@gmail.com
Website: www.noevalleydemocrats.org
Meetings: Monthly at Valley Tavern or Tacolicious, 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: Kristen McCaffery, President, Kristen@novysf@gmail.com, 829-8383; or Kathryn Gianaras, Vice President, Kathryn@novysf@gmail.com
Meetings: 9 a.m. Call to confirm location.
Website: https://noemerchants.com
www.No ValleyMerchants.com

Noe Valley Parent Network

An e-mail resource network for parents
Contact: Mina Kenvin
Email: minaken@gmail.com
noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahooogroups.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.

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 Wednesdays. Confirm by email or check website.

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

editor@noevalleyvoice.com

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



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be home.

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RUMORS

behind the news

Labubu Days

By Mazook

LET THE REVELRY BEGIN: Noe Valley’s holiday parties start up in early fall. And before we know it, it’s Halloween. This is a major event in our neighborhood, with up to a thousand locals showing up to parade through Downtown Noe Valley, trolling for treats on 24th and Castro streets.

The shopkeepers, whether dressed as Elphaba or Glinda, are more than generous, handing candy from pumpkin baskets filled to the brim. Sleepy Hollow it is not.

Parking will be difficult for residents around Castro Street (from 24th to 21st streets), since historically even more revelers show up for the festivities over the hill in the Castro. People drive from all over the Bay Area for that event, and Eureka Valley’s streets are packed just like Noe Hill’s residential streets.

I’m told this year’s Castro celebration will be centered around an expanded Castro Night Market on Friday, Oct. 31, from 5 to 10 p.m., but Castro Street will remain open to traffic (as will 24th).

Many residences in Noe Valley will have spooky decorations on their doors and in their front windows, inviting little spiders and AI robots to stop by. (See this month’s Short Takes, page 13, for a roundup of Halloween parties.)

Trick-or-treating on Fair Oaks Street traditionally has drawn crowds, where residents decorate their houses with special effects to scare you. The kids have a great time.



HALLOWEEN SHOPPING: One Stop Party Shop, located at 1600 Church St. on the corner of 28th Street, is the place to go for all your Halloween needs, so of course it was my first stop on a pre-Halloween stroll in September.

Owner Mardie Vandervort has packed the shop with a thousand scary and silly disguises. “This is my 38th year in business on this corner and one of my busiest times of the year,” she says proudly. “Halloween generates a good part of my revenue for the whole year.”

Everywhere I look I see witches, devils, ghosts, and superheroes—and enough hats and wigs to turn half of Noe Valley into something unrecognizable. “It has been just crazy with the wigs,” Vandervort says.

She notes the most popular costumes this year are Labubus—that is, get-ups to look like sweet Labubu dolls or their creepy counterparts.

Labubu, a creature dreamed up by Hong Kong illustrator Kasing Lung, looks like a character in a Nordic fairy tale that went sideways—with a furry body, big eyes, big ears, and nine teeth forming a mischievous smile. Labubu is in a tribe called *The Monsters* (also the title of Lung’s picture book series), including Mokoko, Pato, Spooky, Tycoco (Labubu’s “skeleton-looking” boyfriend), and Zimomo, their spiky-tailed leader.

“It has been totally crazy!” Vandervort says with a Labubu grin.

My favorite items without spikey tails are the candles hand-poured by San Francisco’s Orlando Lee, the proprietor of a business on Lucky Street, off 24th Street at Folsom, called Cand-O-Lee.

“My favorites are the skulls,” said Lee as he was delivering more to the shop during my visit.

Vandervort says she’s known Lee “for many years, and I just love his creations.”

As I do every year, I headed over to Just for Fun (3982 24th) and was surprised to find a scarcity of Halloween stuff. According to the staff, they were low because they had just moved back into the store after its retrofit over the summer. Some of their trick-or-treat items might have been temporarily relocated to Just for Fun’s sister stores on Fillmore Street and Union Street. (And at press time we learned that Just for Fun owner Michelle O’Connor was all wrapped up in opening a new toy store on Maiden Lane in Union Square.) But the Noe staff assured me the Noe store would be coming back to life soon, as well as handing out treats for all the passersby on Halloween.

