

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Thanksgiving Tips from Noe’s Cookbook Queen

Omnivore Books on Food Owner Shares a Few Secrets

Guest Essay by Celia Sack

Thanksgiving is always a love/dread sort of thing, isn’t it? Who will be offended that we’re not spending it with them this year? How can we avoid talking about politics with Uncle Derrick? But this could be Nana Dorie’s last Thanksgiving! (Repeat for six years in a row.)

Then we settle on our choices, start assigning dishes, and watch a few golden leaves start drifting outside. The nostalgic mood sweeps in with the season, and suddenly you’re trying to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Reveal Your Recipes! Celia Sack hides in the fantasy kitchen in the Josué Rojas mural outside her bookstore. The Voice has asked to borrow her roasting pan. Photo by Art Bodner

Landmark Status Eyed for Famous Church

Mandelman Seeks to Protect St. Paul’s and Other Sites

By Matthew S. Bajko

A church made famous by the 1992 musical comedy *Sister Act* is expected to become the latest city landmark located in Noe Valley.

Such a designation would provide some protection to the 114-year-old gothic edifice, as concerns grow about the impact new housing plans might have on historic structures.

District 8 Supervisor Rafael

Mandelman has proposed that St. Paul’s Church at 1660 Church St. be designated a city landmark. Doing so would mean the façade of the Roman Catholic church, whose exterior was used for scenes in the film starring Whoopi Goldberg as a singer hiding from the mob as a nun, could not be altered.

The designation would not forbid the church with its twin spires from being torn down in the future. But it would require any proposals to redevelop the property, for housing or other use, be given greater scrutiny by local planning officials.

The religious sanctuary on the corner of Church and Valley streets, designed by architect Frank T. Shea, is “one of Noe Valley’s most iconic and historically significant buildings,” Mandelman said.

St. Paul’s is one of 16 properties that Mandelman, president of the Board of Supervisors, wants to see become city landmarks. The San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission is set to weigh in on his requests either this month or in December, with the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Noe Valley Inspires a ‘True Crime’ Podcast

Never Fear, the Plot’s Fiction, Says Author Mike Adamick

By Heidi Anderson

On any given afternoon, Mike Adamick might be seen walking into La Lucha Coffee Bar on Sanchez, or up Church Street to Martha & Brothers, or further up Church toward Bernie’s Coffee Shop on 24th Street. And, while he may enjoy his coffee, he’s also contemplating a murder.

He’s not thinking about committing a murder, and he’s not chasing down an actual crime. But he is thinking about the real crimes he’s covered as a reporter and the fascination people have for murders and the mysteries surrounding them.

And, after a long walk and maybe a couple of cups of black coffee, Adamick puts his thoughts into his podcast, *Crime Adjacent*, which blends fact and fiction, and features Noe Valley as the backstory.

To understand how Adamick’s podcast merges reality and fiction, it helps

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Transphobic Stickers Found in Bookstore

Noe Valley Books on the Lookout for Person Responsible

By John Ferrannini

Noe Valley Books was targeted with transphobic stickers and pamphlets, the bookstore announced via a social media post and a physical sign at the store entrance.

Via Instagram on Sept. 6, the bookstore, at 3957 24th St., stated, “A person who is not part of the Noe Valley Books family has been hiding transphobic flyers and stickers in our store and books.

“We want to be clear: transphobia or hate of any kind is not welcome in our store,” the post continued. “If you see transphobic material in the store, please alert us immediately. We take this very seriously and are on the lookout for the person responsible.”

A sign asking patrons to let the store know immediately if they saw the stickers or pamphlets was placed near the front of the store.

“Someone has been hiding transphobic stickers and pamphlets in our store and books,” the sign reads. “We take this very seriously and are looking for the person responsible. Transphobia or hate of any kind is not acceptable here.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Catching Light: St. Paul’s Church, a beacon on the corner of Church and Valley streets for 114 years, is one of 16 properties in District 8 that Supervisor Rafael Mandelman is recommending be fast-tracked as city landmarks. Photo by Najib Joe Hakim



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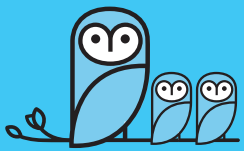
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LETTERS 78 CENTS

Goodbye to Parking Anxiety

Editor:

