



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Making Upper Noe a Place You Love to Live

Mexican-American Culture Club Next on the Agenda for Outgoing President

By Matthew S. Bajko

Over the next nine months, addressing the longstanding complaints about the J-Church Muni line will be at the center of attention for Olga Milan-Howells, president of Upper Noe Neighbors.

Now in her last year of a three-year term leading the 31-year-old neighborhood association, Milan-Howells is working with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency on a plan for the transit line that runs along Church Street through Noe Valley. The trains funnel commuters either to jobs in downtown San Francisco or to BART's Balboa Park Station.

Because it runs on city streets for much of its route, the J-Church line can be a sluggish ride, having to make frequent stops at intersections. The SFMTA has made attempts in recent years to improve its service, but issues remain.

How to fix them will be the main topic of discussion at the Upper Noe Neighbors meeting Wednesday, July 17. The gathering will take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Upper Noe Recreation Center.

"This is of extreme importance to our members," Milan-Howells said during an interview in June to talk about her leadership of the neighborhood group. "It re-



**With Her Eye on the SFMTA.** Now in her last year as Upper Noe Neighbors president, Olga Milan-Howells wants to be a driving force in making the Muni a better option for getting around.

Photo by Art Bodner

ally affects all of our residents here."

The meeting is open to the public, and Milan-Howells hopes residents will attend to offer their ideas for speeding up the J-Church line. In addition to SFMTA staff, Milan-Howells has invited District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and his aide who focuses on Noe Valley, Kyle Smeallie, to come that night.

"If the city wants no public cars and for all of us to take public transportation to get around, then Muni has to be reliable, clean, and efficient," said Milan-Howells,

who is a CPA with McGuire Real Estate based out of its Marina office. "Supervisor Mandelman is very graciously co-hosting it with us. I want them to hear from neighbors."

Next March, Milan-Howells plans to step down as president of the neighborhood group, having served on the board for 16 years. Still, don't expect her to stop striving to improve the lives of those around her—she has a dream, one that will harness a longtime passion.

A former board member of the Mexican Museum who helped raise funds to pay for its new building under construction on Mission Street, Milan-Howells plans to launch a Mexican-American

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## The Distinguished Career of Judge Abby Abinanti

Noe Valley–Yurok Native Is Chief Justice of the Yurok Tribal Court

By Olivia Boler

All her life, Abby Abinanti has been rooted in two cultures—that of her father's in Noe Valley, and that of her mother's people, the Yurok, a California American Indian tribe whose lands cover Humboldt and Del Norte counties. The Klamath River winds through the Yurok Reservation, home to the largest tribe in California, with over 6,200 members.

On a late spring day, from a 24th Street Starbucks window seat, Abinanti holds a coffee cup, her fingernails polished dark, a signature style that complements her wavy, silver-white hair. She reflects on her upbringing and on her career as a lawyer and judge, residing in two places. She's made a reputation for herself as a restorative justice champion and the first Native American woman to pass the bar exam in California.

Abinanti was born in San Francisco in 1947. Her mother had come down to the city during World War II from Humboldt County. "She left the reservation with her sisters, like a lot of Indians did then, going to big cities to work in the war industry," Abinanti says. "Many of the women married guys down here."

Her Sicilian American father was from Noe Valley, and his father owned the former shoe repair shop on 24th Street, the Wooden Heel.

Her paternal grandmother doted on

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## Staying in the Game at 95

Rudy Stadlberger Is Not About To Break Up the Handball Team

By Heidi Anderson

At the appointed time and day, I rang the doorbell of Rudy Stadlberger's home on 22nd Street. Moments later, the door swung open and a tall gentleman greeted me.

"Hello!" he said. "I was just outside looking for you! I'm Rudy. Come in. I've been cleaning up for your visit."

Rudy led me to a sunny sitting room and showed me to a small table and two upright chairs arranged for the interview.

Aware that he was 95 years old, I suggested he might be more comfortable in a nearby lounge chair.

"No, nope. This is fine." He sat down and we began chatting.

Rudy has lived in Noe for nearly 60 years.

"We found Noe Valley in 1961 kind of by accident," he said.

He wanted to move his young family from their home on Waller and Pierce streets in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood. "The neighborhood was changing. Our corner grocery owner was shot and killed during a robbery," he said. "That was it for us. So I asked my handball partner, who was in real estate, about finding a new house, and he showed us this one."



**Fit for Life:** Handball champ Rudy Stadlberger takes some of his exercise at a 24 Hour Fitness location on 24th Street.

Photo by Heidi Anderson

He recalled the Noe Valley house, a three-level Victorian, was in great shape and had a big back yard for his growing family.

### Brace Yourself for the Price

Rudy leaned into the table with a big smile and said, "Want to know how much I bought it for? Twenty-two thousand!"

"It took only a week and a half of my monthly salary to make the payments!"

At the time, he was working for himself as a machinist on Natoma Street (in San Francisco's SOMADistrict). The shop

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## LETTERS 55¢

### Vaccinations: Scientifically Safe

This spring, the Voice became aware that Kristine Hicks, a chiropractor working in Noe Valley, was giving lectures which in part proclaimed her opposition to vaccination. We interviewed her with the intention of showing that even here in a supposedly enlightened neighborhood in an enlightened city, there were those with outlandish views akin to denying climate change. In the interest of journalistic fairness, we allowed Hicks to state her opinions. We also quoted the science that denied those opinions. We trusted in our readers' ability to evaluate and judge the reporting. The following letters are a sampling of the many responses we received.

—Sally Smith and Jack Tipple, Editors

#### Disproven and Dangerous

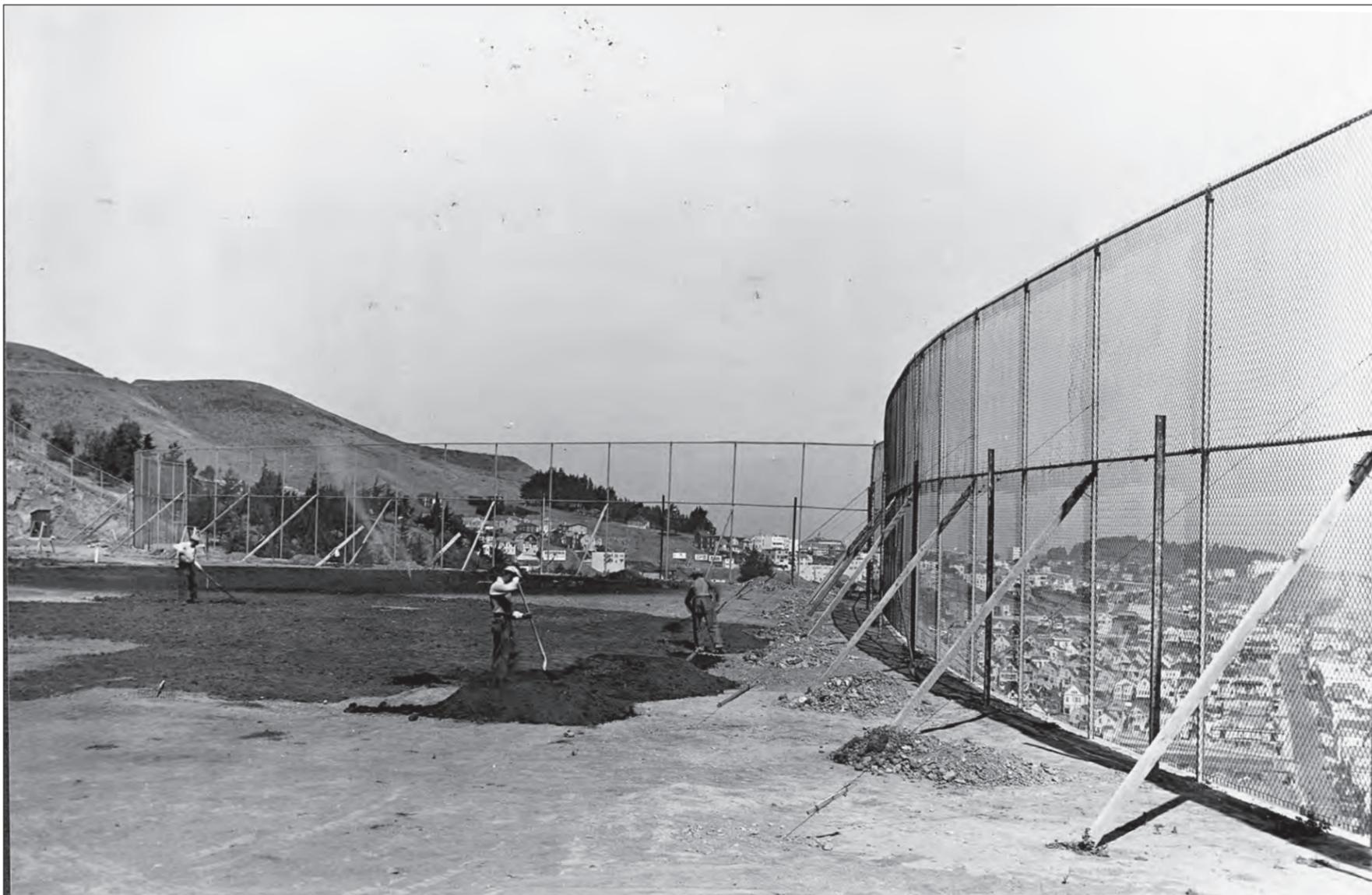
Editors:

In the June 2019 *Noe Valley Voice*, I was dismayed to find that a large part of a front-page article on vaccines was spent uncritically presenting the unscientific views of a chiropractor. The woman is quoted extensively: she argues without any evidence that vaccines should be delayed and spaced out, that vaccine choice should be left up to our instincts, and that vaccines offer "fake protection." She recommends a study from a well-known pseudo-scientist that aluminum in vaccines is harmful, when this has been debunked completely (see CDC and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia websites). She claims that she is not anti-vaccine, she is pro-information. The article goes on to say that she didn't vaccinate her daughter, she doesn't believe in getting an annual flu shot, and she believes that vaccines—against all scientific evidence—cause autism.

I wish to emphasize that these views are unscientific, disproven, and dangerous.

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# OPENSFHISTORY



**The Birth of a Playground.** In this 1930s photo taken by the city's Recreation and Park Department, a work crew is shown shoveling soil on a newly graded terrace at what would become Upper Douglass Park. Though Twin Peaks are bare, the (Noe) Valley below is already a bustling metropolis. Photo and information courtesy [OpenSFHistory.org](http://OpenSFHistory.org) / Western Neighborhoods Project / David Gallagher

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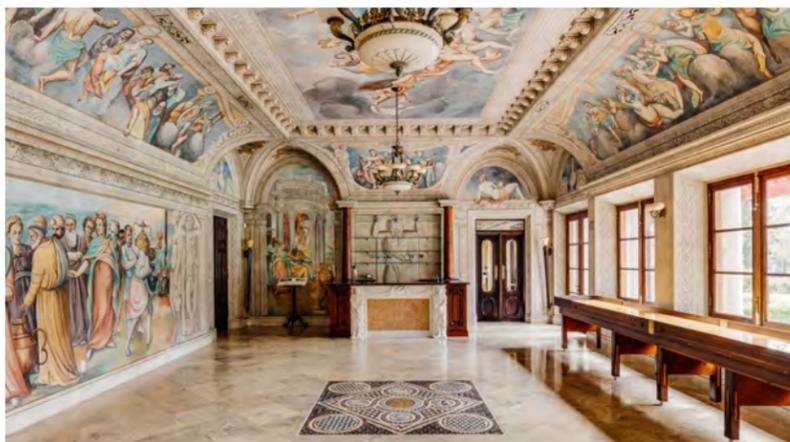
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# JESSICA BRANSON

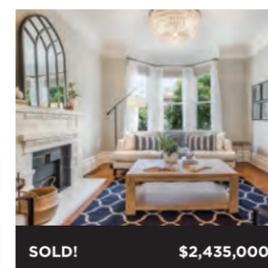
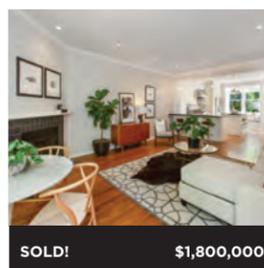
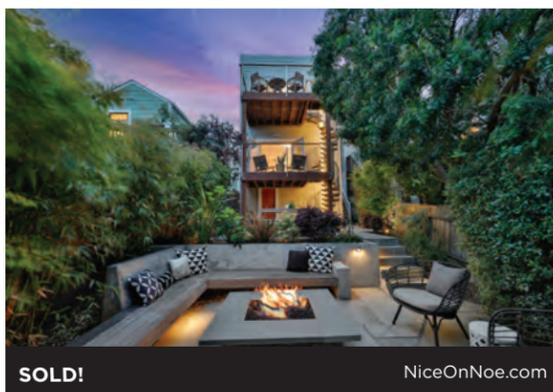
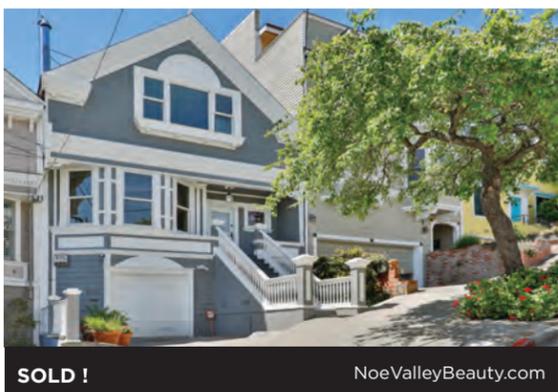
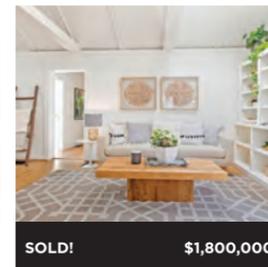
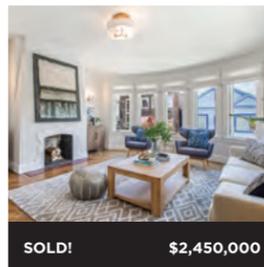
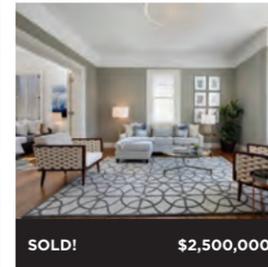
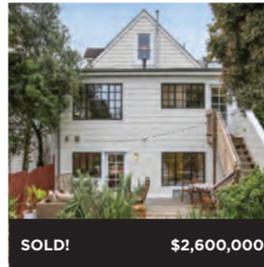
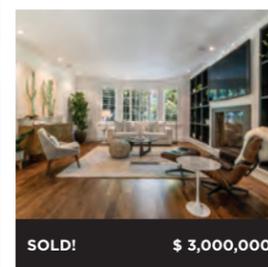
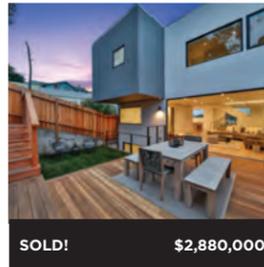
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# LETTERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Besides the potential harm to themselves, unvaccinated children can spread preventable and serious diseases to those who cannot get vaccines, including infants, who for example cannot get the measles vaccine until 1 year of age. Vaccines have been shown to be extremely safe, they do not cause autism, and they have been one of the major advances in human health. All my children and grandchildren have been fully vaccinated.

Because of fear-mongering promulgated by self-proclaimed experts, measles, which was thought to be eliminated, is back. Every legitimate publication, including the *Noe Valley Voice*, should stand up to this misinformation, not spread it.

Courtney Broadus, MD  
Professor Emeritus, UCSF

## Fake News Hurts

Editors:

As a Noe Valley resident and as a Pediatric Infectious Diseases specialist taking care of immunocompromised children, I was disappointed to read your coverage of the new vaccine legislation being proposed. Your article turned over the majority of its real estate to a chiropractor who promulgates opinions that are simply not couched in evidence or data. Kristine Hicks is not a medical doctor. She does not research infectious diseases or vaccines. And as a recent witness account of one of her \$25 informational meetings made clear, she is not presenting information to families in an unbiased manner. She is baldly profiting from misinformation.