I also checked in at Terrasol, at 1307 Castro St. near Jersey, which is known for its elaborate holiday displays and gifts galore. There, co-owner Alberto Rojas looked like he was ready to howl at the moon, due to the high import prices generated by this year’s tariffs.

The boutique’s ornament-filled trees were aglitter, but the “bad economy for small businesses” had impacted the shop’s ability to expand inventory, Rojas said.

At a second check-in, by phone, partner Stephen Trimble said do not fear. He and Rojas are busy painting door hangers with the faces of cats and ghosts and making fabric dolls that look like the Wicked Witch and other characters. The shop also has Halloween headbands and Halloween cocktail napkins, and Halloween gifts and decorations in their storefront window.

Lastly, I went to Whole Foods, which happily had a large variety of pumpkins displayed in front of the market, most for less than \$10. There were Knucklehead, Cinderella, blue, and orange ones for carving, and carving kits. They also had mini tiger pumpkins and tiny baby whites for less than \$2, and one “Big Mac” on hand, priced at \$80. Wow. According to Noe Valley Whole Foods team leader Jack Douglas, they expect to sell out all of their pumpkins by mid-October.



THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE: The 10th annual Noe Valley Girls Film Festival at the Noe Valley Ministry on Sept. 6 had a full house and was a rousing success, an appearance by Pixar animation producer Mary Alice Drumm.

The local team of young festival organizers is pleased to report the winners in the contest, featuring five-minute films submitted by girls 16 and under from around the world.

In the younger category (11 and under), the first prize, \$250, went to Julia Zajac from Poland, for her *Once Upon a Lynx*. Carolina Lozada of Spain won second prize, \$150, for *What Am I Useful For?*

And third prize, \$50, went to Nilram Ranjbar from Iran for *Cat and Fish*.

In the older category (12-16), the winners receiving the same monetary prizes were Frania Stanczyk of Poland for *Made in China* (first prize) and Angela Yan of Pennsylvania for *Fallen* (second prize).

Two third prizes of \$50 each were awarded to Zoë Marie Brown from Louisiana for *Death Finds Life*, and to Isa Blanco from San Francisco for the film *Isabel*.

Among the dozen other shorts screened were *Quack, Quack* by local team member Mollie Weiss and an intro trailer with clips by Sophie O’Connor,

of Noe Valley fame as well.

Finding Voice by San Francisco finalist Frankie Lemieux was shown as well.

Also screened was a reel from a theater camp in Jamaica: *The Mission of the Lost Voice*.

Honorable mentions (not screened but viewable at nvqff.com) were made by girls living in Virginia, Spain, and Ukraine!

Congratulations to all. To find out about next year’s festival, send an email to info@nvqff.com.



ZONING IN: Mayor Daniel Lurie was spotted on the morning of Sept. 18, walking in Downtown Noe Valley with our Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, San Francisco District Attorney Brooke Jenkins, and Mission Police Captain Sean Perdomo. They were stopping to talk with merchants, including those at Running Wylder, Video Wave, Just for Fun, Small Frys, and Bernie’s Coffee. Then they went to lunch at NOVY’s. His honor the mayor reportedly ordered the kale salad with lamb gyro meat.

Kudos to Lurie for spending many hours out in the neighborhood business districts.

Mandelman reports that the big issue among our merchants is finding ways to expand parking on 24th Street. “We will work with Department of Public Works and other city agencies to shorten the time that the yellow zones have for commercial use, allowing public parking in the afternoons.”

He says that he got the same complaint from business owners and residents on Church Street when he spoke at a well-attended (about 50+ people) meeting on Sept. 22, at Upper Noe Recreation Center (295 Day).

“Parking was not even on the agenda. [The meeting was intended to be] a discussion about Mayor Lurie’s proposal to increase building height limits on Church as well as in Noe Valley,” Mandelman said.

Hopefully he can have that discussion at the Noe Valley Ministry soon, he said.