Mark Burnley sent us his Nextdoor post from Oct. 8, 2025:

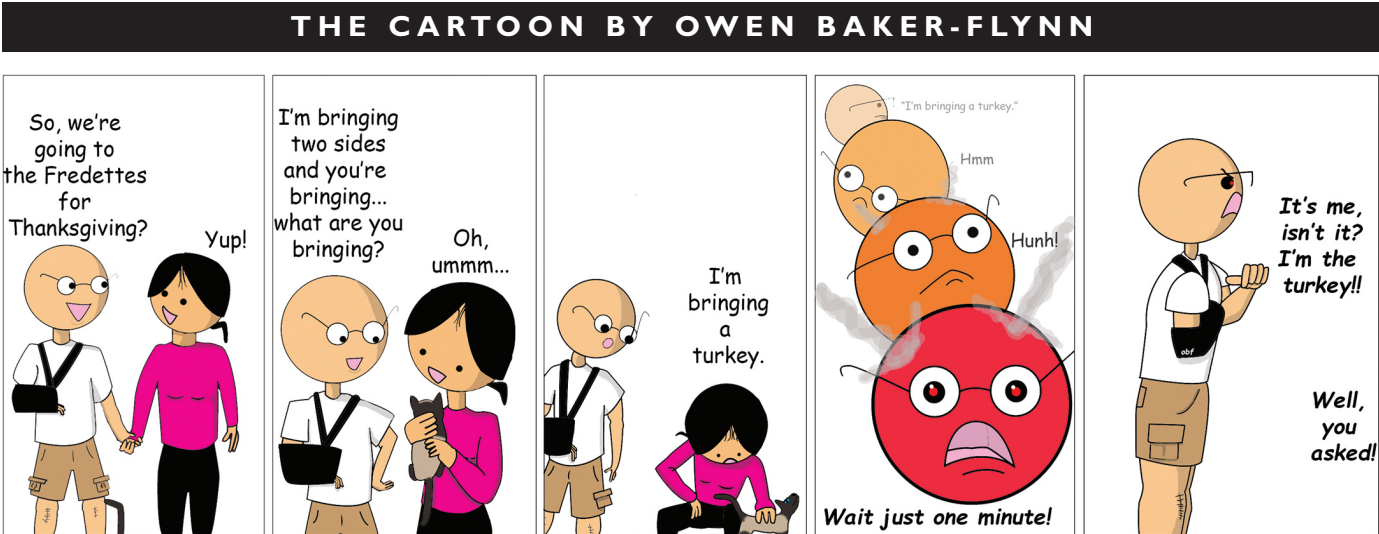
This Wednesday morning I’m sitting in Martha’s Coffee looking out the window at city workers removing the parking meters at the four corners of Vicksburg and 24th. This is due to the new regulations about parking near intersections. Needless to say, parking will be getting tighter in San Francisco as these parking spaces are removed from all around the city.

So...last week I gave my car to my nephew in Pleasanton, and will try going car-less. Yep. Never thought I would choose to live without a car. My plan is to use Uber, Waymo, Zipcar, cabs, Muni, and BART instead. I guess I’m an early adopter of mobile phone transportation technologies?

Here’s my thinking: I work from home, so I don’t use my car that much. I had an older Honda. I figured that with the car insurance, maintenance, parking tickets, AAA, parking, and gas, it was probably costing me around \$2,000 per year to own my car.

Hopefully, \$2k can roughly cover my new alternative transportation methods. In addition, the time and stress of moving my car at midnight for street cleaning the next day was wearing on me—not to mention the need for a quantum supercomputer to figure out the second and fourth street-cleaning days each month.

As I sit in Martha’s sipping on my



coffee, this also happens to be street-cleaning day. This is the first time in 25 years I have not worried about moving my car.

Wish me luck. The technology future looks bright!

Mark Burnley
Vicksburg Street

A Noe Kind of New Year's Eve

Editor:

Imagine Noe Valley New Year’s Eve on Dec. 31, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., at a special gathering in the Noe Valley Town Square for people who want to ring in the new year before midnight and close to home.

Instigator: Barrie Grenell, Noe Valley resident since 1974, retired from 40 years of writing grant proposals and applications for nonprofits and the City and County of San Francisco, and lifetime member of the South End Rowing Club.

