



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## First Woman in The Editor's Seat

Trailblazer at the *SF Chronicle*

By Matthew S. Bajko

At one point in time, Audrey Cooper wanted to be named a U.S. Supreme Court justice. It was largely due to her idolizing the court's first female justice, Sandra Day O'Connor, the only woman she knew of who held a position of power.

Then the realization she would first need to graduate from law school set in, and Cooper turned her career aspirations toward journalism. In 1999 she graduated magna cum laude from Boston Univer-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



**New Stops.** Muni mapped a more efficient pathway for the 35-Eureka bus. It now goes to Glen Park BART. Photo by Pamela Gerard

## The Wheels on The Bus Arrive More Often

35-Eureka Route Changes

By Olivia Starr

On April 23 of this year, the 35-Eureka—a community bus line neglected for decades and once threatened altogether—finally got some traction. The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency made two major service improvements on the line, which runs north-south on Eureka and Diamond streets through Noe Valley. The first was to ex-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Local Mom Lives For LEGOs

Bricks 4 Kidz Franchise a Hit With Schools

By Heather World

Three years ago, around the time her toddler started playing with LEGOs, Upper Noe resident Kim Nguyen-Ehrenreich had an epiphany: maybe the popular toy could lay the foundation for her own future.

A scientist at a medical device firm for nine years, Nguyen-Ehrenreich had long dreamed of teaching science to children, especially to disadvantaged youth.

"That's my passion—to provide these kids with the different opportunities that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



**It Bobbles the Mind.** Noe Valley resident Audrey Cooper has a fondness for San Francisco Giants bobbleheads as well as a penchant for investigative journalism. Photo by Beverly Tharp

## The State of the Economy for Noe Retail

High Rents and Online Shopping Put the Squeeze on Local Merchants

By Tim Simmers

When store manager Inci Caner noticed a woman photographing a dress in her Rabat clothing boutique recently, she sensed what was next.

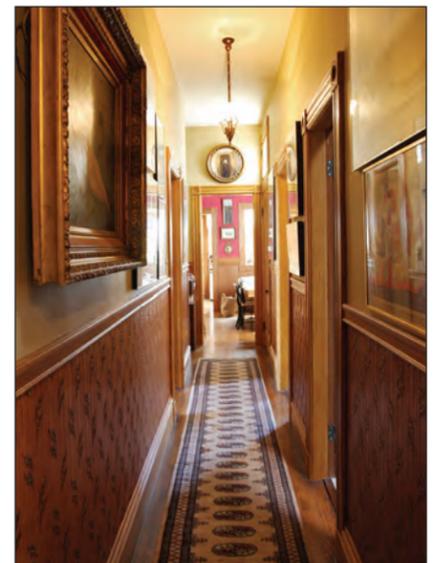
The woman returned to the 24th Street shop in Noe Valley and asked Caner if she could match the price of an identical dress online.

"It's very frustrating," sighed Caner, who's up against a cultural change she

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



**Working More for Less.** Dona Taylor of When Modern Was looks relaxed in this photo but confesses to a nervousness about the future for Noe Valley retail. Photo by Pamela Gerard



**Time Passages.** This hallway in Hank Dunlop's 23rd Street Victorian exudes a warm and inviting richness.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim

## Surrounded by History

What It's Like to Live in a Noe Valley Victorian

By Richard May

San Francisco is famous for its Victorian architecture, and Noe Valley is well-known as one of its Victorian neighborhoods. There are bus tours and walking tours galore of our neighborhood and others throughout the city, especially Alamo Square with its "Painted Ladies."

But Victorian buildings—built during and after the reign of Queen Victoria, from 1837 to 1901—are disappearing, and have been since they stopped making them.

The Great Fire of 1906—after the Great Earthquake of the same year—was the first great destroyer. The next great

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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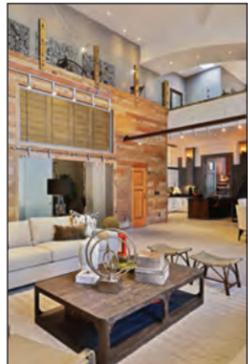
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Image: Coffin of Irethorrou (detail), Egyptian, Akhmim, ca. 500 BC. Wood with polychrome. FAMSF, Gift of First Federal Trust Company (from the Estate of Jeremiah Lynch), 42895

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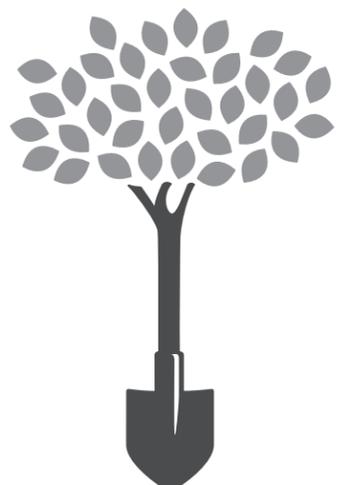
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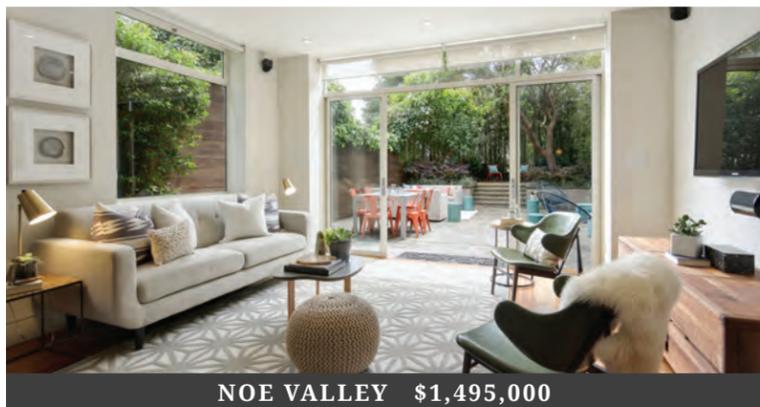
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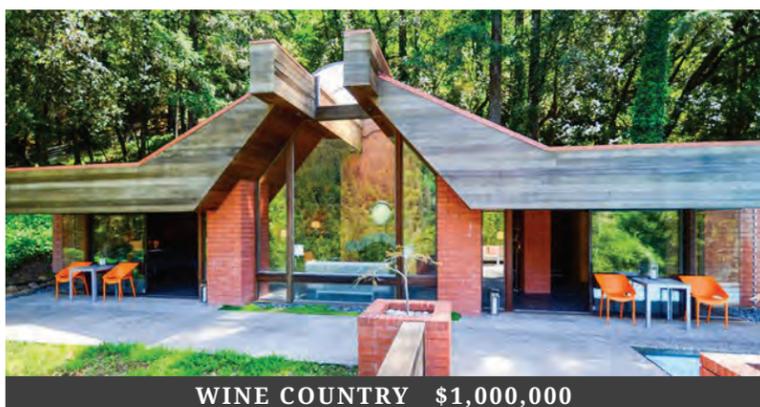
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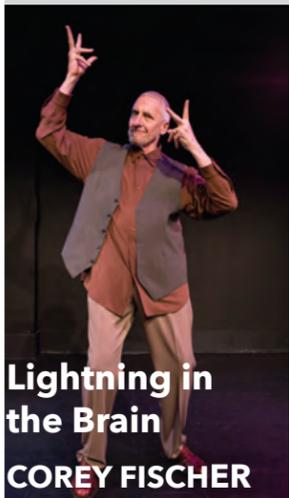


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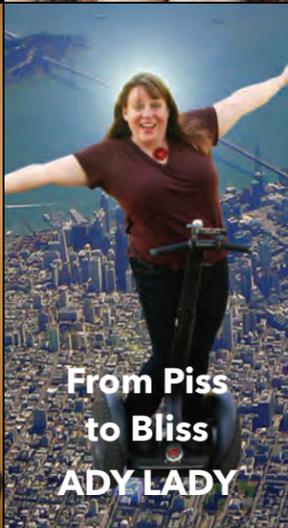
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# LETTERS 47¢

## Bouquets to Garden Tour Team

Editor:

The Friends of Noe Valley would like to give a great big shout out to all the wonderful people who made the 2016 Noe Valley Garden Tour a huge success! The May 21 weather cooperated, the turnout was great, and the gardens were magnificent! A donation will be made to Fairmount Elementary School for their outdoor science and garden program.

First off, let's hear it for the gracious garden hosts who shared their impressive gardens with us this year:

- Elizabeth and Michael Shaefer
- Fran and Kathleen Schlier
- Jane Phillips
- Jessica Bridges Mikesell
- Mark Larvo
- Mike and SA Underhill
- Sarah Burbridge

Susan Floore  
30th Street Senior Center

We also want to thank again and again and again the wonderfully generous Noe Valley individuals and businesses who sponsored the garden tour. Seriously, we couldn't do it without them!

- BJ Droubi Team
- Cliché Noe Gifts + Home
- Climb Realty
- DAVIDsTEA
- Dennis Otto/Pacific Union
- Dirty Hoe Landscaping
- Flora Grubb Gardens
- Hill & Co.
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- NOVY Restaurant
- Umpqua Bank
- Sloat Garden Centers
- Stephanie Johnson/Pacific Union
- Urban Farmer
- Valley Tavern
- Zephyr Real Estate

We are already planning for next year's garden tour. If you liked what you saw and/or want to get involved, please email [friendsofnoevalley@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnoevalley@gmail.com). And if you have a garden or know of a garden, it's not too early to let us know. Drop us a line.

Until next year,

The Friends of Noe Valley  
Garden Tour teammates:

- Adrian Bonifacio
- Arete Nicholas
- Jana King
- Linda Lockyer
- Lisa Erdos
- Michelle Echenique
- Peggy Cling

## The Hidden Impact of Prop. B

Editor:

Proposition B, the Recreation and Park Charter Amendment, will be on the June 2016 ballot. Although it sounds like a great idea (we all love our parks), there are many problems with this legislation.

## CRIME SNAPSHOT

There were at least 255 incidents in Noe Valley reported to police from January through April 2016, according to a *Noe Valley Voice* search on **CrimeMapping.com**, a website that extracts crime data from the SFPD and other police departments around the country. That number was 20 percent higher than the total for the four previous months (September through December 2015), when 212 incidents were reported (see February 2016 *Voice*). However, more than half of the increase was in reports of fraud—they went from 15 to 38 incidents. Other crimes on the rise included assault (12 to 15), car theft (31 to 35), robbery (4 to 6), and car break-ins (15 to 24). Thefts/larceny were down (23 to 19), and burglaries stayed about the same (51 to 50). Here's the breakdown for the first four months of 2016:

| Type                    | January   | February  | March     | April     | TOTAL      |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Arson                   | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          |
| Assault                 | 3         | 4         | 3         | 5         | 15         |
| Burglary                | 5         | 13        | 15        | 17        | 50         |
| Disturbing the peace    | 10        | 11        | 14        | 12        | 47         |
| Drug/alcohol violations | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1          |
| DUI                     | 1         | 0         | 3         | 0         | 4          |
| Fraud                   | 17        | 9         | 6         | 6         | 38         |
| Homicide                | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          |
| Motor vehicle thefts    | 3         | 9         | 14        | 9         | 35         |
| Robbery                 | 0         | 1         | 4         | 1         | 6          |
| Sex crime               | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 2          |
| Theft/larceny           | 5         | 6         | 3         | 5         | 19         |
| Vandalism               | 4         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 9          |
| Vehicle break-in/theft  | 6         | 7         | 4         | 7         | 24         |
| Weapon                  | 2         | 2         | 0         | 1         | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>56</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>71</b> | <b>63</b> | <b>255</b> |

The *Noe Valley Voice* collected the incident numbers for January through April on May 12, 2016. Noe Valley was defined as the area within a half-mile radius of 4100 26th St., a point we eyeballed as the geographical center of the neighborhood. (The area included parts of Alvarado, Dolores, Day, and Douglass streets.) To map incidents on your block or in a wider neighborhood, go to [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com) and enter an address on the home page. To report incidents to police, call 911 if a crime is in progress. In non-emergency situations, call 415-553-0123. To file an online police report, go to <http://sanfranciscopolice.org/reports>.

Rec and Park currently gets funding from various sources, including appropriations from the General Fund. This pool of discretionary funds is also used to support non-enterprise departments such as Public Health. During the yearly budget process, the Board of Supervisors holds public hearings and decides which departments get what percent of those discretionary funds.

If Proposition B passes, that will all change because:

Prop. B mandates approximately \$4.5 billion of funding for Rec and Park's exclusive use over the next 30 years.

Prop. B takes away from the Board of Supervisors the authority to adjust that funding during the budget process.

Proposition B takes away funds from

other General Fund departments. No matter how desperately the City would need funding for public health, for housing, for families, or for a disaster, no one could touch the Rec and Park set-asides.

Rec and Park would decide how most of the \$4.5 billion would be spent.

Groups now opposing this legislation include the Sierra Club, League of Women Voters SF, Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, San Francisco Tomorrow, SF Green Party, SF Republican Party, SF Libertarian Party, Potrero Hill Democratic Club, District 8 Progressive Democratic Club, and the *SF Chronicle*.

Please vote NO on Proposition B!

Katherine Howard  
Coalition for San Francisco  
Neighborhoods



**THE NOE VALLEY VOICE**  
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[www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)

The *Noe Valley Voice* is an independent newspaper published monthly except in January and August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity during the first week of the month. Subscriptions are available at \$40 per year (\$35 for seniors) by writing to the above address.

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

The *Noe Valley Voice* is a member of the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association.

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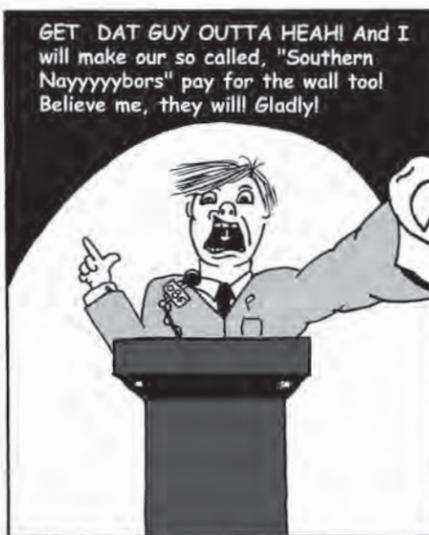
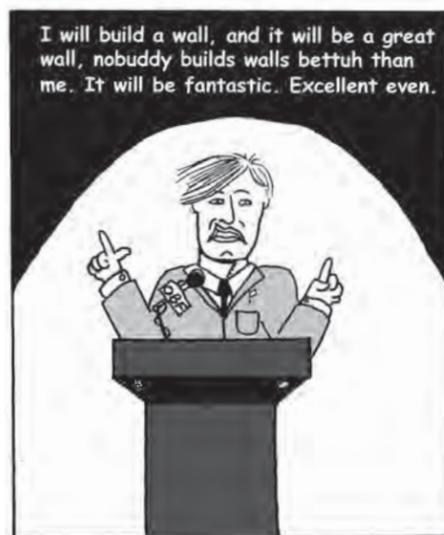
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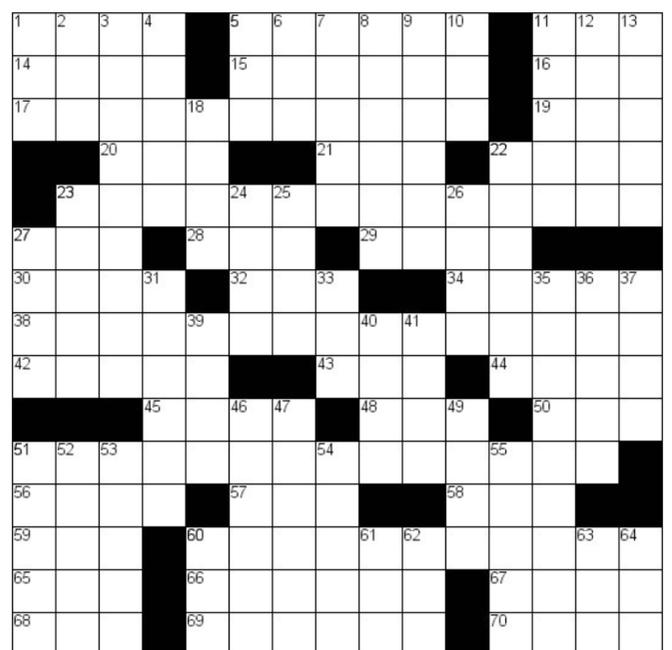


### THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

#### Themed Restaurants

##### ACROSS

1. \_\_\_ vu
5. Dilapidated
11. Alias: Abbr.
14. Kind of history or hygiene
15. "I've had enough!"
16. Measurement unit for FM radio: Abbr.
17. Sushi bar with minuscule portions?
19. Go to the plate
20. Bud, in the hood
21. Australian outlaw Kelly
22. Kind of missile once based on Angel Island
23. Church Street restaurant known for histrionics?
27. Sailor
28. Small drink
29. Blind part
30. Words of understanding
32. Esso station giveaway
34. First name in drumming
38. 24th Street bar with jumpy Irishmen?
42. Desert respite
43. Tiny bit
44. "\_\_\_ tu" (1974 hit)
45. Weightiest U.S. President
48. One who served in 59-Across
50. Eponymous Chinese general
51. 24th Street eatery that may disappear unexpectedly?
56. Apple product advertised as



8. Muhammad and Laila Ali, e.g.
9. Kind of veil
10. Affirmative vote
11. Sphere of operation
12. Fabric in Dockers, often
13. Montezuma, for one
18. Bar that became Horner's Corner
22. Locally born
23. Ottoman title
24. Arm or leg
25. Libra gem
26. Golfer Dave or rocker Johnny
27. Old Yugoslav leader
31. Took out some words, say
33. Traders' card game since 1904
35. Home of Dancer and Blixen
36. Airbnb user
37. \_\_\_ buco
39. Letters on a stealth fighter
40. Seaborne force
41. Paradise
46. Like '70s slacks, often
47. 1840s President and family
49. Quarrel
51. Discovers
52. Toothpaste of "Bucky Beaver"
53. \_\_\_ Catholic
54. Count in music
55. Lowly office role
60. Pay for a lawyer
61. Animation still
62. "\_\_\_ gratia artis"
63. Acid, briefly
64. \_\_\_ Moines

##### DOWN

1. "I'm such a fool!"
2. Tide rival
3. Scout gatherings
4. Anti-theft device
5. \_\_\_-Cone
6. Not vert.
7. Fix

**Solution on Page 33**  
Note: The current Voice Crossword and all past puzzles can be found at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com).

## Noe Resident Shapes Daily Coverage of The City

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sity with degrees in both journalism and political science.

“My mom would say, ‘You would be a great reporter.’ I would always get our babysitter to tell us things they probably shouldn’t tell us,” recalled Cooper.

Plus, she admitted, “I would have been a terrible judge. I have no poker face. That’s one thing.”

She worked for a variety of media outlets in northern California before landing at the *San Francisco Chronicle* in 2006 as an assistant metro editor. Seven years later Cooper was named managing editor.

Then, in January of 2015, the Noe Valley resident was appointed by the Hearst Corporation, which owns the 152-year-old paper, as the *Chronicle*’s first female editor-in-chief. Cooper, 38, also became the youngest woman to lead a major newspaper in America.

“The one institution we have that is more powerful than a branch of government is the Fourth Estate. It sounds cheesy, but it’s true,” Cooper told the *Noe Valley Voice* during an interview at her home in early May.

The paper has a daily circulation of 167,602 that increases to 252,088 on Sundays, according to the company’s 2016 media kit. It’s SFGATE.com website has a weekly audience of 669,500 users, while the SFChronicle.com reaches 174,700 users per week.

### Paper Is Growing

Unlike other papers across the country that have laid off staff and seen revenues drop, the *Chronicle*, with a newsroom of 200 people, has brought on 50 new people in the last two years and continues to hire.

“If you look at our masthead, there is not a single straight white man on it. We have the most diverse leadership team anywhere,” said Cooper.

