



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

CyArk's Virtual Tours a Feast for The Eyes

Lyon-Martin House Comes to Life on Your Computer Screen

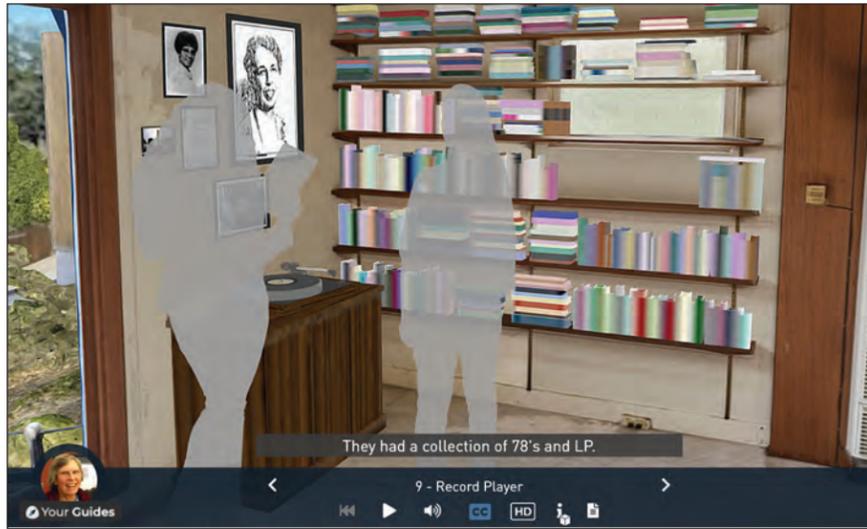
By Matthew S. Bajko

From his Noe Valley home, John Ristevski is helping connect people from all over the world to important cultural and historical sites they otherwise may never be able to visit. The nonprofit he leads, CyArk, provides virtual tours that anyone with access to the Internet can take via the organization's website.

The places run the gamut from the San Sebastian Basilica in Manila, Philippines, and the Mosque City of Bagerhat in Bangladesh, to the Tower of London in Britain and the Osun Osogbo Sacred Groves of Nigeria. Many are U.S. parks, such as Bears Ears National Monument in Utah, the Mesa Verde cliff dwellings in Colorado, and even Big Basin Redwoods State Park in California.

Right before the start of the Covid pandemic in 2020, Ristevski had returned from Rapa Nui, also known as Eastern Island, having worked on a virtual tour of the special territory of Chile with its tourism bureau.

"To me, we are creating a 3D document that helps create a record of what is there today that we can share with the world and researchers," said Ristevski, the nonprofit's board chair and CEO, who grew up in Melbourne, Australia. "We are able to amplify the stories of these places and share them



Back to the Future Time: John Ristevski's nonprofit organization CyArk helps connect people with sites both historical and exotic. The above image is from his tour of the Duncan Street former home of Daughters of Bilitis founders Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.

with more people."

Because of the high price it costs to travel to many of the places CyArk documents, seeing them in person "is a privilege," acknowledged Ristevski, and one most people can't afford.

"Democratizing these stories is a really powerful thing," he said.

One of the newest destinations CyArk has documented is the Noe Valley home of the late lesbian pioneers Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin. Their residence at 651 Duncan St. became a hub in the 1950s and 1960s for the Daughters of Bilitis, the early lesbian group the women co-founded. The couple hosted social events and meetings at the home for members of the group.

Martin died in 2008 and Lyon died in 2020, at which point Kendra Mon, the couple's daughter, put the home up for sale. Local preservationists and historians worked with city officials to desig-

nate the two-story cottage a city landmark to protect it from being demolished by the new owners.

Due to it being privately owned and in a residential neighborhood, the house is unlikely to be opened to the public as a museum or historical site people can tour in person. Thus, the Friends of the Lyon-Martin House and the GLBT Historical Society turned to CyArk to provide access and unveiled its virtual tour in March.

"CyArk's extraordinary documentation work provides a global and accessible experience that allows people to engage and emotionally connect to LGBTQ history and Lyon and Martin's lifesaving work," said Shayne Watson, a cofounder of the friends group and a San Francisco-based architectural historian. "It enables [the Friends] to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Ukraine Donors Shell Out Big At Local Benefit

More Than \$100,000 Raised at Event Hosted by Birch & Rye

By Corrie M. Anders

It was the fundraising party of all fundraising parties in Noe Valley.

The affair was a five-course, vegetarian dinner at the Russian-themed restaurant Birch & Rye on Castro Street. And when the last drop of sparkling wine had been consumed, the evening had raised an astonishing \$108,000 to aid people caught in a deadly conflict in Eastern Europe.

The April 13 "Dine for Ukraine" event attracted 50 guests, who paid between \$2,500 and \$16,000 to sample contemporary Russian and French minimalist cuisine.

"The benefit went very well," said Birch & Rye chef Anya El-Wattar. "There were a lot of tears, hugs, heartfelt conversations, and meaningful connections."

El-Wattar co-hosted the dinner with French chef Dominique Crenn of the restaurant Atelier Crenn on Fillmore Street. The pair hit upon the idea for the charity effort within days of the

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Dust Clears After Battle Over Redistricting

Mandelman Hangs On—Even Gains Territory in District 8

By Matthew S. Bajko

The process to redraw San Francisco's 11 supervisorial districts turned into a chaotic slog in April with heated exchanges, marathon meetings, a legal challenge, and a blown deadline. But in the end the nine-member panel tasked with the job completed its work, leaving Noe Valley intact in District 8.

Supervisor Rafael Mandelman's residence, on the block of Valencia Street between 24th and 25th streets, is remaining a part of District 8. Thus, he will be able to seek reelection in November without needing to move.

Supervisors are required to live in their district, and there had been uncertainty on where the new boundary between Districts 8 and 9 would end up. A stretch of the borderline is moving west from Valencia Street up to Guerrero Street.

But at Guerrero and 24th streets the line will turn east back to Valencia then turn south and run to Cesar Chavez Street. There, it turns west again back up to Guerrero and runs along the street south to San Jose Avenue, following

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Mom Makes Kids' Clothing for Outdoor Treks

She's Now Scaling Her First Peak

By Kit Cameron

It was baby sunburn that started Jocelyn Newman on the road to her kids clothing company, First Peak. Specifically, it was the "tiny hands" of her infant son Emory, who had been exposed to High Sierra sun on a family backpacking trip. Newman couldn't find a garment that successfully covered Emory's hands. Also, "every time he spit up or even dribbled down his shirt," the aroma hung around, even in Nature.

As a team leader for Asana, a tech company that produces management software, and as a teacher with Teach for America right after graduation from Harvard, Newman was used to solving problems by taking action. She and her husband proved this by moving to Noe Valley from the lower Haight two years ago, in the middle of her pregnancy. "We were looking for a community of parents" with whom to share their big adventure.

With a baby on the way, they anticipated some challenges to their active

outdoor life, which included soccer teams, hiking in the Marin Headlands, bike rides, and dreams of running with a three-legged jogging stroller. But after Emory arrived, just before Thanksgiving in 2020, they encountered a slight hurdle: the threads they had chosen for their bundle of joy were not always suitable for day-long excursions.

"When we took our son to Yosemite for the first time, we were weighed down with so many changes of clothes," said Newman. On the trail, Emory's cotton duds would get damp or sticky with baby food. "Cotton is soft. [However], it also absorbs moisture and odors, and it stretches out."

Determined to find an alternative, Newman "would spend nights, early mornings, and weekends contemplating ways to improve upon the clothes I had for Emory and to solve the problems we kept running into while hiking, traveling, or just enjoying time outside."

Pandemic child-rearing only added to the urgency Newman felt. With the support of her husband, Gage—who left his position at Honor, a tech company specializing in home care, to become a fulltime dad and supporter of Mom—



Jocelyn Newman, with husband Gage and son Emory. Emory, now 1½, has been helpful testing the baby clothes his mom's company makes. Photo by Kit Cameron

she began to dip a toe into the "what if" of creating baby clothes she would like to buy, ones that were not only protective but fast-drying and easy to get on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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SAN FRANCISCO TAXPAYER ASSOCIATION

JUNE 7 RECOMMENDATIONS:

Vote NO on Proposition A

- Yet another \$400,000,000 30-year general obligation bond for an agency that was found by an independent study to have NEVER completed a project on time or within budget! Moreover, the City Controller predicts it'll cost taxpayers another \$600,000,000 in interest payments on the bonds!!
- Muni hasn't spent \$121,000,000 of it's 2015 \$500,000,000 bond.
- The Central Subway Project has an estimated final cost of over \$2,100,000,000. The original estimate was \$1,578,000,000 and start of revenue service was promised to taxpayers to commence by December 2018. It's now already 30 months late.
- \$42,000,000 would be spent on bicycle and pedestrian access to buses, but not running buses.
- \$30,000,000 more for "road calming" for bicycles and pedestrians and road closures of JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park, The Great Highway, Twin Peaks Boulevard and thirteen other "slow streets" with more to come.
- Only \$10,000,000 for modernizing MUNI trains. Funding from the City's Proposition K transportation sales tax, state gas taxes, federal grants and unspent General Obligation bond money are already being spent to improve San Francisco streets and public transit. Vote NO on A.

Vote NO on Prop C - it's a Political Class Protection Act

- Fair-minded citizens banded together for the first time in 40 years and voted out of office incompetent elected school board members and seek to do the same with District Attorney Chesa Boudin for not fulfilling his duties. Now City Hall is firing back!
- Prop C is an undemocratic, unnecessary and unworthy measure designed to strip power from the electorate to protect the political class from accountability and consequences of not performing their responsibilities.
- Masquerading as good government and a taxpayer issue, Supervisor Peskin meddles with a standard set by our state's Constitution and one that has served our Charter city for 150 years.
- This is pure trickery designed to protect those in power - vote NO.

Vote YES on Proposition H - Recall Chesa Boudin - No more malfeasance towards crime victims and mismanagement of our tax dollars

- Chesa Boudin is failing to keep San Franciscans safe.
- Criminals know they will be let off the hook without consequences.
- Car break-ins, burglaries, robberies, overdoses and murders have reached crisis level in San Francisco, Boudin's refusal to pursue serial offenders and drug dealers puts more of us at risk.
- In his first year in office, burglaries spiked by 49%, and 84% of charged perpetrators were back on the streets within two days.
- About half of San Francisco's prosecutors have resigned from the District Attorney's office in protest over Boudin's mismanagement, threats to withhold evidence, decisions to seek lenient sentences or not press charges, and release violent criminals before trial.
- Boudin's budget contains an estimated appropriation annually of \$4,200,000-\$6,300,000 for a corruption and "white collar" crime unit with five prosecutors and four investigators. Has he filed any corruption cases? No! But for the US Attorney, no City Hall crooks or their Recology allies would have been charged and convicted. Vote yes on Proposition H.
- End Boudin's social experiment to dismantle the criminal justice system as a District Attorney. He is free to seek office as the Public Defender or teach alternative courses in a law school.

YES on E - Behested Payments

Proposition E submitted by Supervisors, expands the prohibition on City employees selecting so called "behested" donations to their favorite charities to include many contractors seeking board of supervisors approval. Much of City Hall corruption exposed in the past three years arises from "behested" contributions, also known as "Pay to Play". Proposition E merits taxpayer approval. Vote "yes".

YES on F - Garbage

Proposition F finally repeals a 1932 ordinance granting Recology, Inc.'s a trash collection monopoly which Recology has spent millions to keep, unlike almost all other City Hall contracts which are subject to competitive bidding to save taxpayers money. Recology exclusively controls collection, recycling and public building garbage. The 1932 ordinance doesn't authorize amendments by the Board of Supervisors to require competitive bidding. That's why we must repeal the monopoly ordinance. Force the board of supervisors to enact in July an ordinance terminating Recology's contract and requiring immediate competitive bidding for residential, commercial and public building refuse collection and recycling. If you want lower rates, SF Taxpayers Association strongly urges a "Yes" vote on Proposition F.

**Please vote - Judge Quentin L. Kopp (RET)
President, SFTA**

FPPC# 921622



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(vê'vr') v. [Fr.] to live; to experience.

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- Tim G.