We will gather around 8:30 p.m. to count down to 2026 at 9 p.m. in sync with the many thousands in Times

Square—“10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1, HAPPY New Year!”

This is a local duplication of New Year’s Eve in Yellow Springs, Ohio, where for the last 30+ years scores of the 3,500 residents mosey downtown about 11:30 p.m. to ring in the new year with their neighbors. Here in Noe Valley, we will mosey to the Town Square about 8:30.

Our first annual Noe Valley New Year’s Eve celebration needs your help:

- Artists and designers (to gussy up the ball to be dropped and to design posters)
- Media professionals (to get the word out, to generate press, to take photographs)
- Technicians to devise the best ways to integrate the Times Square countdown with ours in Noe Valley and to light the space and spotlight the ball
- Establishments on 24th Street to offer food and drink before or after the event (no food or drink will be available in the Town Square itself)
- The perfect MC to greet celebrants

and guide us through the countdown—any celebrities or performers the neighborhood?

Mark your calendars. Volunteer to help. Get your friends to help.

Email me at sercle@sbcglobal.net, and put “Noe New Year” in the subject line.

Barrie Grenell
Noe Valley resident

Handbell Story Strikes a Chord

Editor:

I really appreciated the article about Bell Appeal in the Noe Valley Voice this month [Handbell Choir Rings Out for New Members, by Matthew S. Bajko, October 2025 Voice]. Our first official handbell practice at Bethany was Oct. 16, and the great story gave us not only a boost in excitement, but three new people reached out to ask about joining! It will be wonderful to connect a few more neighbors in the mix, and it is really appreciated.

Andrea Peng
BellAppealSF@gmail.com


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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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CRIME SNAPSHOT DATA

Noe Valley Incident Reports August 2024 – September 2025

Crime Category	Aug24	Sep24	Oct24	Nov24	Dec24	Yr2024	Jan25	Feb25	Mar25	Apr25	May25	Jun25	Jul25	Aug25	Sep25
Larceny/Theft	36	46	44	55	44	460	42	26	45	29	44	27	28	31	36
Burglary	21	16	17	19	17	243	17	16	13	11	16	6	14	18	16
Malicious Mischief	8	8	7	4	3	79	9	4	5	3	2	5	7	6	9
Motor Veh. Theft	10	10	8	8	3	109	6	5	6	3	4	7	6	4	9
Assault	3	2	8	5	6	32	2	2	2	0	5	2	2	0	4
Robbery	3	2	0	0	3	16	0	0	3	2	2	0	1	0	0
Other Misc	8	6	17	14	7	117	13	9	8	5	10	2	2	4	4
Fraud	5	1	5	3	4	40	0	3	2	3	9	7	4	1	2
Family D.Violence	3	1	2	5	1	22	0	0	4	4	3	4	1	1	1
Vandalism	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	98	92	108	113	88	1,122	89	65	88	61	95	60	65	65	82

Source: Dataset titled “Map of Police Department Incident Reports: 2018 to Present” at <https://data.sfgov.org/Public-Safety/Police-Department-Incident-Reports-2018-to-Present/wg3w-h783/>. This data includes police incident reports filed by officers and by individuals through self-service online reporting for non-emergency cases. Disclaimer: The San Francisco Police Department does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or correct sequencing of the information, as the data is subject to change as modifications or updates are completed. The *Noe Valley Voice* collected the September 2025 data on Oct. 22, 2025. “Noe Valley” on the SFPD’s digital map is bounded by 21st Street, San Jose Avenue/Guerrero Street, 30th Street, and Grand View Avenue/Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Noe Valley Voice November 2025

CRIME SNAPSHOT

Shoplifting, Burglaries Top September Reports

Shoplifting and burglaries were the two most prevalent crimes reported in September in Noe Valley, according to the San Francisco Police Department’s digital map of incident reports.

There were 22 shoplifting incidents, all but two concentrated around Castro and Jersey streets. They accounted for more than half of the 36 incidents in the SFPD’s larceny/theft category—one of

10 types of crime the *Voice* tracks monthly.

Also listed in the larceny category were seven “smash-and-grab” thefts from cars, two package thefts from buildings, one swiped license plate, one unspecified theft from a person, and two “other” property thefts.