She also pointed out that the paper is no longer hemorrhaging \$1 million a week, and instead is generating revenue these days. The last three years, said Cooper, the paper has been in the black.

“Our digital subscriptions are going up,” she said. “People are happier be-



Editor-in-Chief Audrey Cooper presides over the newsroom of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which she reports has hired 50 new employees in the past two years. Photo by Beverly Tharp

cause they are not being replaced by a 23-year-old who knows Snapchat.”

Many of the paper’s journalists have gone through a special incubator program set up two years ago in a separate building away from the newsroom that teaches them how to harness various digital tools to report the news.

“They learn how to tell stories for a digital audience,” explained Cooper.

One example of the paper’s drive to tell stories using multiple platforms was its “Last Men Standing” report on long-term survivors of AIDS, which included an in-depth story that ran in March as well as a feature-length documentary that screened at the Castro Theatre in April. A reporter, photographers, and videographers spent 10 months working on the project. (The film will be reprised on June 19 at the Victoria Theatre, as part of the San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival.)

More *Chronicle* special reports are in the works, as Cooper is pushing her staff to produce in-depth coverage on a more frequent basis. She also has assigned five reporters to an investigative team tasked with digging deeper into stories, with recent examples being sexual harassment at UC Berkeley and police shootings in San Francisco.

### The Homelessness Project

Later this month the *Chronicle* is set to run a series of stories examining the city’s

homelessness issues and highlighting myriad solutions to solve the problem. Cooper enlisted 50 media outlets in the Bay Area to participate in the project, with a flood of coverage scheduled to begin Wednesday, June 29.

Since the series was announced in May, journalists in at least three other cities have committed to jointly publish their own stories about homelessness in their coverage areas. The project speaks to Cooper’s belief that the media can play a powerful role in highlighting societal issues and can exert pressure on politicians and community leaders to act.

“I became a journalist because people cannot make good decisions about their community without good information,” said Cooper. “That is my true north. Even if people don’t buy the paper, they still need to be informed.”

This month the SFChronicle.com site is expected to drop its firewall and allow people to read for free a certain number of stories, likely 10 per month. To read more stories, users would need to buy a subscription, costing \$10 a month.

“We need to get people reading it and realize there is value to it,” said Cooper, who reads the paper first on her cellphone before picking up the printed edition.

“I strongly believe if you want the *Chronicle* to exist the next couple of decades, you need community financial support.”



This pair of owls, one of two designs put forward by Wowhaus in April, is the one most likely to be chosen as “Garden Guardians” for the Noe Valley Town Square.

## Art for Town Square Project Almost Set

More Realistic Owls Preferred to Ones With Heart Shape

By Matthew S. Bajko

Literalism is set to beat out abstraction in the selection of the artwork for the Noe Valley Town Square project.

After months of public debate and several iterations of the statuary proposed for the new public park being built on 24th Street, city art leaders are poised to approve a pair of realistic-looking bronze owl statues when they meet this month.

Based on feedback from residents, the San Francisco Arts Commission’s Visual Arts Committee voted at its May 25 meeting to endorse the more lifelike interpretation of the avian creatures, with pronounced beaks and feet. In doing so, they rejected a second version that would have rendered the owl couplet in a more heart-like fashion.

The committee voted unanimously 3-0, with two members absent. The full arts commission should approve its recommendation at its Monday, June 6, meeting.

To be installed on a pathway that leads to the Town Square’s children’s play space, the taller of the two statues would

be 3 feet in height and the smaller one would be 28 inches. The pair is meant to evoke the image of a parent and child.

Bay Area-based firm Wowhaus, comprised of married couple Scott Constable and Ene Osteraas-Constable, last fall won the \$37,100 commission to create the public artwork for the under-construction plaza at 3861 24th St., between Sanchez and Vicksburg streets.

Selected on a fast-track basis so their work could be installed before the planned October opening of the Town Square, the artists instead saw the approval process bog down due to bureaucratic and public concerns about their initial designs.

As the *Noe Valley Voice* has reported, the first proposal featuring a large owl and two smaller toad statues was scrapped due to safety and access concerns. A reworked design featuring three owls was deemed too “skull-like” and scary for children, leading to the submission of the two different versions of an owl pair.

The choice to feature the birds continues to draw derision, with an elderly neighborhood resident telling the committee that the latest owl renderings fail to delight. The only member of the pub-

lic to speak at the May hearing, the woman also noted, “In folk music hoot owls are signals of death.”

Her comment prompted arts commissioner Jessica Silverman, who serves on the Visual Arts Committee, to respond that she felt Wowhaus had addressed the majority of the criticisms expressed about their concept.

“It has been a long process. I think the artistic duo has done a pretty good job of hearing the concerns of the community,” said Silverman. “I think once in situ [the statues] will look really great.” ■

### Settling into the Neighborhood

Cooper and her husband, Kirk Seward, are childhood sweethearts who started dating as teenagers in Kansas City. They both ended up attending college in Boston and then moved together to California.

Two years ago they moved to the heart of Noe Valley with their son, who is now 3 years old, after their bid for a house in the city’s Cole Valley neighborhood fell through.

“We are still in the process of furnishing it,” Cooper explained as for why the front room was devoid of furnishings other than children’s toys. “This weekend we are buying the rest of the furniture.”

They had been living in a loft inside the historic Clock Tower building South of Market that abuts the approach to the Bay Bridge. While they loved their warehouse-like space, mere blocks away from the *Chronicle* building, their nursery was set up in a walk-in closet and the family needed to move to a larger home.

As soon as she walked into the Noe Valley property, Cooper recalled saying to her husband, “Get those people out of my house,” about the other potential buyers that day. The seller received just three bids, which Cooper believes was due to his disclosing that the woman who had owned it had died there.

They put together a video about their family to lift their chances, though Cooper suspects what gave them an edge against the other bidders was the fact their son was born on the same day as the seller’s son.

### Stroller Matched

Unfamiliar with the neighborhood, Cooper said she did have reservations at first about relocating to Noe Valley, as it “seemed really far away to me.” But those concerns subsided as soon as they took their son to a nearby park and saw not only the diverse array of families there, but that everyone had the same stroller as they.

“I think we have found our people,” Cooper told her husband that day. “It is really a lovely place to live in the city.... We have left the garage door open twice and nothing was stolen.”

Due to death threats she has received while being editor of the *Chronicle*, Cooper asked that neither the address of the couple’s home, which they bought for \$2.5 million, nor the name of their son be disclosed. She doubts the vitriol is due to her being a woman. It comes with the job, she said.

“I am sure Phil Bronstein got more,” said Cooper, referring to the paper’s editor from 2000 through 2008, who was frequently in the media spotlight. “I don’t think it is a gender thing.”

### On the Job Day and Night

On a good week, Cooper spends 60 hours at work. A bad week can run to 100 hours. Most days she is at the newsroom by 8:30 a.m., and most nights she is at some community event.

When the 6.0 Napa earthquake struck in August of 2014, Cooper was jostled awake like many Bay Area residents. Her whole house shook, she recalled, and by 3:30 a.m. she was on her way to the newsroom. The event prepared her, somewhat, for how the paper under her watch would cover a major temblor, should one again strike the Bay Area.

The biggest challenge, depending on the timing and impact on the region’s transportation network, could be mobilizing her staff, said Cooper, as many in the newsroom have been priced out of San Francisco and live in the East Bay. On her to-do list this year is developing a “solid engagement plan,” a way to be prepared for the next Big One.

“It keeps me up often at night,” Cooper said. ■

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## Summer Readings And Benefits at Folio Books

By Olivia Boler

Folio Books offers up a full array of special literary events this month. If you're looking for summertime beach reading, there's no time like the present to find that perfect book. You might even support a good cause.

The inaugural meeting of a new quarterly literary salon, **Queer Words**, spotlights queer fiction, nonfiction, and poetry readings. This maiden installment features readings and a panel discussion focused on the theme of queer young adult speculative fiction. On the panel are local authors Skye Allen, Andrew Demcek, and Tim Floreen.

"Queer Words is basically an extension of the annual LGBTQ night during Word Week," says Richard May, who co-founded Queer Words with Wayne Goodman. May also launched Word Week, Noe Valley's annual literary festival.

Queer Words takes place Tuesday, June 21, at 7 p.m. The event is free, and refreshments will be served. Plus, there will be a door prize right at the start "to encourage promptness!" says May.

Sunday, June 26, at 2 p.m., four-legged

friends are welcome to join in as author **Joanne David** reads from her new children's book *Honeyboy*. Best of all, from 1 to 3 p.m., Folio will donate 20 percent of all book sales to **Rocket Dog Rescue**.

Another Folio fundraiser takes place earlier in the month, this time benefiting the **Women's Building** (womensbuilding.org) on 18th Street. *New York Times* bestselling author **Mary McNear** will read from the fourth novel in her popular Butternut Lake series, *The Space Between Sisters*, on Tuesday, June 14, 7 p.m. Twenty percent of all book sales between 6 p.m. and closing at 8 p.m., will benefit the non-profit, "a women-led community space that advocates self-determination, gender equality, and social justice," according to its mission statement.

Be sure to check out other Folio Books events. June 13 and 27, the **Odd Mondays** series takes place at 7 p.m. It's free, and more information can be found at oddmondays.com. Also, the **Bookworms Club** for readers ages 8 to 12 features author **Matthew Jobin** talking about his new fantasy book *The Skeleth* on Friday, June 17, 6 p.m. An RSVP is required on eventbrite.com/e/bookworms-club-tickets-25485102628.

For more information on these events, call Folio Books, 3957 24th St.; 415-821-3477. Readers can also check out their website, foliosf.com/events.

## WAKE UP RIGHT!

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NVV 6/2016

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|--|------------------------------|
| <b>San Francisco Information Line</b> <a href="http://www.sf311.org">www.sf311.org</a> .....                       | <b>311</b>                   |
| <b>Burned-Out Streetlights</b> , city owned (wooden poles call PG&E) .....   | <b>311</b>                   |
| <b>District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener</b> <a href="mailto:scott.wiener@sfgov.org">scott.wiener@sfgov.org</a> ..... | 415-554-6968                 |
| <b>Graffiti Removal, Tree Removal, Street Cleaning (DPW)</b> .....   | 415-695-2017                 |
| <b>Hazardous Waste Disposal/ Free pickup mattresses, appliances</b> .....  | 415-330-1300                 |
| <b>Homeless Services</b> Urgent care clinic .....  | 415-355-7400                 |
| <b>Lost or Injured Animals</b> Animal Care and Control .....   | 415-554-6364                 |
| <b>Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services</b> <a href="http://www.sfgov.org/mons">www.sfgov.org/mons</a> .....    | 415-554-7111                 |
| <b>NERT</b> (Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams) .....  | 415-558-3456 or 415-970-2022 |
| <b>Parking Enforcement</b> DPT Dispatch .....  | 415-553-1200                 |
| <b>PG&amp;E</b> Gas or electrical issues .....   | 1-800-743-5000               |
| <b>Pothole Repairs</b> <a href="mailto:potholes@sfdpw.org">potholes@sfdpw.org</a> .....                            | 415-695-2100                 |
| <b>Recycling</b> .....   | 415-554-7329                 |
| <b>Rent Board</b> .....  | 415-252-4600                 |
| <b>Parking Permits, Residential</b> .....  | 415-503-2020                 |
| <b>Sewer Problems, Overflows</b> .....   | 415-695-2096                 |
| <b>Tree Planting</b> .....   | 415-554-6700                 |
| <b>24th Street Community Benefit District (CBD)</b> .....  | 415-519-0093                 |
| <b>Utility Undergrounding (DPW)</b> <a href="mailto:undergrounding@sfgov.org">undergrounding@sfgov.org</a> .....   | 415-554-6167                 |
| <b>Water Leaks, Water Pressure</b> .....   | 415-554-3289                 |

"If your parents never had children, chances are you won't either."

Dick Cavett, TV show host (1936-)



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## Play With LEGOs, Learn Science

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the more privileged kids have,” says Nguyen-Ehrenreich, 42.

She also wanted to spend more time with her son, Oliver, born in 2011. So when she read about a LEGO-based program for teaching science called Bricks 4 Kidz in *Entrepreneur* magazine, she jumped at the chance to start a local franchise.

Quitting her job, Nguyen-Ehrenreich launched the Noe Valley/San Francisco branch of Bricks 4 Kidz, a company founded in 2008 by Michelle Cote of St. Augustine, Fla.

The program appealed to Nguyen-Ehrenreich because teachers had written its rich curriculum, which weaves science, technology, engineering, and math into 250 lesson plans adaptable for children 2½ to 13 years old.

Classes start with a 10-minute introduction to a topic—the mechanics, purpose and history of windmills, for example. Then children are paired off and given LEGO bricks and instructions to build a model, in this case a windmill.

LEGOs are an ideal teaching tool, Nguyen-Ehrenreich believes. Kids follow instructions to build exciting models and machines with moving parts, and mistakes are easy to fix.

“It’s self-instructive in a way, and it’s really easy to take [the bricks] apart and put them in the right place,” she says.

### Model Growth

What started as one private class of four students taught at a rented studio quickly expanded as Nguyen-Ehrenreich began partnering with local elementary schools. By the spring of 2014, she’d brought LEGO classes to afterschool programs at Rooftop Elementary, San Francisco Community School, and Synergy School, and started offering day camps

during school holidays.

As interest grew, Nguyen-Ehrenreich began hiring teachers, picking people who had a passion for teaching, not just for engineering and science. These days, she and her staff of seven work out of a small office above her home of nine years. They design LEGO camp curriculum, coordinate with schools, and handle class registration.

Most of all they teach. This fall, Bricks 4 Kidz will be reaching hundreds of students at more than 20 elementary schools. The program also will run camps at Recess Urban Recreation in Potrero Hill and Peek-a-Boo Factory in West Portal.

Classes vary from once or twice a week to 8- or 15-week series. Summer camps, which are a week long, often focus on a single topic, such as World Architecture, Interesting Inventions, or The World of DNA. If students finish building early, they play with their models—adding, modifying, or reinventing.

“They can come up with so many variations,” says Nguyen-Ehrenreich. “It’s very fulfilling to see how kids are just so creative.”

### Numbers Didn’t Add Up

Although her business was thriving by the second year, one equation continued to trouble Nguyen-Ehrenreich. The ratio of boys to girls in the classes was roughly two to one. She started focusing on inspiring a new generation of girl scientists.

“We know once they hit tweens they can get distracted, but if we have a foundation of interest, I feel like it will be less emotional work as parents and as a community to keep these girls engaged,” she says.

To attract more girls, she broadened her class themes, exploring architecture, animals, and space, in addition to the more standard fare of energy and matter.

She and her staff also highlighted female scientists on their Facebook page.

“I feel like a lot of time these women’s input was overlooked,” she says. “We need better role models for girls.”



Building her business brick by brick, Kim Nguyen-Ehrenreich hopes to eventually have a storefront where she can host a science lab and larger-LEGO play for younger children.

Photo by Beverly Tharp

This summer, she will offer a girls-only science camp at Peek-a-Boo Factory. Using the popular acronym for science, technology, engineering, art, and math, the class is called STEAM for Girls and has a different theme each day: inventions, programming, experiments.

### Teach a Girl to Fish...

Nguyen-Ehrenreich’s own interest in science started at an early age. Born in 1973 in war-torn South Vietnam, she moved to the United States with her parents and brother in 1979. The family lived first in rural Illinois and then Philadelphia before settling in Buras, a tiny town on the boggy tip of Louisiana.

At home at last in a familiar muggy climate, her father began to fish for a living, taking his oldest daughter with him on the boat. Instead of summer camps and afterschool enrichment programs, Nguyen-

Ehrenreich explored the world around her while untangling nets, gutting fish, and sacking oysters.

Her parents were neither rich nor ambitious on her behalf.

“My parents never pushed me, and I’m glad,” she says. “I was responsible, so they trusted me to make my own decisions.”

She went to Louisiana State University and majored in zoology with a concentration in marine biology and a minor in chemistry. Encouraged by a professor in a lab where she was working, she went on to get a master’s in biology.

After working as a research associate at LSU for a couple of years, she moved to San Diego to work at a startup. When that crashed in 2004, she moved to San Francisco, a city she’d fallen in love with during a previous visit. She soon had a job

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## 35-Eureka Now Bound for BART

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tend the southern end of the line to “downtown” Glen Park. Now the route takes riders from the Castro (or Noe Valley) to the Glen Park BART Station via a new segment along Chenery Street. A total of six stops have been added along the route to the station. New stops on Chenery are at Miguel, Mateo, Roanoke, Castro, and Diamond streets.

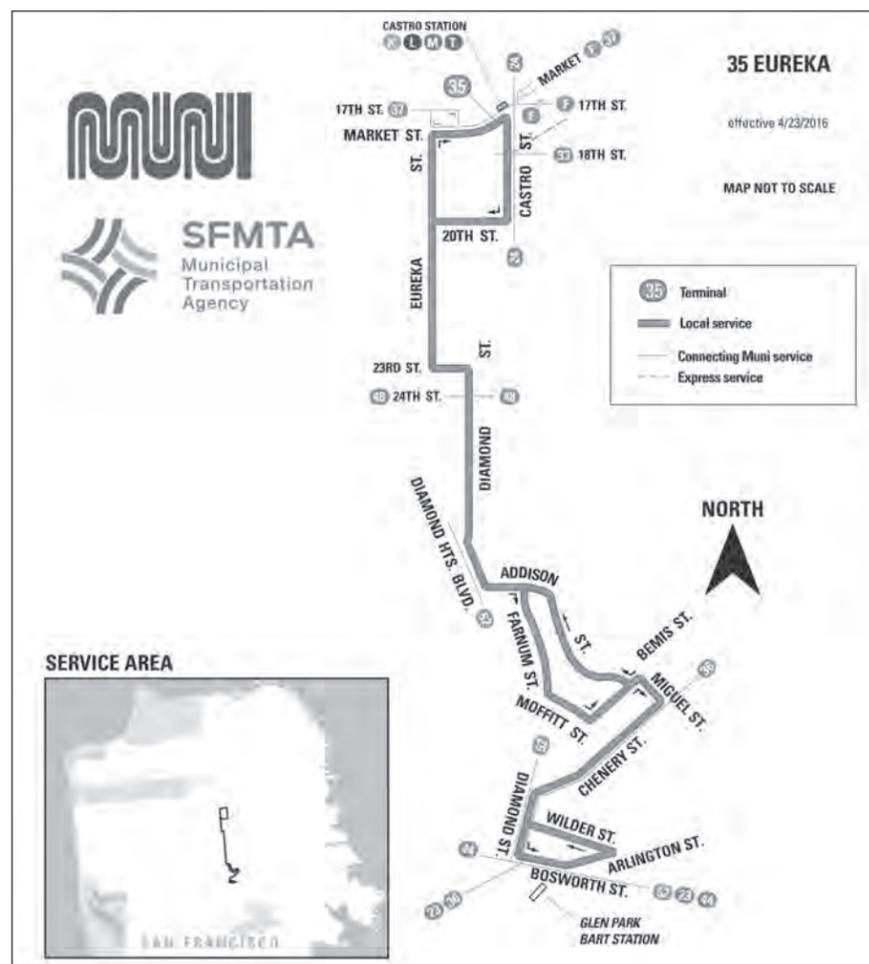
Second, the 35-Eureka’s frequency has been increased, to every 25 minutes in the morning and every 15 minutes in the evening.

Also, with the 35’s new extension, riders can more easily transfer to buses in Glen Park, such as the 23 Monterey, 36 Teresita, and 44 O’Shaughnessy.

So far, the reaction to the service changes has been positive, especially to the increased times, says Paul Rose, chief spokesperson for the SFMTA. One San Francisco resident gleefully tweeted, “YAY!!” with the hashtag #35Eureka after learning of the upgrade in early April.

Though the changes to the physical route have caused no apparent upset, the new schedule has created some disruption among riders who had not received the word. One confused Twitter user tagged @sfmta\_muni on May 7 to ask if the bus was still running every 30 minutes, which had been the frequency prior to the changes.