Insights for Homebuyers & Sellers



Real Estate Perspectives

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Tips from the Experts

- Do Most Homeowners Move Before Selling in SF?
- Top 3 High-ROI Home Improvements For Sellers

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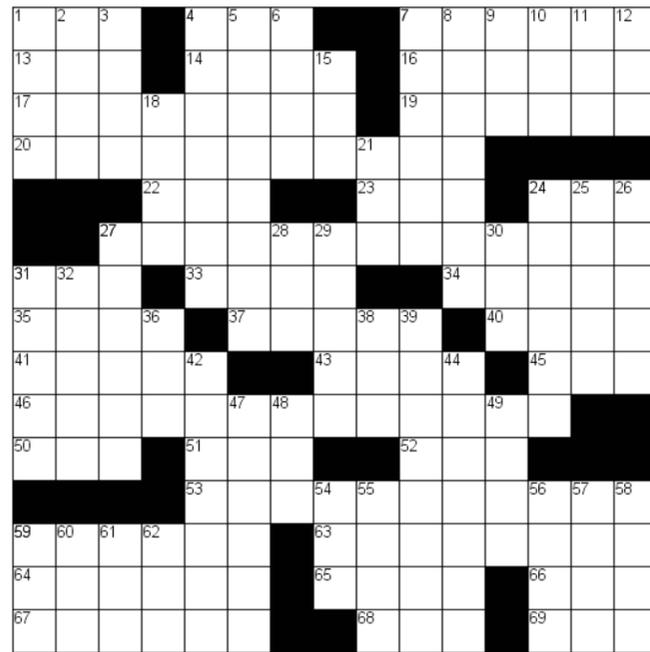
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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Borscht Belt Rhymes

ACROSS

- "If I ___ a Hammer"
- Sterling Bank convenience, for short
- Actress Mimieux who died in January 2022
- Comic Phillips
- "Get lost!"
- More macabre
- Be in store for the near future
- Hidden marksman
- Billingsgate seafood dinner with a baked dessert?
- Holiday in Hue
- Prez before JFK
- Possess
- Scan PlumpJack shelves to find a favorite vodka?
- Altar declaration
- Lead item in Clue
- Fur source
- Algebra or calculus
- Do a job at Episode salon
- Batik worker
- Farm units
- Baghdad's land
- ___ Doubtfire
- What you have when you part from friends on the street in front of Chloe's?
- Abbr. on a can of motor oil
- ___ Lingus
- Prefix with -bar or -tope
- Place to order borscht in the old Mahila space... and this puzzle's inspiration
- Orders at Mesopotamia Kitchen
- Merit the best score in Olympic



- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| gymnastics, say | on tables | en guerra": SF motto |
| 64. Egg order at Toast | 9. Verdi aria ___ tu | 39. Gives off, as heat |
| 65. Part of the eye | 10. Gratuity | 42. Crossed a picket line |
| 66. TV Tarzan, Ron ___ | 11. Golfer's peg | 44. 4th-and-inches play, often |
| 67. Fine horses | 12. Mess up | 47. Bank capers |
| 68. Search site that dropped the "Jeeves" from its name | 15. Not even | 48. Watchdog's warning |
| 69. Noe Valley ___: hot-tub place on 24th | 18. Entr' ___ (musical interlude) | 49. Star Wars character |
| | 21. Adobe Acrobat file name extension | 54. Grand ___ (wine-bottle phrase) |
| | 24. "No problem here" | 55. "___ Nagila" |
| | 25. 'Ben-Hur' director William, or a lemonade-mix family | 56. Hwys. |
| Down | | 57. Restaurant review app |
| 1. Beatles film of 1965 | 26. Big Apple residents, in headlines | 58. One-named Irish singer |
| 2. Female French friend | 27. "You got that right!" | 59. Boxers' stats: Abbr. |
| 3. Couch potato's opposite | 28. U.S.N. rank | 60. 911 respondent |
| 4. With "of history," metaphor for oblivion | 29. Prefix with centric | 61. Busy bug |
| 5. Flamboyant | 30. Melancholy | 62. Chihuahua cry |
| 6. Lament | 31. Apples on desktops | |
| 7. "No you don't" reply | 32. Cottage for Putin | |
| 8. Thin surface layers | 36. ___ Majesty the Queen | |
| | 38. "___ en paz, fierro | |

Solution on Page 22
Find more Crosswords at noevalleyvoice.com

CRIME SNAPSHOT

The San Francisco Police Department's digital crime map at Data.sfgov.org plotted 68 incidents in Noe Valley in March.

That was on par with the number recorded in February (67), in the 10 categories the *Noe Valley Voice* has been tracking monthly since January 2020.

The February and March totals were about a third lower than those of September through January, when the monthly average was 97 incidents.

Still, in March Noe Valley reported 21 burglaries. Of those, 14 were residential break-ins, including three "hot prowl" invasions of occupied homes or apartments.

As usual, "larceny/theft" was the most common type of crime. There were 24 reported incidents in March, including 16 car break-ins, two stripped cars, one stolen bicycle, one package theft, and four other unspecified thefts.

Residents reported fewer motor vehicle thefts, though. March saw six cars and one motorcycle swiped from neighborhood streets. The previous six months averaged 14 vehicle thefts.

Be aware of scams. Police said there were three cases reported.

The *Voice* collected the March data on April 17, 2022, from the dataset titled "A Digital Map of San Francisco Police Department Incident Reports: 2018 to Present." The map draws Noe Valley as the area bordered by 21st Street, San Jose Avenue/Guerrero Street, 30th Street, and Grand View Avenue/Diamond Heights Boulevard.

The neighborhood is under the watch of two police districts, Mission and Ingleside. To contact Mission, email sfpdmissionstation@sfgov.com or call 415-558-5400. To reach Ingleside, email sfpdinglesidestation@sfgov.com or call 415-404-4000. In an emergency, call 911. —Corrie M. Anders, Sally Smith

Noe Valley Incident Reports to March 2022

Incident Type	Sep2021	Oct2021	Nov2021	Dec2021	Jan2022	Feb2022	Mar2022
Larceny/Theft	41	38	39	23	38	28	24
Burglary	23	14	12	26	18	9	21
Malicious Mischief	3	12	7	9	16	3	8
Motor Vehicle Theft	8	13	13	17	18	16	7
Assault	4	2	2	2	0	3	2
Robbery	2	2	2	1	0	3	1
Other Misc.	8	9	7	7	7	0	0
Fraud	3	3	7	4	8	4	3
Family D.Violence	2	0	7	5	0	0	1
Vandalism	2	0	0	0	1	1	1
Totals	96	93	96	94	106	67	68

Source: Dataset titled "Map of Police Department Incident Reports: 2018 to Present" at Data.sfgov.org/Public-Safety/Police-Department-Incident-Reports-2018-to-Present/wg3w-h783. This dataset includes police incident reports filed by officers and by individuals through self-service online reporting for non-emergency cases. Disclaimer: The San Francisco Police Department does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or correct sequencing of the information, as the data is subject to change as modifications or updates are completed.

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LETTERS 58¢



Melania Kang, who with husband Steven Baker owned Chloe's Café on Church Street for more than three decades, has made a rug from the restaurant's signature tablecloths. It's a reminder of "the thousands of wonderful people we had the pleasure of meeting," the couple wrote.

Photo courtesy Steven Baker

Heart-wrenching

Editor:

Corrie Anders has been a superb reporter for decades, and it's been good to see his work in the *Voice* on a regular basis. He outdid himself with the piece on the impact of the war in Ukraine on Noe Valley residents [April 2022].

Thoroughly reported, well-written, enlightening, heartfelt and—yes—heartbreaking. Dianne and I feel for everyone affected, wherever they may be.

Ben Fong-Torres

A Rug With Memories

Editor:

It's been well over a year since Melania and I sold Chloe's Café on Church Street. Having been there for 33 years, we'll always have a special place in our hearts for Noe Valley and the thousands of wonderful people we had the pleasure of meeting. We're glad the "new" Chloe's is doing well, and hope for its continued success for many years to come.

On the final day we left, Melania gathered up all the tablecloths that had been used for decades. At the time, I didn't know why she wanted them. Later, I noticed her working every day on a mysterious sewing project. I was amazed and surprised to find out her vision: she wanted to sew a rug from all the tablecloths! Oh, the stories this little rug could tell!

In a way, I think this represented a real closure for both of us. It's draped over the back of a sofa at our home, and I enjoy telling its story to friends who visit us. I think it is, indeed, a true labor of love. Best regards.

Steven Baker
Melania Kang

Kudos to Ex-Pats in Berlin

Editor:

I just had to tell you how much I appreciated the "Letter From Berlin" by Marilyn Johnston in the April *Noe Valley Voice*. Thank you for sharing this heartwarming and conscience-raising correspondence.

Christopher Faust
Editor's Note: The letter was from former Noe Valley residents who were volunteering to help Ukrainian refugees at Berlin's central train station.

Action-SF's New Agenda

Editor:

Over 20 Noe Valley (and nearby) neighbors are banding together in Action-SF.com to move swing-state and swing-district elections in the progressive Democratic direction. Our working together helps improve our sanity and community connection during these challenging world and national times.

At our online April meeting, we announced we were just about a third of the way to our 2022 Grassroots Victory Fund's \$60,000 goal, launched earlier this year. We are concentrating on toss-up Senate and gubernatorial races in five states—Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin—and in



Letter writer Kathy Perl sent photos of the mosaics at 4018 24th St., which she hopes can be preserved. They decorated both sides of the entrance to the Global Exchange crafts store, which thrived in Noe Valley from 1989 to 2014.

California's Central Valley.

Our fund recommends direct giving to grassroots political groups. One of our members, Tomas Tucker, is a professional filmmaker, and has created his third volunteer-made video, this time featuring a grassroots group working to register Asian American voters in Georgia.

Action SF raises money through our social networks. We also solicit donors monthly at the Noe Valley Farmers Market. Videos and information on the campaign, including donation links, can be found on our website. Or you can email ActionSFTeam@gmail.com to give in tax-deductible ways and/or by check.

Four Noe women who attended the first Women's March in 2017 in San Francisco were inspired to create Action SF, and started meeting at the Noe Valley Library.

We now meet online monthly, usually the first Sunday of the month from 12:30 to 2 p.m., to review opportunities to canvass, text, phone, write letters or postcards, and fundraise. In fact, our next monthly canvass, to register voters in the Central Valley, is starting on Memorial Day weekend.

I hope you will find a way to join us in making vital electoral change.
Charlie Spiegel
Action-SF.com

Please Preserve the Mosaics

Editor:

[In December], I was walking down 24th Street and happened to look down at just the right moment. To my delighted surprise, on the bottom of a former storefront were some small, beautifully made mosaics where the wall meets the sidewalk.

The location is on the north side of the block between Noe and Castro. It looks like a construction site—all boarded up with graffiti and ads. My concern is that these treasures could be destroyed!

If a resident in the building or the owner reads this letter, I was thinking maybe the artwork could be saved.

Kathy Perl
Chattanooga Street

Editor's Note: Thank you, Kathy. We relayed your concerns to the owners. They said they still hoped to preserve the mosaics on the storefront at 4018 24th St. The artwork was one of the attractions of the fair trade store Global Exchange, which occupied the space for more than two decades (until 2014). The business that followed, La PanotiQ, also kept the mosaics in place. However, the café closed in 2017. Since then, the storefront has remained empty, as a recession and then a pandemic delayed the building owners' plans to renovate and open a restaurant. We hope conditions improve this year.

Sister Squirrel

Sister Squirrel, I think your name is April.
Tail thumping on our wooden rail,
You peer down from our deck to the garden,
Scolding something in the green-black growing.
What makes you so angry on this mild day
That your tail must pound against the wood?
What is so upsetting in the garden,
Which makes you growl like a big animal?
Has a cat caught your brother by the tail?
Or is it a raptor with a mouse in beak?
Or maybe a Russian dictator
Who wants to strangle Democracy?