Sixteen burglaries comprised the second-largest number of crimes. The digital map showed that 12 of the break-ins were residential, two commercial, and two others unspecified.

Eight stolen vehicles and one attempted auto theft were reported in September, along with nine incidents of malicious mischief, such as property damage.

Police logged four assaults and one case classified as domestic violence.

For the second month in a row, there were no robberies reported.


In all, there were 82 incidents in September, up from 65 in August. In September 2024, there were 92 reports.

The *Voice* retrieved the September data from the city’s open data portal on Oct. 22, 2025. To locate the crime dataset, go to [Data.sfgov.org](https://data.sfgov.org) and click on the Public Safety link.

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

If you have an emergency in San Francisco, call 9-1-1. For recurring problems, use 3-1-1 or the non-emergency number: 415-553-0123.


—Corrie M. Anders, Sally Smith



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


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

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

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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Just Two Things

ACROSS

1. Extended epic story

5. Carrier with an SFO hub

11. Drivers' org.

14. Apple desktop introduced in 1998

15. Born here

16. Certain radios

17. Drink made with just VODKA and O.J.

19. Brit. W.W. II fliers

20. Cranium contents

21. Song from A Chorus Line

22. Neighbor of Nev.

23. One ___ customer

25. Former Senate Majority Leader Harry

27. Applies frosting to

28. Sep. preceder

29. Brat topper made with just CABBAGE and SALT

33. Super-duper

36. City liberated by Joan of Arc

37. Tons

40. "I hate to break up ___"

41. In the middle of

44. Easter basket chicks

48. Spread made with just EGG YOLK and OIL

51. "To be" form

52. Quelques-___ (A few: Fr.)

53. Many a tree on Dolores Street

55. "Red" or "White" baseball team

56. Part of PG&E

57. Mamma ___!: ABBA musical

60. Fad critter of the late '90s

62. Economic figure for a country: Abbr.

63. New restaurant at

25th and Church... and the theme of this puzzle

67. Philosopher ___ - tzu

68. Pierce Brosnan TV role

69. Where Salesforce Tower is, for short

70. Superlative finish

71. Word before "special" on a menu

72. Exact duplicate

DOWN

1. Member of the fam

2. Before Metreon 16 or Kabuki 8

3. Recology specialty

4. Taiwanese computer brand

5. Panties and boxers

6. The Chronicles of ___: Lewis

7. "...Lord, is ___?" (Matt. 26:22)

8. Recording device

9. Not odd

10. "Over ___": Brooklynese "yonder"

11. From Niger or Nigeria

12. Wolfgang Mozart's middle name

13. Equally speedy

23. "You're it!" game

24. Belonging to us

26. Performing pair

27. Vexed

30. Detergent brand

31. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde author's monogram

32. Retain

34. Los ___, CA

35. "The ___": Warriors' jersey recognizing Oakland

38. X, to Cicero

39. Ocean

41. Utterly crazy

42. Feature of a eacock's

tail

43. Plastic-surgery partner of "tuck"

45. "Slow down, big fella"

46. Con's debate opponent

47. Driver's license info

48. Non-wizard, to Harry Potter

49. How successful batters reach base

50. Avoids

54. Hosp. scan

57. Heavy fog

58. Division word

59. Like some cheddar

61. With "Buy," big-box store on Harrison

64. The Crying Game star Stephen

65. "Please, I've heard enough," in texts

66. ___ Andreas Fault

11/2025 Noe Valley Voice
Solution on Page 21

Give Thanks to Our Cookbook Queen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

remember how much chicken stock you have in your pantry.

As the owner of Omnivore Books on Food, the Bay Area’s only culinary bookstore, I am assaulted every autumn with articles offering Thanksgiving tips, hacks, decorating ideas, and weird side dishes that sound...weird. So, when the esteemed *Noe Valley Voice* asked me to provide a few of my own, I was chomping at the chestnut to share a few of my favorite go-to’s.

THE TURKEY

Thanksgiving wouldn’t be traditional without a turkey, so with apologies to my vegetarian readers, I want to offer up a solid turkey recipe that is as uncomplicated as it is delicious.

Brining? Up to you. So many great turkey purveyors now offer air-chilled turkeys that will not dry out in the oven if you do things right, so I don’t bother anymore with the massive, lug-some pail of turkey in salt water for which there is no room in the fridge anyway.