Rose said the agency used a variety of media to spread the news, including a



multilingual letter to those living along the addition, signage at stops, and informational “ambassadors” riding the bus and standing at the Glen Park BART Station a month before and two weeks after the changes went into effect.

In addition, it posted updates on social media, sent email blasts, and published several blog posts on its website,

www.sfmta.com.

Prior to the changes, the 35-Eureka, which starts at Castro and Market, ended a few blocks outside of Glen Park. However, the city was conscious of the fact that the blocks from the last stop to the BART station included a steep hill which made it “challenging for people to walk to and from the 35 to BART,” said Rose.

Also, riders had been lobbying for years, in letters and at hearings, for greater frequency on the line.

The recent upgrades were approved as part of the SFMTA’s “Muni Forward” program. The program falls under the umbrella of the Transit Effectiveness Project, begun in March of 2014. It’s “a multi-year planning effort that identified service changes to improve Muni city-wide,” said Rose.

### J-Church, 48, and 24 Also Improved

The SFMTA also made changes to several other transit lines crossing Noe Valley.

- Service on the **J-Church**, as well as on all other Muni Metro lines, was increased on weekends. Now trains are scheduled to arrive every 10 minutes on Saturday, and every 12 minutes on Sunday.

- Owl service was added to the **48-Quintara-24th Street** line. Service will run every half hour between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. on the part of the route that goes from Elizabeth and Diamond streets to Third and 22nd streets.

The upgrades, which went into effect the weekend of April 23-24, were part of the fourth round of changes made in “Muni Forward,” a program of citywide service improvements launched in April of 2015.

In an earlier round, frequency on the **24-Divisadero** line was increased during a.m. and p.m. peak times, from 10 to 9 minutes.

For a look at all of the Muni Forward changes, go to <https://www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/muni-forward-0>. ■

## LEGO Entrepreneur A Model for Girls

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

on the Peninsula, working as a research scientist.

Running a small business is vastly different from working at a large company, so when Nguyen-Ehrenreich got ready to start Bricks 4 Kidz SF, she networked with other moms through support groups like the Golden Gate Mothers Group and SF Mom Entrepreneurs.

"I think you learn a lot from each other when you're in this community," she says. The women talked about how to structure a working mom's day, about marketing, and about hiring.

She has long been active volunteering for neighborhood organizations, like the Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center, and her son will soon start public school, hopefully nearby.

Though location and start time were important to her when she began her search for a school for Oliver, test scores and percentages of low-income students were not.

"I visit a lot of schools for my work, and they're all really good schools," says Nguyen-Ehrenreich, who has held Bricks 4 Kidz classes in Junipero Serra, Paul Revere, San Francisco Community School,

and Leonard Flynn, among others.

Still, she has seen firsthand the achievement gap that frightens off many middle-class parents.

"There are schools where fifth-graders are having trouble building models meant for kindergartners," she says, because of lack of early childhood experiences.

"Sometimes it takes more effort to get them engaged, but once they're engaged they learn a lot."

### From LEGO Bricks to Bricks and Mortar

Nguyen-Ehrenreich no longer offers private classes beyond summer and holiday camps, but she does want to open a storefront someday. She hopes it can be in Noe Valley or a nearby neighborhood.

"My intention is to have it under another business that is all science-for-kids related but isn't only LEGOs," she says. She foresees classes geared toward younger students (using larger LEGOs), a drop-in science lab, and workshops tailored for certain groups, such as parents and daughters.

She will continue to focus on enticing girls to play with science, she says.

"Even if they don't go into science, it's about building their confidence and letting them know they can achieve anything." ■

## Some Shops Bruised Over Farmers Market's Saturday Location

### Businesses Say Speed Up Town Square Construction

By Tim Simmers

Since the Noe Valley Farmers Market moved onto 24th Street in January, a number of local merchants have seen a reduction in sales on critical Saturday shopping days.

They're anxious for the market to move back off the street, and hope construction of the Noe Valley Town Square, scheduled to finish by the end of October, will be sped up.

"It hasn't been good for business," says Ellen Herlihy, manager of the 24th Street Cheese Shop. Vendor trucks and tents block the store, and it's "out of sight, out of mind," Herlihy notes. Saturday sales have slipped 30 to 40 percent.

"We want the market," she says. "But not on the street."

Most merchants support the market, but not in its current location.

Veronica Ruedrich, manager of Astrid's Rabat Shoes at 24th and Sanchez streets, says she has seen sales slide 30 percent on Saturdays, usually her best day of the week. The blocked-off street inhibits shoppers and eliminates parking spaces, she says.

She, too, loves the market (in its old spot), and hopes "we can figure out a way to have it without hurting people." She says she's concerned about the prospect of town square construction stretching into November and the

holidays.

Olga Terry, owner of Spectacles for Humans, says she's had to ask vendors to move their tents from in front of her store, on 24th near Vicksburg Street. They moved them, but it didn't help foot traffic.

"Sometimes I have no business," she says. "It's awful."

When the market was in the parking lot across the street, "customers hung out and would come in," she said. Not now. Terry complained that town square construction was moving too slowly.

Marci Israel, co-owner of the design and gift shop WinkSF on 24th Street above Castro, suggests the market be moved to a different parking lot. She thinks the move onto 24th Street "wasn't a wise choice." It disturbed the flow of foot traffic up the street, she said.

Not all merchants are grumbling. "The market takes out business in the morning, but customers come back in the afternoon," says Don Norton, owner of Noe Valley Wine Merchants a block down from the market.

Anthony Suarez, manager of the three-year-old Pressed Juicery at Sanchez and 24th, says the farmers market has helped bring in business. With the juicing of vegetables and fruits in vogue, Suarez has built up a growing clientele.

Solange Gomez, manager of Davids-Tea, says the farmers market fuels business when it's operating, but there's a lull when it breaks down.

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## Tense Times for Small Stores on 24th Street

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

thinks threatens the future of brick-and-mortar stores. “We can be helping someone who’s not really willing to buy in stores.”

It’s a dilemma small stores along 24th Street are confronting every day. Online shopping is driving sales down. Then there are the rising rents, which squeeze out toy stores, dress shops, and other traditional retailers that create the character of the shopping district. Tack on stratospheric housing prices and the rising cost of living, which cut spending power and foot traffic, and it’s no wonder merchants are nervous.

To be sure, all is not lost. Retailers still regard 24th Street as a vibrant shopping district, and they embrace the potential customers who flock to Noe Valley’s lively coffee shops and restaurants. But many store owners are working harder than ever to make ends meet, and business isn’t what it used to be.

“Today you have to be really, really good,” says Alessandro Bifulco, owner of Xela Imports. “You have to find the right product, something unique, and be a friendly place.”

**“Rents have hit a ceiling, especially for mom-and-pop stores. Regardless of what they’re selling, mom-and-pops can only afford so much, and landlords are having to come to terms with that.”**

John Downing, Downing and Company

After 22 years, Bifulco’s variety of ethnic clothes, jewelry, and one-of-a-kind gifts he travels the world for attract a loyal clientele. But sales are off 20 percent. He values his younger customers, and says they have money, “but they don’t shop as much.”

Caner of Rabat says merchandize sits around longer than it used to, and business has become unpredictable. Busy weekends aren’t a sure thing anymore. After almost four decades on 24th Street, Rabat has garnered a solid customer base, she says. But she thinks many young people work so hard they don’t have time to shop in stores.

Josh Frees, manager of Shoe Biz on 24th Street, feels competition from the hot retail in stores along Valencia and Mission streets, and wishes Noe Valley could “bring some of those shoppers up here.” He’s thankful for the Noe Valley

customers who keep him going, but says sales dipped 10 percent this year.

“We’re holding our own,” says David Eiland, one of the owners of mainstay Just for Fun. With a popular mix of arts, stationery, greeting cards, toys, and games, sales were up the first three months of this year.

But Eiland is uneasy about the changing dynamics of the shopping corridor, where traditional stores have given way to services like urgent care, title companies, gyms, and yoga shops. The influx of such service businesses weaken Noe Valley as a shopping destination, he says.

### Things Getting Dicey

Other local retailers are on edge, just trying to survive.

Video Wave owner Colin Hutton carries international films, documentaries, noir movies, mysteries, new releases, and kids’ films to entice customers. He’s “done fine” at his new location of over six months, but he dreads rising rents.

“We live in fear of the lease running out,” he says. “The rent is already too much, and we could be priced out.” Hutton shares his small store with Buttons Candy Bar, an old-fashioned sweets shop.

More than half a dozen stores on 24th Street have been vacated in the last year or so, including Common Scents, In-House boutique, the Ark toy store, the women’s clothing store Joshua Simon, and Cradle of the Sun stained-glass shop.

Dona Taylor, owner of When Modern Was, says her sales are down 20 to 30 percent. “It’s very scary,” she says. “I’m buying less merchandise to make up for the loss, and seeing what happens.”

Taylor also complains that shoppers often snap pictures with their phones of products in her store and search for them online. She argues that landlords who want small, mom-and-pop stores to stay should be working with their tenants, finding out what they can pay, and coming down on rents if necessary.

She pays \$6,000 a month for a 1,000-square-foot space, and thinks it should be \$4,000. Her signature product is vintage dressers, which sell for about \$500. “I’d have to sell more than 10 dressers a month to make rent,” she said. “It’s painful.”

### Rents Out of Reach

Rents for \$3,000 or \$4,000 a month for a 24th Street space could be had a few years ago. Now they’re up to \$5,000, \$6,000, \$7,000, or more, says John Downing of Downing and Company, a Noe Valley commercial real estate broker handling leases on 24th and elsewhere in the city.

“Rents have hit a ceiling, especially for mom-and-pop stores,” he says. “Regardless of what they’re selling, mom-and-



Paola Bifulco Heines (left) and Alessandro Bifulco help customer Michela Petrozzi select items at Xela Imports. After 22 years on 24th Street, the owners know the value of friendly assistance.  
Photo by Pamela Gerard

pops can only afford so much, and landlords are having to come to terms with that,” says Downing, who wants to see small merchants thrive.

The idea of landlords talking more to tenants about what they can afford is “coming into play,” Downing says. Still, rents have hit \$9,000 a month for some service tenants. Merchants who can afford \$6,000 or \$7,000 often have three or four stores.

The high rents mean small stores have to “hit the ball out of the park” from day one, says Downing. And that’s hard to do.

Of course, landlords aren’t always the problem. Janell Pekkain, owner of Olive This Olive That, has a fair deal with a supportive landlord. She’s been open four years, but foot traffic has slipped at her store, just down from 24th Street on Vicksburg.

Pekkain has put on in-house food events, featuring her California olive oil and balsamic vinegar and pasta, but consistent sales have been hard to come by. Many young tech workers who like her merchandise tell her they don’t cook much.

### On the Positive Side

Some retailers are singing a happier tune.

“My business is fine,” reports Jack Epstein, co-owner of Chocolate Covered. “The neighborhood will support you if you’ve got something they want.” Epstein sells a worldwide variety of 900 chocolate bars, and he makes tin boxes with San Francisco street names, poets, writers, and custom names on the top.

He started more than two decades ago when rents were lower. That allowed him to take risks and be creative with what he carried. He was able to hone his tin boxes and make them a key product to add to his chocolate offering, and now he’s built a strong customer base and draws chocolate industry types, too.

Tim Nguyen, owner of Tone of Music Audio on Castro just off 24th Street, opened his store more than two years ago and says business is steady. He runs an old-school hi-fi shop, and also sells 1950s and ’60s be-bop jazz records.

He’s thrilled to be in the neighborhood where he lives, and is upbeat about the store’s future. “You can’t get this service online,” he says. “We have quality stereo equipment, and custom systems with products off the beaten track.”

Paula Foley, owner of Folio Books and in her store for 2½ years, is feeling good about her business, too.

“People in the community care about books and reading, and we’ve done really well,” she says. Foley stocks new releases, fiction, literary non-fiction, and lots of children’s books. She also carries

some beat literature and poetry.

“It’s a great location in a nice neighborhood that’s pretty vibrant,” Foley says. She’s happy with her lease, and doesn’t fret over online buying because she knew about it going in.

### Change Is Hard

But merchants struggling with changing spending habits are feeling the pinch.

“We got the store in 2008, and it was very good for a couple of years,” says Yuliya Van De Sande, owner of Flowers of the Valley. “But now we wait for holidays like Mother’s Day and Valentine’s Day. Everything went up pricewise, and people don’t buy flowers as much as before.”

Dani Sheehan-Meyer, owner of Cliché Noe Gifts + Home, says she’s in danger of closing her business by the end of the year. “It’s a real challenge,” she says. “We’re not growing, and people aren’t coming in. We love our loyal customers, but there seems to be a missing curiosity out there.” She has advertised and promoted the store, but foot traffic hasn’t improved over the five years she’s been open.

“We’re trying to figure it out,” says Bill Hoover, owner of Gallery of Jewels, whose business is down 20 percent. “The street used to be hopping. But 2014 was the last really good year. The wheels started coming off in 2015.”

Carol Yenne, owner of Small Frys children’s clothing store, is another retailer distressed over online shopping.

“It’s a bad habit,” she said. “It’s the single most perplexing problem we have.” The street will have more banks, health care outlets, and yoga stores and lose its flavor “if the consciousness doesn’t change,” she says.

Yenne lets young mothers fit their babies into strollers and baby carriers in her store, and then they often buy them online. Business has been flat for three or four years. She’s still a big fan of 24th Street, but running a store isn’t getting any easier.

Donna O’Leary, owner of Ambiance, a women’s clothing boutique, thinks Noe Valley is great, too. She operates four stores and says 24th Street is one of the best places to do business in the city. She likes the influx of young tech workers as customers. But the shifting demographics and shrinking disposable income are a challenge.

“Customers are changing in San Francisco, and regular retailers have to keep up,” she says. “You have to re-invent yourself and do more advertising. There are a lot of new people in town who don’t know you. We’re doing okay, but San Francisco used to be retail Nirvana. Now it’s the toughest I’ve seen it.” ■



Flowers of the Valley owner Yuliya Van De Sande (left) is pleased to trim a bouquet for customer Raffaella Wilson. Van De Sande says flower sales have wilted a bit in recent months, partly due to higher costs.  
Photo by Pamela Gerard



## A Peek Inside Three Victorians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

destruction of Victorian architecture came in two waves of urban renewal in 1956 and 1964. 2,500 Victorian houses in the Western Addition were bulldozed to erect more modern housing. But the ongoing reason for disappearing Victorians is that some new owners don't want to live in them.

Historically, however, a number of Noe Valley homeowners do. The *Voice* spoke with three of them to learn why.

### 1900s Edwardian on 25th Street

Wendy Springer says that it's "great to have a home that is multi-generational. It's how people lived in Victorian times."

She lives in an early 1900s Edwardian at 4218-20 25th St. with four children, her parents Mary Ellen and Michael Rupright, two dogs, two adult cats, and seven kittens she is currently fostering for San Francisco Animal Care & Control. Her home is a four-story structure built in the first decade of the 20th century as two flats.

The interior was renovated into a single family home in 2000, 10 years before Wendy moved in. The attic was enlarged into a fourth floor, and an autonomous living space was created in the ground floor next to the garage.

The house still has almost all of its original windows, a cornice sunburst, fish-scale siding, and interior halls that take a jog on their way across each floor.

Springer has decorated her part of the house with heirloom family furniture and photos from several generations. She says she changed "a few things I couldn't live with. The [former] colors were all in shades of gray." Now the walls are cream.

The kittens, by the way, will be up for adoption through Animal Care & Control. Contact Springer at [fosteranimals@gmail.com](mailto:fosteranimals@gmail.com) for details.

### 1893 Queen Anne Cottage

Up the street from Springer's Edwardian, at 4272 25th St., Bill Campbell lives in an 1893 raised Queen Anne cottage, raised because the basement was the ground floor, like many houses in San Francisco. The living space is actually on the second floor, up the front steps.

Campbell bought his cottage—known as the Edward Fisher House—in 1969. When he moved in, the toilet was in its own little room on the back porch, but he lived with that and other oddities because he lacked enough financial resources after he purchased the house to make many changes right away.

Luckily, he found the cottage "very livable"—even with its quirks—so opted to keep most of the original look, inside and out. He did, however, add central heat, replace the roof, upgrade the plumbing and wiring, put two rooms and a bath in the basement, and do foundation work, in 1977. In the 1980s, he had the façade restored, using an old black-and-white photo of his house as a guide. Its distinguishing Queen Anne feature is the steeply pitched roof with a gable front.

The cottage also has a bay window, 11-foot ceilings, and two original-condition tiled fireplaces with elaborately wrought old-growth redwood and marble mantels. The toilet is now inside the bathroom.

### 1892 Two-Family Stick

The third Victorian visited is an 1892 two-family flat at 3996-98 23rd St., known as the Davis House. Building owner Hank Dunlop lives on the third floor with his partner Jim Hurst, and rents the second. The ground floor was originally a market, but the Davis family, the second owners of the building, rebuilt that space into a garage and storage area.

Dunlop, when asked what style his Victorian was, replied that "I don't use the word Victorian. It's a Stick style." He



## 25th Street Edwardian

4218-20 25th Street

Photos by Najib Joe Hakim

should know. Dunlop has a degree in architecture, worked as an interiors architect for Gensler Architects in San Francisco, has lectured extensively on Victorian architecture, and is still a consultant on restoration projects, including the Leland Stanford Mansion.

Dunlop points out that Victorian was really a time period and several architectural styles developed during it, including Gothic Revival, Italianate, Stick, and Queen Anne. Even Edwardian, which was the style after Queen Victoria died and her son Prince Edward became king, is included these days in "Victorian" architecture. The term "Stick" derived from the use of wood (i.e., stick) framing and ornamentation on building exteriors from the 1860s to the '90s.

Original features of Dunlop's flat include 12-foot ceilings, lots of large windows throughout, original doors and wallpaper, and the original fireplace in the front parlor—which, with the help of the cook stove in the kitchen, used to heat the flat.

Dunlop bought the building in 1968, two years after the last Davis family member died. He has filled it with period or period-like furniture, including massive bookshelves lining the back parlor, and restored the bathroom and kitchen to a more Victorian look. Even the refrigerator is hidden behind wood paneling.