Dr. Hicks states her opinion that the

measles and chickenpox viruses are not deadly, and in this statement makes her ignorance painfully plain. I invite anyone agreeing with her to join me on rounds one day to see what happens when the most vulnerable of children are affected by vaccine-preventable illnesses.

The views expressed here are my own and not necessarily those of Stanford University.

Sruti S. Nadimpalli, MD, MPH

Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Infectious Diseases; Associate Director, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Program for the Immunocompromised Host; Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford

## A Waste of Ink

Editors:

I am appalled that you would waste ink and column inches on the anti-science mumbo-jumbo of chiropractor Kristine Hicks. Your attempt to examine “both sides of the story” is, in this case, utterly incorrect and patently dangerous. Despite what Hicks may claim, there have been exactly zero, squat, and nada scientific studies that have linked vaccines to autism. She is, quite simply, wrong. As in incorrect. As in erroneous. As in inaccurate. Are you next going to publish stories about how the Earth may or may not be flat? How evolution may or may not be true? How greenhouse gases may or may not be warming the Earth?

There is this universal concept known as “truth,” and its ascertainment through the scientific method has served the human race quite well. Hicks' opinion is of no value whatsoever. She might as well claim to be a blueberry muffin—and would you then grant her space to tout her muffinhood? It'd be quite similar in value to her claim that vaccines are dangerous. She's no muffin, and vaccines aren't dangerous.

Rik Myslewski

## Vaccines Save Lives

Editors:

I am a loyal reader of the *Noe Valley Voice* and admire and appreciate your commitment to local news. I was, however, appalled by your recent article on the vaccine exemption law. You have given a front-page platform for someone (Kristine Hicks) who is NOT a medical doctor and is espousing scientifically disproven views, namely, that vaccines cause autism. It is your responsibility to represent truth—I hardly think you would highlight the views of a flat-earther or a climate-change denier. Vaccines save lives, and it is irresponsible of you to represent anything different.

Eve Fisher

## Instinctually Wrong

Editors:

I was dismayed to read the front-page article in your June edition, titled “Vaccine Medical Exemption Law Examined: Local Chiropractor Disputes CDC Advice.” Following a discussion of Senate Bill 276, your article gives considerable print space and the final word to Kristine Hicks, a local chiropractor who, you

write, “believes vaccines cause autism” and offer only “fake protection” against diseases “that the public should not be so fearful of.” Your article concludes with a quote from Ms. Hicks encouraging parents to “listen to that maternal and paternal instinct” where vaccines are concerned.

As with climate change, the science around vaccines is firmly established: vaccines are safe and effective, and any connection with autism has been thoroughly debunked. The decision to present a supposed “other side” to this issue was highly irresponsible and dangerous. By continuing to propagate false information about vaccines, Ms. Hicks—and by extension the *Noe Valley Voice*—all but assures that some parents will develop an “instinct” to doubt established science and opt out of vaccines. Opting out weakens the herd immunity that vaccines are meant to create, and puts medically vulnerable children and adults at risk of grave disease.

Emily C. Kalanithi

## A Disservice to Readers

Editors:

The editors at the *Noe Valley Voice* should be ashamed for their multi-page spread on the local quack “doctor” spewing hurtful misinformation on vaccination that places our community at risk. This desire to mold the world to our preconceived notions, ignore the facts, and traffic in conspiracy theories is just as harmful when it comes from the right (“Obama is not American!”, “Hillary is running a child sex ring out of a pizza shop!”) as when it comes from the left (“Vaccines cause autism!”), however well meaning they think they are.

It devalues real scholarship and science, and replaces it with wishful thinking, opinion, and cherry-picked data trawled from the depths of the Internet. The *Voice* has done a disservice to its readers and this community.

Elias Levy

## Anti-Vaxxer Overdose

Editors:

I was shocked to see your article about Senate Bill 276 (“Vaccine Medical Exemption Law Examined...”). It is one thing to acknowledge that not everyone agrees with well-established scientific fact. It is also fine to quote alternative views. But when you devote as much space as you did to the anti-vaxxer viewpoint—a viewpoint represented not by a medical doctor but by a chiropractor—you effectively gave it a platform and a sense of legitimacy. Swap vaccines for tobacco or climate change, and would you have allowed this person's dangerous views the same airtime, in liberal Noe Valley? Doubtful.

Jessica Powell

## A Meaty Issue

Editors:

Your June issue is a great example of how the *Voice* is the best neighborhood newspaper in the city, if not the state, if not the country. Beginning with the two

excellent front-page stories by Matthew S. Bajko, and concluding with the always engaging Noe Kids, there was enough meat in there to scandalize a vegan.

Kristin Anundsen

## Better Bill for Affordable Housing

Editors:

Thank you for having the two neighborhood groups with opposing views on SB 50 detail their arguments in your June 2019 edition. I agree with Ozzie Rohm that SB 50 does little or nothing to help the housing affordability crisis in San Francisco. This is mainly because it provides little incentive to build affordable, versus market-rate, housing.

Despite exceeding its quota in building more market-rate housing units, San Francisco still sees increases in housing prices and rents that are out of reach for most of us. Unfortunately, the old law of supply and demand does not apply here, thanks in part to the exceptionally high demand from an affluent minority for luxury units. David Chiu's Assembly Bill 1763, requiring 100 percent affordable housing, is a much more effective alternative.

Jim Morrell

## Who's Misinforming Whom?

Editors:

In an attempt to dispel “misinformation about More HOMES,” the proponents of SB 50 falsely claimed “...the reality is that the bill's provisions would not apply to any tenant-occupied properties and would generally keep existing height limits in place within Noe Valley.”

Tenants living in San Francisco, as well as tenants in the majority of California cities, are not protected, because no database exists to determine which properties are tenant-occupied or have previously been tenant-occupied.

Another myth propagated by these SB 50 proponents was the impact of new height limits on construction in our neighborhood. The truth is that all houses in Noe Valley from Dolores to Noe streets would get increased heights. Homes from Dolores to Sanchez streets would get added heights up to 55 feet, and the rest would get up to 45 feet of height. This is completely opposite of “keeping existing height limits” of 40 feet in place.

Since the proponents' claims are not based in reality, they distort the bill's impacts for our neighborhood, and do not serve us well.

Anastasia Yovanopoulos

## Permit Zones Worth Zip

Editors:

Tell your Z and S permit holders they are not alone. The D holders are just as frustrated. At four-plus blocks from BART, our area is rarely monitored by Parking Control.

Cars park for days on end without ever getting ticketed. 311 complaints do not seem to make any difference. Writing to our supervisor gets a few days of service. Then it's back to “their normal.” The permits are truly wasted money.

Jim Dubuque

## THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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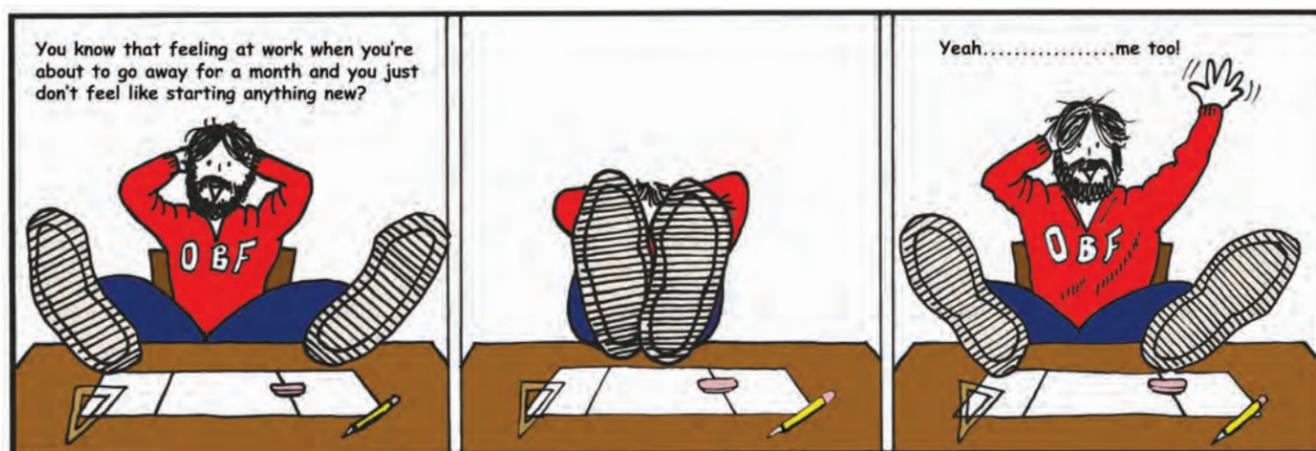
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# New Directions for UNN President Olga Milan-Howells

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Culture Club. It is an idea she has had for years, which she believes will help connect members of the Mexican diaspora in San Francisco.

The need for such a club has grown, Milan-Howells says, under the presidency of Donald Trump, whose xenophobia toward Mexican immigrants and other Latin Americans seeking asylum in the U.S. has led him to take drastic actions to close off the country's southern border and separate children from their parents and guardians.

"Unfortunately, Trump's negative rhetoric about Mexicans has captured the fear of change—and its painful realities—that some Americans project onto Mexicans and Mexican-Americans," she said. "I want the Mexican-American Culture Club to be a bridge, not a wall, in new and creative ways, between Mexico and the United States."

She also envisions it as a way to instill a love of Mexico in the children of Mexican immigrants living in San Francisco who may not know much about their ancestral homeland.

"My passion for the club was strengthened further recently when I heard an interview with Mexican-American children who had been raised in the United States but were born in Mexico. They could not speak Spanish and knew nothing about Mexico," said Milan-Howells. "Because of the negative stereotypes about Mexicans, and with their parents wanting them to blend in, they have not been encouraged to learn about their culture or to

speak Spanish. I felt very sad for them because I feel that being bi-cultural and bilingual is a privilege, not something to be ashamed of."

### Following in Rosen's Footsteps

Milan-Howells, 55, moved her family to Noe Valley in 2003 in order to escape the vandalism and other quality-of-life issues they had been dealing with near their home in the Mission. Back then, she recalled, "I liked Noe Valley, and it was something I could afford."

She and her husband, Warren Howells, a semi-retired strategic development consultant, raised their two children, high-school students Bredon and Sophia Milan-Howells, in the neighborhood.

It was the late Vicki Rosen, a powerhouse leader of Upper Noe Neighbors who died in 2015, who recruited Milan-Howells to join the group. A year after Rosen's passing, Milan-Howells had taken over the president's role.

"Her untimely passing really devastated us. She was such a strong force, the association almost collapsed when she died," said Milan-Howells.

Today, Upper Noe Neighbors has about 600 people signed up to its email list, with about 200 active members. Membership costs \$20 a year, with the money mostly used to maintain the group's website at <http://uppernoeneighbors.com/>.

Its boundaries are 26th to 30th streets and Diamond to Dolores, though anyone is welcome to join. Car break-ins continue to be a main problem for members, said Milan-Howells, as is the city's intractable homeless issue.

A key concern for her is attracting younger residents in Upper Noe to join the neighborhood association so that it

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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## THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

### Oops!

#### ACROSS

1. Big fetes
6. Natalie's dad
9. Opponent, in war
14. Genre of the *Pokemon* TV series
15. Yoko of song and art
16. Tightly packed
17. Paint type
18. Tattle
19. Adamant refusal
20. Oops in paint on glass at Lehr's on Church S
23. Layer?
24. Big ref. book
25. Shipmate of Troi and Worf
29. Firstborn
32. Oops in embossed plastic at the Modern Market on Church Street
34. Auto
35. "My Country, \_\_\_ of Thee"
37. Many freeway exits
38. *Metamorphosis* author
40. Sine \_\_\_ non (essential thing)
42. Watergate scandal figure Chuck
43. Invention (by a Monkees mom!) that wouldn't help correct the errors in this puzzle
46. "Try that and you'll hear from my lawyer!"
48. Alex predecessor on *Jeopardy!*
49. Finn craft
52. Make a connection with
53. Cousin of "HMS"
55. Baby wolf
56. Correct spelling of a cross street of 22nd in the Mission, which, in the concrete on the curb, has, oops, just one "R"
60. Basketball players
62. Celtic language
63. One, to Juanita
64. Soccer phenom Freddy who was

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
20												
23												
29	30	31										
34												
38												
43												
46	47											
52												
56												
62												
65	66											
71	72	73										
76												
79												

9. *Desperate Housewives* role
10. Sam Salameh on 24th Street, once
11. Brian of ambient music
12. AOL alternative
13. However
21. Estate-sale offering
22. Altar sentence
26. Weapons escalation
27. Error that's correctable by 43-Across
28. Org.
29. Logical beginning?
30. Loo, here
31. Some street workers and dentists
33. Farmer's planting
36. \_\_\_ generis (unique)
39. Made to appear faded, as fabric
41. Dentists' org.
42. M.R.I. alternative
44. "Je ne sais \_\_\_"
45. "Piece of the Rock" co.
46. \_\_\_ Jury (Spillane novel)
47. Doubled, a Jim Carrey movie
50. PETA pet peeve
51. CNN cousin network
54. Strip like Beetle Bailey
57. Space heater?
58. Walking
59. Airport near Tokyo
61. Purchase at Russo Music
66. Home of the Taj Mahal
67. Besides
68. Achy
69. Skelton character
70. Adjective on a shoppe sign
71. Tuck partner
72. Scanner feature, for short
73. Actress Farrow

**Solution on Page 26**  
Find more Crosswords at [www.noevalleyvoice.com](http://www.noevalleyvoice.com)

# A Neighbor With Her Mind on Muni and Mexico

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

continues to play an active role.

“I want to bring in new blood. So many of them don’t know about us, who we are, or that we exist,” she said.

One of the first big issues she tackled as president was to reconfigure a route being proposed for the shuttle buses that ferried tech workers to their jobs on the Peninsula and then home at night. The plan was to have the large motor coaches drive on Dolores Street.

“I thought it was absolutely insane, so I got organized and asked people to write letters. The topography of Dolores is so difficult to navigate, the city doesn’t have the Muni buses on Dolores,” she said. “We did not want the shuttle buses out of the city. We are more of a middle-of-the-road kind of group. We don’t go to extremes, we like to compromise and make sure San Francisco is livable for everybody.”

### An Eventful Life

Milan-Howells grew up in Guadalajara, Mexico, the second youngest of seven children. At 15, she moved in with relatives in San Luis Río Colorado in the state of Sonora. Two years later, she left to rejoin her parents in San Francisco. Her father, who is now deceased, had come to the Bay Area seeking work, and her mother, who lives with her, came shortly thereafter.

Not fluent in English, Milan-Howells taught herself the language within six months, inspired by a desire to be able to communicate with her English teacher,

Mr. Lee. She excelled at school and was named San Francisco Teen of the Year in 1981. At Mission High School she formed a Latino Club that led to her winning several scholarships.

After graduating she enrolled at San Francisco State University, but within two weeks transferred to UC Berkeley across the bay. Her delayed enrollment there, she explained, was due to her acceptance letter arriving late.

She focused on accounting and finance, earning a degree in business administration and graduating with a 4.0 GPA. The accounting firm Deloitte then hired her while she earned her Certified Public Accountant license.

Working for the company in the late 1980s, Milan-Howells was sexually assaulted by a client of the firm’s Walnut Creek office and by a coworker in the San Francisco office, where she was based. When she reported it to her female supervisor, the woman said she had also been sexually assaulted, but did nothing more.

“I was so angry back then. This was way before #MeToo,” said Milan-Howells.

By 1990 she got a job with Mobil Oil Corporation and was sent to work in Latin America, an assignment that introduced Milan-Howells to her husband. The pair happened to be walking to lunch at an underground restaurant in Lima, Peru, one afternoon in 1991, when a car bomb exploded as they passed by. Luckily, neither was seriously injured.

Set off by the communist revolutionary group known as the Shining Path, the bomb left Milan-Howells deaf in one ear for a time. Howells was hit by pieces of a piano from the restaurant that had shattered due to the blast.