I’ve included a helpful chart from Mark Bittman’s *How to Cook Everything* (Harvest: 2012), which will help with weights and temperatures for both bringing the bird to room temperature (a definite must before the bird goes in the oven) and cooking times by weight. Sometimes, I feel like his cooking times are a little long, so keep an eye on things. These instructions are for

an 8- to 12-pound turkey; if yours is larger, increase cooking times by about 15 minutes.

The most widespread fear about cooking a turkey (besides giving everyone salmonella poisoning) is winding up with a dried-out breast. Thanks to Noe Valley’s own world-renowned food scientist, Harold McGee, this is easily avoided!

As the turkey is being brought to room temperature on your counter, place the turkey breast-up and put two to four ice packs on the breasts. That way, as the rest of the turkey’s temperature rises, the breast stays cold and will therefore cook more slowly. Brilliant? I thought so, and I use that trick every year. Obviously, remove them before putting the turkey in the oven.

Preheat your oven to 450°, massage half a stick of butter into the turkey (all over—get to know it intimately!), and liberally sprinkle it with salt and pepper. Paprika is a nice addition as well, and I always add halved lemons or oranges and fresh herbs like thyme, tarragon, or oregano and put them into the cavity.

In a large roasting pan, pour in a cup

of water or (preferably) chicken stock, and add some aromatics to the stock. Mark Bittman recommends chopped carrots, onions, and celery; I like to add a couple of cloves of star anise and maybe some lemongrass sticks for a warm spice scent that will infuse the kitchen.

Place the turkey breast-down on a rack (V-shaped if possible) in the pan and place it in the oven for 45 minutes. (If it hasn’t started browning by then, leave it for another 15 minutes). At the 30-minute mark, you can start basting with the pan drippings; continue every half hour after that.

At the 45- to 60-minute mark, remove the turkey briefly to flip it over, so it’s now breast up. Return it to the oven and lower the temperature to 375°. Keep basting, and in another hour you can check the temperature with an instant-read thermometer, which should read at least 165° F when inserted mid-thigh. If it’s not ready, put it back in and wait until it is (just keep checking each time you go to baste). Once it’s done, let it rest on your butcher block for 15 to 20 minutes before carving.

Toss out the star anise and lemongrass from the pan juices and make a gravy. My brother-in-law Dennis always does this part, so grab a Dennis and make yourself a martini at this point.

THE SNACK

Bay Area cookbook legend Samin Nosrat has a new book out! Appropriately called *Good Things*, it does not deviate from that promise.

The first recipe I (okay, my wife Paula) made from it was the Curried Carrot and Coconut Soup, which was perfectly balanced with sweet and tart, swooningly aromatic, and I would make again in a heartbeat.

We especially loved the garnish to be sprinkled on top: a combination of peanuts, makrut lime leaves, and coconut flakes, seasoned with fish

sauce, dried chilies, minced lemongrass, and more. (Sidebar: makrut lime leaves were, until recently, called kaffir lime leaves, but it turns out the word “kaffir” is a racial slur for Indian Muslims in South Africa, so we don’t say that word anymore.)

While the toasted concoction was addictive, we found the coconut flakes got a little soggy and chewy once they were in the soup—but I had an “Aha!” moment realizing this would actually be a perfect snack in little bowls around the coffee table during drinks and

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The Snack

Adapted from “The Garnish” in *Good Things: Recipes and Rituals to Share with People You Love* by Samin Nosrat (Random House: 2025)

- 3/4 cup salted, dry-roasted peanuts
- 3/4 cup unsweetened coconut flakes
- 2 tablespoons fish sauce
- 8 small dried red chiles, such as chiles de árbol, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil, melted
- 1 tablespoon minced lemongrass
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 10 makrut lime leaves, thinly sliced (optional)

To make the snack, in a medium bowl, combine the peanuts, coconut flakes, fish sauce, chiles, oil, lemongrass, sugar, and lime leaves (if using). Spread the mixture out on a sheet pan in a single layer. Bake until the coconut is a deep golden brown, 18 to 20 minutes, stirring every 3 minutes after the first 10 minutes.

Remove from the oven and pour the mixture immediately into a bowl to prevent overcooking. Stir to combine.