### Victorian Alliance a Good Resource

Dunlop and Campbell are longtime members of the Victorian Alliance, a group of homeowners and others interested in preserving Victorian buildings. The group was formed in 1973 to fight the demolition of Victorian houses in the Western Addition and the razing of the City of Paris department store on Union Square. Now, according to Jim Warshell, the new president of the Victorian Alliance, the group focuses on education and its annual October house tour of Vic-

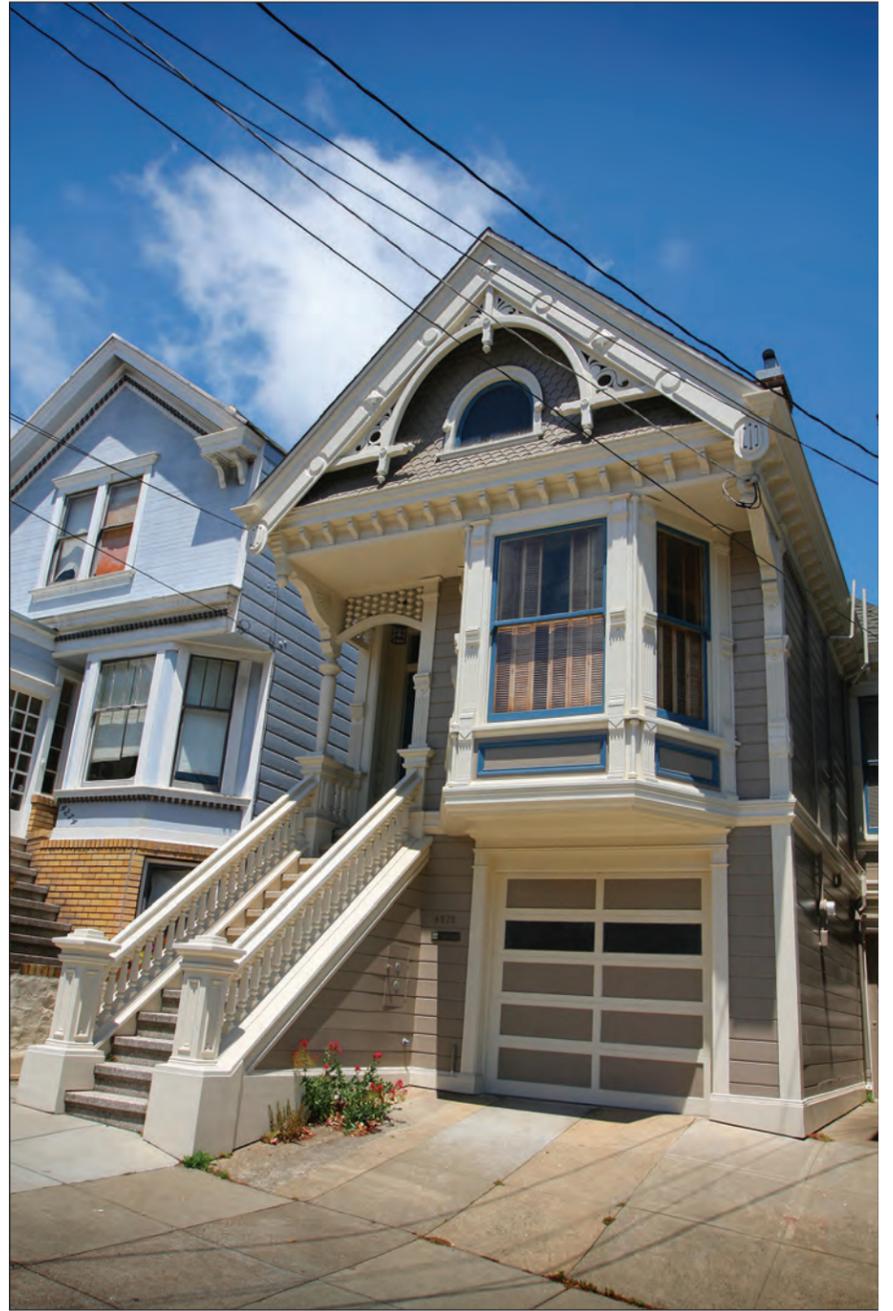
torian neighborhoods. A Noe Valley tour was held in 2007, and the Alliance's 2004 tour was on Fair Oaks Street.

The group meets monthly in a member's Victorian home. Members exchange information on how to restore and maintain their properties. For more information on membership and the next house tour—which will be in Duboce Triangle—see [www.victorianalliance.org](http://www.victorianalliance.org). You do not have to own a Victorian to become a member.

Warshell and Campbell both suggest new owners of Victorians live in their houses a while before making major changes. Living in his Victorian home in Hayes Valley has been "one of the most delightful experiences," Warshell says. "Nothing about it has been particularly difficult. The house is comfortable and spacious and allows good light and air flow." Campbell says Victorians were "built for families, and families can still live in them." Springer, with her seven adults, two dogs, and nine cats, would certainly agree. ■



Here's a photo of Hank Dunlop's house on 23rd Street back when it had a corner store. See page 15 for a present-day look.



**1893 Queen Anne Cottage**  
4272 25th Street



## Valley Victorians: A Legacy of Awe

*Photos by Najib Joe Hakim*



**1892 Two-Family Stick**  
3996-98 23rd Street



## Noe Valley Readers



Top  
**Robert and Anna Blaylock** celebrated Anna's birthday (and that of the Queen who happens to be born the same day) in London.

Right  
**Judy Logan** has now returned to 20th Street from a tour of the Greek islands of Lesvos and Moyvos.



Where have you been lately? If you brought along a copy of the Voice, send a photo to [editor@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:editor@noevalleyvoice.com) and we'll get you in print.



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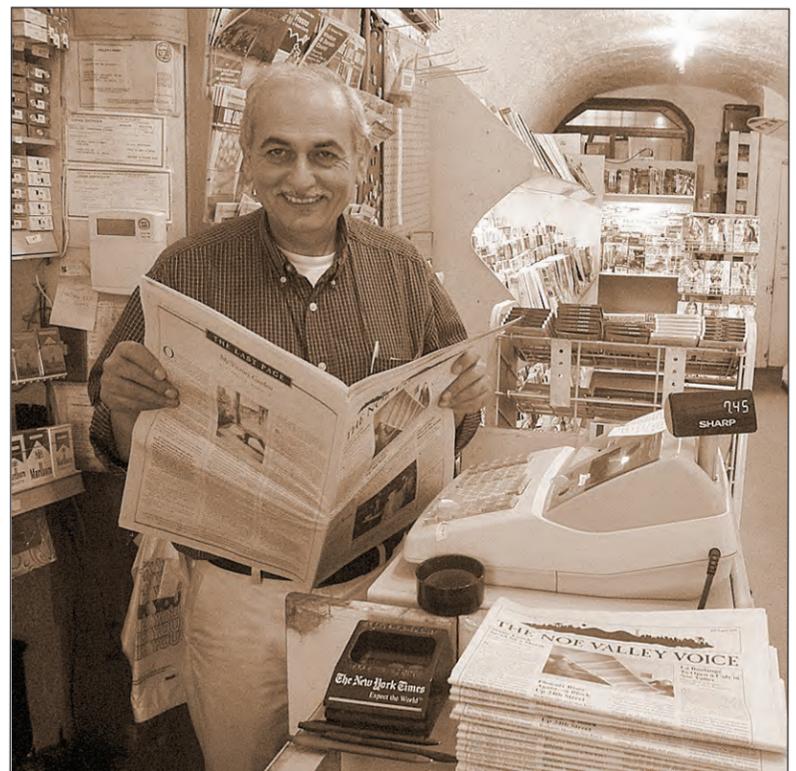
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## Sam's Got Good News!



*Photo by Pamela Gerard*

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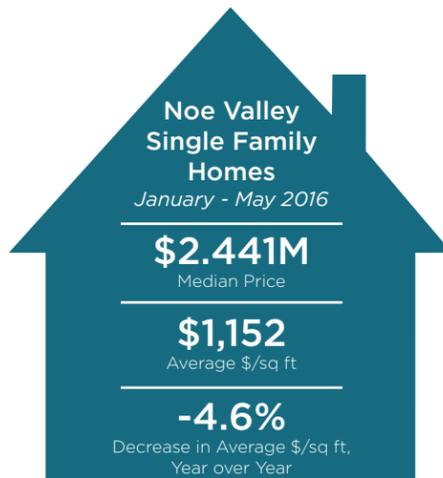
**Looking Up and Looking Back.** These views of Valley Street are brought to you by our intrepid photographer who will hike most any road this neighborhood has. *Photo by Pamela Gerard*

## Noe Valley Spring Market Update

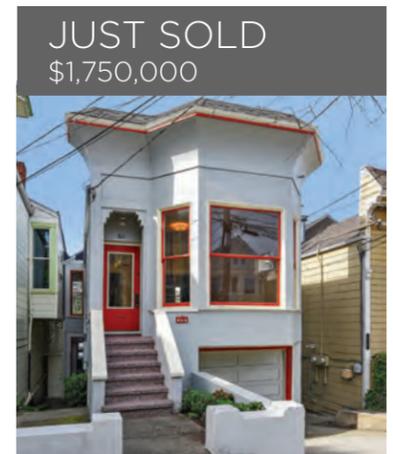
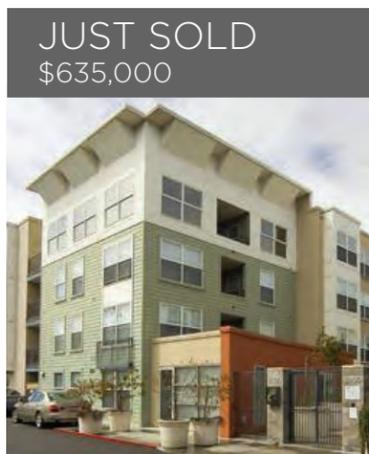
The spring housing market in Noe showed resilience, despite first quarter stock market volatility. While the average price paid per square foot is off slightly from last spring, demand for Noe homes is very strong, and homes that are well-prepared for the market are moving quickly.

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*All data courtesy of San Francisco Association of Realtors.*



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# SHORT TAKES

## Festival on Noe Street

SummerFEST, Noe Valley's annual celebration of summer, arrives this year on Saturday, June 18. Kids of all ages will be streaming to Noe and 24th streets 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., to join in the fun and visit the petting zoo, a corral filled with miniature horses, pot-bellied pigs, woolly sheep, and amiable alpacas.

Funnybone the Clown will be there, as will musicians and a cappella singers. And yes, there will be a bouncy house. Noe Street will be closed to cars from 24th Street north to the first driveway from 8 a.m. until teardown (no later than 7 p.m.).

Not to be outdone, merchants will provide goodies, games, and specials all along 24th Street. Olive This Olive That is in charge of the chalk-drawing contest from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 304 Vicksburg, just south of 24th Street. The store will also serve free ice cream in celebration of four years in business in Noe Valley.

DaidsTea at 3870 24th St. will host the face-painting concession from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hula dancers will be swaying at 1:30 p.m. in the parklet outside Just for Fun at 3982 24th St. A horse-drawn covered wagon will depart the Walgreens parking lot at Castro and Jersey streets and clip-clop to Sanchez along 24th Street from 2 to 5 p.m.

All activities are free, thanks to the Noe Valley Association, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, and 10 businesses sponsoring events. Bob Roddick, president of the NVMPA, says the group is glad to organize the fest to "cre-

ate community and promote good will."

Parents are asked to keep a close watch on their children. They might want to join the zoo. For more information, go to [www.noevalleysummerfest.com](http://www.noevalleysummerfest.com).

## Happy Birthday, Maurice, Eric, and Antoine!

Charlie's Corner children's bookstore honors the birthdays of three famous children's author-illustrators in June. Lori Blackburn, the store owner and a writer in her own right, says, "An author's birthday is a great way to celebrate their work. Kids are excited. It's as if it was their own birthday. The books and characters feel like close friends."

First up is Maurice Sendak, author-illustrator of *Where the Wild Things Are*. His birthday is Tuesday, June 9. Whoop it up at a Wild Rumpus Jungle Party at 10 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. with stories, jungle dancing, *Wild Things* snacks, and costumes for all.

Eric Carle, author of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, was born June 25. Celebrate his 87th birthday Saturday, June 25, with readings, watercolor art projects, and edible treats at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

Sing *bon anniversaire* to the author of



Dancers Kevin Stea, the late Gabriel Trupin, and Oliver S. Crumes III, who danced with Madonna in her 1990 *Blond Ambition* tour, star in the film *Strike a Pose*, showing June 25 at the Castro Theatre as part of the 2016 San Francisco LGBTQ Film Festival.

Photo by Lisa Guarnieri

*The Little Prince*, Antoine de Saint Exupery, on Tuesday, June 28. Listen to excerpts from the book in French and English, smell roses, wear golden crowns, and make fluffy cotton ball sheep at 10 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., and 5 p.m.

The bookstore Charlie's Corner is located at 4102 24th St., just west of Castro Street. See all the bookstore's events and readings at [CharliesCorner.com](http://CharliesCorner.com).

## When City Hall Collapsed

Architect, historian, and documentary filmmaker Glenn Lym will present his film *Scapegoat: The 1871 to 1906 San Francisco City Hall* at the Tuesday, June 28, meeting of the San Francisco History Association at St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St.

Lym's 52-minute film explores why San Francisco's City Hall collapsed following the 1906 earthquake. The "scapegoat" has always been shoddy construction, but Lym says it's not as simple as that. "The collapse was used for political purposes by the power structure that lost control of the mayor's office and the Board of Supervisors" in 1906, according to Lym's research.

The film will be preceded by introductory remarks by Lym and followed by a panel discussion with Lym and other historians. Doors will open at 7 p.m. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for non-members.

For more information on this and upcoming programs, such as a Glen Canyon history talk on July 26 and a discussion of "How to Research Your San Francisco Home—for Free!" on Aug. 30, go to [sanfranciscohistory.org](http://sanfranciscohistory.org).

## Audrey II at Adda Clevenger

The talented young seventh- and eighth-grade actors, dancers, and singers at the Adda Clevenger School take on the Broadway hit musical comedy *Little Shop of Horrors* Monday

## LGBTQ Film Fest Opens June 16

An estimated 65,000 people are expected to attend the 40th annual San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival, screening over 11 days June 16 to 26.

The event, held in five theaters in San Francisco, Berkeley, and Oakland, will show 155 films from more than 24 countries, including Ecuador, Cuba, Philippines, Sweden, Austria, Chile, and Netherlands.

*Kiki*, the featured opening-night presentation by filmmakers Sara Jordeno and Twiggy Pucci Garcon, explores the political subculture of LGBTQ youth of color. It plays Thursday, June 16, 7 p.m., at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., and again on June 24, 7 p.m., at the Landmark Piedmont in Oakland.

On the festival's last night, Sunday, June 26, at 7 p.m., the Castro Theatre will show the final episode in the HBO series *Looking*, about gay men in San Francisco searching for love, careers, and friendship.

Two of the festival's films have local connections.

The late Gabriel Trupin of Noe Valley appears in *Strike a Pose*, a documentary about seven male dancers who joined Madonna in 1990 on her hugely popular *Blond Ambition* tour. The tour, which helped raise AIDS awareness, also turned Trupin, a featured dancer, and others in the show into sudden celebrities.

Some scenes of the film were shot on location at the Day Street home of Sue Trupin, Gabriel's mother. Gabriel Trupin's career was cut short in 1995, when he succumbed to AIDS at age 26.

*Strike a Pose*, playing Saturday, June 25, 8:30 p.m., at the Castro, was filmed and directed by Ester Gould.

Another AIDS-related film, *Last Men Standing*, explores the devastation, struggle, and survival of gay men in the early days of the disease. Those featured include two Noe Valleyans, Kevin VandenBergh and the late Peter Greene. Timothy Hussin and Erin Brethauer directed the 65-minute documentary, which screens Sunday, June 19, 1:30 p.m., at the Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St.

Prices for individual screenings are \$8 for members, \$10 for general admission. Gala tickets cost \$75 for members and \$90 for the general public. For more information, go to [www.frameline.org/festival](http://www.frameline.org/festival).

—Corrie M. Anders



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# SHORT TAKES

through Thursday, June 20-23. All performances are at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 if you're under 18. To reserve your seat, go to [addaclevevenger.org](http://addaclevevenger.org) and click on performing arts. The school is located at 180 Fair Oaks Street at 23rd Street.

Director/music director Alexis Koch says *Little Shop of Horrors*, known for its doo-wop style of rock, was chosen because the students this year "are really creative musically...[and] really talented actors who can play complex characters." The difficulty, she says, is the dark humor of the lyrics and plot.

In addition to all the humans on stage, there will be four puppets who represent Audrey II as she grows. Who is Audrey II? You will have to buy a ticket and find out.

## Flick at the Dolores Drive-In

Grab a blanket, picnic basket, your friends and family and head on over to Dolores Park Saturday, June 11. San Francisco's Film Night in the Park summer 2016 season begins with *Pitch Perfect*, a romantic comedy from 2012 starring Rebel Wilson and a bunch of other people. The plot: Beca (one c) is new at Bard University. Upon arrival, she is hounded into joining an all-women singing group and they take on their male counterparts in a campus song contest. To see the trailer, go to [youtube.com](http://youtube.com). The movie's rated 7.2 (out of 10) on IMDb and 81 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, which is fresh.

The event is free and starts at dusk. Sundown will be at 8:32 p.m. and Ac-

cuWeather predicts mostly cloudy with a low of 56 degrees, so plan accordingly. Look for the big screen—and crowd—at 19th and Dolores streets in the park. Chairs are prohibited.

For the complete list of films, go to [sfntf.squarespace.com/filmnight](http://sfntf.squarespace.com/filmnight).



## The REAL San Francisco Treat

Neighborhood author Bill Yenne will tell stories from and sign copies of his latest book, *San Francisco Beer: A History of Brewing by the Bay* (Arcadia Press, paperback, \$21.99), at Speakeasy Ales & Lagers, 1195 Evans Ave., Friday, June 24, 4 to 7 p.m. Yenne speaks at 6 p.m. By then, you'll probably be an expert on beer yourself.

Yenne has written nine previous books on beer, including *Guinness: The 250-Year Quest for the Perfect Pint*, *American Beers: Twelve Brands That Became Icons*, and *The History of Beer in America*. His latest "details the complete history of brewing in San Francisco," according to Yenne, from before the Gold Rush through the craft beer movement.

Yenne, who is also the author of 10 novels, will appear in Noe Valley at Folio Books, 3957 24th St., Thursday, July 14, 7 p.m. Raise a stein for Bastille Day!

## Neighborhood History Hikes

This summer, San Francisco City Guides is offering six historical hikes in Noe Valley, and the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project has scheduled two just over the hill.

The City Guides Noe walking tours are Sundays June 5 and 19, July 3 and 17, and Aug. 7 and 21. Meet at 1:30 p.m. outside the Noe Valley Library at 451 Jersey St. The route is mainly level but be sure to wear comfortable shoes. Local guides, coordinated by Sue Walsh, lead the walk. It's free but donations to the nonprofit are appreciated.

The first Glen Park walk is "A Trestle Ran Through It: Early Days in Glen Park Village," Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Meet at the Glen Park BART Station. On July 9, meet at 10 a.m. at the Glen Park Cow Sign on Elk Street near Chenery Street for "Bovines, Dynamite, and High-Flying Shows: The Amazing History of Glen Canyon Park." Both walks are conducted by Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose. A \$5 donation is requested. Space is limited on Bovines,

etc., so call 415-584-1498 or email [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com) for a spot.

## Scotland the Brave at Folio

Four Scottish writers and one Scottish musician will read and play Monday, June 27, 7 p.m., at the Odd Mondays reading series' last event before its annual summer hiatus. Writers Mary McNear (*Up at Butternut Lake*), Mary Lee McNeal (*Home Again, Home Again*), Andrew McIntyre (*The Short, the Long, and the Tall*), and Julia McDonald Adams will read excerpts from their work. Music will be provided by guitarist John McCormick. BYOS (bring your own scotch).

The next Odd Mondays—after vacation—will be Aug. 15, at 7 p.m., honoring the memory of breast cancer activist Barbara Brenner. Susie Lampert, Brenner's life partner, will read from *So Much to Be Done*, a collection of writings by Brenner, edited by Barbara Sjöholm.

Odd Mondays takes place at Folio Books, 4957 24th St. For more information on the long-running series, go to [oddmondays.com](http://oddmondays.com).

*Short Takes are compiled and written by Richard May.*



## Summer in the City

So what if it's foggy and cold? There are lots of outdoor activities in San Francisco in June, July, and August. Just wear your mukluks and a parka.

Film Night in the Park features three free films Saturdays in Dolores Park: *Pitch Perfect*, June 11; *The Goonies*, Aug. 13; and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, Sept. 24. For a full list, go to [sfntf.squarespace.com](http://sfntf.squarespace.com).

The San Francisco Opera has two outdoor performances this summer. *Carmen* will be simulcast from the War Memorial Opera House to AT&T Park July 2 at 7:30 p.m. for free. On Sept. 11, arias al fresco from the upcoming fall season will be sung—also for free—at 1:30 p.m. in Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park. See [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).