The San Francisco Planning Department had a hearing on the mayor’s “Family Zoning Plan” on Sept. 11. It would add tens of thousands of homes to San Francisco by raising height and density limits across large swaths of the city. The plan focuses mostly on Muni corridors on the city’s western side, since the Mission and other eastern neighborhoods have already had a big share of high rise.

In support of the plan, Lurie states: “If San Francisco doesn’t show significant progress in building 82,000 new units of housing by 2031, we face losing even more local control and will become ineligible for key state housing funds.”

For Noe Valley, the plan would allow 65-foot buildings, thereby raising the bar more than a dozen feet.



TIDY VALLEY: Supervisor Rafael Mandelman also joined a group of about 50 neighbors on Sunday, Sept. 21, who regularly volunteer to roam 24th Street and neighboring streets to pick up trash left on the sidewalks. It was a sunny day for all. (See the photo on the Voice front page.)

The ad hoc group of neighbors has been arriving at the Noe Valley Town Square on the third Sunday of every month, 10 a.m. to noon, for the past two years. The ad hoc organizer is Elizabeth Street resident Olga Zubashko.

Says Zubashko: “I moved to Noe Valley about two years ago and was so happy to live here that I thought I could start a group to give back to our community, to pick up the refuse some

leave on the sidewalks. I contacted the Department of Public Works, who agreed to provide us [on the third] Sunday with tools we would need, including litter grabbers, gloves, yellow vests, and large trash bags. They then pick up the trash bags to recycle.”

Zubashko emails reminders to neighbors and friends every month, “and Mandelman was on the list, and surprisingly to me, he showed up at the Town Square to join the group.”

If you want to join, show up around 10 a.m. on Oct. 19, to get your gear.



A BUMPER CROP: News at the Noe Valley Farmers Market, during these autumnal harvest days, is the great fruits and vegetables you will find.

Kou Herr tells me that down on the Herr Family Farm (in Fresno County), the weather “has been fantastic in September, when much needed rainstorms poured in in the middle of the month and then it was sunny and hot the rest of the month.”

Herr says he is harvesting lots of broccoli, beans, cauliflower, onions, celery, zucchini, bok choy, and salad greens. Probably the most fantastic for me were the ginger plants. “We plant them in the ground like a potato and then they rise out of the soil.” I asked, what do I do with all those green leaves above the ginger bulbs? He said, “My mom makes tea by chopping the leaves up and putting them in boiling water for about five minutes. She adds a little sugar or honey, and we have great ginger tea.”



GLEN PARK has been dubbed one of the “World’s Coolest Neighborhoods” by travel publication Time Out, coming in at number 35 of the 39 listed. “First things first: Glen Park is a good-looking place,” says Time Out. “Quietly cool, Glen Park might not be as in-your-face as other San Francisco neighborhoods, but that’s what gives the place its charm.”

Very cool was the Glen Park Night Market, attended by about a thousand visitors on Sept. 20.

According to the Glen Park Association newsletter, “Neighbors have told us they really loved these night markets. It’s been such a lively way to build community and boost Glen Park,” said Heather World, former Voice contributor and current president of the Glen Park Association, which helped organize the market.

The summer markets were held on third Saturdays of the month and ended in September.

Noe Valley’s Night Market, held in the Noe Valley Town Square on the last Tuesday of the month, had almost a thousand visitors on Sept. 30. Mark your calendars for the next one on Oct. 28, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.



MORE FOOD: A new restaurant to take the place of Mr. Digby’s (which closed its doors at 24th and Church streets at the beginning of summer) has submitted permit requests to the San Francisco Planning Department and the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Looks like it will be an outpost of Oakland’s popular Grand Lake Kitchen restaurant, which is on Grand Avenue near Lake Merritt. Here, at 1199 Church St., it may be called “GLK,” according to the application, but it most probably will have an aka, like Grand Lake Kitchen Noe Valley.