Owner Celia Sack stands among towers of new and vintage cookbooks to buy or consult in Omnivore Books on Food, now in its 17th year at 3885 Cesar Chavez St. Photo by Art Bodner



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Thanksgiving Recipes From Celia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

before dinner. Every mouthful tastes a bit different, with punches here and there from the various elements. It’s the perfect complement to the pre-meal festivities.

THE PIE CRUST

Oh, are you going to thank me for this one! Actually, thank the late, great Marcia Adams, who included this pat-

in-pan pie crust in her 1989 *Cooking from Quilt Country*, an Amish cookbook replete with blue-ribbon winners from America’s Pennsylvania Dutch community. No longer must you roll and roll, refrigerate, roll again, add ice water, wipe away tears when the whole thing crumbles, and start over. Oh, no—this recipe calls for making your pie crust right in the pie dish, using just flour, sugar, salt, vegetable oil, and cold milk. The only thing I do differently is increase the ingredients by about a quarter (see “Variation”), which makes me less anxious about running out of

space in the pie shell and having to press it too thinly. If you wind up with extra dough as you reach the top of the pie pan, you can either fold it over on itself for a thicker rim, or simply cut off the extra and sneak it to your dog. She’s right there at your side anyway.

THE APPLE PIE

The Amish Apple Pie comes from the same book by Marcia Adams and is delightful. Paula and I are lucky enough to have two varieties of apple trees in the yard of our weekend house in Tomales, and they happen to be ready just in time for making a seasonal fall

pie. Once our apples are gone, we hit the Noe Valley Farmers Market for Fuji and Pink Lady apples. The Amish like things on the sweet side, and I find that I, along with most Noe Valleyans, prefer a bit more balance to my desserts, so I have altered the recipe slightly to use less sugar, and to use more brown sugar than white. Follow the recipe to the letter, and you and your dining companions will be jostling back to the kitchen for more. I hope these recipes and my advice go a long way toward making your Thanksgiving the best ever...or at least, the best this year. ■

Amish Apple Pie

Serves 10–12

Adapted by Celia Sack from *Cooking from Quilt Country* by Marcia Adams (Clarkson N. Potter, Inc.: 1989)

Streusel

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1/4 cup granulated sugar | 4 large apples, McIntosh or Granny Smith (or Fuji or Pink Lady) |
| 1/3 cup brown sugar | 1 unbaked 10-inch pie shell |
| 1/3 cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour | 1 cup brown sugar |
| 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon | 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour |
| 1 teaspoon grated nutmeg | 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon |
| Speck of salt | 1 egg |
| 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, cold | 1 cup heavy whipping cream |
| 1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts | 1 teaspoon vanilla extract |

In a food processor bowl, mix the first 6 streusel ingredients. Add the butter and process until the mixture is crumbly; it should still have a dry look to it—don’t overprocess. Add the nuts, then set aside. Preheat oven to 350° F. Peel, core, and thinly slice the apples; there should be 4 cups. Place the apples in the pie shell. In a small bowl, mix the sugar, flour, and cinnamon. Beat the egg in a medium bowl and add the cream and vanilla. Add the sugar mixture to the egg mixture and blend. Pour over the apples. Bake for 1 hour in the lower one-third of the oven. After 20 minutes, sprinkle streusel over the top and continue baking approximately 40 minutes longer, or until the top puffs and is golden brown.



Pat-in-Pan Pie Crust

*Makes pastry for a single-crust 8- or 9-inch pie.**

From *Cooking from Quilt Country* by Marcia Adams (Clarkson N. Potter, Inc.: 1989)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1-1/2 cups plus 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour | 1/2 cup vegetable oil |
| 1-1/2 teaspoons sugar | 3 tablespoons cold milk |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | |

Place the flour, sugar, and salt in the pie pan and mix with your fingers until blended. In a measuring cup, combine the oil and milk and beat with a fork until creamy. Pour all at once over the flour mixture. Mix with a fork until the flour mixture is completely moistened. Pat the dough with your fingers, first up the sides of the pan, then across the bottom. Flute the edges. Shell is now ready to be filled. If you are preparing a shell to fill later, or your recipe requires a prebaked crust, preheat the oven to 425° F. Prick the surface of the pastry with a fork and bake 15 minutes, checking often, and pricking more if needed. **Variation:** For a 10-inch shell, use 2 cups all-purpose flour; 2 teaspoons sugar; 1 teaspoon salt; 2/3 cup vegetable oil; 3 tablespoons milk. **Celia Sack says she uses these larger amounts, and remember, the recipe is for a single crust.*



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Noe Valley Is the Setting for a ‘True Crime’ Podcast

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to meet the story’s protagonist and see what happens to him.