—Dan Murphy



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

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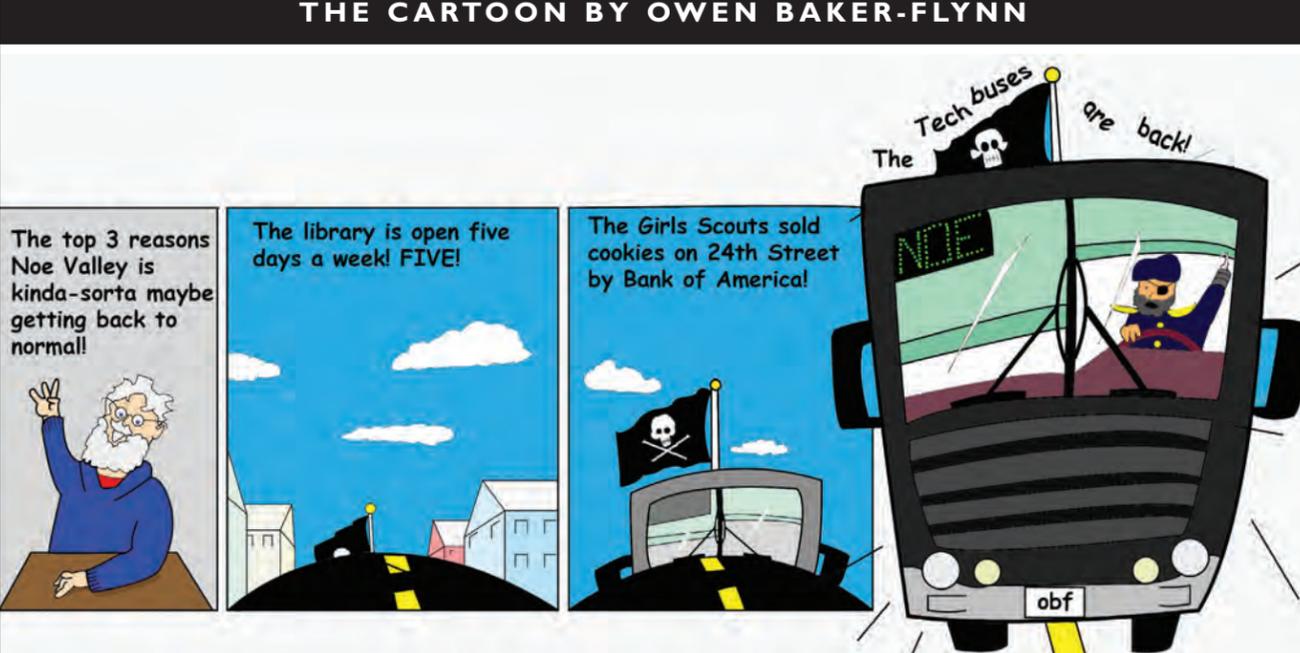
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THE CARTOON BY OWEN BAKER-FLYNN





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OLIVE THIS OLIVE THAT

Olive This Olive That-304 Vicksburg Street



Chefs Anya El-Wattar (left) and Dominique Crenn crafted a dinner that raised more than \$100,000 for Ukrainian refugees. Guests were treated to a five-course meal, with wine pairings, at El-Wattar's Birch & Rye restaurant. Photo by Natalie Schrik, Drew Altizer Photography

Russian and French Chefs Inspire Donors To Give Big at Local Benefit for Ukraine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

invasion of Ukraine launched Feb. 24 by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

All proceeds will benefit the non-profit World Central Kitchen, which is distributing food and hot meals to refugees in and near Ukraine.

The fundraiser—perhaps commonplace in tony Pacific Heights but a rare occurrence in laid-back Noe Valley—drew a mix of Noe Valley and greater Bay Area residents, many of Ukrainian or Russian descent.

Among the speakers was celebrity chef Traci Des Jardins, a James Beard award winner and a longtime supporter of World Central. Marina Sapritsky-Nahum of the London School of Economics and Ukrainian writer Aleksandra Bulatskaya also addressed the crowd.

A restaurant spokesperson said diners were press-shy, and most wished to remain anonymous.

“We heard from many guests that the symbolism of having this powerful

gathering in a Russian restaurant felt significant,” said El-Wattar, who opened Birch & Rye just two weeks before the war erupted.

“It gave people a sliver of hope to see something positive come from an establishment rooted in Russian tradition, yet simultaneously pro-Ukraine,” she said.

Diners sampled everything from buckwheat tartlet beluga lentil mousse porcini, shaved truffles, and mustard flowers to Savoy cabbage sauerkraut with smoked crème fraîche and sweet potato persillade. Dessert was rye honey cake with whipped smetana cream, caramelized almonds, and candied orange dust.

At one point during the gathering at 1320 Castro St., diners participated in a contest to determine which dish was French and which was Russian.

“Almost no one could tell, which told us that the menu blended seamlessly,” said El-Wattar. ■

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CyArk CEO Opens Doors to History in Virtual Tours

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

begin planning for future efforts to restore and preserve the Lyon-Martin House to ensure its rightful place in the

legacy of San Francisco’s built environment.”

Drones, Scans, and Archival Pix

The CyArk team produced the roughly 20-minute tour of the Lyon-Martin House through the use of drone imagery of the outside, digital camera shots of the interiors, and scans using Lidar, which stands for Light Detection

and Ranging technology. They were given three days of access to the house.

“I thought it was very powerful. Right now it is an empty house, but being inside it with Shayne, she could share these powerful stories with us,” said Ristevski. “The house still had energy.”

They used archival photos of the home in the archives of the GLBT

Historical Society to recreate what the rooms looked like when Lyon and Martin lived in them, and also incorporated songs the women would have listened to or played during gatherings.

Several historians and Mon serve as tour guides throughout the video, which also includes parts of an oral history that Lyon and Martin recorded in their later years.

“It would have been nice to have seen [the house] in its prime, but I think we were able to bring some of that back with the video,” said Ristevski.

At Home Capturing Reality

While working on his master of science degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 2003, Ristevski first became involved with CyArk, assisting on projects it was doing in Peru and Guatemala.

CyArk founding director Ben Kacyra was also a co-founder and CEO of Cyra Technologies, a local technology company that had developed the first fully integrated laser 3D imaging, mapping, modeling, and CAD system.

Kacyra wanted to use the technology to digitally preserve various countries’ cultural heritage sites and founded CyArk. Ristevski left CyArk in 2006 to start his own business called Earthmine, a 3D street-mapping company, out of the Noe Valley home he was living in at the time. Nokia acquired it in 2012 for its own mapping company called HERE and hired Ristevski as its vice president of reality capture and processing.

He left in 2016 to take over leader-



When not playing Indiana Jones, CyArk CEO John Ristevski is exploring sites remotely from his home in Noe Valley.

Photo by Art Bodner

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Writers!

You’re invited to submit your work of fiction, non-fiction, poetry or essay for inclusion in the August 2022 edition of *The Noe Valley Voice*.

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750 words max. And include information about you and your work for a brief (approx. 30 words) bio.

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Mom Hopes to Reach New Heights In Baby Clothing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and off.

She noticed that men’s “ath-leisure” came in odor-free fabrics, as did some towels and bed sheets. She contacted biotech companies to find out the science of their products.

“I cold-called companies to get information and samples. I feel like people took a chance on me because it was a story of a mom trying to find something for her baby.” And it didn’t hurt that it was an entirely new application for the companies’ products. The secret to the odor-free process is silver extruded into the yarn. Silver is a natural antimicrobial, and it is the microbes that cause odor, she was told.

Weaving Advice

Once she collected samples from the various companies, “it was all about softness,” said Newman. Having found her fabric, she needed to learn about the manufacturing business. Her network of “mom friends” in Noe Valley helped her on this path.

Newman found a yarn spinner, who led her to a fabric weaver. “A friend’s mom who is a baby clothes manufacturer” helped guide her through the process of getting the fabric made into clothes, which involved a pattern maker, a cutter, a sewer, and finally a dye house.

It was a “huge priority” to Newman

that all these steps took place in the San Francisco Bay Area, “because I wanted to learn in person.”

Emory became her favorite test subject, along with the helpful babies of friends. In fact, as Emory kept growing, “by the end of the first sample run, he was too big for the sample, so I had to borrow another baby.”

Newman launched her business in mid-March.

“The first products were in the 0 to 2 years range because that was Emory’s age at the time.” But as friends kept expressing interest in toddler sizes, she realized she literally had a growing market. So in May, she will be offering larger sizes as well.

A Thumbs-Up From Kids

Right now, First Peak (www.first-peak.co) has short-sleeved tee shirts and long-sleeved bodysuits (both \$22), as well as a nifty snap-on bib (\$11) in clay, sage, sky, and marine (think earthy red, muted green, soft blue, and grey).

Newman is proud of her thoughtful details, such as neckline snap closures and extended sleeves with thumbholes.

She is also adding a couple of new colors: mustard and rose, and even experimenting with tie-dye.

“Next on my wish list is a full body romper suit with legs, a long-sleeved tee shirt with the thumbhole, and for winter clothes waffle fabrics, which are snugglier and cozier.”

“You see it in adult running gear as a way to keep your hands warm. But I never saw it on baby clothes,” said Newman. She suffered when Emory’s



Jocelyn Newman shows off a baby bodysuit with snaps. It’s part of her First Peak kids’ clothing line, which she displayed at a pop-up on Sanchez Street last month. Photo by Kit Camera.

hands turned bright pink from the sunburn, and it was futile to get him to wear cover-up mittens. “I tested it out by cutting a hole in one of his shirts and he liked it.”

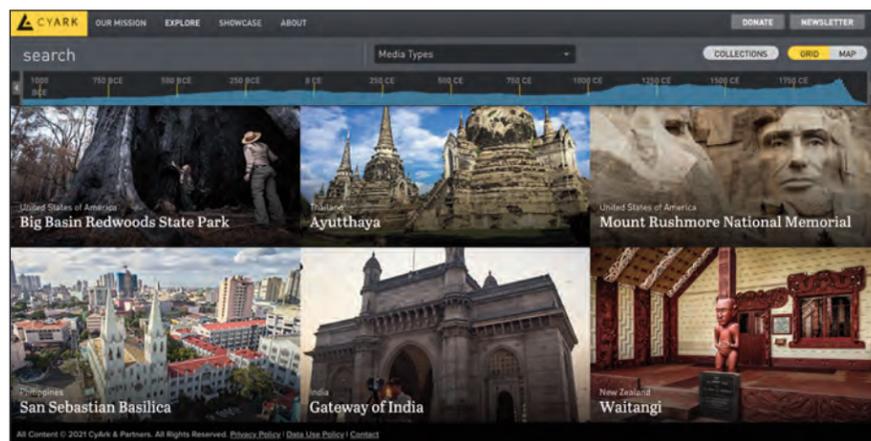
In addition to her in-home tester, Newman has gotten feedback from people she meets at the Noe Valley Farmers Market. The clothes, which she is selling via the website and at pop-up events in the neighborhood, are proving popular with moms and kids.

Like every good entrepreneur, she is building in brand loyalty, “connecting

with lifestyle and the choices people make.” She is proud her product is “100 percent USA made [and] mom-owned.”

Her website, which she designed with help from Gage, includes a blog on her personal journey as she learned to “push over the edge of ‘cant’s’” and other limitations. She is on Instagram and recently joined Facebook.

And the family is hoping to head for Barcelona this summer. “Because Emory can re-wear his clothes, we can pack half the amount as before.” ■



The CyArk website offers inside looks at more than 200 monuments, memorials, and historical sites around the world.

CyArk Sites Open for Exploring

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

ship of CyArk. He also moved around the Bay Area over the last two decades, relocating back to Noe Valley last year with his partner, Brandon Perkovich, an emergency medicine resident at Stanford Hospital. They got engaged in April.

“I love this neighborhood,” said Ristevski, who works from home full-time, having shuttered CyArk’s offices in Oakland to allow the nonprofit’s 14 staff members to work remotely.

Mount Rushmore in Close-Up

CyArk works with national governments, nonprofits, and other entities on its various projects. One early client, the American Battlefield Monuments Commission, hired CyArk to document its overseas cemeteries and memorials, which the federal agency is tasked with maintaining.

“They wanted to enable virtual access to these places for people who can’t travel there,” said Ristevski.

One of the most popular sites CyArk has done is Mount Rushmore, the 60-foot-high sculpture in South Dakota memorializing four presidents. Ristevski believes the tour’s popularity has to do with the National Park Service linking to CyArk from its website. Also, many children in the U.S. are familiar with the monument, having learned about it in the classroom.