“It brought us together,” said Milan-Howells, who to this day remembers there was a black residue on her nylon



Olga Milan-Howells rests her arm on a railing in the gym at Upper Noe Recreation Center, a facility that was renovated in 2008 with the enthusiastic support of Upper Noe Neighbors. Photo by Art Bodner

stockings and under her fingernails, “like I had scratched dirt.”

Years later, the couple relocated to Mexico City, where Milan-Howells became the first female manager for Mobile Oil in the country. After being seriously injured in a car accident, Milan-Howells moved to her husband’s home country of England to recuperate.

### In Pursuit of a Safe Haven

Once her health was back in order, Milan-Howells became restless, so the couple returned to the Bay Area and put down roots. It was a fight over the size of a housing development on the site of a former mortuary at the intersection of Dolores and 29th streets that brought Milan-

Howells into the orbit of Rosen and the realization that neighbors could influence how their community changes and grows over time.

“I learned that you, as an individual, have a say in your neighborhood,” said Milan-Howells. “You could effect change. This neighborhood is great and getting even better because of our collective change.”

Another issue she worked on was the renovation a decade ago of the Upper Noe Recreation Center, even though she recognized her own children were getting too old to take advantage of it. Due to her background in real estate, Milan-Howells knew it would please families in the area.

“Even if my kids didn’t get to enjoy it, I feel good others were,” she said.

Her approach in leading Upper Noe Neighbors has been to serve as a voice for all its residents.

“My motto is help me to make Upper Noe the neighborhood we love to live in for both homeowners and renters,” she said. “It doesn’t matter if you own a home or rent. What matters is they care about the neighborhood and want to make it safe so you can walk to the park.” ■

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

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# Abinanti First Native Woman to Pass California Bar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Abinanti, the firstborn grandchild. “With no effort on my part, I was my grandmother’s favorite because of that,” Abinanti remarks with her customary dry, self-deprecating humor.

Her grandparents lived on Vicksburg Street before moving away when she was 8 or 9.

Abinanti has memories of “walking up and down 24th Street, up to my grandfather’s store or to the grocery.” She gestures towards Whole Foods. “We’d get strawberry tarts. I spent a lot of time growing up here.”

She was about 2 years old when her family moved north. Her mother missed her Yurok home. Over the years, Abinanti frequently visited her grandparents. One of her favorite things was going downtown to eat at Woolworth’s. “It was the best. My grandmother would buy me presents, school clothes.”

### At Home with the Yurok

Her family built a house in Klamath, Calif., “right off the reservation. It was—and is—very rural.” She attended school in Arcata, then Humboldt State University. She majored in journalism and worked at the *Arcata Union Weekly* newspaper while still a student.

“I couldn’t earn enough money or I would have stayed in it,” she says. “Law school was not on my radar.”

But the timing was right. In 1968, University of New Mexico School of Law professors formed the American Indian Law Center. It offered a prelaw program



Abby Abinanti poses with daughter Emma while taking a walk on 24th Street.

Photo by Beverly Sharp

and financing for Native Americans.

“The old women on the reservation browbeat me into it,” Abinanti says. “They said, ‘We need a lawyer more than we need a journalist, and you’re the only one graduating from college, so you have to go.’ As it turns out, they weren’t far wrong. I was well suited for it.”

She also credits the UNM program with preparing her for and getting her into law school. She enrolled at UC Davis School of Law but finished her J.D. at UNM.

Her first major job was with California Indian Legal Services in the East Bay. She then ran their Eureka field office, which was closer to the Yuroks.

For a number of years, she was in private practice, and even represented sheriff and police organizations, “doing bargaining and employment stuff.”

“Essentially, I was a union lawyer,” she says.

She also served as legal director of the Lesbians of Color Project for the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

### A Series of Firsts

In 1994, Abinanti became the first American Indian woman to be a California court commissioner. Judges appoint commissioners who perform judicial functions. A commissioner has the same powers and duties as a judge and can preside over court proceedings. For over 20 years, Abinanti worked in family law, delinquency, dependency, and parole hearings in San Francisco Superior Court.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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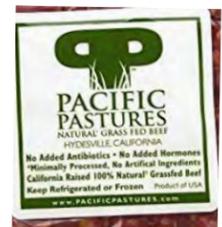


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# 'Judge Abby' at Home in Noe Valley And Yurok Country

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

"It got to be too much," she says. "Now I just work at home."

"Work at home" means she's chief judge of the Yurok Tribal Court, a job she took on in 2008 while still at Superior Court.

Tribal courts do not follow the same rules as state courts. "We work really hard to establish a court that reflects our value system," Abinanti says.

She often describes the Yurok as "village people. Our values should drive our practice. In the state court system, if a judge knows you, he can't sit on your case. They prefer justice by strangers. Our way, in a village, if there are disputes, we resolve them in the village. We've devised a system that looks at our [tribe] as members of an extended family. If you get in trouble, how are you going to make it right?"

## 'Judge Abby' Presiding

Many tribal court cases have to do with Klamath River fishing. A recent one involved two cousins cited for leaving their nets in the river too long. They came to court in front of "Judge Abby," as she's known, and explained that one cousin needed to charge his cell phone, so had left the nets in the water. The other cousin had to give him a ride, so he'd also left his nets. He'd been catching fish for his aunts.

"Well, I let him off, because his first obligation is to the elders in his family," Abinanti says. "But the other one, it was his fault for forgetting to charge his phone and getting his cousin in trouble too." The

fine was \$200, which the young man could not afford.

"I said, 'Well, I know you have nets, so instead of paying the fine, why don't you go fishing and give the fish to your aunts?' He said, 'Okay. But how do you know I'll do it?'" I told him, 'I know you'll do it because I know you and your aunts. I'll check with them.'

"The wardens who gave the tickets were happy because the ruling was upheld. They know he should be helping his aunts rather than sitting in court. In tribal court, we look for solutions for how people can meet their responsibilities, fix things, make them right. Tribal court is a lot of that kind of thing, even in more complicated cases."

## Ravages of 'The Invasion'

More complicated cases involve domestic issues and drug abuse and are part of Yurok wellness court, which looks for restorative justice as opposed to punitive outcomes—incarceration and fines—for offenders.

Abinanti draws a direct line from what she calls "the invasion" to problems Native Americans face today—a high rate of imprisonment, children in foster care, and drug and alcohol abuse. The invasion, she explains is "when the [European] settlers came with taking on their minds. At first, people were welcomed based on their behavior. But then it did not work out, as aggression and their bad behavior became abusive."

"All the issues of poverty—substance abuse, failure in school, family separation—they come out in tribal court," she says. "Because of the invasion, [Indians] created a model for survival which is essentially to run and hide. We need to learn to be better partners and friends [with those] in the surrounding area."

Most of the money to support tribes comes from the federal government,



The Wooden Heel, a shoe repair shop that thrived for many years in Noe Valley, was a business owned by Abby Abinanti's grandfather. A sign remains perched above the now-vacant space at 4071 24th St.

Photo by Beverly Tharp

which is, Abinanti says, "right now in a protracted seizure, shall we say. Half of the reservation doesn't have electricity. Less than one percent of giving goes to tribes. If people don't see us, they won't help us."

## Tribal Justice Documentary

One way the tribe *can* be seen is in the documentary *Tribal Justice* (Makepeace Productions, 2017). The film features Abinanti and another tribal judge from the Quechan tribe in southern California and Arizona. It also spotlights some of the people who appear in their courtrooms.

"Schools can buy or rent the movie for cheap, and if they show it to their students, they might ask me to speak," Abinanti says.

In fact, she's just come from speaking to students at Paul Revere School, a pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade public school in Bernal Heights. "I feel bad for kids of color in this town because nobody pays attention to them," she says. In 2018, Revere's student body was 66 percent Latino, 45 percent English-language learners, and 77 percent socioeconomically disadvantaged, according to the San Francisco Unified School District website.

## Raising Funds and Awareness

Abinanti spends a lot of time trying to raise funds for the Yurok. She set up a

used bookstore at Klamath, called the Book Nook. "We give books to kids who often cannot pay for books and have none at home," she says. "We buy some new books as I can afford them."

She and the court have established a nonprofit. Abinanti looks down to double-check its name on her phone: Kee Cha E Nar, which translates from Yurok to "It Will Be New."

"I'm taking language lessons from a seventh-grader," she notes with a smile. "They offer Yurok in the schools."

Besides the bookstore, the nonprofit supports wellness campaigns, re-entry programs (houses), and scholarship funds. "I hound my staff to go to school—online law school—get their degrees."

Additionally, she'd like to send a Yurok contingent to the North American Indigenous Games, which is the "American Indian Olympics." Yuroks haven't been yet.

There's some tourism on the reservation. "The Klamath River is beautiful," Abinanti nods. "The fishing is good, and hiking and swimming are wonderful." There are campsites and hotels, including a historic inn owned by Yuroks, the Requa Inn.

Her own home is on Requa Hill overlooking the river, near the reservation lands. She shares it with a woman who is "like a sister and her husband and her child. Indians have pretty fluid notions of family."

Half her time is spent there and half in the Bay Area. The drive takes just over six hours one way, "if you don't drive like a crazy person."

In Noe Valley, she lives on Clipper Street with her partner Lorie and Lorie's niece Izzy, along with two small dogs, Margaret and Toshi. She has one legally adopted daughter, Emma Rube Abinanti-Sena, and "tons of others I have family-like relationships with."

In addition to doing speaking engagements, Abinanti visits Yuroks at Friendship House, which is a San Francisco drug rehabilitation center for American Indians. "Our residents come here, and they get homesick, so I visit them, talk to them."

She also brings high school students from the Bay Area to the reservation for internships. "We have busloads of kids training with our council," she says. Additionally, she chairs the board of directors of Root & Rebound, an advocacy and education nonprofit helping members clean up their criminal records.

Abinanti feels very comfortable in Noe Valley, just as she does on the Klamath River. "I have ties here, work here. I've often had two places." And such will continue to be Judge Abby's way. ■



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## Rudy Stadlberger Still Playing Games

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

eventually became known as Atlas Screw Machine Products and it's still the family business.

During World War II, Rudy served three years in the Air Force, working as a machinist at MacDill Field in Florida.

He then returned to his home in San Francisco, and apprenticed in the trade before launching his own shop in 1958.

"That shop was first in my grandmother's home, built as a temporary house after the 1906 quake. After my apprenticeship, I talked my mom into turning the garage into a machine shop.

"My son John runs it now. And someday his son will," said Rudy.

### A Brady Bunch Kind of Thing

When he settled in Noe, he brought a brood with him: his wife Mary, who brought two children of her own into the marriage, Peggy and Terry (she was a widow when they met), plus John and Fred, whom they had together.

Rudy recalled the kids got along pretty well. "The two daughters were a lot older when we moved in. They kind of came and went." The two younger brothers were closer in age.

As we were talking about this, Fred himself, now 58, walked in from the garden out back with a bumper crop of kale.

"Oh yeah, we got along," said Fred. "Hey, Dad, remember 'Grouchy Fritz,' the plumber next door? How he used to yell at us?"

Fred described hanging out with his brother John on the sidewalk outside, and Fritz allegedly would chase them away if they were in front of his house. "After that, we'd leave skid marks with our bikes there."

Rudy chuckled at the memory. "Yeah, he'd yell at you, 'Get outta here, kids!'"

### Celebrity on the Corner

Fred added, "When I was about 10, I was hanging around outside and this woman came out of the house across the street and said, 'Hey, kid, want to make five bucks?' She asked me to clean out her car for her, so I did.

"Afterward, a friend came up and said, 'You know who that was? Janis Joplin!'" Fred said he didn't know.

"I just said, whoever it was, she had a drinking problem. I cleared out a bunch of empty bottles of booze!"

Fifty years later, the Stadlberger home is still teeming with activity. Rudy ticks off a list of its residents. "We have five people living here—including my grandson upstairs and another grandson downstairs."

He leaned back in his chair to proclaim, "A full house!"

Sadly, his wife Mary passed away in 2014. Not only did she raise the Stadlberger bunch, she worked at the machine shop as its accountant.

"You know," said Fred, "I still remember when I was really little, Mom took me to work with her. She had a spot just for me."

Rudy grew quiet, thinking about his wife. "I really loved traveling with her. Tahiti, China, Alaska. We went everywhere. It was always so much fun with her."

Rudy and Mary were married for 61 years.

### The Neighborhood Today

The former residence of Joplin is still there, a three-story building on Noe at 22nd Street.

How has the neighborhood changed? "Well, I have to tell you, we all miss



Life is good for 22nd Street resident Rudy Stadlberger. He enjoys playing handball at the South Beach Rowing Club, sharing stories with a "full house" of family, and gardening from his back porch with a view of Diamond Heights. Photo by Heidi Anderson

Bud's Ice Cream!" Rudy said. (The store at the corner of 24th and Castro is now the home of Subs, Inc. Before Subs, it was Isabella's. Before that it was Rory's Twisted Scoop, and before that, Bud's.)

"Oh yeah, in the summer you could go down there and meet up with all your neighbors in line," he recalled. "It was an official meeting place."

"But yeah, the neighborhood is different now. Back then, the moms were all at home raising the kids.

"And since when is it called 'Dolores Heights' over there?" Rudy said, pointing east.

"But I've got to say the tech folks I've met are very friendly."

Fred chimed in, "And I like how it's still full of kids running around in their back yards, just like the old days."

### Rudy Stays Strong, Literally

Rudy has his pals, too.

In fact, he plays handball with his friends at his favorite spot, the South End Rowing Club on Jefferson Street, and has done so for more than 70 years.

Sports is not just a hobby. A devoted member of the rowing club, Rudy has completed several of the group's Swim the Gate—as in Golden Gate—competitions. Even more impressive, he has won 13 national handball tournaments.

"Only 13," he repeated, with a wink and a smile.

He won his first U.S. Handball Asso-

ciation singles championship in Memphis, Tenn., in 1971. Eight years later, he was among the first six players inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Northern California Handball Association. He's also run the Double Dipsea over Mt. Tamalpais on numerous occasions, once with a blind man as a partner.

To stay fit in between competitions, he would run laps up and down the 22nd Street stairs.

"They didn't call it 'cross-training' back then," he laughed. "It was just training!"

### Serving Family and Country

He said he got into handball at Father Crowley Park (where the city's Hall of Justice is now, on Bryant) when he was in grammar school, but gave up the sport when the Depression hit.

"I had to get a paper route, making \$20 a month, to help out my family."

Rudy was a senior at Mission High School when Pearl Harbor was bombed on Dec. 7, 1941.

"The next day was Monday at school. We were called into the auditorium to hear the live broadcast of Roosevelt declaring war." He joined the Air Force right after graduation.

### Back to the Handball Court

Back home after the war, a friend encouraged him to take up handball again.

"I knew I just loved games," he said. "Games give you exercise and enjoyment."

He also liked playing on a team. "It's fun to work together and win."

Today, he and his three regular handball partners meet every Wednesday at the club. After that, they take a sauna and head to lunch at Eric's Restaurant on Church Street.

"We are down to four in the 80-and-over crowd," he said. "But that's not an official name, it's just a pickup game."

When asked if at 95 he's thought about retiring from handball.

"Oh, no! I don't want to be the one who destroys the foursome!" ■

### Noe Valley Girls Film Festival

**What:** Film festival celebrating films from girls ages 15 and younger

**When:** Sept. 7, 2019, 4 to 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco

**Why:** Because it's fun.

**Film Submissions:** [www.nvgff.com](http://www.nvgff.com)

**Film Submission Deadline:** Aug. 1, 2019

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**Focusing on Freedom.** This red, white and blue floral arrangement on 27th Street may serve to remind us of the potential beauty of our patriotic colors. May the true spirit of love and friendship come back to govern our actions. Those values are in short supply. Photo by Najib Joe Hakim



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# The Cost of Living in Noe

## Big Spenders in May

By Corrie M. Anders

Residential real estate shoppers in Noe Valley—no matter whether they were looking for houses, condominiums, or apartments—were quite busy in May.

According to data supplied to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Zephyr Real Estate president Randall Kostick, buyers purchased nine single-family houses, 11 condominiums, four duplexes, and three large apartment buildings during the month. The total number of sales was 27, compared to 15 in May a year ago.

Kostick said he was especially surprised at the activity in apartment buildings.