Crime Adjacent is hosted by Chase Patrick (fictional). As an adult, Patrick returns to his hometown of Ridgewood, Calif., which is located near Fairfield (a real place), to investigate the case of the Rest Stop Killer (fictional), who targeted young men in the 1990s and then again in 2023.

Each episode follows the journey of Chase and his sister and co-producer Nikki Freeman (fictional) as they seek justice for their foster mother, who was one of the murder victims (fictional) of the “Zip Tie Killer” (a real person in Louisiana who confessed to murders but who is not their Zip Tie Killer).

And where did Nikki and Chase live with their foster mother (fictional)? In a home right next to the Noe Valley Library (a real place, obviously).

And their foster mother? She worked as a librarian there. She in fact was raising several runaway children in the small-town charm and sense of safety.

“Her murder plays a pivotal role for the trajectory of both Chase and Nikki for this story,” says Adamick.

“They wanted to start a podcast to spread the word about the Zip Tie Killer, so people could understand this person was still out there. They wanted to help police track him down, and because of that, they joined the true crime community. That was the impetus for getting the hosts involved in the first place, but each season they’re also tackling a different case, an unsolved crime.”

Adamick knows that the blend can be confusing to new listeners, and he is up front about why he mixes the two worlds.

“It’s something I struggled with when I was developing this podcast,” said Adamick, 49, who grew up in Fairfield, Calif., seeing headlines of the Zodiac killer and the Night Stalker alongside “Elvis Is Alive!” in supermarket tabloids.

The crime stories, both real and imagined, sparked his interest in journalism as well as his passion for whodunits.

“Put those together and you have entertainment. But I wanted to entertain without exploiting real victims’ lives.”

Why Noe Valley?

His choice of location for the origin story isn’t just convenient—it’s personal.

Adamick has lived at Castro and 28th since 2016 (and in Noe Valley since 2008). He and his wife Dana, an attorney, moved to the neighborhood after their daughter Emme was born.

“I used to walk her around as an infant, to Upper Noe Rec playground, up to around 24th Street to kill time before bedtime,” said Adamick. He fell in love with Noe Valley’s small-town feel.

(Adamick was featured in the *Voice* in 2013 for his do-it-yourself book *Dad’s Book of Awesome Projects*, where he turned his experiences as an at-home dad into a writing career. He has since written *Raising Empowered Daughters*, and his work has appeared on NPR, the *New York Times*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, where he also contributed to the parenting blog The Poop.)

“Noe Valley has a magical, small-



When not at home or recording his *Crime Adjacent* podcast, writer Mike Adamick may be conjuring up a murderous plot at La Lucha Coffee Bar...or having a pastry. Photo by Sally Smith

town charm that strikes me every time I walk around.” The small-town-ness of the neighborhood was a perfect catalyst for the true crime podcast he wanted to create.

“I also wanted to explore how there is more nuance in a small-town charm than we often think.”

Noe Valley plays a big role in the series.

“Noe Valley is where Chase, as a child, is given a new lease on life, and it’s where the Zip Tie Killer takes everything away.”

Journalism Helps

The podcast draws from both his time as a crime reporter and his academic experience.

His work as a reporter began when, while a student at Solano Community College in Fairfield, he landed an internship at the local newspaper, *The Vacaville Reporter*. While there, he was offered a full-time job to cover crime. “I just remember the deadlines and it being thrilling in a weird way, and I one hundred percent fell in love with newspapers,” said Adamick.

He later worked at the *Contra Costa Times* and the *Oakland Tribune*. While there, he covered the Laci Peterson murder case.

At the University of California, Berkeley, he earned a degree in sociology and another in Gender and Women’s Studies. In the latter, his thesis was on gender bias in crime reporting, in his words, on “which victims get media coverage and which do not.”