“A lot of schools and school teachers are accessing the virtual tour,” he said. “I think that was the first one we did that had a curriculum to use with it.”

CyArk is working on a similar lesson plan for the Lyon-Martin House.

To experience CyArk’s virtual tours, now numbering more than 200, visit its website at <https://cyark.org/explore/>. ■

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District 8 Re-drawn With More Haight

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that roadway to Randall Street.

The District 8 boundary line then bumps east again one block down to Mission Street and follows the roadway southwest to Interstate 280. From there it travels west as it zigzags around the Glen Park neighborhood and runs north up O'Shaughnessy on the edge of Glen Canyon Park.

All of Diamond Heights is remaining in District 8, as is the section of Twin Peaks currently in the district. The biggest change to District 8's northeastern boundary is it will be moved to incorporate Ashbury Heights and Cole Valley, which have been part of District 5.

Mandelman told the *Voice* that the new parts of the district are similar to Noe Valley, with mainly liberal homeowners and renters in hillside neighborhoods. Commercial corridors run through the flatter sections with Muni's N-Judah stopping nearby, just as the J-Church does in Noe Valley, he pointed out.

"Overall, the district didn't change that much," said Mandelman. "I think Cole Valley in a lot of ways is not dissimilar to Noe Valley. Overall, I don't think it is a massive shift from Noe Valley's perspective."

Longtime Noe Valley neighborhood leader Todd David agreed. Both demographically and politically, Ashbury Heights and Cole Valley mirror Noe Valley, he told the *Voice*. Overall, David said, the Noe Valley neighborhood should be pleased with the new map.

"Noe Valley is intact as we were

before," said David. "For Noe Valley this was kind of a non-event."

Eastern LGBTQ Areas Split Up

Yet, for many other neighborhoods the redrawing of the supervisor districts was a painful process. After each decennial count of the city's population by the U.S. Census, the 11 supervisor districts need to be redrawn, so they each have a roughly equal number of residents. (In this case, the count was begun in 2020 and completed in 2021, due to the Covid pandemic.)

Because most of the new housing in San Francisco has gone up in the eastern neighborhoods, particularly in District 6, that area saw the greatest change in its supervisorial boundaries. The Tenderloin is being removed from District 6 and put into District 5 with the Western Addition, Japantown, Alamo Square, and the Haight.

The decision angered leaders of the Transgender District in the Tenderloin. They had lobbied to remain in District 6 with the Leather and LGBTQ Cultural District in western South of Market, due to the groups' close working relationship and their shared desire to keep the LGBTQ residents of the two neighborhoods unified.

All of SOMA is staying in District 6 along with Rincon Hill, Yerba Buena Gardens, and Mission Bay. The neighboring Districts 9 and 10 are also largely remaining the same.

A Walkout and Extention

At one point it appeared that the Potrero neighborhood would move from D10 into D9, and the Portola would move out of D9 and into D10. The approval of a map that did just that, on a 5-4 vote by the redistricting task force in early April, resulted in the

four members who opposed it walking out on the proceedings.

It also prompted outrage from African American and Latino residents of D10 and D9, respectively, as they vociferously complained the decision diminished their political power. Their arguments persuaded the task force's chair, the Reverend Arnold Townsend, to change his mind. He ended up voting to reject the map and to have the panel return to its line-drawing work.

His doing so led the task force to miss its April 15 deadline to finalize a new map, as called for in the city's charter. It also raised questions about the legality of the group's continuing to meet, and about its ability to approve new boundaries by May 2. That was the last date the state would accept changes to maps being used in the November election. (San Francisco supervisors in even-numbered districts will be on the Nov. 8 ballot.)

Much Ado About Nothing?

The uncertainty prompted David to join with two other city residents to file a lawsuit with San Francisco Superior Court, seeking to have it intervene and draw up a map if needed. But with the redistricting task force approving a map on a 5-4 vote April 28, their lawsuit became moot and was dismissed.

While David has some qualms about the new district boundaries, such as preferring to see the entire Valencia Street corridor remain in District 8, he told the *Voice* he is pleased the task force came to a conclusion.

"The average citizen, if they have heard anything about this process, is probably asking, why was there so much craziness involved?" he said.

Noe Valley resident Anastasia Yovanopoulos, a senior tenant who

lives on 24th Street, followed the redistricting process as a member of the Race and Equity in All Planning Coalition. She told the *Voice* that the redistricting task force could have done a better job at coming up with supervisor districts that were fairer to various marginalized groups in the city.

"The redistricting task force was unwilling to consider making changes in D8 that could have benefitted surrounding districts. Many politicians in D8 are happy that D8's status quo is maintained. They have the attitude that 'other districts be damned.' I disagree," said Yovanopoulos, who called into many of the task force meetings to give public comment. "The final redistricting map is patently unfair to vulnerable communities and does not promote equity in San Francisco. The final map can only be viewed as a 'political map' and is a huge disappointment."

The San Francisco Community Unity Map Coalition, composed of several groups around the city, also condemned the map and issued a statement just prior to the task force's last meeting April 28. "Instead of prioritizing the needs of our city's most vulnerable populations and communities of interest, including low-income communities of color, renters, LGBTQ populations, and cultural districts, the majority of the task force has chosen to keep wealthier, predominantly white communities whole and together in the final map," the coalition stated.

Some members demanded new lawsuits challenging the map adopted by the redistricting task force.

The final map can be viewed online at <https://sfgov.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=57159538a9a3422a9d22ef75d66565b6>. ■



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The Cost of Living in Noe

Buyers Up the Ante

By Corrie M. Anders

Well-heeled buyers pushed the average cost of a single-family home in Noe Valley to \$3.4 million in March, according to data supplied to the *Noe Valley Voice* by Corcoran Global Living San Francisco.

One buyer shelled out \$9.5 million to purchase a newly renovated home on Elizabeth Street. Another paid \$6 million for a modern mansion on 29th Street—\$1 million over the seller’s asking price. The luxury properties were among 15 detached homes that closed escrow during a month of fierce over-bidding reminiscent of the dot-com boom of the 1990s.

The buying frenzy extended to Noe Valley condominiums. Eighteen changed hands in March, up a dozen from February. The average condominium price soared to \$2 million.

Worries about inflation and rising interest rates—which hit 5 percent in



This stately home on Elizabeth Street sold in March for \$9.5 million. The original 1955 dwelling had been gutted and expanded to accommodate four bedrooms, four baths, and four skylights.

March, the highest rate in a decade—fueled the competition. The increase created a sense of urgency, the kind where “everyone goes out and tries to buy before rates go up even more,” said Corcoran President Randall Kostick. “And so it’s not surprising that there was a flurry of activity.”

In addition, Kostick noted, many buyers paid all cash.

“I suspect that more than half were either all cash or they used one of the specialized loan products that allows a buyer to purchase with no loan contingency,” he said.

On average, buyers paid 26 percent more than the sellers’ asking price. (Last March, they paid only a 5 percent premium.)

“Twenty-six percent is pretty substantial,” Kostick said. “Every house but one sold for above the asking price.”

In the most extreme case, buyers paid 56 percent over asking. Their \$2,650,000 captured a two-bedroom Edwardian in the 4400 block of 24th Street, originally priced at \$1,699,000.

Deals were sealed in an average nine days. “These were fast-paced sales,” Kostick said, “every one of them.”



A buyer paid \$1 million more than the asking price for this modern renovation on 29th Street, perhaps reflecting on the home’s 122-year-old history.

Unit	No. in Sample	Range April 2022	Average April 2022	Average March 2022	Average April 2021
Studio	12	\$1,600 – \$2,895	\$2,131 / mo.	\$2,156 / mo.	\$1,974 / mo.
1-bdrm	47	\$1,795 – \$4,100	\$2,808 / mo.	\$2,834 / mo.	\$2,619 / mo.
2-bdrm	43	\$2,400 – \$5,900	\$3,888 / mo.	\$3,723 / mo.	\$3,516 / mo.
3-bdrm	20	\$3,550 – \$12,000	\$5,249 / mo.	\$5,123 / mo.	\$5,442 / mo.
4+-bdrm	6	\$4,950 – \$20,000	\$8,991 / mo.	\$8,909 / mo.	\$6,396 / mo.

** This survey is based on a sample of 128 Noe Valley rental listings appearing on Craigslist.org from March 10 to April 9, 2022. In April 2021, there were 234 listings. NVV5/2022

Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price as % of List Price
Single-family homes						
March 2022	15	\$1,958,400	\$9,500,000	\$3,440,360	9	126%
February 2022	11	\$1,705,000	\$6,866,278	\$2,958,753	13	114%
March 2021	16	\$1,450,000	\$6,300,000	\$3,054,563	23	105%
Condominiums/TICs						
March 2022	18	\$1,080,000	\$4,000,000	\$1,989,722	14	115%
February 2022	4	\$562,000	\$1,455,000	\$949,875	19	113%
March 2021	15	\$491,500	\$1,822,888	\$1,381,626	46	106%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
March 2022	4	\$1,200,000	\$2,400,000	\$1,797,000	41	117%
February 2022	1	\$1,549,000	\$1,549,000	\$1,549,000	103	100%
March 2021	3	\$1,750,000	\$4,900,000	\$2,950,000	38	98%
5+-unit buildings						
March 2022	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2022	0	—	—	—	—	—
March 2021	0	—	—	—	—	—

*This survey includes all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley is loosely defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The *Noe Valley Voice* thanks Corcoran Global Living San Francisco for providing sales data. NVV5/2022

The \$9.5 million sale on Elizabeth Street happened so fast escrow closed before the home reached the market. Located in Elizabeth’s 500 block between Noe and Castro streets, the house attracted the second highest price ever paid for a single-family home in Noe Valley—that is, among the sales the *Voice* has charted since 1999. (The highest price was the \$12 million paid in 2017 for a home on a bluff off Duncan Street.)

The four-story renovation—with four bedrooms, four baths, and 4,812 square feet of living space—replaced a house built in 1955. San Francisco building permits show authorization was granted in 2020 to gut the building and add an additional floor, four skylights, two gas fireplaces, and a wet bar, among other features.

The home on 29th Street—the one that sold for \$6,005,000, 20.2 percent over its asking price (\$4,995,000)—is in the 500 block between Noe and Castro streets. Built in 1900, the house had been renovated and transformed into a four-bedroom, four-bath show-piece, this time with 3,505 square feet of living space on three levels.

The contemporary remodel featured floor-to-ceiling glass walls, an indoor-outdoor floor plan, a kitchen with Miele appliances and an unusual center island that doubled as an eight-person dining table, a garden with hot tub, and several view decks, including one with a shaded roof and a gas fireplace. The home offered two spaces for parking.

Condos in the Clouds

On the condo front, buyers on average made offers within 14 days and

paid 15 percent over asking to land a neighborhood address. That was compared to 46 days and 6 percent, respectively, in March a year ago.

The most expensive condo, located in a remodeled Edwardian in the 4100 block of 26th Street, sold for \$4 million—21.4 percent above the seller’s asking price (\$3,295,000). In our book, that’s the most ever paid for a condominium in Noe Valley.

The two-level unit featured four bedrooms and four baths in 2,572 square feet of living space. Amenities included a designer kitchen with European style cabinetry, high-end Thermidor appliances, spa-like bathrooms, a media room, a private elevator from a two-car garage, three balconies, and a roof deck with 360-degree views. ■



Behind this façade on 26th Street is a two-story condominium that sold for a record \$4 million in March. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

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 180 Days Until Mid-Term Elections: Join Action-SF.com June 5.

STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular feature of the Voice, highlighting new stores and restaurants in Noe Valley. This month, we profile a combination tapas and sushi restaurant, which began rolling in March in the Diamond Street space once occupied by Bacco.

DASH JAPANESE TAPAS AND SUSHI

737 Diamond Street between 24th and Elizabeth

415-655-9197

<https://sanfranciscodash.com/>

With the opening of their Dash Japanese Tapas and Sushi at 737 Diamond St., co-owners Eric Deng and Edmond Tse are once again serving up seafood delicacies in Noe Valley. Deng used to own Kama Sushi on Church Street, and Tse worked there until the duo left the restaurant in 2015.