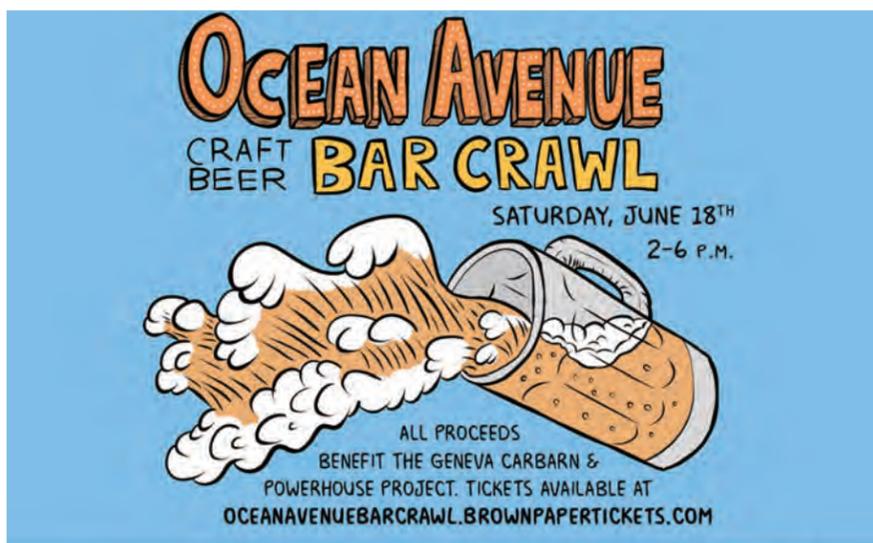
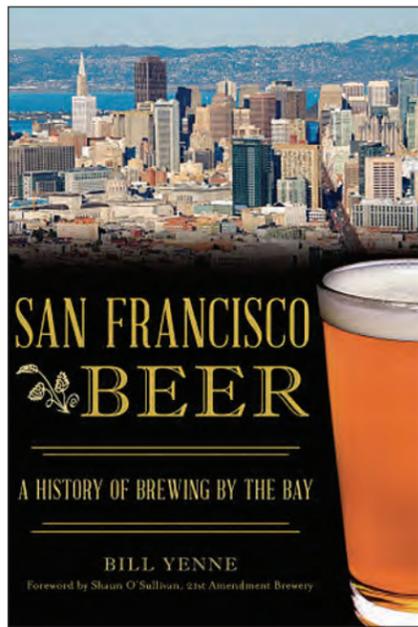
The San Francisco Symphony plays for free twice outside during the summer, at the Stern Grove Festival July 10 and Pier 27 July 24. The full Stern Grove Festival can be found at [sterngrove.org](http://sterngrove.org).

For drama queens, the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival performs *The Winter's Tale* for free September weekends at 2 p.m. in the Presidio and McLaren Park. See [sfshakes.org](http://sfshakes.org).

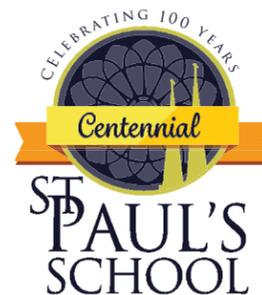
If you want to participate rather than observe, there's the 24th Street SummerFEST June 18, the AIDS Walk July 17, the San Francisco Marathon July 31, and the Noe Valley Wine Walk Aug. 18. Street fairs abound, of course, and there's the LGBT Pride Festival June 25-26.

After all this, you'll be glad it's fall.

—Richard May



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# Noe Valley Views



**The Storm Passes.** These dramatic clouds caught the eye of our photographer near the iconic spires of St. Paul's on Church Street.

*Photo by Najib Joe Hakim*

0°



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# The Cost of Living in Noe

## April House Sales Springy

By Corrie M. Anders

Home sales in Noe Valley surged in April as buyers purchased 15 single-family detached homes at an average price of \$2.4 million.

The sales activity was on a par with the 14 transactions recorded in April of last year, according to data supplied to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate.

The total also was considerably higher than in the first three months of the year, when sales numbered a mere five (January), eight (February), and six (March).

“We’re picking back up for the spring,” said Zephyr president Randall Kostick, noting that sales traditionally slow during the winter.

As the number of sales rose, buyers moderated their spending habits.

Homebuyers on average paid 5 percent above the sellers’ asking price in April, compared to April a year ago, when they gave 7 percent more than what the sellers



April buyers purchased this brand-new, five-bedroom house on a Cesar Chavez Street hillside for \$4.5 million, almost \$1 million less than the sellers’ asking price. The property offered many luxury amenities, including panoramic views from three levels.

originally sought.

Buyers also took longer to close escrow—41 days compared to 25 days last year. Kostick pointed out, though, that one high-end property took six months to sell, pushing up the average time on the market.

Noe Valley’s most expensive detached home in April was an ultramodern property in the 4300 block of Cesar Chavez Street, between Diamond and Douglass streets.

The swank hillside home sold for \$4.5 million, nearly \$1 million less than the asking price (\$5,495,000)—an 18.1 percent reduction—and was on the market for 75 days before the deal was finalized.

Built in 2015, the house offered five bedrooms and five baths in 4,200 square feet of living space. It also featured a chef’s kitchen, radiant heat, a media room, numerous floor-to-ceiling glass walls, and panoramic views from three levels. The garage afforded room for just one car, however.

### Condos Comfortable

While house sales were rising, the condominium market was staying relatively flat. Seven condos changed hands during April, compared to nine sales a year earlier.

Buyers on average paid 9 percent more than the list price—nothing to sneeze at



A two-bedroom condominium in this 1999 building on 25th Street sold in April for \$1,695,000—20 percent more than the asking price. The unit included a gourmet kitchen, two remodeled bathrooms, a deck, and two-car parking. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

| Total Sales                   | No. | Low Price (\$) | High Price (\$) | Average Price (\$) | Avg. Days on Market | Sale Price as % of List Price |
|-------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Single-family homes</b>    |     |                |                 |                    |                     |                               |
| April 2016                    | 15  | \$1,175,000    | \$4,500,000     | \$2,363,800        | 41                  | 105%                          |
| March 2016                    | 6   | \$1,460,000    | \$4,997,500     | \$2,726,250        | 22                  | 107%                          |
| April 2015                    | 14  | \$1,315,000    | \$5,400,000     | \$2,692,143        | 25                  | 107%                          |
| <b>Condominiums</b>           |     |                |                 |                    |                     |                               |
| April 2016                    | 7   | \$694,000      | \$1,675,000     | \$1,269,143        | 32                  | 109%                          |
| March 2016                    | 8   | \$806,000      | \$2,460,000     | \$1,474,750        | 14                  | 113%                          |
| April 2015                    | 9   | \$630,000      | \$2,415,000     | \$1,394,444        | 22                  | 120%                          |
| <b>2- to 4-unit buildings</b> |     |                |                 |                    |                     |                               |
| April 2016                    | 3   | \$1,200,000    | \$2,220,000     | \$1,623,333        | 22                  | 115%                          |
| March 2016                    | 1   | \$1,818,000    | \$1,818,000     | \$1,818,000        | 19                  | 114%                          |
| April 2015                    | 6   | \$1,315,000    | \$2,225,000     | \$1,660,000        | 34                  | 120%                          |
| <b>5+unit buildings</b>       |     |                |                 |                    |                     |                               |
| April 2016                    | 0   | —              | —               | —                  | —                   | —                             |
| May 2016                      | 0   | —              | —               | —                  | —                   | —                             |
| April 2015                    | 0   | —              | —               | —                  | —                   | —                             |

\* Survey includes all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley for purposes of this survey is loosely defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The Voice thanks Zephyr Real Estate (zephyrre.com) for providing sales data. NVV 6/2016

but a far cry from last year, when the typical unit closed escrow for 20 percent above asking.

Kostick noted that the “real boom” in Noe Valley condos occurred two years ago.

In April 2014, for example, 100 percent of all Noe Valley condos sold for more than their asking price. That figure dropped to 85 percent a year ago and dipped below 80 percent in April of this year.

Kostick said Noe Valley might be feeling the impact of a large supply of newly built luxury condos that have been com-

ing on the market since last year in SOMA and other neighborhoods. Those units could have attracted potential buyers who might otherwise be shopping in Noe Valley.

Still, the most expensive condominium sold in April fetched \$1,675,000—20 percent above the asking price. The two-bedroom, two-bath unit, located in the 4500 block of 25th Street between Douglass Street and Hoffman Avenue, had 1,244 square feet of space, a gourmet kitchen, marble countertops, a deck, radiant heat, and two parking spaces. ■

| Unit    | No. in Sample | Range May 2016     | Average May 2016 | Average April 2016 | Average May 2015 |
|---------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Studio  | 5             | \$1,975 - \$2,400  | \$2,273 / mo.    | \$2,336 / mo.      | \$2,391 / mo.    |
| 1-bdrm  | 28            | \$2,175 - \$4,650  | \$3,305 / mo.    | \$3,302 / mo.      | \$3,404 / mo.    |
| 2-bdrm  | 47            | \$3,000 - \$6,395  | \$4,237 / mo.    | \$4,528 / mo.      | \$4,324 / mo.    |
| 3-bdrm  | 13            | \$5,000 - \$8,300  | \$6,180 / mo.    | \$5,532 / mo.      | \$6,275 / mo.    |
| 4+-bdrm | 11            | \$4,895 - \$12,000 | \$9,159 / mo.    | \$10,320 / mo.     | \$9,309 / mo.    |

\*\* This survey is based on a sample of 104 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist.org from May 1-8, 2016. NVV 6/2016

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# STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular Voice column featuring new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we profile the local branch of a Nob Hill music studio that offers private and group lessons in voice, performance, and songwriting.

**SONGBIRD STUDIOS**  
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From the sidewalk, the only indication that the “birds” may be chirping away inside Songbird Studios’ Noe Valley location is the company’s bluebird mascot and name affixed above the door.

Down a short walkway, hidden from passersby on the street, is a rather spacious main room the company uses for gospel workshops and community events. Above are four small teaching rooms, each adorned with a keyboard, microphone, and PA system for students practicing their singing chops.

“We are tucked away and don’t have a giant storefront. But it has worked in our favor because we can be a little louder,” noted Niall David, who co-owns Songbird Studios with his wife, Whitney Nichole.

The couple, together nearly a decade, was expecting the birth of their first child in mid-May when they spoke to the *Noe Valley Voice*. Now living in Marin, having moved out of San Francisco at the end of 2015, the couple opened the 24th Street studio a year ago in late June.

They were looking to expand to a second location in a neighborhood that wouldn’t compete with their studio lo-



Student assistant Kathy Parmisano at a piano in Songbird Studios. Photo by Pamela Gerard

cated on Pine Street in Nob Hill.

“We love it. Noe Valley is super friendly. The people are just so wonderful,” said Nichole, 32, who abandoned a legal career after graduating from Yale University when she realized her true passion was singing and music education. “We felt really at home and made friends

with our neighbors really quickly.”

And the expansion of the business “grew faster than I could have imagined,” added Nichole, who is currently on maternity leave.

A California native, Nichole launched her own studio in 2009 under the name Whitney Nichole Vocal Coaching in a small space in Hayes Valley. A year later, when David, 38, who owns his own photography business, began handling administrative and business duties for the singing studio, the couple decided to re-brand.

The new name is derived from their shared avian affections and their referring to each other as “bird.”

“Songbird brings our love of music and birds together,” explained David.

As they built up their business, they moved into a larger space on Nob Hill in 2014 that could accommodate three teaching rooms. They brought on more vocal coaches in addition to Nichole and are currently looking to further grow their 10-person staff.

“We wanted to grow a community. I could only see so many students myself,” said Nichole.

Their student population runs the gamut from youth and young adults interested in music careers to older adults in their 50s to 70s looking to learn a new skill. The studio is now working with close to 150 students.

“I thought originally we would focus on kids. It has been somewhat surprising to see so many adults as well as people looking for fun creative outlets, and singing is one of those,” said Nichole. “Everyone should sing and be out there having fun with it.”

Whether people can carry a tune or not, all are welcome at Songbird.

“I am a strong believer everybody can get something out of singing. Not that everyone will be the next Beyoncé,” said Nichole. “My feeling is anyone can get so much out of singing in terms of stress relief, confidence-building, and expressing their creativity through the more personal and emotional side of singing. There is a lot to gain from doing it or just the activity of doing it.”

Nichole particularly enjoys working with people who believe they are tone deaf or don’t hear pitch and are thus afraid to use their singing voice.

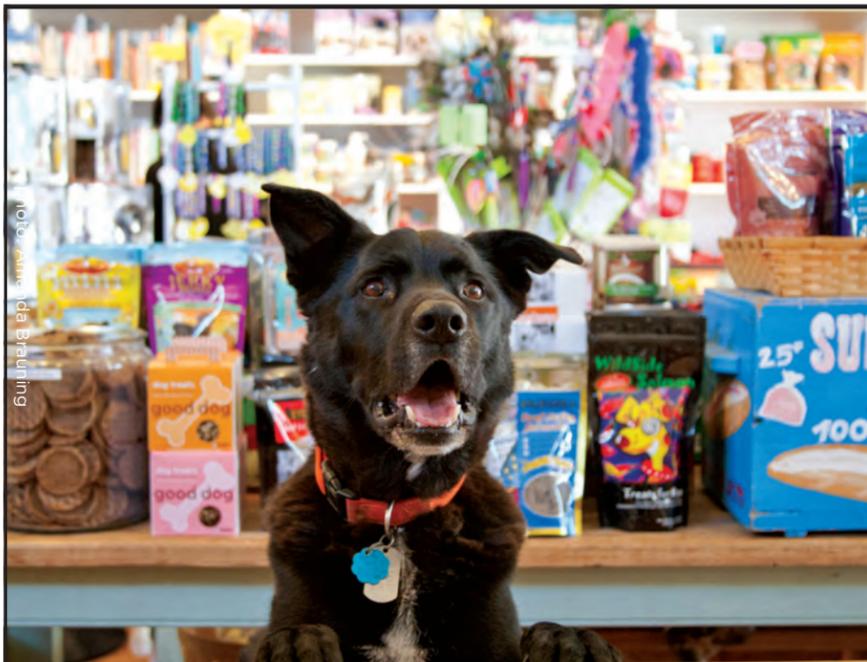
“I love to break down those walls and help people learn to have fun with your voice,” she said.

Songbird sells memberships that start at \$115 per month. Students can choose the lesson length that best suits their needs, be it 30, 45 or 60 minutes, as well as the frequency: part-time (two lessons/month, every other week) or full-time (four lessons/month, once a week).

Both of the studio locations, in Nob Hill and Noe Valley, are open for lessons Monday through Friday, noon to 8 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Songbird Studios’ office hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. The staff can also be contacted via email at [voice@songbirds.com](mailto:voice@songbirds.com).

—Matthew S. Bajko



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# STORE TREK

*Store Trek is a Noe Valley Voice feature profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. Here we introduce VOILA, a shop where complimentary talents combine to create a beautiful presence.*

## VOILA

1431 Castro St. between Jersey and 25th streets  
415-678-5759  
voilasf.com

On May 1, the new shop VOILA marked its arrival in Noe Valley with a grand opening at 1431 Castro St. Video Wave had previously occupied the storefront, until the movie rental shop moved to 24th Street last year.

The space has been completely transformed into what owner Aline Dazogbo calls a “one-stop shopping experience.”

“It’s like a treat. It lifts you up,” she says of her boutique, which is one part nail salon, one part fashion and accessories shop, and one part floral design showcase. She collaborates with Ann Nguyen, who provides manicure and waxing services, and Maggie Carson Romano, a floral designer.

Dazogbo, 32, also owns Aline’s Closet in the Lower Haight. She opened the tiny boutique six years ago to sell her women’s fashion designs, which are made to order and produced right in the shop with the assistance of her seamstress and mentor, Olga Wilson. Clients look through the samples of styles and fabrics before being fitted. They choose what they like, and their purchases are ready in about three weeks for pickup.

### The Perfect Cardigan

“I don’t believe in one size fits all,” Dazogbo says. “What looks good on my six-foot-tall sister will not look good on my smaller frame.”

The signature piece of what she calls the Take Away Capsule Collection is the innovative Perfect Cardigan. Dazogbo takes one off a hanger of the boutique’s clothes rack to demonstrate the way it converts from a cardigan to a poncho or cape. It can also be flipped upside down to become a hoodie with a peekaboo back.

Foggy San Francisco evenings were her inspiration. “My hair gets very poofy, so to protect it, I need a hood for the walk home,” she says with a smile.

Dazogbo recently moved to Noe Valley, just four blocks from the shop. “I love the diversity of the neighborhood, and the colorful architecture. It’s comfortable—safe and friendly.”

Because the Perfect Cardigan is made to order, production has been small. In January, Dazogbo raised over \$17,300 on Kickstarter to purchase the materials and equipment needed to produce a larger run of 500 cardigans. Clients can choose from materials that include bamboo, wool,



VOILA owner-designer Aline Dazogbo models “The Perfect Cardigan” for wear on foggy days or nights in San Francisco.  
Photo by Pamela Gerard

leather, or silk. Prices range from \$290 to \$620.

### ‘Third Culture Kid’

Originally from Benin in West Africa, Dazogbo has lived all over the globe. The daughter of a diplomat, she grew up speaking French and attending international schools. She studied fashion at ES-MOD International in Paris. In addition to French and English, Dazogbo is conversant in Spanish, Portuguese, and Fon, her native African language.

“I call myself a third culture kid, raised between Africa and France.” She speaks quickly, lacing her sentences with French expressions and laughter.

Every piece in her collection has a little cowrie shell sewn discreetly at the bottom. “It’s my logo because in Benin, the cowrie shells were currency,” Dazogbo says. “You can also find them on the beach and they’re used in divination. It’s a symbol and link to my home country.”

Dazogbo is clearly passionate about fashion, creativity, and travel. She believes in zero-waste production, upcycling, and sourcing locally, while also connecting her clients to artisans and products from various regions in Africa.

Accessories make up the bulk of items for sale at VOILA. Some of the jewelry has been crafted by Dazogbo herself, like necklaces with beads brought back from Benin (\$45 to \$145). Other more metal-based cuffs and necklaces (\$85 to \$155) are made by the Sahara’s Touareg tribe, and there are beaded bracelets from Senegal (\$72).

Leather purses, shoppers (\$290), and clutches are designed and crafted in Nigeria by one of her best friends, Haowa Bello, under her label Madame Coquette. Small African wooden animals (\$15) can be used as toys, décor, or place-setting markers. Whimsical toy cars and motorcycles, made of recycled bottle caps, wire, and tape (\$75), are common in Senegal, and Dazogbo thinks they are great decorative pieces.

### Salon Services

Through the store window, passersby see three comfy chairs where manicures and pedicures take place. All of the polishes are non-toxic, paraben-free, and even vegan. “I think we’re the only salon to offer Chanel nail polishes in the neighborhood,” Dazogbo says. “Everyone wants Chanel!”

Other polish brands include Silky, OPI, Butter, Zoya, CND Shellac, Gel, and Dare to Wear. A manicure or pedicure includes a choice of essential oils. Prices start at \$20 for a basic manicure and go up to \$45 for the VOILA Pedicure, which includes an exfoliating scrub, callus remover, and mask or paraffin.

Waxing services are done in a private room at the rear of the store. The exten-

sive menu includes bikini line (\$25), sideburns (\$18), and back (\$35). The most expensive treatments start at \$45—Brazilian, full face, and full legs.

### Floral Design Studio

Elegant vases and plants decorate the shop, and are the work of Maggie Carson Romano, a recent transplant (no pun intended) from Los Angeles to San Francisco. Her company, the Bosky Dell, makes floral arrangements for any occasion, including weddings. The creations are known for their simplicity. Greenery includes an air plant in a geometric glass vessel (\$95) and a small cactus in a glass vase filled with dark pebbles (\$35). Floral arrangements can be viewed and ordered online at theboskydell.com, and either delivered or picked up at VOILA. Prices range from \$45 to \$165.

Aside from hiring a contractor to do the heavy lifting, Dazogbo re-vamped the space herself. She chose neutral paints—white, black, and cream—in keeping with her desire to make the place minimalist and simple. Hanging from the ceiling is a chandelier she bought in Oakland two years ago and has been saving for just the right space.

“In French, *voila* means, ‘Here it is, here we go,’” says Dazogbo. “We’re combining three different media in one space that offer the same vision to the customer who will be a little bit of a fashionista, a little bit of an artist, a little bit of a creative mind.”

VOILA is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Walk-ins for nail and waxing treatments are welcome, but given the small space, calling ahead for an appointment is recommended. During the month of June, customers who mention this article will receive **15 percent off** all clothes and jewelry.