“We can go months and months and not



A condominium in this two-unit Edwardian located on 22nd Street sold for \$1,740,000 in May. The home, remodeled in 2006, offered three bedrooms and 2.5 baths in 1,519 square feet of living space.

have a single sale of multiple units, and we had three big-building sales” in May, he said.

The top seller among them was a 24-unit investment property in the 600 block of Grand View Avenue between 24th and 25th streets. The building, which had sat on the market for 283 days—more than nine months—finally sold at a bargain \$9.9 million, 10 percent below the listed price (\$11 million).

Meanwhile, in the single-family home category, two of the nine sales topped \$4 million, Kostick said. The two luxury dwellings pushed the average house price to \$3,050,000, or 16.4 percent above the average for May last year (\$2,619,664).

The number of condo sales was nearly triple that recorded in May a year ago. In addition, 10 of the 11 sold garnered more than the seller’s asking price. (Over all, buyers paid 19 percent extra.) The average sale price for condos, \$1.4 million, was 8.2 percent higher than last May’s.

Buyers also paid more for buildings in the two- to four-unit category—on average they tipped 14 percent. Each of the four properties sold in May had two units,



A recent renovation transformed this 1916 Edwardian on Church Street into a contemporary gem selling in May for \$5.4 million. Rear glass walls, a media room, and a wraparound deck were among its new features. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

## Noe Valley Home Sales\*

Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price as % of List Price
<b>Single-family homes</b>						
May 2019	9	\$1,815,000	\$5,395,000	\$3,050,000	23	109%
April 2019	17	\$1,300,000	\$3,600,000	\$2,264,647	17	108%
May 2018	7	\$1,510,000	\$4,997,650	\$2,619,664	14	114%
<b>Condominiums/TICs</b>						
May 2019	11	\$580,000	\$1,740,000	\$1,442,727	10	119%
April 2019	10	\$495,000	\$2,390,000	\$1,281,650	17	118%
May 2018	4	\$775,000	\$2,550,000	\$1,333,750	18	114%
<b>2- to 4-unit buildings</b>						
May 2019	4	\$2,000,000	\$3,736,495	\$2,864,124	17	114%
April 2019	3	\$1,900,000	\$2,798,000	\$2,482,667	21	104%
May 2018	4	\$1,438,000	\$4,750,000	\$2,522,000	17	103%
<b>5+-unit buildings</b>						
May 2019	3	\$7,600,000	\$9,900,000	\$8,833,333	189	96%
April 2019	1	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	97	88%
May 2018	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. NW672019

Kostick noted. Two-unit buildings are a favorite of buyers who want to share ownership. Sharing is sometimes the only way to get a toehold in upscale Noe Valley.

### Top-Selling Homes

The most expensive single-family home, a residence in the 1000 block of Church Street between 22nd and 23rd streets, offered four bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and 3,300 square feet of living space on three levels. Built in 1916 but recently remodeled, the house featured a chef’s kitchen with marble countertops, a fire-

place, rear floor-to-ceiling glass walls, a family/media room, a wraparound deck with views, and a two-car garage. Its sale price, \$5,395,000, was 2.3 percent more than the asking price (\$5,275,000).

The top-selling condo was a three-bedroom, 2.5-bath unit occupying the lower level of a two-unit Edwardian in the 3600 block of 22nd Street, between Noe and Sanchez streets. It sold for \$1,740,000—16.4 percent above its asking price (\$1,495,000). Remodeled in 2006, the 1,519-square-foot home featured a kitchen with maple cabinetry, a private deck, and garage space for one car. ■

## Noe Valley Rents\*\*

Unit	No. in Sample	Range June 2019	Average June 2019	Average May 2019	Average June 2018
Studio	12	\$1,970 - \$2,800	\$2,425 / mo.	\$2,423 / mo.	\$2,487 / mo.
1-bdrm	23	\$2,495 - \$4,900	\$3,167 / mo.	\$2,980 / mo.	\$3,244 / mo.
2-bdrm	28	\$3,495 - \$7,500	\$4,593 / mo.	\$4,476 / mo.	\$4,485 / mo.
3-bdrm	15	\$5,300 - \$13,000	\$7,433 / mo.	\$6,412 / mo.	\$7,419 / mo.
4+-bdrm	4	\$8,000 - \$13,000	\$11,450 / mo.	\$15,960 / mo.	\$15,365 / mo.

\*\* This survey is based on a sample of 82 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist.org from June 10-17, 2019. NW72019

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# NOE KIDS

## Jonah Cohen, Speaker in Residence

By Katie Burke

**O**n July 8, 11-year-old Noe Valley resident Jonah Cohen will travel to Washington, D.C., to represent California at a three-day event sponsored by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. He will be among 160 kids from around the country lobbying their Congressional representatives for diabetes research funding.

“I’m going there to help stand up for the Special Diabetes Program, which basically funds research for people with Type 1,” says Jonah, who became an involuntary expert on Type 1 diabetes after his own diagnosis two years ago.

Jonah lives on Elizabeth Street with mom Jenn Pliner, dad Elay Cohen, and his 9-year-old sister, Tessa. Mom is a grant writer for a nonprofit, and Dad is co-founder and CEO of the tech company SalesHood. This school year, Jonah will be in sixth grade, and Tessa will be in fourth, both at Alta Vista in the Mission District.

On Capitol Hill, Jonah’s message will be that dealing with Type 1 diabetes is really tough and kids shouldn’t have to go through it. “It’s like 75 percent of your brain is dedicated to that. You have just that other 25 percent, which is your life, which you want to be 100 percent,”



Jonah Cohen

Photo by Art Bodner

he says.

“Every single day, when I go out of the house, I’m like, ‘Am I carrying my

bag? Am I carrying my bag? Oh my God, is my blood sugar high? Is it low? Oh my God. Oh my God, do I even eat candy? Do I need to give myself insulin? Aaaaah!”

He’s hoping that with enough funding, the program will find a cure.

The D.C. trip is not his first time advocating for diabetes research. Jonah has spoken at an executive breakfast at J.P. Morgan Chase with Salesforce president Mark Hawkins, a party at Palo Alto’s Cloudera with CEO Thomas J. Reilly, and a Mission Neighborhood Health Center gathering with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

He honed his public speaking skills at home and at school. “My dad’s really good at presenting,” he says. “And at my school, we have these current event thingies, where we get news, and then we make a presentation in front of our whole class.”

Jonah delights in the speaking gigs, but says he would prefer not to have the disease. The hardest part of having

diabetes, he says, is constantly checking his blood sugar, and not being able to eat popsicles at birthday parties.

Jonah is active on the social media site Beyond Type 1. There, he connects with other kids who share his diagnosis. He says he wants to create a real-life group with his friend Olivia, a fellow San Francisco resident, whom he met through Brave Buddies, another digital support group.

He also has many friends who do not have diabetes. He goes with them to Patxi’s Pizza, one of Jonah’s favorite Noe Valley spots. “They think of me like I did before I got diabetes,” he says. “They would probably describe me as funny, kind, nice. Just an average human, probably.”

Some of Jonah’s other Noe Valley hangouts are Charlie’s Corner, Easy Breezy, the Noe Valley Farmers Market, Hi-Way Burger, and Bernie’s—“I like coffee,” he says.

Jonah likes going to the beach with his family on sunny days, and vacationing with them in Toronto, where his dad grew up. Jonah and his family have also been to Spain, England, Scotland, and Japan.

Four years ago, the family visited New York. “I forgot what I did [in New York],” Jonah says, “but I remember it was really fun.” The family is returning to New York again this summer.

Jonah is working through a bar mitzvah study guide. When he turns 13, he will have a bar mitzvah celebration in San Francisco with his friends. Then he will go to Israel with his family.

Jonah takes krav maga self-defense fitness classes and has played piano since first grade. He also has his own YouTube channel.

He has a message for other kids with Type 1 diabetes: “Don’t be the kid who is two years into a diagnosis and still cries every day,” he says. “Don’t immediately let diabetes win.” ■

**K**atie Burke is a writer and family law attorney, who lives where Noe Valley meets the Mission. Her Noe Kids column features interviews with Noe Valley kids ages 4 to 12. In April 2020, Burke will publish a collection of profiles of San Francisco kids, titled *Urban Playground* (SparkPress). Know a great Noe Valley kid? Email [katie@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:katie@noevalleyvoice.com).

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# Douglass Dog Park Hours Curbed

Commission Cuts a Compromise

By Matthew S. Bajko

After more than a year of debate, the hours of operation for Upper Douglass Dog Park have been nipped by two hours a day.

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission voted 4 to 2 on June 20 to change the Noe Valley off-leash dog play area's hours of operation to 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. six days a week. New signage with the revised hours was expected to be in place by the end of June.

Use of the site, a former quarry located at the corner of 27th and Douglass streets, had been allowed from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The park will remain closed Wednesdays for maintenance and continue to shutter for at least three months in the winter.

Back in March, the city department had told the *Voice* it planned to keep the hours the same. The decision, however, upset a group of nearby residents who had been complaining all spring about noise and other issues stemming from use of the park. Calling themselves the Advocates of Upper Douglass, they had sought to have the hours changed to 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

As a counter proposal, park staff had proposed setting the hours at 7:30 a.m. until sunset. Meanwhile, the group Friends of Upper Douglass Dog Park (FUDDP) had fought to keep the hours the same.

## Park Users Protest

In early June, the Recreation and Park Commission's operations committee voted to change the hours to 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. But the community overwhelmingly opposed those hours, with more than 900 people expressing their discontent through phone calls and emails ahead of the full commission meeting June 20.

The issue had become so heated that members of Advocates of Upper Douglass told city staff they were uncomfortable participating in a forum to discuss the hours due to having been "verbally harangued in person and online by other community members."

Members of the group had made clear in correspondence to rec and park staff that they did not consider reducing use of the dog park by two hours to be "a meaningful change," and said it would not go far enough to "restore a basic quality of life in our homes."

In her presentation to the commission, Sarah Madland, the department's director of policy and public affairs, said a survey of dog park users found that the peak times of use were from noon to 4 p.m. on weekends and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on weekdays.

No one from the Advocates group spoke at the commission hearing June 20. Instead, speaker after speaker argued that an early closure of the park would negatively impact dog owners who work un-



Though they've been admonished to bark less, dogs at Upper Douglass Dog Park should be happy their hours have only been reduced by two a day. A group of neighbors had originally sought a much stricter curfew.

Photo by Liz Highleyman

til 7 p.m. or later.

"If you approve this, affluent homeowners are now dictating how and when the rest of us use the parks. That is bad optics," said Greg Holland, who spoke against the change.

Several commissioners agreed with the dog park users group that there was no reason to support the cuts.

"After everything I heard today, I don't see good enough reasons to change the hours of the park," said Commissioner Larry Mazzola. "It is not like it is an unsafe issue. It is not like kids are throwing keggers all night there. It is dogs barking. That is what a dog park is."

## Trying to Be Fair

Yet Commissioner Kat Anderson stood by her decision, as chair of the operations committee, to propose changing the hours for the park. Still, she agreed with dog park users that a closing time of 7:30 p.m. might be too early and she made the motion to reset the hours to 7 a.m. until 9 p.m.

"This is not something where everyone is going to be happy. It doesn't matter how many community processes we have beyond today, so we are trying to find something fair," said Anderson. "We make tough decisions. I do think people need to continue to talk to one another about this."

During a visit to the site in June, Anderson said she observed a dog walker with more than the allowed eight dogs using the park. And she was also irritated by the noise of dogs barking in a dog walker's van that was parked by the entrance into the park.

"His dogs were barking and carrying on. That is the problem right there," she said. "It would drive me nuts."

She asked that the dog park users talk to dog walkers and ask them to park in a different spot. And she suggested that the department place a portable toilet there for people to use until the nearby restrooms are back in order.

Commissioner Eric McDonnell, in vot-

ing to keep the hours as is, said department staff had not conducted a robust enough public outreach process. He argued against changing the hours until such engagement had occurred.

"We didn't do what we said, as a department, we should do," he said. "We need to go back to the beginning and have a community process."

Madland said department staff had held numerous meetings over the past 14 months with members of both neighborhood groups at Supervisor Rafael Mandelman's office regarding the dog park. Three meetings, she noted, were held in May alone.

But she also emphasized that the request to change the park hours came from the Advocates of Upper Douglass. The "onus" was on the community group to do the public outreach, she said, not on

department staff.

## Some Decry Lack of Notice

A number of people lambasted the staff for doing little outreach to the community at large about reducing hours.

David Olson, who regularly brings his two dogs to the park at night, said he didn't know about the plan to change the hours until early June.

"This is just underhanded and tricky," he said. "There was no fair public comment involved in this whatsoever."

Robert Brust, who represents District 8 on the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee, said he tried to help address the situation but felt he had been "thwarted by a lack of communication from the department."

He added that he had not been informed about the proposal to change the hours prior to it being calendared for the June 6 committee meeting.

"There is not an open process on this," said Brust. "That is the crux of it. The whole process is appalling."

Brust, nonetheless, told the commissioners he could support setting the hours at 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., as a compromise measure. But he also faulted those pushing to reduce the hours for refusing to attend a public meeting about the issue.

"It is just insane this group of neighbors, Advocates of Upper Douglass, refuse to meet with the dog people, and here we are," he said. "[The proposal] was not ready to go before you."

Supervisor Mandelman said later he supported the decision the commission had made.

He hopes the change will bring some relief to the residents near the dog park.

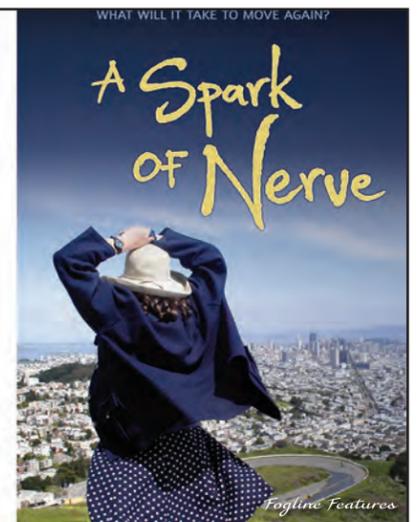
"It gives the neighbors another hour of sleep in the morning," said Mandelman. "I don't think anyone needs to be at that park after 9 p.m. It is not well lit." ■

A Spark of Nerve follows Noe Valley resident Loren Schaller and her journey to restore movement to her paralyzed arm after a knife attack at Creighton's Bakery. A little-known surgery is her only hope. See this local documentary on KQED Plus.

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 http://www.resistrypac.org  
 Meetings: Second Sunday, 3-4:30\* p.m., Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. All welcome.  
 \*July 14 and Aug. 11, time is 12:30-2 p.m.

### Al-Anon Noe Valley

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

### Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association

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

### Diamond Heights Community Association

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

### Dolores Heights Improvement Club

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

### Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)

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

### Fair Oaks Neighbors

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

### Fairmount Heights Association

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

### Friends of Billy Goat Hill

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

### Friends of Dolores Park Playground

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

### Friends of Glen Canyon Park

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

### Friends of Noe Courts Playground

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

### Friends of Noe Valley (FNV)

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

### Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center (Upper Noe Rec Center)

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

### Friends of 30th Street Senior Center

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

### Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUNDOG)

Contacts: Chris Faust, David Emanuel  
 Email: info@fundogsf.org  
 Website: www.fundogsf.org

### Glen Park Association

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

### Juri Commoners

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

### Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association

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

### Merchants of Upper Market and Castro

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

### Noe Neighborhood Council

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

### Noe Valley Association—24th Street Community Benefit District

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

### Noe Valley Democratic Club

Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042;  
 hls5@jibew1245.com  
 Website: noevalleydems.com  
 Meetings: Fourth Tuesdays, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 6:30 p.m.

### Noe Valley Farmers Market

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

### Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)

Contact: Rachel Swann, 225-7743  
 Meetings: Last Thursdays, Old Republic, 4045A 24th St., 9 a.m. Call to confirm.  
 Website: www.NoValleyMerchants.com

### Noe Valley Parent Network

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

### Noe Valley Parents, San Francisco

Listserv contact: noevalleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com. Subscribe: noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

### Outer Noe Valley Merchants

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

### Progress Noe Valley

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

### Resilient Noe Valley Initiative

Co-sponsor: Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN). Host: David Brown, Pastor, Noe Valley Ministry, sfrevdab@gmail.com  
 Two launch workshops May 1, 2019: 9:30 to 11 a.m., and 6 to 8 p.m., at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Details: 282-2317.