Three years prior, Deng and Tse had opened Dash Japanese Tapas & Omakase in downtown San Mateo. It has spawned a boatload of loyal customers, drawn to the fresh fish the restaurant ships in from the Toyosu Fish Market in Tokyo.

The Noe Valley location is also serving fresh fish flown over from Japan. The Dash specials menu changes daily, based on what Tse and Deng are able to reel in.

In early April, the featured fish included Hotaru Ika (firefly squid, \$9), Ao Ebi (blue shrimp, \$13), and Hon Maguro Zuke (marinated bluefin tuna, \$11). Each plate offered two nigiri—raw fish over pressed vinegared rice.

Diners could also opt for a five-piece or 10-piece Omakase (\$36/\$70), with the chef selecting the fish to serve either nigiri style or simply sliced sashimi style.

A unique compliment to the sushi at Dash is the Japanese tapas menu. Among the various choices are Kaki-Un (\$14), two servings of raw oysters with sea urchin prepared in their shell; and Baked Baby Scallop (\$13), two servings of baked Peru baby scallop and uni, also presented in their shells.

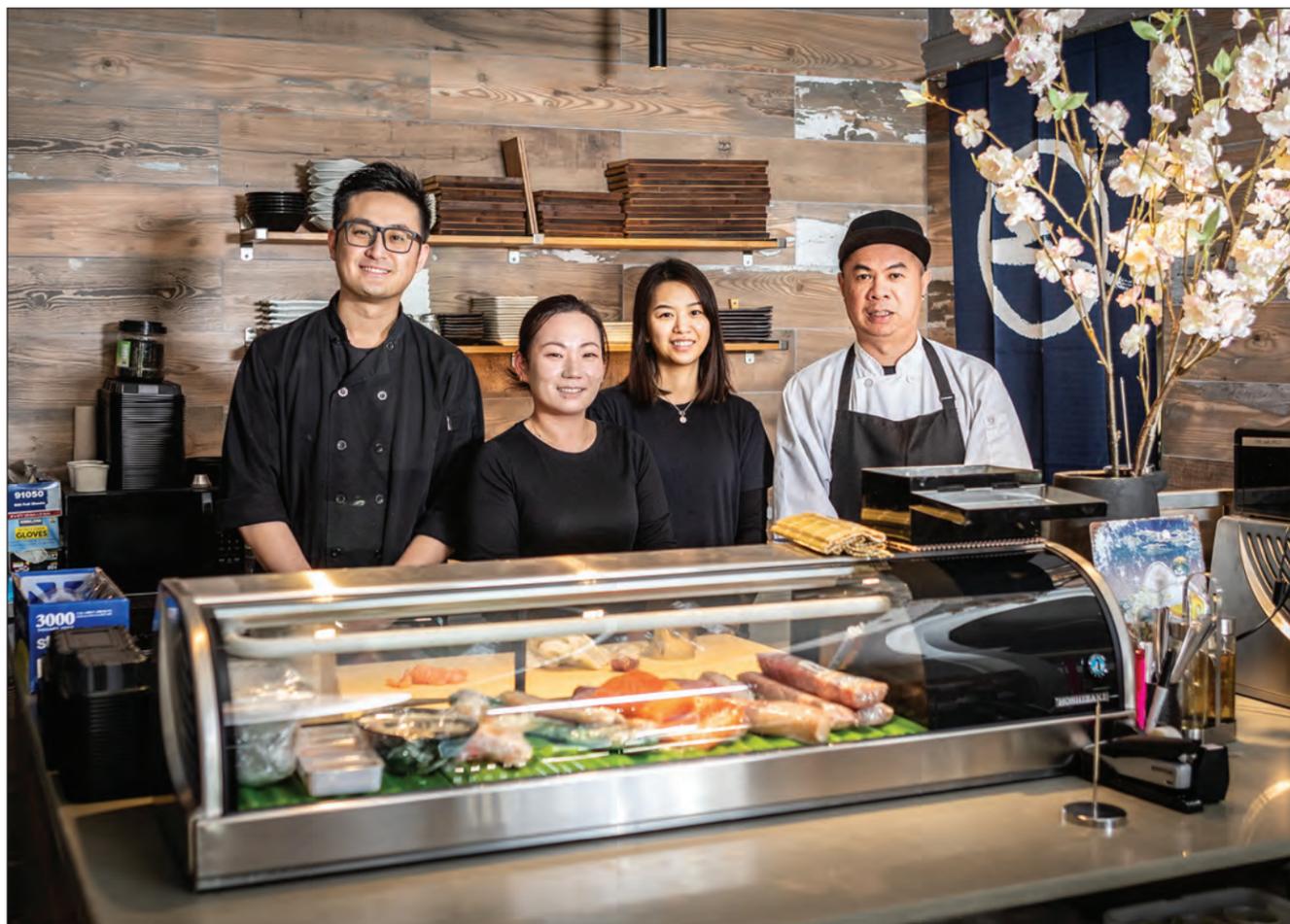
There are also non-fish tapas, such as Wagyu Carpaccio (\$15), thinly sliced American Kobe beef served with a wasabi yuzu sauce; and Lamb Chops (\$16), two pieces that are grilled and seasoned with shoyu, honey miso, and grated ginger root. Children likely will enjoy the Chicken Karaage (\$10), deep fried chicken nuggets.

Also popular with younger diners is Dash's various noodle dishes, said Ella Liao, who is married to Tse and manages the Noe Valley location. Udon, the thick noodle made from wheat flour, can be ordered plain (\$9), with mixed vegetables (\$13), or pan fried with seasoned cod roe and bacon (\$14).

"Kids really love Udon," said Liao.

Unique to the Noe Valley location's menu, said Liao, are several varieties of Ramen, the Japanese soup made with Chinese-style wheat noodles. Karaage Ramen (\$16) can be ordered with a pork or soy broth and comes with chicken karaage, corn, romaine lettuce, scallions, red ginger, and dry seaweed. A Spicy Miso Ramen (\$17) consists of minced chicken miso broth, sliced pork, corn, red ginger, and dry seaweed.

Diners will also find a plethora of sushi rolls, from traditional choices like Salmon Avocado (\$10) and Spicy Scallop (\$11) to specialty rolls like the



Matt Lee, Ella Liao, Iris Huang, and Michael Foong invite you to hurry into Dash, which bases its popularity in San Mateo on the delivery of fresh fish from Japan.

Photo by Art Bodner

Creamy Scallop (\$15), made with fresh scallop, avocado, tobiko, and aioli, or the Super Negi Toro (\$13), made with the cinnamon-scented herb shisho, fatty tuna, scallions, and takuwan (pickled Japanese turnip). A top seller, said Liao, is the DASH Special roll (\$18), made with mame nori, spicy tuna, cucumber, and spicy popcorn shrimp.

"The most interesting thing is the popcorn shrimp is on top of the roll. The traditional way is to roll everything inside the roll," noted Liao, who lives with Tse in Hayward.

The restaurant has a wide selection of sake, wine, and beer. The non-alcoholic options include a plum soda.

Deng, who lives in San Bruno, also owns the sushi restaurant at the corner of Ninth and Folsom streets, in the city's South of Market neighborhood. It is being rebranded from Kama Sushi SOMA to a third Dash location.

Deng and Tse had signed the lease last summer for the Diamond Street location, formerly home to Italian restaurant Bacco, now located on 24th Street. They then spent about six months building out the space.

Walking into Dash from its right-side door, customers will find a small seating area to their right and the sushi preparation area in the middle of the space, just to the left of the entryway. There is no counter seating right in front of where the sushi chefs work, but by the front window is a wooden bench the owners built themselves, which provides seating for several tables.

At the left end of the restaurant is the largest of its three dining rooms, with space to seat larger parties of five or more. Altogether the restaurant can accommodate 49 diners.

Since opening on March 14, Dash has seen a steady stream of people drifting into Noe Valley's newest sushi spot, despite its being a bit off the 24th

Street commercial corridor, said Liao.

"Most of our customers the first week were the neighbors across the street and around the corner. Now more people are coming in from up the hill and further down the street," said Liao. "We are also seeing some of our regular San Mateo customers who live in San Francisco."

Befitting its name, Dash is available for delivery orders via Door Dash.

Customers can also order for pickup via the restaurant's website, sanfranciscodash.com. Reservations can be made by phone.

Currently, Dash is open Monday through Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 5 to 9:30 p.m. It is closed on Sunday. Once additional staff is hired, Dash plans to open for lunch on Fridays and Saturdays.

—Matthew S. Bajko

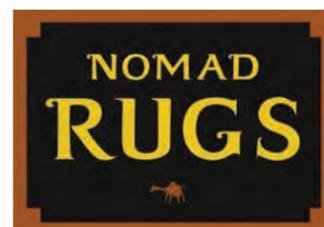
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Little Leaguers take the field at Upper Noe.

Photo by Chris Faust

Saturday Concerts Set to Begin

Upper Noe Rec Center offers a wide variety of activities in a very small space. It is wonderful how nicely we play together. Now that more people feel comfortable getting out and enjoying the park (295 Day St.), a couple reminders will help ensure a pleasant experience for all.

Pack It In, Pack It Out. The park has limited garbage capacity. Please help prevent overflowing cans and keep the park neat and clean. Garbage bags should be standard equipment for parties, picnics, and baseball games.

No Dogs On Field signs are posted. Please be considerate and obey them, so the grass is kept nice and safe for the kids. Upper Noe has a lovely dog park for your pets, with an entrance on 30th near Church Street.

The **Concerts in the Park** music series resumes in Upper Noe playground every first and third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon through October. The series provides free family-friendly live music for adults that will delight children, too. The lineup includes **Steff Kayser** on May 7, **The Leafs (Donovan Plant)** on May 21, and **Theo McKinney** on June 4.

Important Dates: Summer Registration begins May 21. The building is closed May 22–30 for maintenance. Summer Session/Day Camps start June 6.

Check www.uppernoerecreationcenter.com or call the Upper Noe office, 415-970-8061, for more information and updates. Then get out and play!

—Chris Faust, Chair, Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

Upper Noe Spring Session March 28 to May 20, 2022

Rec Center Hours: Tues.–Fri., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Park Grounds: Daily, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Auditorium Free Play
 10 to 11:30 a.m. weekdays
 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday

Monday
 5 to 6 p.m. Tennis Beginning
 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Intermediate

Tuesday
 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pickleball FREE
 Noon to 1 p.m. Pilates (all levels)
 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Open Gym
 5 to 6 p.m. Tennis Beginning
 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Intermediate
 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Hatha

Wednesday
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open Gym (Adult)
 Noon to 1 p.m. Feldenkrais FREE
 4 to 5 p.m. Girls Volleyball
 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adult Drop-in Volleyball (advanced only)

Thursday
 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Adult Pickleball FREE
 Noon to 1 p.m. Pilates
 2 to 5 p.m. Open Gym (Youth)
 4 to 5 p.m. Karate Kidz – Little Kickers
 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Karate Kidz
 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Open Gym (Adult)
 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Boot Camp

Friday
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open Gym (Adult)
 1 to 4 p.m. Argentine Tango 55+ FREE
 2 to 5 p.m. Open Gym (Youth)
 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adult Drop-in Volleyball (advanced only)

Saturday
 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open Gym
 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Family Zumba FREE
 5 to 6 p.m. Tennis Beginning
 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis Intermediate