—Olivia Boler

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## Noe Valley Readers

It's a long way from Duncan Street (or even Jersey) but these intrepid travelers and Voice readers (from left to right **Eric Pfeiffer, John Hudson, John Gilliland** and **Peter Weiser**) carried a reminder of home on their tour of Myanmar and while sailing the Andaman Sea. The group posed here in front of one of the great Buddhist stupas in Bagan, Myanmar.



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

**www.DogWalkingServiceOfSanFrancisco.com:** 415-731-0120.

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

## HOW TO PLACE A CLASS AD

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**10 for 10 discount:** The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the same class ad in 10 issues, you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

The next *Voice* will be the **July/August 2016** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of July. **The deadline for Class Ads is June 15.**

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

Advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line) will be set in bold. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refunds are not granted unless we have made an error. We appreciate your support.

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The city's Junior Warriors get their hustle on at a recent clinic. Photo courtesy Chris Faust

### Basketball Camps All Summer at Upper Noe Rec Center

Overtaken by Golden State Warriors fever, Upper Noe Recreation Center will host seven week-long basketball camps this summer, the first starting June 6 and the last ending Aug. 5. Each camp will run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In addition, regional competition for the all-city **Mayor's Inaugural Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament** will happen at the park on June 24. The series is free for boys and girls ages 6 to 17. One boys' team and one girls' team in each of several age categories will advance to the finals at Kezar Pavilion on July 9. Sign up before June 17 by phone or in person at the Upper Noe Rec Center office, 415-970-8061.

To accommodate the hoops play, the normal rec center programming has been stripped down. But the rec center's hours of operation have been expanded and now include Mondays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (June 6 through Aug. 19).

Rec center staff say there is a new rule this summer: no congregating in the lobby during camp hours. Nannies and children can no longer park strollers or take naps in the lobby. "Sorry for any inconvenience," says Chris Faust of the Upper Noe Community Recreation Council, "but rec center staff have no flexibility on this rule."

Faust notes that park goers should be pleased to learn that Alvin Torres has returned to Upper Noe, this time as an assistant to Facilities Coordinator Cheryl Woltjen. After almost a year away pursuing other career options, Torres accepted a permanent position with Rec and Park. "The full-time position of facility assistant is something we have been hoping to add at Upper Noe for years now to bring more stability and versatility to our staff," Faust reports.

To find out about classes, visit the park, at 295 Day St. near Sanchez, or check San Francisco Rec and Park online at <https://www.sfreconline.org>. If you'd like to help plan events at Upper Noe, contact Woltjen ([cheryl.woltjen@sfgov.org](mailto:cheryl.woltjen@sfgov.org)) or consider advising the **Upper Noe Community Recreation Council**. The group meets on third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., in the rec center auditorium. Join **Ladybug Gardeners** if you can spare an hour to help tend the Bluebird Garden at the park. Email Joan Lionberger at [info@noevalleyrecenter.com](mailto:info@noevalleyrecenter.com).

To get the scoop on **Joby's Run**, contact Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners at [fundsfs.org](http://fundsfs.org). The dog run is open daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### UPPER NOE REC CENTER SUMMER SESSION, JUNE 6 - AUG. 19, 2016

##### MONDAY (Center open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

|                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Basketball Camp      | Mon.- Fri., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. |
| Auditorium Free Play | Mon., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.*     |
| Open Gym             | Mon., 2-4 p.m.            |

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

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Auditorium Free Play                 | Tues., 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.* |
| Petite Bakers (3-6 yrs)              | Tues., 10:15-11:15 a.m.   |
| Open Gym                             | Tues., 2-8:30 p.m.*       |
| QuickStart Tennis (8-13 yrs)         | Tues., 3:30-4:30 p.m.     |
| Combat Athletics (8-16 yrs)          | Tues., 4-5:30 p.m.        |
| Tennis (18+, intermed./advanced)     | Tues., 6-7 p.m.           |
| Yoga - Vinyasa Flow (all levels)     | Tues., 6:30-7:30 p.m.     |
| Boot Camp (adult, 18+; FREE drop-in) | Tues., 7:45-8:45 p.m.     |

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

|                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pilates (intermed.)            | Wed., 9:30-10:30 a.m. |
| Pilates (18+)                  | Wed., 10:30-11 a.m.   |
| Qi Gong for Seniors            | Wed., 1-3 p.m.        |
| Open Gym                       | Wed., 2-5:30 p.m.*    |
| Auditorium Free Play           | Wed., 3:30-5:30 p.m.* |
| Tennis (18+, beginning)        | Wed., 6:30-7:30 p.m.  |
| Drop-in Volleyball (18+, free) | Wed., 6:30-8:30 p.m.  |

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

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Auditorium Free Play          | Thurs., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.* |
| Zumba (family; drop-in, free) | Thurs., 10:30-11:30 p.m.   |
| Senior Argentine Tango (55+)  | Thurs., 1-4 p.m.           |
| Open Gym                      | Thurs., 2-8:30 p.m.*       |
| Zumba (family; drop-in, free) | Thurs., 5:30-6:30 p.m.     |
| Yoga - Gentle Hatha (18+)     | Thurs., 6:45-7:45 p.m.     |

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

|                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Pilates (18+)                        | Fri., 10:30-11:30 a.m. |
| Auditorium Free Play                 | Fri., noon-4 p.m.*     |
| Open Gym                             | Fri., 2-5:30 p.m.*     |
| Combat Athletics for Kids (8-16 yrs) | Fri., 4:30-6 p.m.      |
| Karaoke (for adults, 18+)            | Fri., 6:30-8:30 p.m.   |
| Drop-in Volleyball (18+, free)       | Fri., 6:30-8:30 p.m.   |

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

|                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Open Gym                         | Sat., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.* |
| Yoga - Vinyasa (18+, all levels) | Sat., 9:15-10:15 a.m.   |
| Zumba (family; drop-in, free)    | Sat., 10:30-11:30 a.m.  |
| Auditorium Free Play             | Sat., noon-4:30 p.m.*   |
| QuickStart Tennis (7-9 yrs)      | Sat., 1-2 p.m.          |

##### SUNDAY (Center closed; outside activities only)

\*Hours are subject to change.

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# • JUNE 2016 •

**June 1:** Miguel Govea and Susan Pena perform bilingual and INTERACTIVE MUSIC for children of all ages at the Noe Valley Library. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**June 1-10:** CREATIVITY EXPLORED hosts a group show, "Mythological Creatures." Mon.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm. CE2, 1 Arkansas, Studio E. 863-2946; creativityexplored.org.

**June 1 & 15:** The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to Oliver, a calm canine. For ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 7-8 pm. Eureka Valley Library, 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29:** The Eureka Valley Library offers BABY RHYME and Playtime on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:15. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29:** The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesday, from 4 to 8 pm, through mid-December. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

**June 1-29:** Folio Books hosts STORYTIME for toddlers every Wednesday at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

**June 1-29:** Chris Sequeira conducts free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1-3 pm at the Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com.

**June 1-29:** Holy Innocents Episcopal Church offers a TAIZE style service followed by a potluck on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142.

**June 1-29:** AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip's Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

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

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

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

**June 1 & July 6:** The GLBT HISTORY Museum has a free day on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107; GLBThistory.org.

**June 2:** Supervisor SCOTT WIENER holds open office hours from 11 am to 1 pm at SF City Hall, room 274. Call 554-6968 to confirm.

**June 2, 9 & 16:** Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**June 2-16:** The 15th SF DOCUMENTARY FILM Festival screens at the Roxie (3117 16th), Vogue (3290 Sacramento), and Great Star (636 Jackson) theaters. For a schedule: 552-5580; sfndie.com.

**June 2-30:** Attend PUB QUIZ NIGHTS on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

**June 3:** The Rotunda DANCE series at SF City Hall hosts a performance by El Tunante, to kick off the SF Ethnic Dance Festival (June 3-19, at the Palace of Fine Arts). Noon. dancersgroup.org.

**June 3-24:** The Friday-night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett with artists Don Prell, Jimmy Ryan, and the Third Quartet. 5:30-8 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

**June 3-24:** Chris Sequeira leads a Friday KARAOKE for Adults group at the Noe Valley Rec Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. 295 Day.

**June 3-24:** Shout "BINGO!" at St. Paul's on Friday nights at 7 pm (doors open at 5 pm). St. Paul's Parish Hall, 221 Valley. 648-7538.

**June 3-24:** Dolores Park Cafe hosts Friday-night MUSIC and spoken word. 7:30-10 pm. 501 Dolores. 621-2936; doloresparkcafe.com.

**June 4:** The Noe Valley KNITTING CIRCLE meets at the Noe Valley Library from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. 415 Jersey. 255-7200.

**June 4, 11, 18 & 25:** "Meet the Animals!" at the Randall Museum features California wildlife. 11 am. Mission Art Center, 745 Treat. 695-5014.



Balinese Shadow Play will be performed June 25, 8 p.m., at St. Cyprian's 2097 Turk St. as part of the Noe Valley Music Series.

**June 4-25:** Each Saturday, the Noe Valley FARMERS MARKET brings you fresh produce and live musicians from 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

June 4-25: The Noe Valley Rec Center offers free YOGA CLASSES Saturdays 9:15-10:15 am. Day & Sanchez. 970-8061; noevalleyreccenter.com.

**June 4-25:** Noe Valley artist Kate Haug recreates RESURRECTION CITY, Martin Luther King Jr.'s last social protest in an exhibit "News Today: a History of the Poor People's Campaign in Real Time." Saturdays, 1-5 pm, and by appointment. 4431 Irving. 854-2040.

**June 4-25:** Saturday night JAZZ at Bird & Beckett features local performers from 8 to 11 pm. 653 Chenery. birdbeckett.com.

**June 5:** Laura Miller introduces RAW, VEGAN, Not Gross: All Vegan and Mostly Raw Recipes for People Who Love to Eat. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**June 5 & 19:** SF City Guides leads a free WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays at 1:30-3:30 pm. Meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

**June 5-26:** Meet at the gold fire hydrant at 20th and Church at 11 am Sundays for a City Guides walking tour of the area around MISSION DOLORES. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

**June 5-28:** Meet under the rainbow flag at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro and Market) for a City Guides walking tour of the CASTRO. Sat., Sun. & Tues., 11 am. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

**June 6:** Celebrate RAMADAN with reading, food, and crafts at Charlie's Corner Bookstore. Story times at noon and 3 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

**June 6, 13, 20 & 27:** The Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Conversation Club meets Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**June 6-28:** Charlie's Corner hosts FRENCH STORY TIME for kids, Mondays and Tuesdays, from 10 to 10:30 am. 4102 24th. charliescorner.com.

**June 7:** VOTE in the California Primary Election. Polls are open 7 am to 8 pm. sf.gov.org.

**June 7, 14, 21 & 28:** The Eureka Valley Library offers its TODDLER TALES on Tuesdays, 10:30 am. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**June 7-28:** Larkin Street Youth Services gives free HIV TESTING for youth 24 and under. Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. 1800 Market. 673-0911; sfcenter.org.

**June 7 & July 5:** The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

**June 8:** The GREAT BOOKS Discussion Group meets from 6:15 to 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey Elena at eschmid@sonic.net.

**June 8:** Anya Fernald discusses HOME COOKED: Essential Recipes for a New Way to Cook. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**June 9:** The LGBT SENIOR discussion group meets at 30th Street Senior Center. 10-11:30 am. 225 30th. 296-8995, ext. 5.

**June 9:** JUGGLING Tornado Mark Bunnell performs from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**June 9-July 20:** Creativity Explored hosts "Ripe," an exhibit of ARTWORK inspired by food. Reception June 9, 7-9 pm; Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat. & Sun., noon-5 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org.

**June 10:** The Noe Valley Library screens the 2014 FILM Guardians of the Galaxy. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**June 10:** TAIZE service at Holy Innocents Church is held on the second Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. Holyinsf.org.

**June 11:** Green Mann and Lisa Erdos conduct a free PLANT CLINIC on the second Saturday of the month. 10 am-noon. 30th Street Senior Center, 225 30th. lisa.erdos@att.net.

**June 11:** Glen Park historian Evelyn rose leads a tour, "A Trestle Ran Through It: Early Days in GLEN PARK Village." 10 am-12:30 pm. Meet at the plaza of the Glen Park BART station, on Bosworth and Diamond. Reserve a space at 584-1498 or glenparkhistory@gmail.com.

**June 11:** Omnivore Books hosts a fundraiser for the Community Health Resource Center with Rebecca Katz, author of The Longevity Kitchen. 4-6 pm., 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.



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## JUNE EVENTS

**6.14**  
TUESDAY  
7PM

**Book Release Party with Mary McNear**

*The Space Between Sisters*

Mary McNear, local author and New York Times bestseller, returns to Butternut Lake with the fourth novel of her popular series. 10% of all store book sales from 6 pm to close will go to benefit The Women's Building, a community space for women in San Francisco.

**6.17**  
FRIDAY  
6PM

**Bookworms Club With Matthew Jobin**

*The Skeleth*

Every 3rd Friday of the month means it is time for pizza and bookish things with readers ages 8-12 at Folio Books! We've been impatiently awaiting this follow-up to *The Netbergrim* (one of our favorite recent fantasy epics).  
RSVP REQUIRED: TINY.CC/SPRINGWORMS

**6.21**  
TUESDAY  
7PM

**Queer Words | a quarterly literary salon**

Panel discussion for inaugural event of Queer Words. This month's focus will be on Queer YA Speculative Fiction by three local authors: Skye Allen, Andrew Demcek, and Tim Floren. Queer Words is "a quarterly reading series which features books with Queer content, poetry and prose, fiction and nonfiction," organized by Noe Valley denizens Richard May and Wayne Goodman.

**6.26**  
SUNDAY  
2PM

**Joanne David & Rocket Dog Rescue**

*Honeyboy*

Fundraiser for Rocket Dog Rescue and author event for Joanne David, author of *Honeyboy*, a children's book about a special rescue dog. 20% of all store book sales from 1 pm to 3 pm. will go to Rocket Dog Rescue. Dogs and their loving owners welcome to attend!



**STORYTIME at 10am Every Wednesday**  
**ODD MONDAYS | JUNE 13 & 27**

For a full description of all our upcoming events visit: [foliosf.com/events](http://foliosf.com/events)

# CALENDAR

**June 11:** The outdoor FILM NIGHT in the Park season begins with Pitch Perfect, a comedy about college music singoffs starring Rebel Wilson. Dusk (8:30 pm). Dolores Park, 18th & Dolores. [sfnf.squarespace.com/filmnight](http://sfnf.squarespace.com/filmnight).

**June 13:** ODD MONDAYS hosts a Literary Potpourri with Pat Morin, Richard Kamler, and Stephen Vincent. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp [jlsender@webtv.net](mailto:jlsender@webtv.net)). 821-2090; [oddmondays.com](http://oddmondays.com).

**June 14:** PFLAG's monthly meeting has moved to the Women's Building at 3543 18th, on the second Tuesday of the month, from 7 to 9 pm. 921-8850; [pflagsf.org](http://pflagsf.org).

**June 14:** Maria van Lieshout, author of Bye Bye Binky and Hopper and Wilson, reads her stories at Charlie's Corner Bookstore. 5 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; [charliescorner.com](http://charliescorner.com).

**June 14:** Folio Books hosts a discussion by Mary McNear, author of The Space Between Sisters. 7 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; [foliosf.com](http://foliosf.com).

**June 14:** John Freeman discusses "Transforming a Bleak Desert": The Pioneer History of Golden Gate Park" at the monthly meeting of the SF Museum and HISTORICAL SOCIETY. 7:30 pm. 455 Golden Gate. 537-1105, ext. 100; [sfhistory.org](http://sfhistory.org).

**June 15:** HERCHURCH offers a Women's DRUMMING CIRCLE the third Wednesday of the month. 5:45-6:45 pm. 678 Portola.

**June 15:** The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION Group reads The Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President by Candice Millard. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 15:** LIVE MUSIC continues at the Valley Tavern on third Wednesdays. 7-9:30 pm. 4054 24th. 285-0674.

**June 16:** COMEDY Returns to El Rio with the "Seventh Annual Obligatory June Gay Comedy Show," featuring Tom Ammiano, Karen Ripley, Ronn Vigh, Yuri Kagan, and Lisa Geduld. 8 pm. 3168 Mission. [elriosf.com](http://elriosf.com).

**June 16-26:** Frameline40, the SF International LGBTQ FILM FESTIVAL, screens at the Castro Theater, 429 Castro, and other Bay Area theaters. For a schedule, 703-8650; [frameline.org](http://frameline.org).

**June 17:** BOOKWORMS Club (ages 8 to 12) features a talk by Matthew Jobin, author of The Skeleth. 6 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. RSVP required: 821-3477 <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/bookworms-club-tickets-25485102628>.

**June 18:** Don't miss the seventh annual SummerFEST on 24th Street, featuring a petting zoo, Funnybone the Clown, hula dancers, music, and store specials. Noe Street at 24th, 11 am-5 pm. [noevalleysummerfest.com](http://noevalleysummerfest.com)

**June 18:** Olive This Olive That celebrates its fourth year in Noe with a Happy Birthday ICE CREAM SOCIAL and sidewalk chalk drawing contest. 10 am-5 pm. 304 Vicksburg. 251-7520.

**June 18:** The PUPPY DOG TALES reading program allows children to practice reading to a calm canine. For ages 4 to 7, but older welcome. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 18:** The Glen Park Neighborhoods HISTORY PROJECT hosts its general meeting, with guest speakers Vicky Walker and John Blackburn discussing "Researching the History of Your Home." 3:30-5:30 pm. Glen Park Library, 2825 Diamond. 584-1498 or [glenparkhistory@gmail.com](mailto:glenparkhistory@gmail.com).

**June 19:** Celebrate FATHER'S DAY at Charlie's Corner Bookstore with a "Summer Sunshine & Sunglasses Pizza Party." Story times at noon and 3 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; [charliescorner.com](http://charliescorner.com).

**June 19:** The STERN GROVE FESTIVAL begins its 79th season with a free concert by Janelle Monáe. 2 pm. 19th Ave. and Sloat. 252-6252.

**June 20:** DOG EARED BOOKS hosts a party to introduce its second location at 489 Castro. For more info, call Alvin at 282-1901 or [dogearedbookscastro@gmail.com](mailto:dogearedbookscastro@gmail.com).

**June 20-23:** Students from Adda Clevenger School perform the comedy ROCK MUSICAL Little Shop of Horrors. 7 pm. 180 Fair Oaks at 23rd. [addaclevenger.org](http://addaclevenger.org).

**June 21:** The Noe Valley Library hosts Family LEGO NIGHT for ages 5 and up. 6:30-8 pm. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 21:** "Queer Words," a quarterly LITERARY SALON, spotlights YA Speculative Fiction by local authors Skye Allen, Andrew Demcek, and Tim Floreen. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477; [foliosf.com](http://foliosf.com).

**June 21:** Ingleside POLICE STATION holds a community meeting on third Tuesdays. 7 pm. Ingleside Police Station community room, 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane. 404-4000; [inglesidepolicestation.com](http://inglesidepolicestation.com).

**June 22:** The RESILIENT Diamond Heights work group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5 pm. St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine. 867-5774.

**June 22:** Christine Chitnis discusses Icy, Creamy, Healthy, Sweet: 75 RECIPES for Dairy-Free Ice Cream, Fruit-Forward Ice Pops, Frozen Yogurt, Granitas, Slushies, Shakes, and More. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**June 22:** The Noe Valley Library hosts an adult craft workshop to make glass PEBBLE MAGNETS. 7-8 pm. 451 Jersey. Space is limited; sign up at 355-5707 or [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 23:** Reel-to-Reel FILMS for preschoolers are shown at the Noe Valley Library at 10:15 and 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 24:** BILL YENNE introduces his new book, San Francisco Beer: A History of Brewing by the Bay, at Speakeasy Ales & Lagers, from 5 to 8 pm. 1195 Evans. 642-3371; [goodbeer.com](http://goodbeer.com).