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

Contact: Noe Valley NERT Neighborhood Team co-coordinators Maxine Fasulis, mfasulis@yahoo.com; Carole Roberts, carole\_roberts@faludi.com  
 Website: http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=879  
 Meetings: See website for trainings scheduled throughout the year.

### San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Streets

Contact: Don Oshiro, 285-8188  
 Email: contact@sanjoseguerrero.com  
 Website: www.sanjoseguerrero.com  
 Meetings: See website.

### Stand Up San Francisco

Contacts: Laura Shapiro, Phyllis Ball, Paul Silverman  
 Email: info@standupsf.net  
 Website: www.standupsf.net  
 Meetings: At offices of members of Congress, weekly April 21, 2-4 p.m., at Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St.

### Upper Noe Neighbors

Contact: Olga Milan-Howells, 756-4455  
 Email: President@UpperNoeNeighbors.com  
 Meetings: Bi-monthly on third Wednesday. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St. Call to confirm.

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code.

# Spirits Soar

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[patrose@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:patrose@noevalleyvoice.com)



**San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association**



Photo by Art Bodner

# SHORT TAKES

## Making the J Better

This summer, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency will be putting together proposals to improve the J-Church line. One way to participate in the planning is to come to the Upper Noe Neighbors meeting, Wednesday, July 17, 7 p.m., at the Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St.

Officials from SFMTA and District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman will be on hand to hear riders' experiences—especially regarding service delays—and their ideas for improvements to the line.

All riders living or working in Noe Valley, Fairmount Heights, Glen Park, the Mission, and Mission Terrace are welcome to attend.

## Charlie's Corner Back on Its Corner

Happiness is just around the corner, Charlie's Corner, that is. Our local children's bookstore has moved back to the northwest corner of 24th and Castro streets. Books, readings, and staff were temporarily housed a few blocks east for several months while their building underwent a seismic upgrade.

Special events scheduled in July are a visit by not one but two children's books graphic novelists and a celebration of all things Harry Potter.

The graphic novelists are Katie O'Neill and Mai K. Nguyen, who will both be on hand at the store on Saturday, July 13, 3:30 p.m. O'Neill's latest book is *Aquicorn Cove*. She is also the creator of *The Tea Dragon Society* and *Princess Princess Ever After*. Nguyen wrote and illustrated *Pilu of the Woods*, about an encounter between a runaway girl and a lost forest spirit. The book was just published in April. Her previous work includes the



The children's bookstore Charlie's Corner moved back into its storefront at 24th and Castro in plenty of time to stage its Harry Potter Week (July 22-27).

web comic *Curio* and two self-published books, *Little Ghost* and *Coral and the King*.

The six-day Harry Potter celebration is July 22 through 27, with different fun activities every day. Monday, the magic begins with Harry Potter story times and a 15 percent discount on all the Harry Potter books. Tuesday, explore wizards and witches and, on Wednesday, learn silly spells and ingredients for the magic potions in the books. Thursday, find out all about the amazing creatures that inhabit Hogwarts, including tips on care and feeding. On Friday, the Charlie's staff will help you remember all the enchanted objects in Hogwarts and, finally, on Saturday, it's a Quidditch match day. Costumes are encouraged, and snacks will be provided.

For a full schedule of events and regular story times, go to [charliescorner.com](http://charliescorner.com). Hours for the bookstore are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

## The Animal Fair Returns

It's a busy summer at the Noe Valley Town Square on 24th Street. Besides the weekly yoga, tai chi, and Thursday morning meditation, there will be record hops and a Music in the Square concert in July and August. But the main event is the second annual Town Square Animal Fair, Sunday, Aug. 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A dozen or so animal rescue groups—including Grateful Dog Rescue, Tony's Kitty Rescue, Palomacy pigeons, and Animal Care & Control—will bring our furry or feathered friends to show or adopt.

City Grazing goats won't be up for adoption, but you are welcome to pet them and learn about the work the 100 goats do around the Bay Area to control brush, weeds, and wild grasses. All the goats have been rescued from slaughter or from owners who could not care for them. They live in a field in the Bayview when not out working for fire safety.

The star of the show, however, will undeniably be Lilou the Therapy Pig. She was the first porcine therapy animal approved to work in the Animal Assisted Therapy Program of the San Francisco SPCA. She is famous for her meet-ups with travelers at the SF Airport, helping to calm them before and after flights.

There'll be a lot more than animals, however, at the Animal Fair. Humans will be reading books about animals, including Leslie Crawford reading her book *Gwen the Rescue Hen*. The Rabbit Hole Theater of Douglass Street will perform a play, and Little Artistas art studio of Church Street will help kids make animal crafts. Kids can also have their faces painted to look like their favorite animals.

The event, at 3861 24th St., is free and



Now in its 60th year of crowd-pleasing political satire, the San Francisco Mime Troupe will perform its new musical, *Treasure Island*, in Dolores Park July 4 and Sept. 1 and 2.

Photo by Mike Melnyk

open to the public. For more information, go to [noevalleytownsquare.com](http://noevalleytownsquare.com).

## SF Mime Troupe's a Treasure

The San Francisco Mime Troupe premieres its new musical *Treasure Island* Thursday, July 4, in Dolores Park. After playing all over the Bay Area, the troupe returns to Dolores Park for repeat performances Labor Day Sunday, Sept. 1, and Monday, Sept. 2. All three shows start at 2 p.m., but music starts at 1:30 p.m.

If you're not familiar with the Tony Award-winning SF Mime Troupe, the first thing you need to know is that they don't do silent pantomime like Marcel Marceau. It's mime as in "to mimic." Be assured that SF Mime performers talk, sing, and act. The second thing is that 2019 is their 60th year of performing original satiric musicals in the city and throughout Northern California.

The current production's full title is "Treasure Island: A Toxic Tale of Corporate Corsairs, Swashbuckling Swindlers, and Big Buck Buccaneers on the Bay!" The play asks the question, is Treasure Island "a mythical isle where untold wealth awaits marauding pirates or the freezing cold, artificial island in the middle of San Francisco Bay awaiting cut-throat developers?" The five-member cast attempts to find an answer in song and satire, and as they say, hilarity ensues.

\$20 is the suggested donation. (Hey, a mime has to eat!) Find out more at [sfmt.org](http://sfmt.org).

## Time to Wrap That Film

The deadline to submit a film for the Noe Valley Girls Film Festival approaches quickly! Aug. 1 is the last day.

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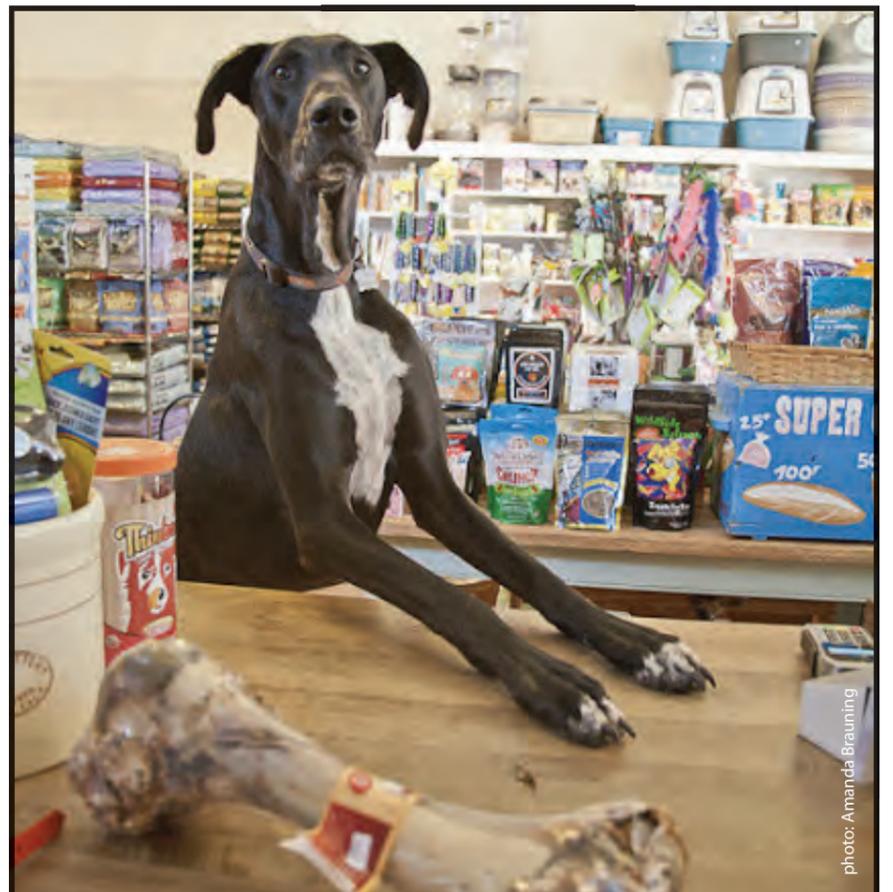


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# SHORT TAKES

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Films must be five minutes or shorter and G-rated. Girls must be 11 to 15 years old (or 10 and younger) by Sept. 7, 2019, to participate. Any kind of film on any kind of topic is okay. Try your hand at a documentary, a travelogue, or a rom-com.

Selected films will be announced Tuesday, Sept. 3, and shown at the festival, on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Prizes for first, second, and third place in both age categories will be announced at the screening.

Submit your film at [nvgff.com](http://nvgff.com). Find out more at that site and by reading the page-one story in the June 2019 issue of the *Voice* at [noevalleyvoice.com](http://noevalleyvoice.com).

## Odd Mondays in July

The Odd Mondays reading series showcases poets, short-story authors, and travel writers in July, before taking an August vacation itself.

Monday, July 1, three Bay Area poets—James Cagney, Natasha Dennerstein, and David Hathwell—will read from their new collections. On July 15, Rita Bullwinkel, Barb Johnson, and Jon Sindell will read excerpts from stories from their new books. Johnson is visiting from New Orleans on a book tour for her collection *More of This World or Maybe Another*. On July 29, travel writer Vivien Zielin will discuss her new book, *Eye-balling Big Croc: Chasing Dreams Around the World*, with fellow author and traveler Cathy Fiorello.



The Grammy-nominated Aizuri Quartet will play in March during the 2019-20 season of Noe Valley Chamber Music at the Noe Valley Ministry on Sanchez Street. Photo by Shervin Lainez

Starting in September, Odd Mondays will change to once a month, on the second Monday, at Folio Books, 3957 24th St. All readings start at 7 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. Admission is free, and refreshments are provided.

## Play That Summer Music

The Concerts in the Park summer music series continues at Upper Noe Recreation Center with Amy Obenski on July 20, Tracyshaun Aug. 3, and Constant Coogan Aug. 17. Enjoy the music from 10 a.m. to noon near the playground, at Day and Sanchez streets. Bring your own food and non-alcoholic beverages. The concerts are free.

To help prepare you, here's a bit about the performers. Amy Obenski is a San Francisco singer-songwriter-guitarist who has been compared to Joni Mitchell and Carole King. She has released six albums and tours the U.S. and Europe. Tracy-

shaun is the working name of Tracy Ruggles, an alt-country and indie-folk singer-songwriter with Texas roots. He sings and plays what he calls "simple, soulful songs of love and independence." The Constant Coogan band is composed of Jen Coogan, Matt Coogan, and Ben Peterson. They describe their sound as "musical theater pop rock" on drums, bass, and vocals.

Concerts in the Park is organized by singer-songwriter Suzanne Kramer, under the auspices of the Friends of the Noe Valley Recreation Center.

## Chamber Music's New Season

Fans of classical music within walking distance, take heart. Noe Valley Chamber Music will soon be back with its 2019-20 season. There will be four ways to listen this year—Sundays at Four, Up Close and Personal, Noe Music Kids, and the Noe Music Listening Club—all presented by artistic directors (and husband and wife

team) Owen Dalby and Meena Bhasin.

Sundays at Four is the four-concert series running October to May, at 4 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Performing this season are the West-erlies (Oct. 13), the Horszowski Trio (Nov. 17), the Aizuri Quartet (March 1), and Rob Kapilow with the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Samuel Carl Adams, Helen Kim, and Robert Howard (May 10).

The Up Close and Personal salons also return, with the same musicians playing in beautiful San Francisco homes a day or two before or after their Sunday concerts. Ensemble San Francisco with James Austin Smith will join Up Close, presenting a special concert April 20.

Also returning is Noe Music Kids, formerly known as Classical Kids, with a group of four interactive concerts on Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

The fourth series is the Noe Music Listening Club, an expansion of the popular "Evenings with Kai," at which musicologist Kai Christiansen explored and explained the upcoming Sundays at Four concerts. Now, the format will be more like a book club, with monthly "meetings" to enjoy and learn about chamber music, including upcoming concerts. Christiansen will continue to present, play examples of music, and lead discussions. The club will meet, generally on first Wednesdays, over wine and refreshments in a Noe Valley home.

Another innovation this season is the Golden Ticket, which, for a special price, allows a very limited number of listeners to attend any or all of the concerts or discussions in all four series. For pricing for all four series and the Golden Ticket—and more information about the performers—go to [nvcn.org](http://nvcn.org).

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

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# STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular Voice feature introducing new stores and restaurants in Noe Valley. This month, we profile a restaurant on Castro Street that promises to tingle our taste buds.

**MAHILA BY AZALINA'S**  
 1320 Castro St. between 24th and Jersey streets  
 628-867-3570  
 www.azalinas.com

Diners are in for a culinary adventure at Malaysian chef Azalina Eusope's first freestanding restaurant. It is the only eatery of its kind in San Francisco to feature Mamak cuisine.

Eusope grew up on the Malaysian island of Penang and is a fifth-generation street food vendor. She is a member of the Mamak community, descendants of Indian people who immigrated to the Southeast Asian nation and are known for their embrace of spices in their cooking.

After arriving in San Francisco nearly 15 years ago, Eusope opened a catering company out of a commissary kitchen near where she lives by Candlestick Point State Recreation Area along the shores of the bay.

The success of that business led her to open a food stand, called Azalina's, in the market hall on the ground floor of Twitter's Market Street headquarters. When she learned the owners of the Spanish restaurant Contigo had decided to vacate their Noe Valley space, she leapt at the chance to take it over.

After installing new kitchen equipment and giving the space a decorative make-

over, Eusope opened Mahila June 15. At the request of her landlord, she kept the built-in seating area and counter overlooking the open-air kitchen.

The restaurant seats 70 and has a heated outdoor patio where patrons can enjoy a brunch menu on weekends. The regular dinner menu is purposefully limited, as Eusope's dishes are intricately made with numerous ingredients.

Figuring out the timing for cooking the entrees, plating the dishes, and serving the food has been the focus of Eusope and her staff their first week of operation.

"It is kind of still a little crazy," said Eusope on the restaurant's sixth day. "There are still challenges every single night."

Working within the confines of a small space has presented a bit of a challenge.

"Especially not realizing how small the kitchen is and how complicated my cuisine is, it is taking a little bit of a long time to put dishes together," she said. "We are figuring out our system right now."

The wait for patrons is worth it for her complex culinary creations. A signature starter is the sardine puff with grated raw tomato pajori (\$12). The four empanada-like balls of dough and fish are based on a food item her great-grandfather would sell.

Other small plates (\$12) include sweet potato dumplings with green onion chutney, Malaysian lacy crepes with an egg in curry, and a white carrot pudding with a coconut green bean salad.

One dish that has been an immediate success with customers is the Mee Mamak (\$17), a noodle dish made with shrimp in a chili sambal sauce that includes corn and shrimp fritters with an egg sous vide on top. The cucumber shoot salad (\$15) is sizeable enough to share.

Among the entrée choices are a salted black codfish curry (\$25) and the Ayam Masak Merah, which features chicken cooked in a spicy tomato sauce with green



Mahila, the latest creation by chef Azalina Eusope, opened June 15 to eager crowds.