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SHORT TAKES

Stop and Smell the Flowers

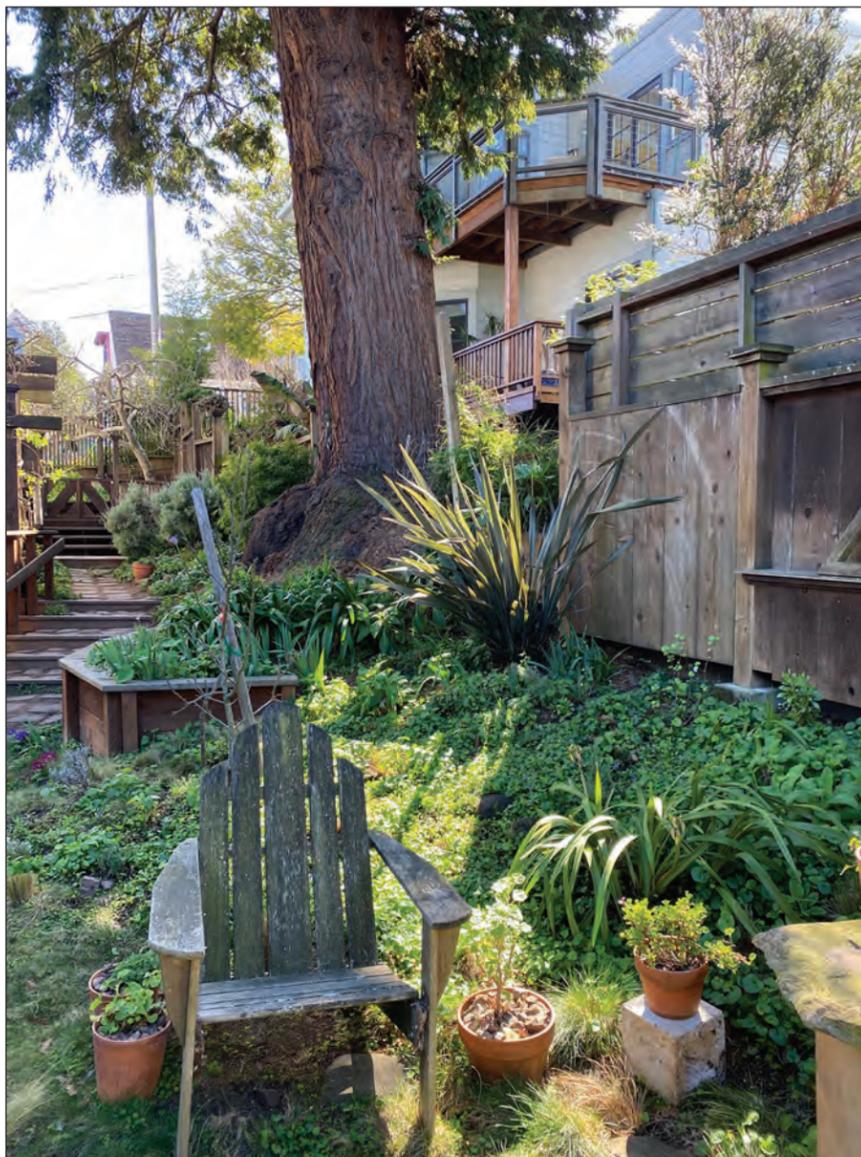
The Noe Valley Garden Tour is back! After a two-year Covid absence, the annual walk through the neighborhood and neighbors' back yards returns Saturday, May 7.

With ticket in hand, you can take a self-guided tour of nine beautiful spaces from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., including a cottage garden, rose garden, vegetable patch, and a garden planted in shades of blue. One residence is a "castle"; another has a rabbit hutch. Four stops feature two gardens in contrasting styles. More beauty for your buck.

Speaking of which, ticket prices have not gone up from two years ago. Still \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and free if you're under 12. Buy yours online at www.friendsofnoevalley.com and at the Noe Valley Town Square, at Vicksburg and 24th streets, on tour day.

Raffle tickets can also be purchased. For one dollar each, or 30 for \$20, you could win an orchid from Flowers of the Valley on 24th Street or \$100 gift certificates from Flowercraft Garden Center or Flora Grubb Gardens.

The garden tour is a project of Friends of Noe Valley. For information, email Linda Lockyer at lindalockyer3@gmail.com.



This year's Noe Valley Garden Tour on May 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., affords visits to nine gardens, including this cottage garden created by the homeowner with help from Mission Creek Gardening. The site also has a working compost system. Photo courtesy Peggy Cling



Coinneach MacLeod, known as "the Hebridean Baker," will hold forth about his recipes and cooking style May 12, 6:30 p.m., at Omnivore Books. Photo by Euan Anderson

Flings, Highland and Not

Book events are lively this month in Noe Valley. First, there's the "Spring Fling" at Odd Mondays May 9, 7 p.m. Neighborhood author and writing instructor Leslie Kirk Campbell reads from her Mary McCarthy Prize-winning short story collection *The Man With Eight Pairs of Legs*. Campbell will be joined by Mimi Lok (*Last of Her Name: A Novella & Stories*), Toni Mirosevich (*Spell Heaven and Other Stories*), and poet Karen Melander Magoon (*Footsteps Whispering*).

Get the Zoom link for May from oddmorningsnoevalley@gmail.com and buy books from Folio Books, 3957 24th St.

Down Church Street at Omnivore Books on Food, you have a literary feast to enjoy, with seven author events in May. All are free to attend except Thursday, May 12, with Coinneach MacLeod, who has journeyed here all the way from the Outer Hebrides. MacLeod, who rose to TikTok fame as "the Hebridean Baker," has published his first cookbook (*The Hebridean Baker*), featuring recipes and stories from the Scottish islands (\$29).

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. at 3885 Cesar Chavez St. Buying the book is

the price of admission. Omnivore says it's 50 people max, standing room only. Masks are required if you're unvaccinated.

To learn about the other six at Omnivore this month or to buy books, go to <https://omnivorebooks.myshopify.com>.

An Upper Noe Reveal

Matt Haney, the victor in last month's District 17 Assembly seat runoff, will appear at the next meeting of Upper Noe Neighbors, on Wednesday, May 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (on Zoom). As will District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman.

In addition, the Restore the J Workgroup will report on the J-line's performance since the SFMTA responded to community pressure and restored the underground segment of the route.

The Neighbors will also talk about plans for an Upper Noe Block Party, set for Saturday, Sept. 24, at Upper Noe Rec Center on Day Street.

But the last item on the agenda may be the one you don't want to miss. The UNN's Slow Sanchez Committee will present its proposed community guidelines for the traffic-free shared space.

To get the Zoom link, email info@uppernoeneighbors.com. This will be the first general meeting since the Neighbors elected new officers on March 19. They are Chris Faust, president; Tony Harris, vice president; Erin Zielinski, treasurer; Bryan Klofas, secretary; and Andy Levine, land use chair.

Buy Stuff, Sell Stuff

The annual Fair Oaks Street Garage Sale is set for Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For over 40 years, neighbors have been setting up tables on the sidewalk outside their homes and selling or trading what they no longer need. Non-residents are welcome to set up a free table outside one of the two schools located on the street.

This year, the sale extends along Fair Oaks from 22nd Street to 26th Street. As the organizers say, "You won't find a Tesla for sale, but you will find treasures of all kinds," as well as home-baked snacks and fresh lemonade to sustain you through four blocks of shopping.

Fair Oaks runs north-south one block east of Dolores Street. For information, email Paula.Mancillas@gmail.com.

Music in the Air

Five concerts across the neighborhood, ranging from folk songs to baroque, bring the sound of music to our valley in May.

Folk musician and singer Steff Kayser will perform in the family-friendly Concerts in the Park series at Upper Noe Recreation Center on Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. to noon. The music happens in the park, at 295 Day St. between Church and Sanchez streets.

Next up is the Chamber Music



Music by composer Jessie Montgomery will be featured in a May 13 concert at the Noe Valley Ministry performed by the Chamber Music Society of San Francisco.

Cara Black's 20th Leduc Mystery a Faithful Return

Minus one brief separation, Noe Valley novelist Cara Black has shared her entire life of crime with private investigator Aimée Leduc.

In March, Black published her 21st novel, *Murder at the Porte de Versailles*. To the delight of her fans, the fearless detective who had solved crimes in #1 through #19 of Black's books returned in full force in the latest.

Black says she felt a bit unfaithful to Leduc, when she left her out of her 2020 book, *Three Hours in Paris*, a spy story set in World War II and a finalist for the 2020 Dashiell Hammett Prize.

"At first, I felt I wasn't being true to a character I'd been living with almost 20 years," said Black, who writes from her Alvarado Street home. "But my editor said it was a good time to use another writing muscle and try an idea I had."

Black penned her first Leduc mystery in 1999. "I had no idea I'd be writing a second book, much less a series. I'm thrilled that Aimée and I go on adventures together and explore Paris."

Murder at the Porte de Versailles finds the detective in the City of Love shortly after 9/11, investigating a bomb explosion in the French police lab that has been linked to the partner of a close friend.

Black chatted with the *Voice* in late April via email from Paris, where she was on a promotion tour for *Versailles* and finishing up research on her next Leduc novel.

By the time you read this, she will be back in the Bay Area, to attend two events at the Bay Area Book Festival in Berkeley on Saturday, May 7 (at 1931 Center St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and at Freight & Salvage, 2020 Addison St., from 5 to 6:15 p.m.).

She'll return again on Aug. 27 to speak at the San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin St., at 1 p.m.

For more details on her book tour, go to carablack.com.

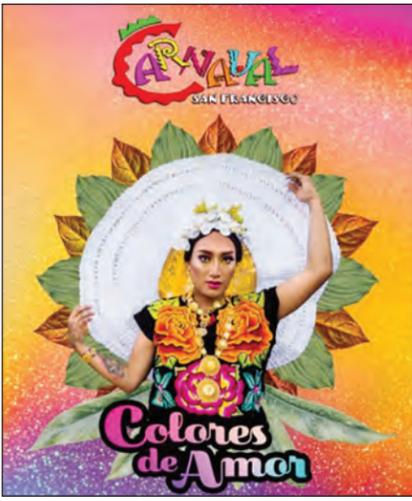
—Corrie M. Anders

Society of San Francisco season finale Friday, May 13, 7:30 p.m., upstairs at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Violinist Kay Stern will be featured and champagne will be flowing after listeners thrill to the works of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Black American composer Jessie Montgomery. Buy tickets at <https://chambermusicsocietyofsf.org>, \$25 general admission, \$15 for seniors.

Saturday, May 21, we're back at the rec center for Donovan Plant and the Leafs (sic). Plant is a former private detective turned country, rock, and pop guitarist-singer. Better go; he knows how to track you down. Free. From 10 a.m. to noon.

And finally, from homegrown Noe Music, the final two events in its season: On Saturday, May 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Noe Music Kids offers "Ruckus Among Us." Ruckus, described as a "raucous baroque band from New York City," will play dance music from the 17th century.

At 7:30 p.m., Ruckus joins tenor



The two-day festival Carnaval San Francisco culminates May 29 with the Grand Parade, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Bryant and 24th streets.

Nicholas Phan and violinists Owen Dalby and Katie Hyun for baroque arias from Bach and Buxtehude and instrumentals from Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, Celeste Oram, Frescobaldi, Handel, and Purcell.

Both concerts are at the Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Get tickets at www.noemusic.org, \$15 for the kids concert and \$60 for the season-ending celebration.

A Concert in the Motherland

You probably have Mother’s Day brunch all organized, right? For the woman who gave birth to you? The mother of your children? What else you got? Candy? Flowers? How about an activity?

On the day (Sunday, May 8), Music on the Hill is presenting the Circadian String Quartet performing a special moms concert, aptly called “Motherland.” The quartet will play old

SHORT TAKES

and new music from around the globe, including pieces by Gabriela Lena Frank, Sahba Aminikia, Anton Dvorak, and David Ryther. Ryther will be playing one of the violins in the quartet.

Get your tickets in advance for limited seating, \$20 at <http://www.musiconthehill.org>. The church is at 101 Gold Mine Road in Diamond Heights.

Samba, Baby!

Carnaval San Francisco sways and sashays through the Mission District Sunday, May 29, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The pre-Lent celebration Latino-American style is full of flash, flesh, and fun, but March is a little chilly here. In May, you have at least a fighting chance not to freeze your maraca off. This year, the parade starts on 24th Street at Bryant, proceeds west to Mission Street, north to 15th, and east back to Harrison.

Harrison Street is also the festival street—17 blocks of food, drink, music, art, piñatas, and other souvenirs. Plans are for five main stages, 50 local performers, and 400 vendors. That’s a lot of tacos y tamales!

This year’s theme is “Colores de Amor.” There will definitely be a lot of color at Carnaval and, we hope, love. Make it happen!