**June 25:** Volunteer at JURI COMMONS, weather permitting, for a 9 am to noon workday. The park cuts through the block bounded by Guerrero, San Jose Avenue, 25th, and 26th streets. [Dave@schweisguth.org](mailto:Dave@schweisguth.org) or [meetup.com/Juri-Commoners](http://meetup.com/Juri-Commoners).

**June 25:** Larry Reed performs "Wayang Bali: An Evening of BALINESE SHADOW PLAY." 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe Valley MUSIC Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; [noevalleymusicseries.com](http://noevalleymusicseries.com).

**June 26:** The SF PRIDE PARADE for "Racial and Economic Justice" kicks off at 10:30 am at Market and Beale, and ends at Market and Eighth streets. The Civic Center celebration is noon to 6 pm.

**June 26:** Folio Books hosts a fundraiser for Rocket DOG RESCUE, featuring Joanne David, author of children's book Honeyboy. 1-3 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; [foliosf.com](http://foliosf.com).

**June 26:** George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic perform at the STERN GROVE FESTIVAL. 2 pm. 19th Ave. and Sloat. 252-6252.

**June 27:** ODD MONDAYS hosts "Mac/McN Cheese," Scottish writers and musicians, including Mary McNear, Mary Lee McNeal, Andrew McIntyre, Julia McDonald Adams, and John McCormick. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (rsvp [jlsender@webtv.net](mailto:jlsender@webtv.net)). 821-2090; [oddmondays.com](http://oddmondays.com).

**June 27:** Patric Kuh introduces Finding the Flavors We Lost: From Bread to Bourbon, How ARTISANS Reclaimed American Food. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; [omnivorebooks.com](http://omnivorebooks.com).

**June 28:** Charlie's Corner Bookstore hosts readings of Le Petit Prince in both English and French, at 10 am, noon, and 3 and 5 pm. 4102 24th. 641-1104; [charliescorner.com](http://charliescorner.com).

**June 28:** The Noe Valley Library offers an eREADER drop-in from 10:30 to 11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 28:** The Noe Valley Library and Artists' Television Access host a screening of 16mm films from the library's archives. 6:30-8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**June 28:** MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of the month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400.

**June 28:** Glenn Lym discusses "Scapegoat: The 1871 San Francisco City Hall" at the meeting of the SF HISTORY Association. 7 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; [sanfranciscohistory.org](http://sanfranciscohistory.org).

**June 28:** Bernal Heights Cinema's free "Face to Face with the FILMMAKER" series features Jenni Olson discussing and showing The Royal Road, a film about Junipero Serra's colonization of California. 8 pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission.

**June 30:** At Baila Conmigo! children age 4 and up can learn about traditional MEXICAN DANCES. 11 am-noon. Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).

**July 1:** Ramana Vieira and Ensemble, with Fatima Santos and Jose Iglesias, perform PORTUGUESE FADO at 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe Valley MUSIC Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; [noevalleymusicseries.com](http://noevalleymusicseries.com).

### Summer's Here and the Time Is Right

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the **July/August 2016** issue, distributed the first week of July. The deadline for items is June 15. Please email [calendar@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:calendar@noevalleyvoice.com) or write Calendar, Noe Valley Voice, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Thank you.



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## JUNE EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| WED<br>JUNE<br>1  | STEPHANIE DANLER • SWEETBITTER: A NOVEL. 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Danler deftly conjures the nonstop and purely adrenalized world of the restaurant—conversations interrupted, phrases overheard, relationships only partially revealed.   |
| SUN<br>JUNE<br>5  | LAURA MILLER • RAW. VEGAN. NOT GROSS: ALL VEGAN AND MOSTLY RAW RECIPES FOR PEOPLE WHO LOVE TO EAT • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • <i>Raw. Vegan. Not Gross.</i> is the debut cookbook from YouTube's Tastemade star Laura Miller.   |
| WED<br>JUNE<br>8  | ANYA FERNALD • HOME COOKED: ESSENTIAL RECIPES FOR A NEW WAY TO COOK • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • A recipe collection and how-to guide for preparing base ingredients that can be used to make simple, weeknight meals, written by a sustainable food expert and founder of Belcampo Meat Co.   |
| SAT<br>JUNE<br>11 | FUNDRAISER WITH AUTHOR REBECCA KATZ, MS BENEFITTING COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER! 4:00-6:00 P.M. FREE • In <i>The Longevity Kitchen</i> , Rebecca Katz draws on the latest scientific research as she discusses the top foods proven to fight the most common chronic conditions. 100% of the proceeds from book sales for the evening will directly benefit CHRC's scholarship fund! |
| SUN<br>JUN<br>12  | ABBY DODGE • THE EVERYDAY BAKER: RECIPES AND TECHNIQUES FOR FOOLPROOF BAKING • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE • Former pastry chef and award-winning baking expert Abby Dodge has created this definitive collection that serves as a delicious roadmap through a baker's sweet and savory kitchen.  |
| THU<br>JUNE<br>16 | SHANNA FARRELL, EDITOR • DISTILLED STORIES: CALIFORNIA ARTISANS BEHIND THE SPIRITS • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Distillers tell their personal stories about their journey to the still.   |
| WED<br>JUNE<br>22 | CHRISTINE CHITNIS • ICY, CREAMY, HEALTHY, SWEET: 75 RECIPES FOR DAIRY-FREE ICE CREAM, FRUIT-FORWARD ICE POPS, FROZEN YOGURT, GRANITAS, SLUSHIES, SHAKES, AND MORE • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • With 75 recipes for a full range of frozen sweets, you'll find healthy treats that are free of refined sugars, and that include vegan and dairy-free options.                                   |
| MON<br>JUNE<br>27 | PATRIC KUH • FINDING THE FLAVORS WE LOST: FROM BREAD TO BOURBON HOW ARTISANS RECLAIMED AMERICAN FOOD • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • In <i>Finding the Flavors We Lost</i> , Kuh profiles major figures in the so-called "artisanal" food movement who brought exceptional taste back to food and inspired chefs and restaurateurs to redefine and rethink the way we eat.                        |

### OMNIVORE BOOKS ON FOOD

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## Mom and Pop-Ups

By Mazook

**REAL FEUDS:** It has been two years since the Nutraceutical people met with the Planning Department, after meeting with the neighborhood, to consider the fate of the vacant Real Food building at 3935-39 24th St.

For a project review meeting in June 2014, the records for 3935 24th St. (Block 6508, Lot 34) stated, "The proposed project will demolish an existing single story (with mezzanine) commercial building and construct a new, 3-story mixed-use building.

"The purpose of the meeting is to review the design of the proposed project with both community planning and environmental planning and to review applicability of past dormant applications and approvals.... Applicant is requesting an environmental planner."

So, it was reasonable for the neighborhood to expect in the next year or two a demolition, then a three-floor building to go up, with apartments and a store or two on the street level.

However, Planning Department records show there has been absolutely no activity on the project since 2014. Nothing after that June entry. By Labor Day, it will have been 13 years since Real Foods was closed, and for all these years we've been looking at windows covered

in paper.

One of Nutraceutical's big customers is Whole Foods Market. At the Noe Valley store at 3950 24th St., Nutra-brand tablets and remedies are interspersed throughout the long row of pills and supplements.

Rumors were, when Whole Foods opened back in September 2009, they had offered to lease the empty space across the street but were turned down by Nutraceutical.

Long before that, about 10 years ago, Nutra and its landlord got into litigation over the lease and the condition of the premises at the Real Food space. That case must have settled, since the landlord transferred title to the property to Nutra and both parties agreed the settlement value was in excess of five million dollars.

Maybe if everyone in Noe Valley wrote to the owners, they would do something with this property. The address is Nutraceutical Corporation, 1400 Kearns Blvd., Park City, UT 84060. Or telephone 435-655-6000. Ask them what they intend to do with this store.

I suggest the Nutra people do the work necessary to make it tenant worthy, and then rent it to Whole Foods, which will probably pay for the upgrade. Then WF can stock all the Nutra pills and supplements it wants there, along with all those lotions and potions that were carried by Common Scents (before it folded at the beginning of this year). Whole Foods can then put more food on their grocery shelves. Everybody is happy.

Lastly, I have a bone to pick with all those people who snicker and call it "Whole Paycheck." Yeah, that's possible. But if you buy the Whole Foods' "365" brand, prices are comparable to, dare I

say, Safeway or Molly Stone's. Whole Foods also serves affordable soups, salads, and hot food by weight, albeit with too much salt. (I cannot tell you how many times I have complained about the salt.) Still, the store is a good fit for this neighborhood.

Stick a fork in me. I am done.



**REINCARNATION OF THE LOST ARK:** Yes, it closed a year ago. The stuffed animals sat in the front window, on the corner of 24th and Vicksburg, for months until things were sorted out in bankruptcy court.

The owners of the building reported to *Rumors* in the fall they were sorry to see the popular toy store close, since it brought happiness to the neighborhood, and they were hoping "to find a tenant who would bring smiles to the patrons."

Well, after several more months of boarded windows, grins may be coming.

Signs of life appeared in May when some vintage objects showed up in one of the store's display windows. The first was a late 19th century bicycle from England called a "penny-farthing," a type of two-wheeler with a large front wheel and a much smaller rear wheel. They were popular in the 1870s, and it was the first conveyance to be called a bicycle.

After about a week, the bike was gone. Next on display was a pair of "brass French Empire early 18th century candlesticks," for \$395. Also displayed was a "painted fauteuil: horsehair, verde linen, early 20th century" (a \$700 green chair), and a "square sectioned vase, St. Louis France, circa 1950" for \$295.

The doors will finally swing open this month, with an antique pop-up store, called The Curious Object, says propri-

etor Stephen Moore. Moore, who has lived in the neighborhood for the past 30 years (most recently on 21st Street), will consider the space headquarters for his "mercantile, interior design, and real estate" businesses, which he calls collectively Stephen Moore Home. That penny-farthing bike, by the way, is his logo.

Moore says the past few months he's been remodeling the interior by carefully removing all the wood that was the Ark "down to the lathe and plaster" and recycling it into new walls and shelves that will climb from the floor to a simulated pressed-tin ceiling. The intricate ceiling will accentuate the Victorian touches of the Queen Anne above, built at the beginning of the last century.

The Curious Object will sell antique items Moore acquired on a recent trip to London. The items in the window were a hint of what's to come.

When the Curious Object pop-up pops down, Moore plans to open The Mercantile in the Ark space. This shop will feature "new and vintage gift items, housewares for the kitchen and accessories for the house, and antique furniture. It will be an interesting store to shop, in my neighborhood," Moore smiles, "and something I have always wanted to do, [including] walking to work."



**SPEAKING OF VINTAGE:** Up 24th Street at When Modern Was (4037 24th), classes are now being offered "to hobbyists ready to give new life to tired furniture," says WMW proprietress Dona Taylor. Taylor says she's doing it because "Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan is finally available in San Francisco, which is a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

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\$1,340,000 SOLD



\$2,875,000 SOLD



\$1,420,000 SOLD



\$1,688,888 SOLD



JUST SOLD \$2,650,000  
481 DAY STREET



\$1,170,500 SOLD



\$1,200,000 SOLD

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# RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

big deal.”

According to Sloan’s website, “Chalk Paint® is a decorative paint developed by Annie Sloan 25 years ago. It very rarely requires any preparation, such as sanding or priming, and can be used indoors or outside.... It can revitalize old furniture, walls, ceilings and floors with ease.”

The classes are being offered by Karen Johnson and are small workshops teaching Chalk Paint techniques, held in a new space in the back of the store.

“This paint is great fun for DIY’ers to upcycle or revamp older pieces of furniture. It’s easy to use, very low in VOC, dries fast, and goes on almost any surface,” says Johnson.



BUT THE BIG NEWS from Dona Taylor is that she and her business partner Alison Porter plan on either selling their Buttons Candy Bar business (4027 24th) or getting someone interested in taking over the lease. Buttons shares its space with the venerable Video Wave, which moved in last year after almost 30 years on Castro near Jersey.

“I can’t sell enough candy to pay the monthly rent,” Taylor says, “so if I cannot find somebody to take over this space, then I will close the business on October 31.”

Taylor is a longtime Noe Valley merchant, having opened the first Gallery of Jewels at 4089 24th, near Castro, 27 years ago. The store has two other Galleries, one on Post Street in Union Square and

the other on Fillmore in Pacific Heights.

It looks as if this could become a difficult situation for Video Wave, which is a subtenant and probably would be unable to pay the whole rent. Anybody out there who wants to share a shop? This could be your opportunity to give the neighborhood something new and amazing. Hurry, Halloween is sooner than you think.



TOP OF THE POP-UPS: Everyone was shocked at the beginning of May to see that the shop on the cover of the April *Noe Valley Voice*, WalkershawMan, located in a 155-square-foot space at 4010 24th St., was completely changed. Our source for men’s handmade shirts had suddenly become “Azil Boutique,” and jewelry was adorning the walls and display shelves.

April Fool’s? No. On the window was a sign posted by the Walkershaw Man himself. Owner Jesse Walkershaw explained that he was taking a vacation and had sublet the space for a month. He would soon be returning, he wrote.

Pop-up Azil Boutique is the creation of jewelry designer Liza Anongchanya, who produces a variety of designs and has two other locations, on Hayes Street near Octavia, and Polk Street near Union.

“I was quite surprised when we opened this pop-up, how many people recognized us from Hayes Valley and came in to say hello,” said Anongchanya, “and the response in this neighborhood far exceeded my expectations. Gee, we made the rent in the first day we were open.”

She said she’d been making jewelry in San Francisco for the past 10 years and produces her own line, Ofina Jewelry.

You may be seeing her pop up in Downtown Noe Valley again.



HERE COMES CHARLIE: Moving from Downtown Noe Valley after a five-year run is Heroine, at the corner of 24th and Castro, a boutique that specializes in maternity and women’s apparel, baby stuff, and accessories.

Owner Angela Gomez reportedly has moved to Southern California and will be moving the store somewhere as yet to be determined.

Heroine’s last day of business was May 26, and the store will be vacant by June 1. However, that space (4100 24th St., the former site of Graystone Liquors) has already been snapped up. Yes, kids’ bookstore Charlie’s Corner will be expanding from next door, creating an actual corner emporium.

“We are expanding our space because we simply need more room,” says Charlotte Nagy. The colorful shop at 4102 24th offers a wide range of kids’ books for ages starting at preschool. Story hours are four times a day, in both classical and contemporary children’s literature.

Nagy says, “We have, on average, 15 children attending each session with at least one person with the child or children, so we have about 30 or more attending the reading.”

The new space should be open in September, according to Nagy, who expects to expand the Charlie’s experience to birthday parties, theater classes, and puppet shows.



SHORT SHRIFTS: Bom Dia on Sanchez and 29th streets closed in February, reportedly in order to change into a café rather than a shop selling groceries, wines, and prepared foods. So far, promises to reopen have not been fulfilled. All

work was stopped, and the inventory is still sitting on the shelves. Attempts to reach owner Shivani Ganguly have not been successful, but we contacted someone at what was listed as Bom Dia in Pleasanton. The manager of that place said they “took over” for Bom Dia a while back. Not sure what that means...

Calls to the real estate broker offering a lease on the still unoccupied restaurant on Church at 25th Street have not been returned, which could mean that there are negotiations in the works. The broker usually responds...

The deal that would have put Golden Gate Urgent Care in the space vacated by In-House boutique at 3927 24th has fallen through, and the place is once again for lease...

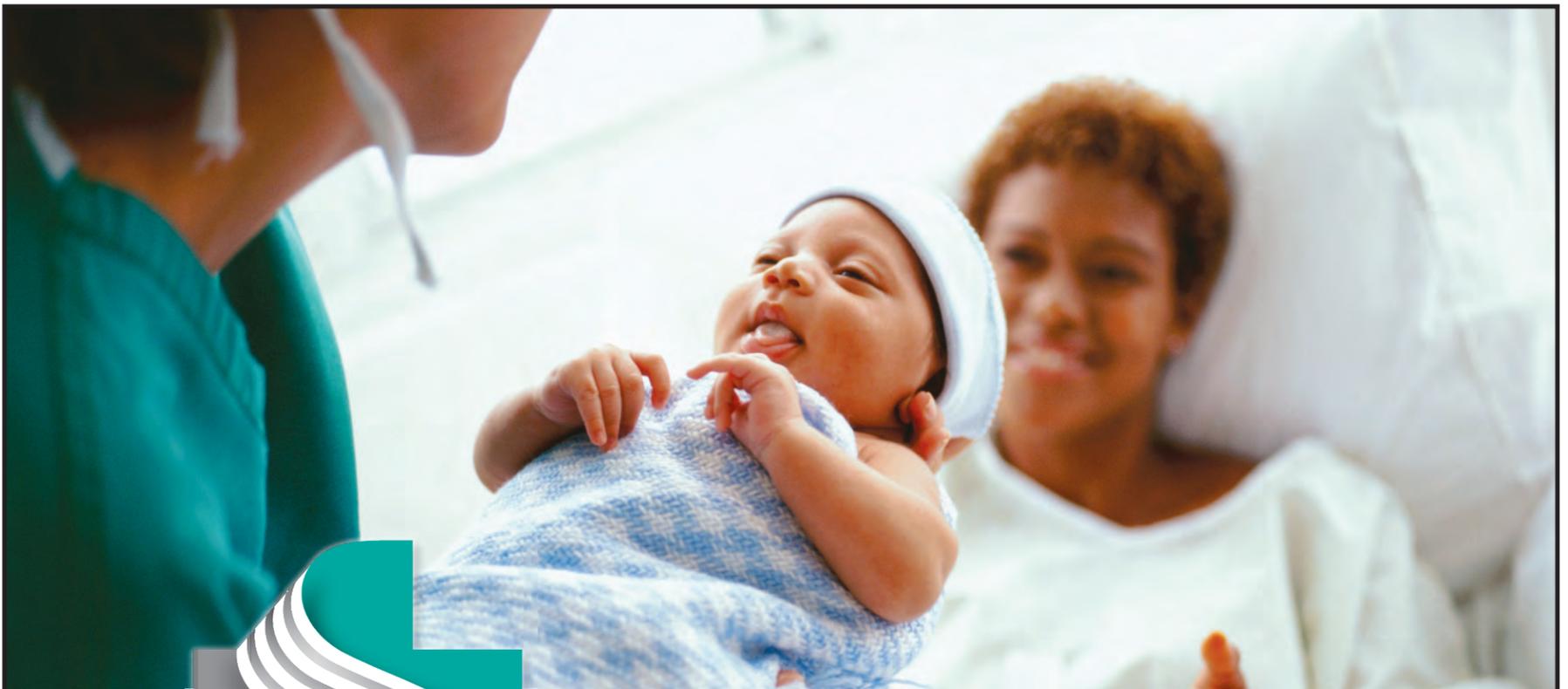
And that well-financed medical group from New York and Portland, Ore., called GoHealth Urgent Care, has leased the large commercial space just built on 24th Street near Church across from Shufat Market. GoHealth has plans to open 20 medical clinics in the Bay Area and is searching for other suitable locations...

Word is that Manuel Azevedo’s new Portuguese eatery will be ready to open this fall in Incanto’s old space on Church Street...

Say farewell to Hahn’s Hibachi on Castro at 24th Street. The barbecue haven served its last meal on May 28. Now the spot is set to become a hamburger, elk, and alligator place, called Bistro SF Grill.



THAT’S ALL, FOLKS: There will be no Rumors for the July/August issue, which will need my space for a special photo exhibit. So have a great summer and, as the Happenings sang in 1966, *See You in September*. ■



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LIBRARY EVENTS

**Experience Reel Cinema:** See fantastic movies mined from the San Francisco Library's 16mm film archive at a quarterly screening co-sponsored by Artists' Television Access (ATA). Tuesday, June 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Adult Craft Class:** Join us in making personalized glass pebble magnets out of scrap paper or images you provide; all materials will be provided. Space is limited; call 415-355-5707 or visit the branch to register. Wednesday, June 22, 7-8 p.m.