Photo by Jack Tipple

tomato chutney and a soft-boiled egg (\$20). The most expensive item on the menu is a duck kurma (\$30) served with a mint chutney and micro fenugreek, a green sprout.

Side dishes to order include blue pea rice or turmeric lentil rice (\$5) or a roti tempek, a plate of three thin breads covered with spices and oil (\$7). Dessert choices include a suggee cake with a coconut jam based on a family recipe (\$13),

and a chai banana fritter served with tapioca (\$12).

Mahila offers beer and wine by the glass, and non-alcoholic drinks such as a warm soymilk tea with cardamon (\$5) and basil rose milk (\$6).

Once she works out the flow between the kitchen and dining room, Eusope aims to tell a fuller story about her cuisine with her customers. The menu should change seasonally.

"We are still trying to figure out logistics and the service side. Once that solidifies, we will tell the stories about the food," said Eusope. "My goal is to tell the story of the Mamak people through the food."

With few options for people in the Bay Area to find Mamak cuisine, she hopes to draw a regional client base to the restaurant.

"I hope I can bring in people, not only from Noe Valley but everywhere in San Francisco, and hopefully outside and around the Bay Area," she said.

The restaurant is open 5 to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday for dinner and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends for brunch. It is closed on Mondays.

Reservations can be made via the website Tock. The \$10 per person charge will be applied to the bill.

—Matthew S. Bajko

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# · JULY/AUGUST 2019 ·

**July 1:** ODD MONDAYS hosts "Poetry Times Three," featuring James Cagney, Natasha Dennerstein, and David Hathwell. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th. oddmondays.com.

**July 1-29 & Aug. 5-26:** The ACC Conversation Club meets on Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. For details, email krismoer@aol.com.

**July 1-31:** The 4th annual Noe Valley GIRLS FILM FESTIVAL is accepting submissions of short films (under five minutes) from girls ages 5 to 15; entry deadline is Aug. 1, and the festival is scheduled for Sept. 7. nvfff.com.

**July 1-Aug. 18:** The Noe Valley Library hosts its SUMMER STRIDE reading program for kids of all ages and abilities. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

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

**July 1-August 31:** Pick up a game board for Folio Books Summer READING BINGO for kids. 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

**July 1-August 31:** Voice contributor Najib Joe Hakim exhibits his PHOTOGRAPHS in group exhibit "Detention, Deportation, Incarceration, and the Border." Asian Resource Gallery, 310 8th St., Oakland. jaffaorangephoto.com.

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

**July 1-31 & Aug. 1-31:** Charlie's Corner offers children's STORY TIMES every day. Mon.-Fri., 10 am, noon, 3 & 5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 10:30 am, 12:30 & 3:30 pm. 3813 24th; 641-1104.

**July 1-31 & Aug. 1-31:** The 30th Street SENIOR CENTER's Mission Nutrition program serves lunches for people over 60, weekdays and Saturdays, including holidays. Noon &

1 pm. 225 30th. 550-2226.

**July 2 & Aug. 6:** The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION on the first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

**July 2 & 16; Aug. 6 & 20:** Bethany United Methodist Church offers free KNITTING lessons with Ray Caprial on first and third Tuesdays; free yarn, needles, and instruction. 7-8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393; bethanysf.org.

**July 2-30 & Aug. 3-31:** 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.

**July 2-30 & Aug. 6-27:** The Eureka Valley Library tells TODDLER TALES on Tuesdays, 10:30 am. I Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**July 2-30 & Aug. 6-27:** Volunteer on Tuesdays to make meals for the hungry at Civic Center Plaza at "Curry Without Worry." 1:30-5 pm. Bethany UMC, 1270 Sanchez. 647-8393; bethanysf.org.

**July 2-30 & Aug. 6-27:** John McClean Wolf leads SACRED YOGA Tuesdays at Holy Innocents. 7-8 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142; holyinsf.org.

**July 3:** The Noe Valley Library invites ages 5 and up to build MARBLE MACHINES. 3-5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 3 & Aug. 7:** The GLBT HISTORY Museum is free on first Wednesdays. 11 am-7 pm. 4127 18th. 621-1107;

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** The Castro FARMERS MARKET is open every Wednesday, 4 to 7 pm, through Nov. 20. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** Folio Books offers STORYTIME for toddlers Wednesdays at 10 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** Chris Sequeira leads free senior QIGONG classes Wednesdays 1 to 3 pm, at Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 773-8185; livingtaichi@yahoo.com

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** The Eureka Valley Library hosts BABY RHYME and play time on Wednesdays, 1:30 to 2:15. I Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** Holy Innocents Episcopal Church holds Candlesong, a TAIZE-style service followed by a potluck on Wednesdays from 6 to 8 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. 824-5142.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** Anthony Holdsworth teaches OIL PAINTING for beginner and advanced students on Wednesdays in the gallery of Alley Cat Books. 6:30-10 pm. 3036 24th. 824-1761; anthonyholdsworth.com.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** History group Shaping San Francisco offers free PUBLIC TALKS on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Eric Quezada Center, 518 Valencia. shapingsf.org.

**July 3-31 & Aug. 7-28:** AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

**July 4 & Aug. 1:** The monthly self-guided Castro ART WALK features exhibits by local artists in various neighborhood businesses. 6-9 pm. For a map and list of artists: castroartwalk.com.

**July 4-25 & Aug. 1-29:** Bring your storehouse of knowledge to TRIVIA NIGHT on Thursdays at the Dubliner, 3838 24th. 8 pm. 285-0674; brainstormer.com.

**July 4 & Sept. 1 & 2:** The SF MIME TROUPE performs "Treasure Island: A Toxic Tale of Corporate Corsairs, Swashbuckling Swindlers, and Big Buck Buccaneers on the Bay!" in Dolores Park. 2 pm. sfmt.org.

**July 5 & Aug. 2:** Come to the Noe Valley Town Square for a RECORD HOP, from 5 to 8 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**July 5-26 & Aug. 2-30:** Chris Sequeira leads a free Friday KARAOKE for Adults gathering at Upper Noe Rec Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. 295 Day. 970-8061.

**July 5-26 & Aug. 2-30:** The Friday night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett bookstore, from 5:30 to 8 pm; Saturday night JAZZ is 7:30 to 10 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

**July 6:** Lauren Firestein plays at the CONCERTS IN THE PARK music series at Upper Noe Rec Center happening on first and third Saturdays, 10 am-noon. 295 Day. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**July 6 & Aug. 3:** Learn to knit or crochet at the Noe Valley Library's KNITTING CIRCLE. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 6-Aug. 11:** Bay Area Musicals performs the Tony Award-winning musical HAIRSPRAY at the Victoria Theatre. Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 or 8 pm; Sat., 2 & 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. 2961 16th. 340-2207; bamsf.org.

**July 6-27 & Aug. 3-31:** Each Saturday, the Noe Valley FARMERS MARKET brings you fresh produce and live music from 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

**July 6-27 & Aug. 3-31:** The de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor have FREE ADMISSION for San Francisco residents, every Saturday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

**July 6-27 & Aug. 3-31:** Upper Noe Rec Center offers free Vinyasa YOGA CLASSES Saturdays 9:15-10:15 am. Day & Sanchez. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**July 6-27 & Aug. 3-31:** The Randall Museum's close-up of California

wildlife, "Meet the ANIMAL KEEPER," happens Saturdays at 2 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9605.

**July 7:** Linda Schaller's DOCUMENTARY FILM, A Spark of Nerve, screens on KQED Plus, channel 64.1 and 9.2, and 710 Comcast, at 11 pm; it repeats the next morning at 5 am.

**July 7 & Aug. 4:** The Asian Art Museum offers FREE ADMISSION on the first Sunday of the month, courtesy of Target. 200 Larkin. 581-3500; asianart.org.

**July 7 & 21; Aug. 4 & 18:** SF City Guides offers 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.

**July 7-28 & Aug. 4-25:** A free T'AI CHI class at the Noe Valley Town Square is set for Sundays, from 9 to 9:45 am. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**July 7-28 & Aug. 4-25** Bring your own mat to a free YOGA CLASS at the Noe Valley Town Square. Sundays, 10-11 am. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**July 7-28 & Aug. 4-25** 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.

**July 7-28 & Aug. 4-25** Charlie's Corner Bookstore ART STORY TIME with Noelle, back at 4102 24th, which has been retrofitted. 1:15 pm. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

**July 9 & Aug. 13:** The Noe Valley Library hosts an eReader and ONLINE RESOURCE "Drop-In" from 10:30 to 11:30 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 10 & 24:** Children 4 and up can read to a dog named Herbee at PUPPY DOG TALES. 4:15-5:15 pm. Eureka Valley Library, I Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

**July 10 & Aug. 14:** RESILIENT NOE VALLEY meets from 12:30 to 2 pm at the Noe Valley Ministry. 1021 Sanchez. empowersf.org.

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## JULY/AUGUST EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

SAT JUL 13	ITAMAR SRULOVICH AND SARIT PACKER • HONEY & CO. AT HOME • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE. From breads to bakes, salads to sweets, there is something for everyone in this celebration of Middle Eastern cooking.
SUN JUL 14	PETER REINHART • PERFECT PAN PIZZA: SQUARE PIES TO MAKE AT HOME, FROM ROMAN, SICILIAN, AND DETROIT, TO GRANDMA PIES AND FOCACCIA • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE. The baking expert's in-depth guide to making pan pizza in a home oven.
FRI JUL 19	HETAL VASAVADA • MILK & CARDAMOM: SPECTACULAR CAKES, CUSTARDS AND MORE, INSPIRED BY THE FLAVORS OF INDIA • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE. From Brown Butter Ghee Shortbread Cookies to Pomegranate Curd Brownies, these decadently spiced, versatile recipes are a joy to make and share.
SAT JULY 20	BRIAN NOYES • RED TRUCK BAKERY COOKBOOK: GOLD-STANDARD RECIPES FROM AMERICA'S FAVORITE RURAL BAKERY • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE. Your one-way ticket to making crowd-pleasing confections full of fresh flavors, a sprinkle of homespun comfort, and a generous pinch of Americana at home.
THURS JULY 25	KARA NEWMAN • COCKTAILS WITH A TWIST: 21 CLASSIC RECIPES. 141 GREAT COCKTAILS • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE. Expand your palate and discover a new favorite go-to drink in this inventive cocktail book.
SAT JULY 27	NISHA VORA • THE VEGAN INSTANT POT COOKBOOK: WHOLESOME, INDULGENT PLANT-BASED RECIPES • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE. 90+ nutritious (and colorful!) recipes from the creator of the Rainbow Plant Life blog.
SAT AUG 10	PAUL ARGUIN & CHRIS TAYLOR • THE NEW PIE: MODERN TECHNIQUES FOR THE CLASSIC AMERICAN DESSERT • 3:00-4:00 P.M. FREE. The winners of 500+ awards for baking (including the 2017 Best of Show Award at the National Pie Championships)--re-examine the wholesome world of pie.
TUES AUG 27	JEFF GORDINIER • HUNGRY: EATING, ROAD-TRIPPING, AND RISKING IT ALL WITH THE GREATEST CHEF IN THE WORLD • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE. A food critic chronicles four years spent traveling with René Redzepi, the renowned chef of Noma, in search of the most tantalizing flavors the world has to offer.
THURS AUG 29	CAROLYN TILLIE • A FEAST FOR THE EYES: EDIBLE ART FROM APPLE TO ZUCCHINI • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE. A deeply satisfying and gloriously illustrated look at how artists have rendered their visions within the whimsical medium of food.

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# CALENDAR

**July 10 & Aug. 14:** The GREAT BOOKS discussion group meets from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey, 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 11:** Tree Frog Treks brings a variety of AMPHIBIANS and reptiles to the Noe Valley Library, for ages 5 and up. 3:30-4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 11:** Folio Books hosts a reading and BOOK SIGNING by Regina Powers of *What Color Is Your Medicine?* 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

**July 11-25 & Aug. 1-29:** Miss Catherine tells TODDLER TALES with books, rhymes, music, and movement on Thursdays. 10:15 & 11 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 11-25 & Aug. 1-29:** Newcomers welcome at the AL-ANON Literature Discussion, meeting Thursdays at Bethany UMC, from 7:15 to 8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez.

**July 11-25 & Aug. 1-29:** The Noe Valley Town Square offers group MEDITATION Thursdays, from 8 to 9 am. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**July 12:** The Noe Valley Library screens the 1940 Alfred Hitchcock FILM *Rebecca*. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 12:** Author Stephanie Cowell and the Midsummer MOZART Chamber Players perform at the "Midsummer Mozart Festival: Words, Wine, and Music." 8-10 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. lidealive.org.

**July 13:** Itamar Srulovich and Sarit Packer discuss *Honey & Co.* at Home. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**July 13:** Chris Carlsson discusses "BICYCLE Commons" at the Noe Valley Library. 4-5 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 13 & Aug. 10:** LADYBUG GARDENERS work on the Upper Noe Rec Center park grounds on second Saturdays. 9 am-noon. Day & Sanchez. info@noevalleyrecenter.com.

**July 14:** Bethany UMC hosts a concert of music from the 1860s to the 1920s on antique REED ORGANS. 3 pm. 1270 Sanchez.

**July 14:** Peter Reinhart introduces *Perfect PAN PIZZA: Square Pies to Make at Home, from Roman, Sicilian, and Detroit, to Grandma Pies and Focaccia*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**July 14 & Aug. 11:** Political group ACTION SF meets from 12:30 to 2 pm on the second Sunday of the month. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. actionsolidarity@gmail.com; resistry.net.

**July 15: ODD MONDAYS'** Midsummer Reading Series features Rita Bullwinkel, Barb Johnson, and Jon Sindell discussing their short story collections. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th. oddmondays.com.

**July 16 & Aug. 20:** Ingleside POLICE STATION holds a community meeting on third Tuesdays. 7 pm. Community Room, 1 Sgt. John V. Young Lane. Confirm meeting location at 404-4000; inglesidepolicestation.com.

**July 17:** Fog City Gardener discusses worms and WORM COMPOSTING, for all ages. 3:30-4:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Limited to 12 participants; call to register: 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 17:** The UPPER NOE Neighbors General Meeting features a rep from SFMTA discussing the J-Church, the principal of Mission Education Center explaining the school, and DA candidate Suzy Loftus introducing her candidacy. 7-8:30 pm, at the Upper Noe Rec Center, 295 Day.

**July 17:** The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION group reads *Anything Is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 17 & Aug. 21:** The Noe Valley

Ministry offers a LABYRINTH WALK, on third Wednesdays, at 6 pm. 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

**July 18:** CARA BLACK reads from and signs *Murder in Bel-Air*, her latest Aimée Leduc mystery. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

**July 19:** Hetal Vasavada discusses *Milk & Cardamom: Spectacular Cakes, Custards, and More, Inspired by the Flavors of INDIA*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**July 20:** Amy Obenski performs at the CONCERTS IN THE PARK music series at Upper Noe Rec Center. 10 am-noon. 295 Day. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**July 20:** Brian Noyes introduces *Red Truck BAKERY COOKBOOK*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**July 22:** The Noe Valley Library offers a class to learn to STREAM FILMS on Kanopy. 2-3 pm. 451 Jersey. Reserve a space at 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 23:** Ages 4 to 7, with caregivers, can make color diffusion BUTTERFLIES, at an art project at the Noe Valley Library. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**July 27 & Aug. 31:** Coffee and pastry are provided for volunteers on the JURI COMMONS gardening work crew, 9 to 11 am, on the last Saturday of the month. The park is between Guerrero, San Jose Avenue, 25th, and 26th. RSVP to meetup.com/juri-commoners.

**July 28 & Aug. 25:** The Noe Valley Town Square hosts live ACOUSTIC MUSIC from 1 to 3 pm. BYOB. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**July 29:** ODD MONDAYS hosts "Goodbye, July Readings," a conversation about books on travel, featuring Cathy Fiorello and Vivien Zielin. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th. oddmondays.com.

**July 30 & Aug. 27:** MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of the month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400; missionpolicestation.org.