Short Takes are compiled and written by Richard May

Meet at the Sanchez Stairs

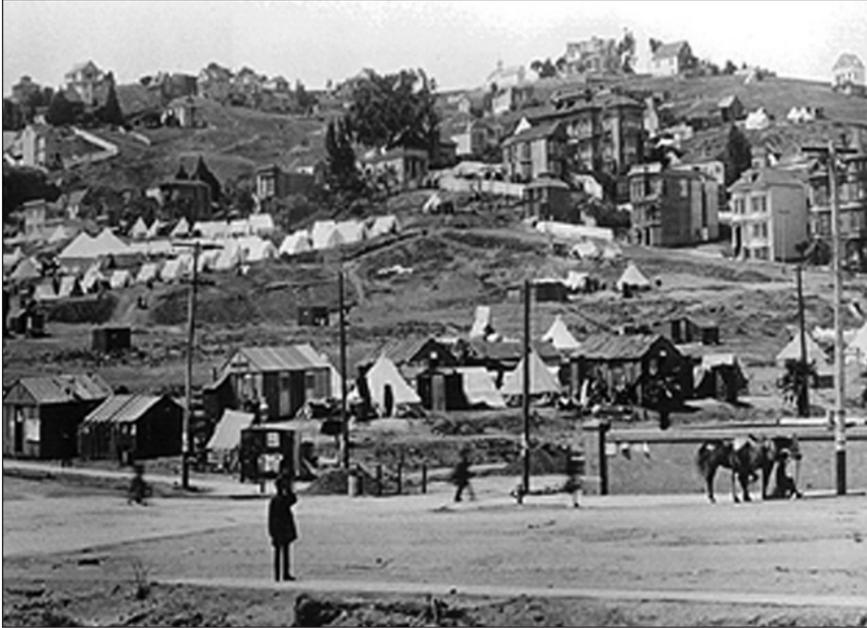
Like many other groups in the neighborhood, the Dolores Heights Improvement Club is celebrating a Green Garden Day and Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 7.

The DHIC event, at the top of the Sanchez Street staircase between 19th and Cumberland streets, promises coffee and cookies and a chance for neighbors to work in the garden together at 9 a.m. and then dig into Dolores Heights topics from 11 a.m. to noon.

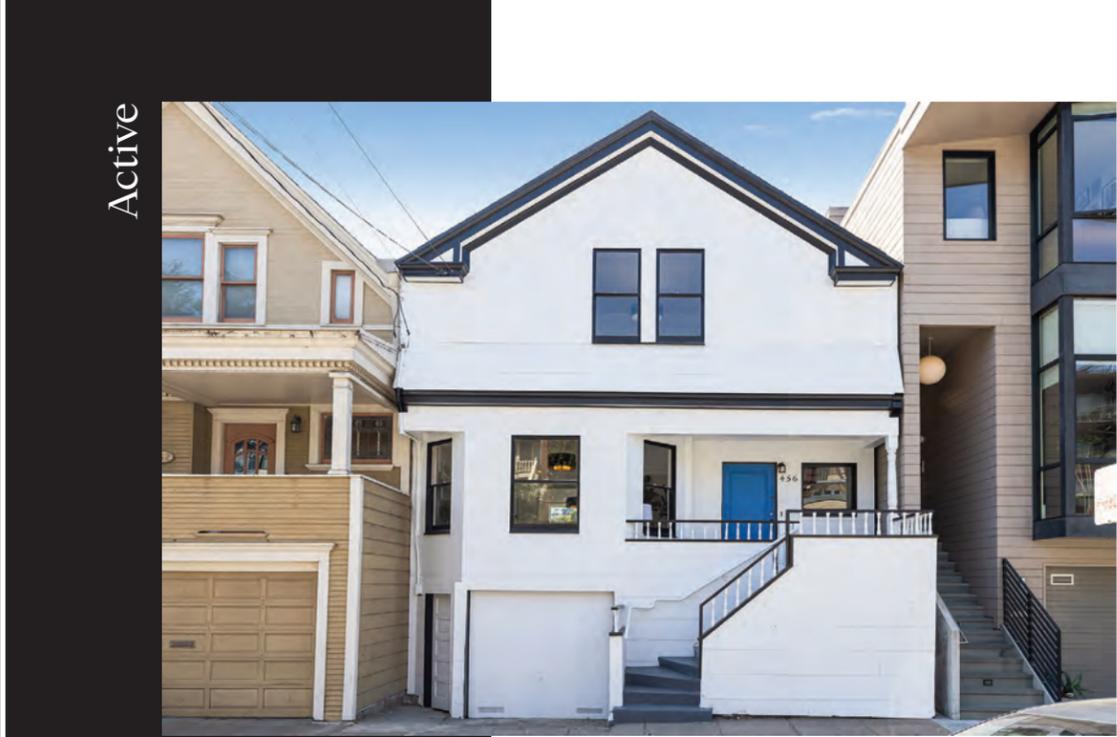
Says group chair Carolyn Kenady, “DHIC board members and other leaders will highlight what we’re doing in the neighborhood—safety, greening the public stairways, land use and planning.”

To liven up the proceedings, Supervisor Rafael Mandelman will attend. “He’ll speak and take Q&A for about 30 minutes, starting at about 11:20 a.m.”

Like the name implies, Dolores Heights runs above Dolores Park and along Sanchez Hill from 19th to 23rd Street. For more information, call 415-553-0123, email stairs@doloresheights.org, or email Kenady at carolynkennedy@gmail.com.



The hill that would later be named Dolores Heights was sparsely populated in 1906. But that would change, as earthquake refugees found ways to stake homes above Dolores Park. As they perhaps did daily back then, local residents will gather this spring to discuss plans for land use, safety, and greening (May 7, 11 a.m., Sanchez Stairs). Photo courtesy Greg Gaar Collection



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MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

Action SF

Websites: <http://www.action-sf.com/> or <https://m.facebook.com/ActionSFactivism/>
 Email: ActionSFsolidarity@gmail.com
 Meetings: Usually first Sundays, 12:30-2 p.m.
 Virtual meeting. All welcome.

Al-Anon Noe Valley

Contact: 834-9940
 Website: 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)

Castro Community on Patrol

Website: castropatrol.org
 Email: info@castropatrol.org

Castro Merchants

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

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.

Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association

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

Fair Oaks Neighbors

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

Friends of Billy Goat Hill

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

Friends of Dolores Park Playground

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

Friends of Glen Canyon Park

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

Friends of Noe Courts Playground

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

Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

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

Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUNDG)

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, MI7-6290
 Email: dave@schweisguth.org
 Website: 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.

Noe Neighborhood Council

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

Noe Valley Association-24th Street Community Benefit District

Contact: Debra Niemann, 519-0093
 Dispatch: To report spills or debris on 24th Street, call Billy Dinnell, 802-4461.
 Email: info@noevalleyassociation.org
 Website: noevalleyassociation.org
 Board meetings: Quarterly. See website.

Noe Valley Democratic Club

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

Noe Valley Farmers Market

Open Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesdays, 3 to 7 p.m.; 3861 24th St. between Vicksburg and Sanchez.
 Contact: Leslie Crawford, 248-1332
 Email: info@noevalleyfarmersmarket.com

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)

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

Noe Valley Parent Network

An e-mail resource network for parents
 Contact: Mina Kenvin

Email: minaken@gmail.com
noevalleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Noe Walks

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

Progress Noe Valley

Facebook: [ProgressNoeValley](https://www.facebook.com/ProgressNoeValley)
 Email: progressnoe@gmail.com
 Website: progressnoe.com
 Meetings: Check Facebook page for current meeting and event schedule.

Resilient Noe Valley

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

San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)

Contact: Noe Valley NERT Neighborhood Team co-coordinators Maxine Fasulis, mfasulis@yahoo.com; Carole Roberts, carole_roberts@faludi.com
 Website: <https://SF-fire.org>
 New classes will be commencing soon. Visit the SF NERT website for more information.

San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Streets

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

Friends of Slow Sanchez

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

Upper Noe Merchants

Contact: Info@UpperNoeNeighbors.com
<https://uppernoeneighbors.com/merchants/>

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.

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE
editor@noevalleyvoice.com

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

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Ingleside Terraces Homes Association Neighborhood Garage Sale
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No Early Birds Please. Pick up your map at 10:00a.m. at 350 Urbano Drive.
Design: Neil Ballard

and now for the RUMORS behind the news

May Daze

By Mazook

YOU CAN BANK ON IT: There was a bit of a shock at the end of April to the many who like to do their money business in Downtown Noe Valley (DNV). The Bank of America branch at 24th and Castro was “temporarily closed,” according to the sign on the door. Depositors were seen peering in, knocking on the door in disbelief, or merely walking away while shaking their heads pondering where to go next.

They might have gone up to the Diamond Heights branch to bank in person, but found it too was closed. Some continued over to West Portal’s branch, only to see the same sign on that branch’s front door. Those who went over the hill to Eureka Valley were happy to find the branch at Castro and 18th open. Hooray. The only problem was finding a place to park your car. Kind of a drag!

By the time you read this, our branch should be back to normal. I was told by a person in the know that our branch would reopen on May 2. Did it?

Reliable sources tell me Bank of America, like many other banks and businesses, is having trouble finding people to work for them. The bank has had to pool its resources of existing staff, ever since the pandemic shut down almost everything back in March of 2020. We in Noe Valley were lucky that our branch stayed open for most of the time during the pandemic, which is why many of us were surprised when it closed last month.

In a related item, those of you who are members of the SF Fire Credit Union will be glad to hear it is opening a branch in Noe Valley at 3908 24th St., next to St Clair’s Liquors (24th and Sanchez) by the end of 2022 or early 2023. They offer the public personal checking and savings accounts with no monthly fee and no minimum balance requirements, and also an ATM.

According to SF Fire spokesperson Tatiana Jimenez (whose title is “VP Brand Loyalty”), the credit union is moving its Mint Plaza branch to Noe Valley. “We wanted a branch closer to the geographic center of San Francisco, and we are delighted to have found this location,” she says. “The neighborhood has a strong sense of community. I know this because I lived in Noe Valley.” The move was also “because we have many members who live in and around the neighborhood.”



MAMAHUHU FOOD: The biggest mystery since before the pandemic has been what will become of the space at 3991 24th St., occupied most recently by Toast (which closed in 2019) and before that (since the 1940s) by Herb’s Fine Foods.

The rumor last month was that “an Asian fusion” eatery would be opening there sometime this year. That is partially true. The spot will indeed have Asian fare, but not “fusion,” since the restaurant will be serving some traditional Chinese dishes, like sweet and sour chicken and beef and broccoli. The dessert will be a “chop suey sundae” (with soft-serve ice cream).

Mamahuhu is the name. Some of you might know it already, since the first Mamahuhu opened at 517 Clement St. in 2020, and became very busy right away. Mamahuhu means “so-so” in Chinese slang, and it’s fun to say in any language.

The restaurant is owned by Ben Noore, who lives in the Panhandle neighborhood; Brandon Jew, who lives in the Richmond; and Anmao Sun, who resides in Noe Valley.

“We are very excited to open our second restaurant in Noe Valley—especially Anmao, who lives close by and is happy he will be able to walk to work,” says Noore, who moved here from China about four years ago.

Jew is the chef, and he is described by SF Eater as “one of the country’s foremost innovators of forward-thinking, California-inflected, Chinese American cuisine.” Jew’s restaurant in Chinatown, Mister Jiu’s, is a Michelin star winner.

Says Noore, “Our menu is Chinese American, with all-organic vegetables from local farmers, with a very casual atmosphere.” He said diners would give their order up front, find a table, then pick up their food at the counter. “We will accommodate and encourage takeout orders.” Noore says Mamahuhu will open “sometime this fall, hopefully in November, once we get all our permits from the city.”

Also, updating the Rumors of last December: Star sushi chef Eric Deng of Dash Japanese Tapas and Sushi has opened his new Noe location, at 737 Diamond near 24th, in the space formerly occupied by Italian restaurant Bacco. (His first Dash was in San Mateo.)

Dash SF, as Deng prefers to call the new eatery, is open Monday through Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m., and stays open until 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. It’s closed on Sunday. (See *this month’s Store Trek* on page 17 for more details.)

And in sad dairy news, Charles Kung, who owns the 24th Street Cheese Company, at 3893 24th near Sanchez, says he is “calling it quits after more than 36 years” and putting the business up for sale. In the meantime, all inventory is being offered at 30 percent off. Hopefully we can smile and say “cheese” when he finds a buyer to take over the business, so we don’t have to lose this DNV gem.