**eReader and Online Resource Drop-In:** Bring your mobile device or laptop, your library card and PIN, and any passwords you might need, to an informal workshop on using the SFPL's digital resources, including the library catalog and databases, Zinio for magazines, ebooks and Hoopla! for movies, music, and audiobooks. Tuesday, June 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Noe Valley Knitting Circle:** Learn how to knit or crochet on the first Saturday of the month. The library has supplies to practice on but bring your own yarn and needles or hooks if you have a special project in mind. Saturday, June 4, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Friday Matinee:** An adventurer steals a mysterious orb in order to save the galaxy in the 2014 film *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Friday, June 10, 2-4 p.m.

**Noe Valley Book Discussion Group:** This month, the group is reading *The Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President* by Candice Millard. Wednesday, June 15, 7-8:30 p.m.

**Great Books Discussion Group,** sponsored by the Great Books Council of San Francisco, meets to discuss outstanding works of writing. For more information, contact Elena at [eschmid@sonic.net](mailto:eschmid@sonic.net). Wednesday, June 8, 6:15-8:15 p.m.

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

MORE BOOKS TO READ

Summer Stride to the Library

People of all ages, from babies to bibliophiles in their 100s, are invited to track their reading in the 2016 Summer Stride Reading Program, sponsored by the San Francisco Public Library May 7 to Aug. 14. Everyone who reads (or is read to) for 15 hours can earn either a Reading Ranger badge or a Summer Stride tote bag, designed by local illustrator Christian Robinson.

Participants also can enter the library's weekly raffle—up to one time per day per location—and attend weekly events from June through mid-August. Raffle prizes include museum passes, gift certificates, and more. To find reading lists and a paper tracking guide, go to any neighborhood library or visit [sfpl.org/summerstride](http://sfpl.org/summerstride).

You also might get ideas from the book list offered this month by Branch Manager Denise Sanderson and Children's Librarian Catherine Starr of the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library (see below). It includes a fictionalized biography of composer Dmitri Shostakovich, a guide to 1,000 Northern California hikes, and two food books for children, one about a garlicky scene dubbed the Battle of the Vegetables.

To find books, dvds, cds, and other items in the library's collection, call or drop by the Noe Valley branch at 451 Jersey St. (415-355-5707) or visit the San Francisco Library online at [www.sfpl.org](http://www.sfpl.org).

Adult Fiction

- *An Unrestored Woman* by Shobha Rao is about the serious consequences that the 1947 division of the Indian subcontinent into India and Pakistan had for many of its inhabitants.

- A teen cares for her family and supports her father's whaling operation in *Rush Oh!* by Shirley Barrett.

- A 15-year-old Mormon girl escapes from an arranged plural marriage in *Daredevils* by Shawn Vestal.

- Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich devotes his life to music despite repression and threats from the Communist Party, in *The Noise of Time* by Julian Barnes.

Adult Nonfiction

- The Russian ruler who created the Hermitage Museum and sought to modernize her country through the acquisition of artwork is the subject of *The Empress of Art: Catherine the Great and the Transformation of Russia*, by Susan Jaques.

- The latest in the DK series "Big Ideas Simply Explained," *The Movie Book* profiles 100 of the best movies made throughout the world, beginning in the 1930s.

- Laura P. Claridge's biography *The Lady With the Borzoi: Blanche Knopf, Literary Tastemaker Extraordinaire* tells the story of Blanche and Alfred A. Knopf, who founded a publishing company in 1915.

- The Moon Outdoors series offers *Northern California Hiking: The Complete Guide to 1,000 of the Best Hikes in the Golden State*, by Tom Stienstra and Ann Marie Brown.

ebooks

- In Robert Morgan's historical novel *Chasing the North Star*, a young boy flees a South Carolina plantation and eludes the bounty hunters coming after him.

*Every Heart a Doorway*, an urban fantasy by Seanan McGuire, is about the murder that occurs at Eleanor West's Home for Wayward Children soon after the return of one of its students.

- In *Swiped: How to Protect Yourself in a World Full of Scammers, Phishers, and Identity Thieves*, Adam Levin gives strategies for maintaining your privacy.

- Cynthia Townley Ewer offers tips for keeping things in order in *Cut the Clutter: A Simple Organizational Plan for a Clean and Tidy Home*.

Flipster

- The library has a new way to read magazines digitally, on your computer or your mobile device. Go to [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org) and

click on eMagazines to log onto Flipster. It includes titles like *Food & Wine*, *People*, *Sunset*, and *Sports Illustrated*.

Children's Fiction

- Food is the topic of *Fresh Delicious: Poems from the Farmers' Market*, written by Irene Latham, with illustrations by Mique Moriuchi. Ages 3 to 8.

- It's strange, but the lion's friends keep disappearing in *A Hungry Lion, or A Dwindling Assortment of Animals*, written and illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins. Ages 4 to 7.

- A day in the park brings adventures for a girl and her little sister in *Princess Pistachio and the Pest*, written and illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay and translated from the French by Jacob Homel. Ages 5 to 8.

- *The Battle of the Vegetables*, written by Matthieu Sylvander with illustrations by Perceval Barrier, has "satiric, snarky stories" about leeks and carrots with passion. Ages 6 to 9.

- In *A Dragon's Guide to Making Your Human Smarter*, written by Laurence Yep and Joanne Ryder, illustrated by Mary GrandPré, a dragon saves her human pet from being kidnapped. Ages 8 to 12.

- Gypsy Esma, *The Lightning Queen*, makes friends with a Mixtec Indian boy in a story based on rural Mexican lore, retold by Laura Resau. Ages 8 to 13.

Children's Nonfiction

- Kate Klimo examines the life and career of Ted Geisel, Pulitzer Prize winning author of 45 books, in *Dr. Seuss: The Great Doodler*, with illustrations by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. Ages 5 to 8.

- Learn all the facts about *Ancient Egypt* in a Junior Genius Guide written by Jeopardy winner Ken Jennings, with illustrations by Mike Lowery. Ages 8 to 10.

- Deborah Noyes' *Ten Days a*

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Sing along with Miguel Govea and Susan Peña, performing music of the Americas in a bilingual program for children of all ages. Wednesday, June 1, 3 to 4 p.m.

Be amazed by **Juggling Tornado Mark Bunnell**, who will entertain you with comedy, juggling, and unicycle antics. For all ages. Thursday, June 9, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Use your creativity (and your hands) to build whatever you can dream up at **Family LEGO Night**, for ages 5 and up. The library provides all the pieces you'll need to create vehicles, robots, castles, and more. Cookies served. Tuesday, June 21, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

**¡Baila Conmigo! with Maria Luna:** Children 4 and up can learn about Mexican folk dances and the history and culture of different dances, while dressing up in traditional costumes. Thursday, June 30, 11 a.m. to noon.

**The SPCA's Puppy Dog Tales:** Children ages 4 to 7 (older welcome, too) can practice reading aloud to a calm canine and his reading specialist owner. Saturday, June 18, 2 to 3 p.m. Space is limited; reserve a spot by calling 415-355-5707.

Miss Catherine's **Toddler Tales** features books, rhymes, music, and small movement, for children 16 months through 2 years, with parent or caregiver. Thursdays, June 2, 9, and 16; 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

**16 mm Reel-to-Reel Preschool Films** include vintage movies for children ages 3 to 5, with parent or caregiver. Thursday, June 23, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

FOR TEENS AND UP

**AAC Conversation Club:** Users of Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) devices (Dynavox, QuickTalker, Tobii Sono Flex, Talk Bar, smart phones, and tablet applications) meet to explore new topics. Partnered by Support for Families of Children with Disabilities. Mondays, June 6, 13, 20 & 27, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

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

*Madwoman: The Daring Life and Turbulent Times of the Original 'Girl' Reporter, Nellie Bly* is the true story of a journalist in 1887 who feigned insanity to get the scoop on a badly-run asylum. Ages 10 and up.

*Annotations are written by Noe Valley Voice bookworm Karol Barske.*

BRANCH HOURS

**Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library**  
451 Jersey St., 355-5707

|     |      |      |     |       |     |      |
|-----|------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|
| Sun | Mon  | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat  |
| 1-5 | 12-6 | 10-9 | 1-9 | 10-6  | 1-6 | 10-6 |

**Glen Park Branch Library**  
2825 Diamond St., 355-2858

|     |      |      |      |       |     |     |
|-----|------|------|------|-------|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon  | Tues | Wed  | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1-5 | 10-6 | 10-6 | 12-8 | 12-7  | 1-6 | 1-6 |

**Mission Branch Library**  
300 Bartlett St., 355-2800

|     |     |      |      |       |     |      |
|-----|-----|------|------|-------|-----|------|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed  | Thurs | Fri | Sat  |
| 1-5 | 1-6 | 10-9 | 10-9 | 10-9  | 1-6 | 10-6 |

**Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Branch Library**  
1 José Sarria Ct. (3555 16th St.), 355-5616

|     |      |      |      |       |     |      |
|-----|------|------|------|-------|-----|------|
| Sun | Mon  | Tues | Wed  | Thurs | Fri | Sat  |
|     | 12-6 | 10-9 | 12-9 | 10-6  | 1-6 | 12-6 |

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|                |             |       |
|----------------|-------------|-------|
| DEJA           | SHABBY      | AKA   |
| ORAL           | NOMORE      | MHZ   |
| HAMANOREXIA    | BAT         |       |
| BRO            | NED         | NIKE  |
| POMELODRAMATIC |             |       |
| TAR            | SIP         | SLAT  |
| ISEE           | MAP         | RINGO |
| THEDUBLINER    | NERVOUS     |       |
| OASIS          | TAD         | ERES  |
| TAFT           | VET         | TSO   |
| FIREFLY        | BYNIGHT     |       |
| IPOD           | ALA         | FOP   |
| NAM            | FRESCAFFOLD |       |
| DNA            | EERIER      | ELSE  |
| SAN            | EDSELS      | REDS  |



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## MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

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

**Castro Area Planning + Action**  
 Contact: 621-0120  
 Email: [info@capasf.org](mailto:info@capasf.org)  
 Meetings: Second Thursday, Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

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

**Castro Farmers' Market**  
 Wednesdays, 4 to 8 p.m. (March through December), Noe Street at Market Street  
 Contact: Steve Adams, 431-2359  
 Sponsor: Merchants of Upper Market & Castro; [www.CastroMerchants.com](http://www.CastroMerchants.com)

**Diamond Heights Community Association**  
 Contact: Betsy Eddy, 867-5774  
 Address: P.O. Box 31529, SF, CA 94131  
 Website: [www.dhcasf.org](http://www.dhcasf.org)  
 Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

**Dolores Heights Improvement Club**  
 Email: [info@doloresheights.org](mailto:info@doloresheights.org)  
 Website: [www.doloresheights.org](http://www.doloresheights.org)  
 Meetings: Third Thursday of every second month. Bank of America, 18th and Castro.

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

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

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

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

**Friends of Dolores Park Playground**  
 Contact: Nancy Gonzalez Madynski, 828-5772  
 Email: [friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdolorespark@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.friendsofdolorespark.org](http://www.friendsofdolorespark.org)  
 Meetings: See website.

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

**Friends of Noe Courts Playground**  
 Contact: Laura Norman  
 Email: [lauranor@yahoo.com](mailto:lauranor@yahoo.com)  
 Address: c/o Friends of Noe Valley, P.O. Box 460953, SF, CA 94146  
 Meetings: Email for dates and times.

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

**Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center**  
 Contact: Chris Faust  
 Email: [info@noevalleyreccenter.com](mailto:info@noevalleyreccenter.com)  
 Website: [www.noevalleyreccenter.com](http://www.noevalleyreccenter.com)  
 Meetings: Email or check website.

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

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

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

**Juri Commoners**  
 Contact: Dave Schweisguth, M17-6290  
 Email: [dave@schweisguth.org](mailto:dave@schweisguth.org)  
 Website: [www.meetup.com/Juri-Commoners](http://www.meetup.com/Juri-Commoners)  
 Meetings: Most last Saturdays, 9-noon. Check website.

**Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association**  
 Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990  
 Address: P.O. Box 192114, SF, CA 94119  
 Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

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

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

**Noe Valley Democratic Club**  
 Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042; [hls5@ibew1245.com](mailto:hls5@ibew1245.com)  
 Website: [noevalleydems.com](http://noevalleydems.com)  
 Meetings: Third Wednesdays, St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St., 7:30 p.m. Call to confirm meeting dates.

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

**Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)**  
 Contact: Robert Roddick, 641-8687  
 Meetings: Last Wednesdays, Bank of America, 4098 24th St., 9 a.m. Call to confirm.  
 Website: [www.NoValleyMerchants.com](http://www.NoValleyMerchants.com)

**Progress Noe Valley**  
 Contact: [progressnoe@gmail.com](mailto:progressnoe@gmail.com)  
 Website: [progressnoe.com](http://progressnoe.com)

Meetings announced via Facebook group. See website for details.

**Protect Noe's Charm**  
 Contact: Ozzie Rohm  
 Email: [ozzierohm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ozzierohm@sbcglobal.net)  
 Address: 1101 Diamond St., SF, CA 94114  
 Website: [protectnoescharm.com](http://protectnoescharm.com)  
 Meetings: See website.

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

**Noe Valley Parent Network**  
 An e-mail resource network for parents  
 Contact: Mina Kenvin  
 Email: [minaken@gmail.com](mailto:minaken@gmail.com)

**Noe Valley Parents, San Francisco**  
 Listserv contact: [noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com). Subscribe: [noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

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

**Residents for Noe Valley Town Square**  
 Contact: Todd David, 401-0625  
 Email: [noevalleytownsquare@gmail.com](mailto:noevalleytownsquare@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.noevalleytownsquare.com](http://www.noevalleytownsquare.com)  
 Meetings: Call for details.

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

**SafeCleanGreen Mission Dolores**  
 Contact: Gideon Kramer, 861-2480  
 Email: [safecleangreen@bigfoot.com](mailto:safecleangreen@bigfoot.com)  
 Website: [www.safecleangreen.com](http://www.safecleangreen.com)

**Upper Noe Neighbors**  
 Contact: Marianne Hampton, 821-2150  
 Email: [president@uppernoeneighbors.com](mailto:president@uppernoeneighbors.com)  
 Meetings: Quarterly. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St., 7:30 p.m. Call to confirm date and time.

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

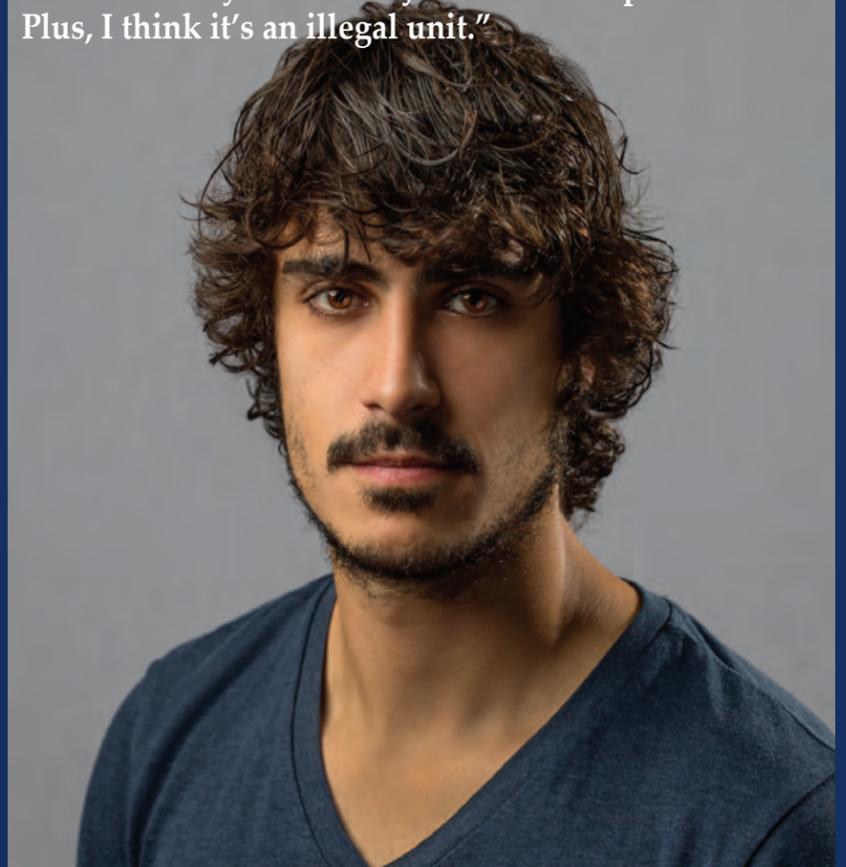
There are two sides to every story...

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"But this is my property! How can they do this to me?"



"But this is my home and you need to respect that! Plus, I think it's an illegal unit."



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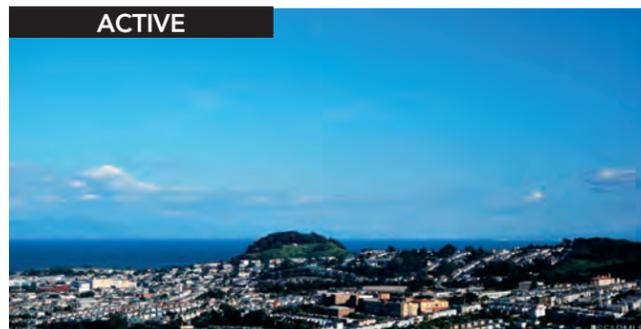
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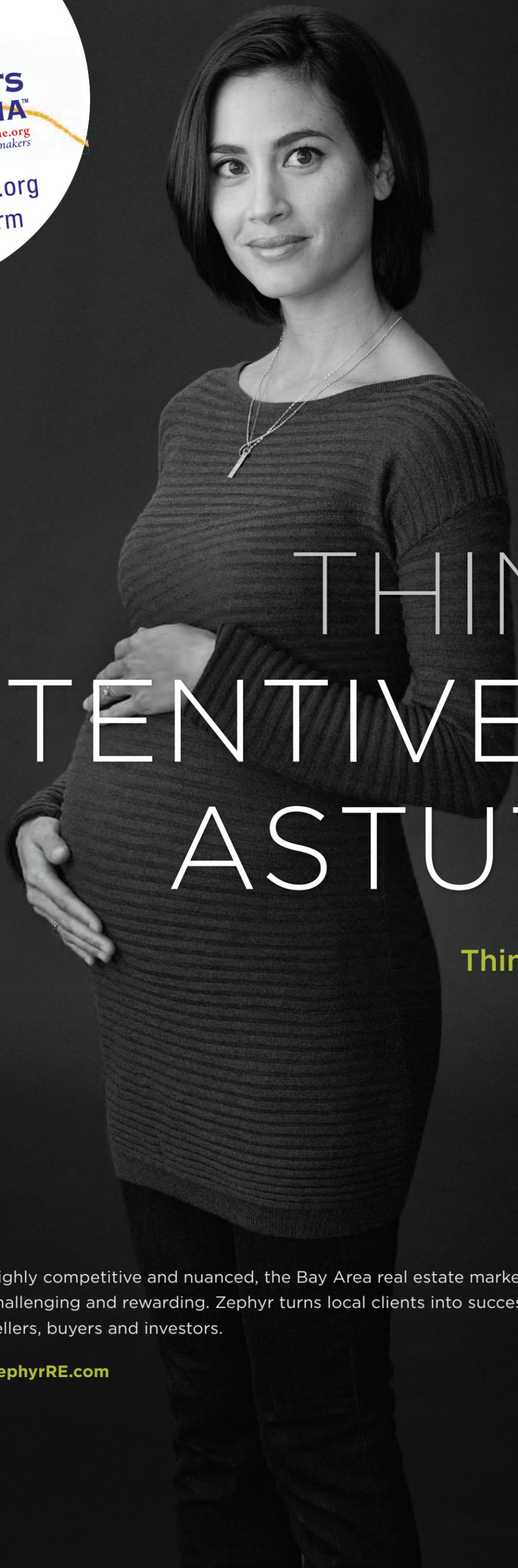


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