**Aug. 3:** FALL REGISTRATION for classes at the Upper Noe Rec Center begins. 10 am. 295 Day. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**Aug. 3:** Tracyshaun performs at the CONCERTS IN THE PARK music series at Upper Noe Rec Center. 10 am-noon. 295 Day. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**Aug. 7:** Make a notebook from vintage postcards at adult CRAFT NIGHT at the Noe Valley Library. 7-8:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 8:** Charlie's Corner Bookstore offers Cool Cat STORY TIMES to celebrate International Cat Day. 4:10-5:30 pm. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

**Aug. 8:** Ages 6 and up can build a fort with BIG BUILDER sets at the Noe Valley Library. 3:30-4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 8:** Folio Books hosts Ingrid Keriotis' POETRY READING and book signing of *It Started with Wild Horses*. 6:30 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. foliosf.com.

**Aug. 9:** The Noe Valley Library screens the 2001 French FILM *Amélie*. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 10:** Paul Arguin and Chris Taylor discuss *The New PIE: Modern Techniques for the Classic American Dessert*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

**Aug. 11:** The Noe Valley Town Square hosts the 2nd annual Noe Valley ANIMAL FAIR, with 12 rescue groups, story hours, and activities. 11 am-4 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**Aug. 12:** The Noe Valley Library offers a class to learn to use GOOGLE CLOUD Drive. 2-3 pm.

451 Jersey. Reserve a space at 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 13:** Ages 4 and up can build MARSHMALLOW ENGINEERING structures with marshmallows, spaghetti, toothpicks, and colored straws at the Noe Valley Library. 3-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 16:** The BOOKWORMS Club (and pizza party) features author readings for middle readers. 6-7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. RSVP required: 821-3477, tiny.cc/followorms.

**Aug. 17:** Constant Coogan performs at the CONCERTS IN THE PARK music series at Upper Noe Rec Center. 10 am-noon. 295 Day. 970-8061; noevalleyrecenter.com.

**Aug. 18-25:** Charlie's Corner Bookstore hosts a SUMMER TRAVELS Story Week, with a different theme every day. 4:10-5:30 pm. 641-1104; charliescorner.com.

**Aug. 21:** The Noe Valley BOOK DISCUSSION group reads *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. 7-8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

**Aug. 22:** Kim Magowan reads from her new NOVEL, *The Light Source*. 6:30 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477, tiny.cc/followorms.

**Aug. 24:** The Noe Valley Town Square hosts the Noe Valley Summer WINE WALK. 3-8 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

**Aug. 27:** Jeff Gordinier introduces *Eating, Road Tripping, and Risking It All with the GREATEST CHEF in the World*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez.

## C U in September

The next *Noe Valley Voice* Calendar will appear in the **September 2019** issue, distributed the first week of September. The deadline for items is August 15. Please email [calendar@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:calendar@noevalleyvoice.com).



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## DEPT. OF JOURNALISM

All courses are available on the online schedule

**Fall 2019  
Classes Start  
August 19**





<b>JOUR 19: Contemporary News Media</b>	
76160	TR 9:40 – 10:55 a.m. HC 207 Gonzales
<b>JOUR 21: News Writing and Reporting</b>	
76162	TR 11:10 – 12:55 p. HC 206 Gonzales
<b>JOUR 22: Feature Writing</b>	
72111	T 6:30 – 9:20 p.m. 1125 Valencia St./ Rm 217 Staff
<b>JOUR 24: Newspaper Laboratory</b>	
76882	MWF 12:10 – 1:00 p.m. Bungalow 615 Gonzales
<b>JOUR 29A: Intro Magazine Editing &amp; Production</b>	
78546	M 6:30 – 8:20 p.m. 1125 Valencia St./ Rm 217 Lifland
<b>JOUR 29B: Intmd Magazine Editing &amp; Production</b>	
78973	M 6:30 – 9:20 p.m. 1125 Valencia St./ Rm 217 Lifland
<b>JOUR 29C: Adv Magazine Editing &amp; Production</b>	
78974	M 6:30 – 8:20 p.m. 1125 Valencia St./ Rm 217 Lifland
<b>JOUR 31: Internship Experience</b>	
72312	Hours ARR BNGL 615 Gonzales
<b>JOUR 37: Intro to Photojournalism</b>	
76939	W 6:30 – 9:20 p.m. 1125 Valencia St./ Rm 217 Lifland

**Questions? Call Juan Gonzales at 415-239-3446**  
View the online schedule at [classes.ccsfjournalism.com](http://classes.ccsfjournalism.com)

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## CLASS ADS

**Free Concert with 3 Reed Organs:**  
Sunday, July 14 at 3:00 p.m. Bethany United Methodist Church, at the corner of Sanchez and Clipper streets.

**Cat and Dog Lover - Responsible:**  
Services offered: In home visits, fresh food and water, medication, companionship and waste cleanup. Overnights are available. Daily text, photo and home security. References available by request. Mary 415-994-4853.

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



### How to Place A Class Ad

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

**10 for 10 discount:** The *Noe Valley Voice* publishes Class Ads 10 months a year. (We're on vacation in January and August.) If you place the same class ad in 10 issues, you get a 10 percent discount. To figure your cost, deduct 10 percent from the total due for 10 issues. The next *Voice* Class Ads will appear in the **September 2019** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of July. **The deadline for Class Ads is August 15.**

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

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



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**Swinging in Rhythm:** Children play gleefully while others enjoy the music of Ken Newman during a June Concerts in the Park performance at Upper Noe Rec Center. *Photo by Chris Faust*

### Block Party Needs Volunteers

The date has been set for this year's community fest, the **Upper Noe Block Party**. It's **Saturday, Sept. 28**, from noon to 4 p.m. at Upper Noe Rec Center, the almost-block-long park at Day and Sanchez streets. The event is free and open to the public. All it needs is your ideas for music, games, food, and activities to celebrate Upper Noe's largest patch of green. Contact [info@noevalleyrecenter.com](mailto:info@noevalleyrecenter.com).

Until the September party arrives, there is music all summer long, at the **Concerts in the Park** series on first and third Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. The lineup features the Bay Area's best singer-songwriters, performing folk, rock, country, and pop: **Lauren Firestein (July 6), Amy Obenski (July 20), Tracyshaun (Aug. 3), Constant Coogan (Aug. 17), Brother Spellbinder Trio (Sept. 7), and E.G. Phillips (Sept. 21)**.

Meanwhile, the Summer Session of classes and sports activities at Upper Noe continues through Aug. 17, with expanded summer hours (Mondays, 9 to 5) and more Auditorium Free Play and Open Gym (see below).

**Fall registration** will start on Saturday, Aug. 3, with fall classes beginning on Tuesday, Aug. 20.

For more information, go to [sfrecpark.org](http://sfrecpark.org). To find out about Upper Noe's stewardship committee, visit [www.noevalleyrecenter.com](http://www.noevalleyrecenter.com), drop by the rec center office at 295 Day St., or call 415-970-8061.

#### UPPER NOE REC CENTER SUMMER SESSION JUNE 10 - AUG. 17, 2019

To register, visit [sfrecpark.org](http://sfrecpark.org). Check [www.noevalleyrecenter.com](http://www.noevalleyrecenter.com) for updates.

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

Open Gym	1:30-4 p.m.*
Auditorium Free Play	10 a.m.-4 p.m.*
Basketball Camp (ages 8-12)	9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

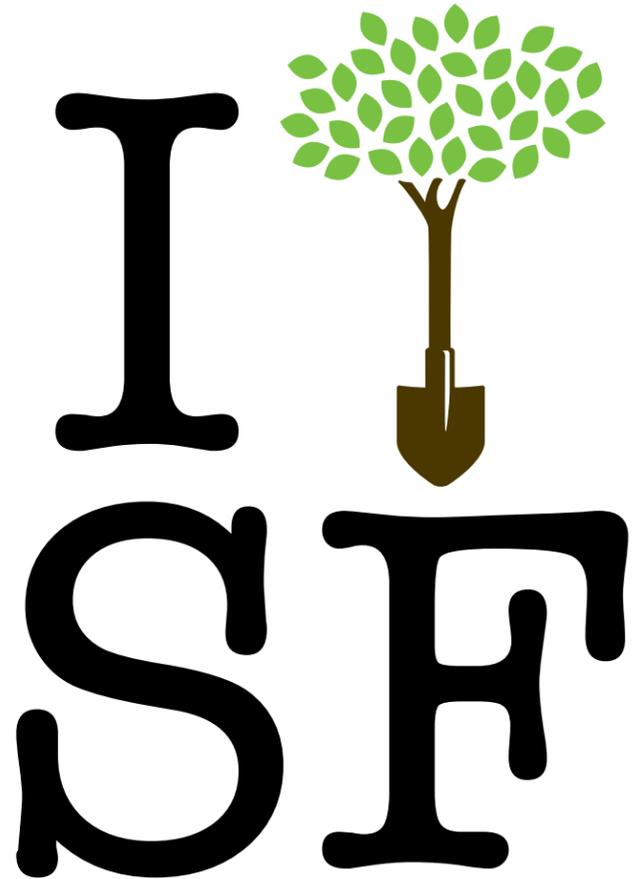
Open Gym	2-5:30 p.m.*
Auditorium Free Play	1-5:30 p.m.*
Basketball Camp (ages 8-12)	9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Pilates intermediate (18+)	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Pilates all levels (18+)	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Karaoke (18+, drop-in okay)	6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE
Volleyball advanced drop-in (18+)	6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE

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

Open Gym	9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*
Auditorium Free Play	12-4:30 p.m.*
Yoga-Vinyasa all levels (18+)	9:15-10:15 a.m.
Zumba (family) Drop-in only	10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE

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

\*Hours are subject to change.



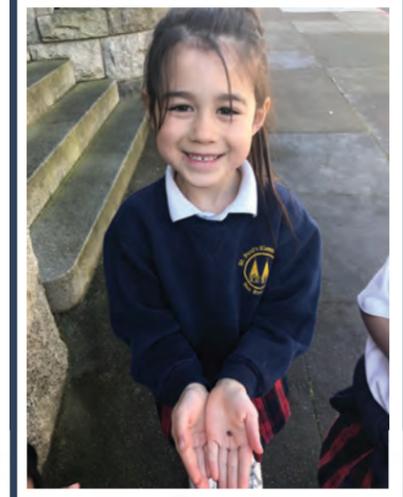
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## Saint Paul's School

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[www.stpaulsschoolsf.org](http://www.stpaulsschoolsf.org)



\*  
We can't wait to  
welcome you  
to our diverse  
K-8 community!  
\*



2016-2017 graduates have been accepted to the following High Schools:

Archbishop Riordan \* Bay School \* Drew \* Immaculate Conception Academy \* Lick Wilmerding  
Lowell \* Mercy Burlingame \* Mercy SF \* Sacred Heart Cathedral \* Convent of the Sacred Heart  
Saint Ignatius \* SOTA \* University \* Waldorf \* Stuart Hall

**ADULT/TEEN EVENTS**

**Noe Valley Knitting Circle:** Gather to knit or crochet on the first Saturday of every month. The library has supplies to practice on, but bring your own yarn and needles if you're working on a project. Saturdays, July 6 and Aug. 3; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**eReader and Online Resource "Drop-In":** Bring your mobile device or laptop, your library card and PIN (and passwords) to an informal workshop about the SFPL's digital resources, including library databases, Kanopy for streaming films, Flipster and RBDigital for magazines, and OverDrive and Axis360 for eBooks. Tuesdays, July 9 and Aug. 13; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Great Books Discussion Group:** Sponsored by the Great Books Council of San Francisco, this group meets to discover, discuss, and learn from outstanding works of writing. For information, contact Elena at [eschmid@sonic.net](mailto:eschmid@sonic.net). Wednesdays, July 10 and Aug. 14; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Friday Matinee:** Watch the 1940 Alfred Hitchcock film *Rebecca*, about a young woman who moves into her groom's ancestral mansion, only to learn that the memory of his deceased wife haunts the home. Friday, July 12; 2 to 4 p.m.

**Author Talk:** Critical Mass veteran and Shaping San Francisco co-director Chris Carlsson discusses his notion of a "Bicycle Commons," which he defines as "a shared state of mind and a shared state of experiences" among cyclists. Saturday, July 13; 4 to 5 p.m.

**Noe Valley Book Discussion Group:** The July selection is *Anything Is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout. Copies are held at the Circulation Desk for checkout. Wednesday, July 17; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Stream Films on Kanopy:** Learn to use Kanopy, a free video-streaming service with access to more than 30,000 independent and documentary films. Laptops will be available, but feel free to bring your own device. Monday, July 22; 2 to 3 p.m.

**Adult Craft Night:** Make notebooks from the library's collection of vintage postcards, or bring your own. All materials are provided. Sign up by calling 415-355-5707 or by asking at the information desk. Wednesday, Aug. 7; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Friday Matinee:** See the 2001 French film *Amélie*, starring Audrey Tatou as a naive girl in Paris who decides to help others and, along the way, finds love. Friday, Aug. 9; 2 to 4 p.m.

**Using Google Cloud Drive:** Learn how to use Google Cloud Drive to create files and share documents. If you do not have a Google account, the library can create one for you. Laptops will be provided, or bring your own. Monday, Aug. 12; 2 to 3 p.m.

**Noe Valley Book Discussion Group:** The August selection is *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. Copies will be at the Circulation Desk for check-out. Wednesday, Aug. 21; 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**AAC Conversation Club:** Practice Alternative and Augmentative Communication on devices such as Dynavox, QuickTalker, Tobii Sono Flex, and Talk Bar, and with apps for smartphones and tablets. For information, contact Kris Moser at [krismoser@aol.com](mailto:krismoser@aol.com). Mondays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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

**MORE BOOKS TO READ**

**Keep On Striding**

**S**ummer Stride, the San Francisco Public Library's annual summer reading program for all ages, continues through Aug. 18. Drop by the Noe Valley Branch or any SFPL location to register. Then keep track of your reading or your hours at library events. There are more than 1,000 free events to enhance your reading enjoyment, spark interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), or provide experiences in nature. Some libraries will have shuttles to parks like Land's End (July 13), the Presidio (July 27 and Aug. 17), and the Marin Headlands (Aug. 3).

Completion of the program will earn you a canvas book bag designed by illustrator Zachariah OHora. Summer Stride's weekly raffle gives away oodles of free passes to local cultural venues for all ages. Follow the program at #SummerStride. To learn more about the shuttles, email [ParkShuttles@ParksConservancy.org](mailto:ParkShuttles@ParksConservancy.org) or call 415-561-3531.

Need something to read? Check out the recent arrivals at the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, selected by Branch Manager Denise Sanderson and Children's Librarian Catherine Starr. This month's new titles, listed below, include a book about five women writers who changed history, an exploration of the world of art dealers, and a tour of the New York Public Library, given by the two stone lions on its front steps.

To locate a book, CD, or DVD, call 415-355-5707 or drop by the Noe Valley Branch at 451 Jersey St. It's also the place to check out Kanopy, the library's streaming service. Visit the San Francisco Public Library online at [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org).



**Adult Fiction**

❖ A retired forensics officer moves to a French village in *Death in Provence*, the first in the Penelope Kite mystery series by Serena Kent.

❖ In Erin Kelly's suspenseful *Stone Mothers*, a woman returns to her childhood home to confront a secret.

❖ *The Cook* by Maylis de Kerangal follows a self-taught chef from his early days of baking cakes in his home kitchen to a professional career marred by a nervous breakdown.

❖ In 1914 Vienna, a medical student is drafted to serve in World War I, in *The Winter Soldier* by Daniel Mason.

**Adult Nonfiction**

❖ Kendra Allen's essays about the relationship between parent and daughter, *When You Learn the Alphabet*, won the Iowa Prize in Literary Nonfiction.

❖ *All the Fierce Tethers* is the newest collection of essays by "master of observation" Lia Purpura.

❖ In *Outsiders: Five Women Writers Who Changed the World*, Lyndall Gordon probes the influence of authors Mary Shelley, Emily Brontë, George Eliot, Olive Schreiner, and Virginia Woolf.

❖ Dianne R. Hales describes the culture, landscape, and history of Italy in *La Passione: How Italy Seduced the World*.