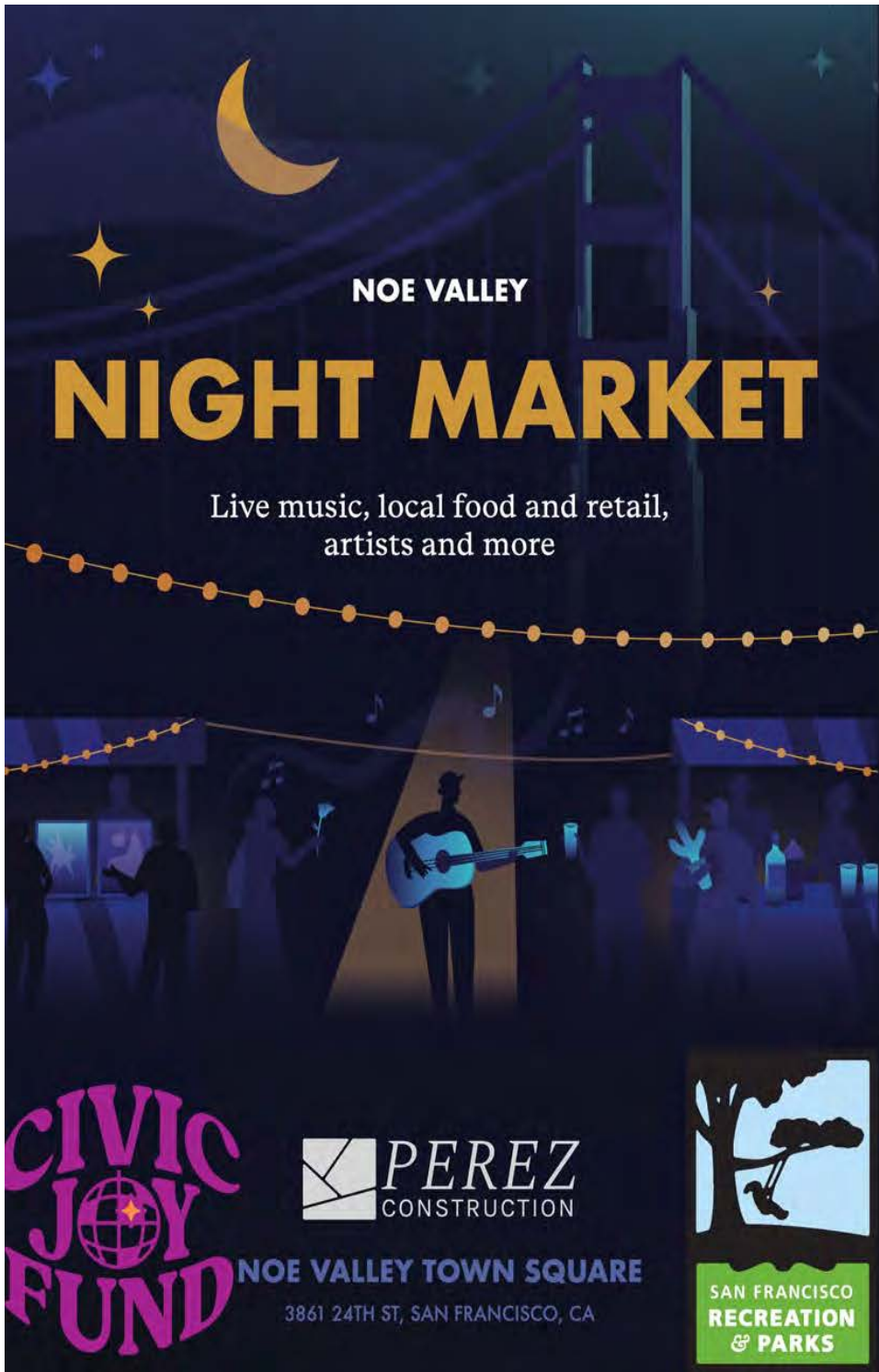
THAT’S 30, FOLKS: See you right here for all the November Rumors. Ciao. ■

The Night Time



Photo by Art Bodner

Is Noe Time



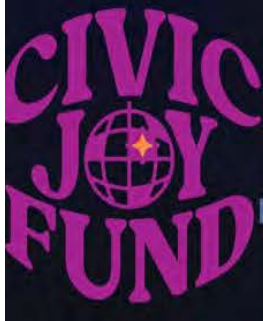
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