MOE SPACE: Last month, the barbers at Moe’s, located at 4008 24th, opened an annex next door after they remodeled what used to be a jewelry store. “We have added two additional chairs in that space, bringing the total chairs from seven to nine, shared by all the barbers on a rotating basis,” says owner Duncan Wheeler.

He and partner Marcellino Gioia live upstairs and first opened the shop in 2016. Wheeler, who has lived there for 34 years, bought the property several years ago. Moe, by the way, is the name of his 20-year-old Jack Russell terrier, and “Moe is a Noe Valley native,” he says.

That 4008 spot has quite a history. Beautician Mylene Carol had put her name on the storefront when she unveiled her salon back in 2001. Before that, the Doll House beauty shop occupied the spot (since 1971).

Also expanding next door is Art Haus, 3977 24th St., which opened in November 2020 at the height of the pandemic. Art Haus is where artist and art teacher Elizabeth Dekker teaches fine art classes for kids ages 7 to 12, on weekday afternoons. “Tools and techniques are taught with each lesson, and the mediums we explore are drawing, watercolor painting, acrylic painting, encaustic painting, collage, mixed media, bookmaking, sculpture,” Dekker says. She also has a class for adults, and a class “for the chronically uninspired!”

Dekker says she is currently taking reservations for an eight-week summer youth program starting June 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In her now side-by-side Art Haus Gallery & Studio, Dekker will showcase her art (she has been painting professionally since 1990) and that of other artists in a newly formed artist collective. “We will include showing not only fine art works of local artists, but also ceramic and jewelry artists, as well as fashion designers.” She says there will also be displays of art created by her students.

“For me, it is all a dream come true,



Shared Art: Thank you, Nina Saltman, for your gifts of clay in Nina’s Little Pott Shoppe on 26th Street. Seeing the little house and its ceramic “seconds” inside warms our hearts even more than the hike up to Castro Street.

Photo by Jack Tipple

since I recently moved to Noe Valley and live just around the corner on Sanchez, from where I work, teach, and have a place to show and sell my own art.”



WALKING THE WALK: Recent Noe Valley arrival Christopher “Call me Chris” Nanda wants us to know about his walking group, Noe Walks. For the past nine months, the group has been meeting at 24th and Sanchez at 10 a.m. on Saturday mornings, and after a quick round of names, “we walk down Sanchez to Valley Street. We make a [right] up the hill on Valley Street, and then another right at the top on Noe. We stop at the great lookout point on Noe, which gives us an opportunity to regroup after the hill and also pause for a picture at Duncan. We then loop back on Sanchez and finish where we started on 24th. We do one last round of names and group announcements at the end. All in all, it typically takes 45 minutes.” Anywhere from 10 to 30 people show up for the walk.

“Our goal is to make it easier to meet

your neighbors and spend time with your friends—old, new, and future,” Chris adds. All ages are welcome.

As all you NV walkers know, there are little free library boxes in front of many residences, filled with books you are welcome to share. There was even one box at Sanchez and Duncan that had food essentials like flour and sugar. The one on the corner of 23rd and Eureka is frequently visited, as is the one on 24th Street in front of the Town Square.

Now there is a new twist created by professional potter Nina Saltman, who lives on 26th, just above Castro. She has delighted her neighbors by building a tiny house on the brick wall in front of her residence, which she has named “Nina’s Little Pott Shoppe.” Inside, she places free handmade pottery to borrow or take home. Saltman is a carpenter, retired after 30 years, and now devotes her time to creating ceramic art at the SF Clay Works at 2240 Palou in Bayview/Hunters Point. She says it has six owners, and about 30 people use it as a studio to create their own works of art.



MAKES GOOD SCENTS: On April 18, a film production crew showed up in DNV at Moonshot Studio, 4066 24th, to feature the store in the eighth episode of a new national CBS TV series called *Destination SF*. It will focus on SF and other Bay Area businesses, and air locally on KPIX. Episode 8 is slated to screen in the spring or summer of 2022.

Moonshot is described by owner Teresa Fitzgerald as a “scent and candle studio.” The *Destination* series “travels around major urban environments across the United States, showcasing the very best and most unique businesses that make up these iconic cities.”

I dare say Fitzgerald’s creation is quite unique indeed!

THAT’S 30: Ciao. ■



MAY EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

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THURS MAY 12	COINNEACH MACLEOD • THE HEBRIDEAN BAKER: RECIPES AND WEE STORIES FROM THE SCOTTISH ISLANDS • 6:30 P.M. PURCHASE A BOOK AT OMNIVOREBOOKS.COM TO ATTEND! From Croft Loaf to Cranachan Chocolate Bombs, there’s something here to put a smile on everyone’s face.
THURS MAY 19	CASSIE WINSLOW • FLORAL PROVISIONS: 45+ SWEET AND SAVORY RECIPES. IN CONVERSATION WITH NATALIE BOWEN • 6:30 P.M. FREE! Sweeten your everyday meals and treats with this whimsical cookbook where flowers take a starring role.
FRI MAY 20	REEM ASSIL • ARABIYYA: RECIPES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ARAB IN DIASPORA • 6:30 P.M. FREE! Alongside recipes, Reem shares stories of the power of Arab communities to turn hardship into brilliant, nourishing meals and any occasion into a celebratory feast.
SAT MAY 21	ALLEN RICCA • CATCHING HELL: THE INSIDER STORY OF SEAFOOD FROM OCEAN TO PLATE • 3:00 P.M. FREE! Both an exposé and a call to arms, empowering consumers with the knowledge to make more informed choices when dining out.
SUN MAY 22	RICK MARTINEZ • MI COCINA: RECIPES AND RAPTURE FROM MY KITCHEN IN MEXICO • 3:00 P.M. FREE! With personal essays and more than 100 recipes inspired by Rick’s 586 days spent driving around Mexico, <i>Mi Cocina</i> is at the same time highly informative, inspirational and infused with personality.

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CALENDAR MAY 2022

May 5-26: AL-ANON meets at Bethany Thursdays, 7:15 to 8:30 pm. 1270 Sanchez (use Clipper side door). 845-3203.

May 7: Find treasures at the Fair Oaks Street GARAGE SALE, 22nd to 26th streets. 9 am-4 pm.

May 7: The Noe Valley GARDEN TOUR features nine local spots. 10 am-4 pm. Town Square or Friendsofnoevalley.com.

May 7: The Dolores Heights Improvement Club hosts a SPRING GATHERING. 11 am-noon. Top of Sanchez Stairs, above 19th.

May 7-28: Noe Valley FARMERS MARKET is open 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

May 7-28: NOE WALKS takes a Saturday stroll around the neighborhood, starting at 10 am at 24th and Sanchez.

May 7 & 21; June 4: CONCERTS in the Park hosts Steff Kayser (May 7), The Leafs (May 21), and Theo McKinney (June 4). 10 am to noon. Upper Noe Rec Center, 295 Day. uppernoerecreationcenter.com.

May 8: Music on the Hill presents "Motherland," a MOTHER'S DAY concert with the Circadian String Quartet. 7:30 pm. St. Aidan's, 101 Gold Mine. musiconthehill.org.

May 8 & 22: ACOUSTIC SUNDAY features JimBo Trout (May 8) performing country and blues, and El Guajiro (May 22) doing boleros and Latin standards. 2 to 4 pm. Moxie YOGA 11 a.m. to noon. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

May 9: ODD MONDAYS has a "Spring Fling" with authors Leslie Kirk Campbell, Mimi Lok, Toni Mirosevich, and Karen Melander-Magoon. 7-8 pm. Get the link via oddmondaysnoevalley@gmail.com.

May 10-July 9: PHOTOGRAPHY by Arielle Rebek and Ron Moultrie Saunders is on view at ChungNamont Gallery. Reception May 14, 2-4 pm. 4071 24th. chungnamont.com.

May 12, 19 & 25: Cookbook AUTHORS Coinneach MacLeod (*The Hebridean Baker*), Cassie Winslow (*Floral Provisions*), and Hannah Kirshner (*Water, Wood, and Wild Things*) give talks at Omnivore Books. 3885 Cesar Chavez. 282-4712.

May 13: The Noe Valley Library screens the FILM *Eat a Bowl of Tea*. 2-4 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 13: Violinist Kay Stern performs at the CHAMBER MUSIC Society, 7:30 pm. Champagne follows. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. chambermusicsocietysf.org.

May 14: Learn to knit at the Noe Valley KNITTING Circle. 10 am-12:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 15: "SPRINGTIME in the Square" features Cuban and Latin American music by El Guajiro, plus games and activities. 2-5 pm. 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

May 18: The Noe Valley BOOK group at the library analyzes Toni Morrison's *Sula*. 4:30 pm. 451 Jersey. Register at 355-5707.

May 18: Upper Noe Neighbors meets with Assemblymember Matt Haney and District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman on Zoom. 7-8:30 pm. uppernoeneighbors.com.

May 21: The Randall hosts BUG DAY, with a hive of live honeybees. 10 am-1 pm. 199 Museum Way. 554-9600; randallmuseum.org.

May 21: NOE MUSIC offers a kids concert at 10:30 am, and a season celebration 7:30 to 9:30 pm, starring Ruckus, Nicholas Phan, Owen Dalby, and Katie Hyun. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. noemusic.org.

May 21: Author Allen Ricca introduces *Catching Hell*, the insider story of SEAFOOD. 3 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712.

May 21: Rhythm & Motion offers a DANCE workout, 4 pm. Town Square, 3861 24th. noevalleytownsquare.com.

May 26: An On Lok GALA includes a live auction and a dance after-party to benefit senior programs. 6-9 pm. City View at Metreon, 135 4th, 4th floor. onlok.org.

May 28 & 29: CARNAVAL San Francisco includes 17 blocks of festivities and a Sunday parade in the Mission, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. carnivalsanfrancisco.org.

Email your listings for June 2022 to calendar@NoeValleyVoice.com. Noe Valley events take priority. Thank you.

Golubitsa

Prompted by a Ukrainian folk song

Golubitsa moya, golubitsa!
Dove of love,
why must you warble across the dawning
of a day of dooming,
coo coo coo into the coming
of the crawling of the cruel,
while all the world is watching
but not hearing,
as you grieve for the heaven
you should have along your hills,
the ample ancient quiet fruit
now spoiled by their speeches,
rotted by reports.

Golubitsa moya, golubitsa!
Where is, there is
a joyous song for you,
for us for you upon our unarmed hands.

Your wings have wearied waving over borders,
your airstreams chased by flights of greedy metal,
how can you watch for beetles and for flowers,
how could you know how home should look and smell?

Golubitsa moya, golubitsa!
I hope our hands can learn to handle loving
I hope voices can learn your melodies,
and we might make a chorus for your cooing.

But now I'm forced to hide far from your sky,
or find a way to fly, without your wings,
to someplace that is not at all my place,
to somewhere where they may not sing my song.

Golubitsa moya, golubitsa!
Please find a way to follow,
to hide inside my heart and keep us warm,
I promise I will keep us safe in kindness,
and I will find a way to bring us home.

—Jeff Kaliss

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A Noe Valley Oasis with Panoramic Views

This entertainer's oasis boasts modern architecture, panoramic views, incredible ceiling height and luxury indoor-outdoor living. The generous glass-lined great room has a soaring fireplace and sprawling deck access. Sunrises and sunsets are truly incredible from this vantage point! The kitchen is the heart of it all and flows seamlessly to the living and dining areas, and features built-in luxury appliances.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 4258 26TH STREET

- * 5 BED | 4.5 BATH | 4,304 SQFT.
- * OUTDOOR SPACE ON EVERY LEVEL
- * GLASS WINE VAULT
- * SOPHISTICATED CITY OASIS
- * MODERN OPULENCE



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This stately home is a masterful mix of Victorian details and modern upgrades. It boasts beautiful panoramic city and hill views. The main level boasts views from the living room bay windows, built-in cabinets, a generous view bedroom, bath and kitchen. The eat-in kitchen has been recently updated and has a large pantry and overlooks and flows to the expansive, low maintenance manicured yard with custom built-in bench, turf, succulent gardens, and a fire pit.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2102 CASTRO STREET

- * 2 BED | 1 BATH | 2,213 SQFT.
- * AN ENTERTAINERS DREAM
- * PANORAMIC VIEWS
- * EXPANSIVE MANICURED LAWN
- * BONUS | FLEX ROOM



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