**Children's Fiction**

❖ In *The Night Library*, written by David Zeltser and illustrated by Raul Colon, two stone lions from the New York Public Library teach a young boy the importance of books. Ages 3 to 7.

❖ *Fox and Chick: The Quiet Boat Ride and Other Stories* is the second in a series written and illustrated by Sergio Ruzzier. Ages 4 to 7.

❖ Two friends cheer each other on to try new things in *Pepper and Frannie*, by Catherine Lazar Odell. Ages 4 to 8.

❖ A boy faces changes in his life as third grade comes to an end, in *Bat and the End of Everything*, written by Elana K. Arnold, illustrated by Charles Santoso. Ages 7 to 10.

❖ In *The Breakaways*, by Cathy G. Johnson, a girl finds friendship among the players in her soccer team. Ages 8 to 11.

❖ Best friends living in Uganda need to cope with being separated under Idi Amin's rule, in *Orange for the Sunsets*, written by Tina Athaide. Ages 8 to 12.

❖ *A Good Kind of Trouble*, written by Lisa Moore Ramee, addresses the political and cultural choices that even a seventh-grader must make. Ages 8 to 12.

❖ The short-story collection *Tales from the Inner City*, by Shaun Tan, is a follow-up to *Tales of Outer Suburbia*. Ages 12 and up.

**Children's Nonfiction**

❖ *Nine Months: Before a Baby Is Born*, written by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Jason Chin, follows a family during the months leading up to the birth of a baby. Ages 4 to 8.

❖ *Nature All Around: Trees*, written by Pamela Hickman and illustrated by Carolyn Gavin, is a comprehensive introduction to forests in North America. Ages 7 to 10.

❖ Author Natasha Slee and illustrator Cynthia Kittler journey through our changing clothing styles in *Planet Fashion: 100 Years of Fashion History*. Ages 8 to 11.

❖ *You Are Enough: Your Guide to Body Image and Eating Disorder Recovery*, by Jen Petro-Roy, helps ages 9 and up cope with body changes and anxiety.

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**

*Oops!* by Michael Blake

G	A	L	A	S	N	A	T	E	N	E	M	Y		
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P	R	A	D	A		T	A	O		K	R	E	M	E

**BRANCH HOURS**

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

**CHILDREN'S EVENTS**

Roll a marble down a contraption of your own design, built with everyday materials, during the library's **Marble Machines** event; for ages 5 and up. Wednesday, July 3; 3 to 5 p.m.

**Tree Frog Treks:** Naturalists will introduce amphibians and reptiles, from tiny Pacific Tree Frogs to 14-foot Burmese pythons. Come learn about their natural habitats and roles in the ecosystem. For ages 5 and up. Thursday, July 11; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Worms and Compost:** Learn how to start an indoor worm compost bin and a method of composting that helps reduce food waste and feeds your plants, at a workshop with Fog City Gardener. All ages welcome. Wednesday, July 17; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Color Diffusion Butterflies** is a hands-on art project for ages 4 to 7, accompanied by parent or caregiver. Tuesday, July 23; 3 to 4 p.m. Call 415-355-5707 to pre-register.

**Art Explorations with the de Young Museum:** Teens from the de Young's Museum Ambassador Program will lead artists ages 6 to 12 in an art activity inspired by the permanent collection. Tuesday, July 30; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Call 415-355-5707 to pre-register.

Build a fort at the library with **Big Builder** sets! No construction experience needed, just imagination. For ages 6 and up. Thursday, Aug. 8; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Marshmallow Engineering:** Ages 4 and up can build some cool structures with marshmallows and spaghetti, colored straws, toothpicks, and pretzel sticks. Tuesday, Aug. 13; 3 to 4 p.m.

Miss Catherine's **Toddler Tales** features books, rhymes, small movement, and music for toddlers 16 months through 2 years, with a parent or caregiver. Two sessions every Thursday: 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

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

**Adult eBooks**

❖ A translator in Prague follows the trail of an obscure legend in *Melmoth* by Sarah Perry.

❖ In *Wild at Home: How to Style and Care for Beautiful Plants*, Hilton Carter gives advice based on his own extensive collection of greenery.

❖ Michael Shnayerson analyzes the history of the art market, in *Boom: Mad Money, Mega Dealers, and the Rise of Contemporary Art*.

❖ In *Article 353* by Tanguy Viel, a man in northern France tells what has led him to murder a real estate developer.

**Adult DVDs**

❖ A streetwise 14-year-old transforms into an adult superhero in the 2019 film *Shazam*.

❖ Director Jordan Peele's 2019 horror film, *Us*, stars Lupita Nyong'o and Elisabeth Moss.

❖ The 2018 documentary *Garry Winogrand: All Things Are Photographable* examines the photographer's work, including undeveloped film discovered after his death in 1984.

❖ *The Last Resort* (2019), featuring photographs by Andy Sweet and Gary Monroe, documents a community of Jewish retirees who settled in Miami Beach in the 1970s.

Annotations by Voice bookworm  
Karol Barske

## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

### Noe Vanity Valley

By Mazook

**SOME SKIN IN THE GAME:** The recent grand opening of SkinSpirit in the long-vacant space where Real Food's once resided may have surprised many Noe Valleons—who expected to go from groceries and produce to facials and Botox?—but “beauty shops” have long been a staple of Downtown Noe Valley. We have had an abundance of hair stylists and nail salons for decades now. You can find them up and down 24th and Church streets. Lately, we have seen a new crop of new-age spas, yoga studios, and makeup artists in our village. Supply and demand, folks.

One makeup artist who has had her office behind Flowers of the Valley at 4077 24th, next to Noe Valley Bakery, for the past nine years, is Athena Hewett, aka “Athena Ellen.” Athena Ellen is expanding her business up to 4175 24th St., the former home of the Mystery Bookstore, Cliché Noe gift store, and most recently Globe-In. (Globe-In, the headquarters of a gift box service, kept their 10,000 subscribers around the world but moved over the hill to 799 Castro at 21st, and abandoned their retail sales.)

Well, Hewett's new office is called Athena Ellen Esthetics and Apothecary, and she has created a line of botanical skincare products (cleansing oils and moisturizers) under the trade name Monastery, which she now formulates in a production lab South of Market on Natoma Street. “We sell worldwide,” she says. It seems the 4077 space is mysteriously karmatic and ensures a global influence.

Hewett says she will be moving the lab from SOMA to her new Noe location, and will also offer her products retail in the front of the space, leaving room for a spa, for her facials clientele. She says her most popular product is “the rose cleansing oil, which is suitable and effective for literally every skin type, including sensitive, ultra-sensitive, acne, oily, dry, and aging,” and that she has developed 200 variations on her recipe.

As a footnote about the 4077 space, at the turn of the 19th century, there was a machine shop in the rear of the property, where in 1896 the first automobile was produced west of the Mississippi, called the Pioneer. And the pioneering engineer who built this novel machine was John A. Meyer. That property is still owned by Meyer's family, that is, J.A.'s great-grandson Fred Meyer.



**LASHING OUT:** Makeup artists are flourishing among the new “nail and wax” businesses in our neighborhood, which by my count number around two dozen on 24th Street and down Church to 30th. Eyelash artist Chikako Orcutt, aka Chika, has now opened her own salon at 3789 24th just east of Church, called Green Leaves Natural Spa & Lash. She has had space in the back of The Upper Hand nail and wax salon up the street at 3836 24th for the last three years.

Orcutt says she is excited to open her very own spa after moving to San Francisco in 2002 and then training for and becoming a licensed esthetician. Since 2011 she has focused on “eyelash extensions artistry.” “I really enjoy creating custom eyelash designs for each of my clients' desires and needs,” she says.

“My mother is a cosmetologist, so I literally grew up in a salon,” Orcutt says, “and since my teenage years, I have been



A *Spark of Nerve*, a documentary featuring Loren Schaller and the pioneering doctor who helped her regain movement in her arm after a serious injury, will be shown on KQED-Plus on July 7 and 8. The former Noe Valley resident is now working as a costumer for film and television.

fighting a constant battle with acne, scarring, redness, and sensitive skin, and it was a struggle finding proper skin care products...so I started making my own.” She takes pride in giving facials and says she quickly learned that natural ingredients were the best, and notes, “I especially like to use green tea, as most of the products that worked best for me, back in Japan, contained green tea.”

Expanding their lash service, a Palo Alto group called Olivia & Lash has opened a location in Noe Valley, at 4169 24th, right next to Athena Ellen. They must believe eyelashes are seriously hot, because they purchased (as opposed to rented) their new space, a commercial condo that was listed and reportedly sold for \$415,000.

Olivia & Lash specializes in the kind of eyelash extensions that are “individual strands expertly attached to each individual eyelash (lash by lash) with a special imported medical grade adhesive.” Attempts to reach a spokesperson had not been successful as of press time.

And just up the street from Olivia, at 4207 24th (above Diamond), Noe Valley has a topnotch makeup artist, Jen Valdivia, whose salon/spa is called JV Skin and Beauty. Launched three years ago, it “provides professional services for healthy skincare, beauty makeup, and brow artistry.” Jen describes herself as a skincare coach and beauty makeup artist, as well as a “dermalogica expert,” who has trained extensively with the International Dermal Institute.

“I was located in the Marina, but wanted to move and spent a lot of time looking for the right location,” says Valdivia. “Luckily I found a great spot in a wonderful neighborhood and moved over here. It feels like a village.”

She says her clientele followed her to Noe Valley, but now about 80 percent of her clients live in Noe Valley, Eureka Valley, and Diamond Heights.



**LAND O' NANCY:** A welcome addition to the commercial corridor will be Noe Valleon Nancy Guettier. She will be taking over the back half of the space of When Modern Was, the store that sells vintage and new home furnishings at 4037 24th, and become a retail outlet for her passion: Nancylandkids. Nancylandkids will feature children's furniture, décor, gifts, books, and toys. It will also provide a retail outlet for the five children's books Guettier has written: *Roy G Biv Is Mad at Me Because I Love PINK!*, *Jude's Moon*, *Circus in the Sky*, *I Wish*, and *Mermaids on Mars*. She has also produced a 20-minute animated short film based on *Mermaids on Mars*, as well as written the lyrics to all of the songs in the film. Oh, and by the way, the film has been selected to screen at the Carmel Film Festival.

Before she created Nancylandkids three

years ago, Guettier says she spent 25 years in the fields of product development and visual merchandising in both domestic and international markets and “specialized exclusively in creating and branding premier retail environments for children's clothing and home furnishings,” for such retailers as Gap Kids, Baby Gap, Pottery Barn Kids, and PTeen.

She gave it all up, she says, to stay at home with her three kids and to do her own thing.

“I want to bring the local artist and family community back to the spirit it once had, so I turned to longtime shop owner Dona Taylor (Gallery of Jewels and When Modern Was), who has been part of the community for so long and is faced with more increases in rent, so we decided to join forces to save our community shopping experience and inspire shops to stay in business by encouraging the community to shop local and not online for everything,” she says. “Online shopping is great, but we are losing the value, quality, and uniqueness we once all felt was a priority over fast, free delivery, and we both feel the pendulum is swinging and it's time for a change.”

Nancylandkids, she says, will be created during the month of July and there will be an official opening on Aug. 1. Her first task is to fill her space with fun stuff, and her second task will be to create a “window-shopper-stopper” (my words, not hers) so that the store is inviting for shoppers to come in. By the time you read this, she will have already completed her first task. Then “I can move on to create some events for the kids and their parents.”

Maybe they should change the store name to When Modern Was, Is, and Will Be.



**A SURFEIT OF SHORT SHRIFTS:** Speaking of vanity in the Valley, When Modern Was has an antique mahogany vanity for sale for \$595...

Over 450 people attended an open house last month at 1081 Church St. for a three-bedroom, three-bath Noe Valley home built in 1906 situated next door to the famous “Jungle House” on the east side of Church, north of 23rd Street. The house was listed for sale at \$1,995,000, and reportedly there's a sale pending at that price...

Sorry to see that Voila, which featured “fashion, nail spa, and floral” at 1431A Castro St., has closed. Owner Aline Dazogbo posted a sign on the door: “We are moving after three years in beautiful Noe Valley. Please stay tuned online for news and updates on where to find us next, at [www.voila.com](http://www.voila.com)...”

Also closed and for rent is the Solo Hair Salon at 4081 24th. Owner Yvonne Winters reportedly retired. Leslie Caguimbaga is moving down to Good Hair Day at 1750

Church at Day...

Charlie's Corner moved back into their space on the corner of 24th and Castro on June 26. The children's book emporium had spent three months down at 24th Street at Church while their building was made earthquake-safe. According to Charlie's spokesperson Jeff Gomez, the story times at 10 a.m., noon, 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. were full on re-opening day, with about 80 kids and their parents/caretakers attending each reading...

Church Street Produce, on the corner of Church and 30th, is now offering patrons free online ordering and payment via their new app. Then the store will bag the order and have it ready for pickup. Owner Amen Mann says this will make it easier for customers, since parking is difficult nearby. “So they can park on the corner, come in and pick up their order, and get back to their car quickly...”

A For Rent sign was spotted on the front door of the El Vira Building, 3993 24th, for a one-bedroom flat with “remodeled kitchen, gas fireplace, washer/dryer, closets! Cats okay!” for a monthly rent of \$4,600. It was apparently rented in less than a week, and the sign was removed...

Shoe Biz (on 24th near Church) is having a “liquidation sale” with 50 percent off the inventory. According to the folks working there (none wanted to give their name), the store will be closing at an indefinite time in the future, while their store on Valencia Street is being remodeled...

Work crews from Triton Tower have spent the last two months, and will continue for another couple of months, installing fiber-optic wiring and about 12 antennas, according to workers, on the roof of the building on the corner of 24th and Castro (above Cotton Basics/Gallery of Jewels and next to the post office) for AT&T's cell phone services...

Spotted in the threads of Nextdoor, a 25th Street resident posting: “My partner put my 1950s pink KitchenAid coffee grinder with a glass top out in front of our house...without my permission. If you lucked out and picked this up, I would be very happy to see it returned. It was my parents, and has sentimental as well as utilitarian value to me. Thanks.” Then the next day she posted, “The grinder is back. Thanks everyone for the support. Sorry I didn't offer a reward, but I was just sad about it.”



**MIRACLE DOCTOR:** Watch the July 7 KQED listings for a repeat showing of *A Spark of Nerve*, a documentary made by Noe Valley filmmakers Linda and Tim Schaller about their daughter Loren's surgery and recovery after a brutal stabbing in Creighton's Bakery in 2007.

The one-hour documentary follows Loren and other patients to Dr. Susan Mackinnon, who restores movement to limbs that many doctors believe to be permanently paralyzed. Mackinnon was honored for her pioneering nerve-transfer techniques as the first woman to receive the American College of Surgeons Innovation Award. Three years ago, the film received the Best Documentary Award at the Los Angeles World International Film Festival.

The doc will be shown on KQED Plus (PBS), channels 9.2 and 54.1 over the air, and on Comcast channel 710, Sunday, July 7, at 11 p.m., and Monday, July 8, at 5 a.m. Linda Schaller says, “For those of you who go to bed early, get those recording devices programmed!”

She says Loren is doing well. After graduating from UCLA in costume design, Loren launched a career as a costumer in film and television. She still lives in L.A.



**THAT'S ALL, KIDS:** Have a great summer vacation and we will see you back here with the rumors of September. Ciao for now. ■

# Voice Readers Report



Leslie and Jerry Mabie trekked to Machu Picchu in June.



Raymond Solis takes a reading break in beautiful Bali, Indonesia.



Katie Burke, filed this report from the great State of Maine.



Sara Ganz and Rob Spivack, on the Great Wall of China outside of Beijing.



Art Bodner tries out the other side of the camera in front of the Basilica Santa Maria Del Mar in Barcelona.

## The Editors Are Outta Here Too!

The next new edition of the *Noe Valley Voice* will be distributed during the first week of September. The plan is to take a break this month of July, and come back to work in August. Your deadline for submitting all things of an editorial nature is August 15. For display ads, you get a few more days. Contact Pat Rose at 415-608-7634 / [patrose@noevalleyvoice.com](mailto:patrose@noevalleyvoice.com).

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