Family Weighs In

The podcast, launched in June, isn’t quite a solo venture.

Adamick’s daughter Emme is now 19 and in college studying environmental science. She’s also one of his go-to collaborators.

“It never fails to astound me, here’s this little human I used to read to all the time or take to storytime at the library, and now she’s proofing my pages and giving me detailed notes on characters

or structure.”

His wife Dana supports the venture as well. “She hasn’t listened to a podcast since *Serial* [the groundbreaking true crime series that continues to this day], so she didn’t quite understand

what it was all about until she heard the finished product of *Crime Adjacent*, said Adamick. “Now she’s a big fan, thankfully.”

Does he have a publisher? No. These days, you can buy a microphone and some software and do it yourself, he explains. “But I do have a production crew in Brooklyn, who get rid of my coughs and mess-ups. They edit everything, overdub music, and make it sound like a polished show.”

The Story Unfolds

The first season is scheduled to conclude in mid-November with a total of 26 episodes.

But for new listeners, Adamick advises you start at the beginning. “It’s like reading a book—a mystery is solved at the end.” (Look for *Crime Adjacent* anywhere you find podcasts—Spotify, YouTube, Apple, even Amazon.)

The second season is poised to begin Nov. 26.

The hunt for the Zip Tie Killer will continue, and Noe Valley will return as a backdrop, as Chase and Nikki search for their mother’s killer.

There will be a confrontation on 24th Street outside Noe Valley Bakery, and the Noe Valley Town Square will play a role.

“People mingle in that square but also watch, unnoticed,” said Adamick of his fictional plot. “I like the idea of a seemingly normal town rippling with danger and intrigue just under the surface.”

He also is looking for ways to involve the neighborhood in the podcast.

“I’d love to be able to do a live recording at Noe Valley Books with a Q&A, because I think it’s fun for people to see behind the scenes.” ■

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St. Paul’s May Be Fast-Trackd as a City Landmark

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

supervisors expected to cast final votes approving the properties as landmarks sometime in January.

‘Majestic Presence’

The Upper Noe Neighbors group plans to discuss the landmarking of the church and other sites at its meeting Nov. 19, president Chris Faust told the *Voice*. Speaking on his own behalf, Faust said he was supportive of the idea and recalled how the neighborhood decades ago had fought alongside the late Father Mario Paul Farana, who died Aug. 5 at the age of 80, to keep the church open.

“Personally, I am thrilled with the proposal. It is a landmark in the most literal way. It stands out and identifies the neighborhood when surveying the city from surrounding hills,” noted Faust. “We almost lost that church in the 1990s if not for the work of Father Mario to get it removed from the diocese’s list of churches slated for closure. It would be hard to imagine the neighborhood without its majestic presence.”

The Archdiocese of San Francisco did not respond to the *Voice’s* request for comment about landmarking the church.

Upzoning an Issue

Though Mandelman has been working with the planning department on landmarking District 8 properties since last year, he hurried his requests in anticipation of votes to adopt Mayor Daniel Lurie’s new “Family Zoning Plan.” The plan, which aims to create a path for construction of 36,000 new housing units by 2031, would rezone sections of the city so that taller and

then I am not down,” said Mandelman. “I think we can [have] both.”

Pastor Was Contractor

St. Paul’s Parish was founded in 1880 to serve Noe Valley’s growing Irish Catholic immigrant community. Church construction began in 1897 and was completed in 1911 at a cost of \$260,000.

According to a parish history, the pastor at the time, the Right Reverend Monsignor Michael D. Connolly, acted as contractor and builder on the project. On May 29, 1911, then-Archbishop Patrick Riordan dedicated the new church building.

“St. Paul’s quickly became one of the most venerable landmarks of San Francisco and reflects the indefatigable leadership of Monsignor Connolly and the dedication of hundreds of parishioners who volunteered labor on its construction,” noted the parish history. The church members had helped haul rocks for the steel and granite church from the Gray Brothers Quarry at 30th and Castro streets.

In the request seeking landmark status, Mandelman’s office described St. Paul’s as “significant for its association with the growth and development of the Noe Valley neighborhood preceding the 1906 Great Earthquake and Fire.”

It also noted that the building was “an exemplary example of Gothic Revival architecture” and that Shea “was one of the most prolific church architects of his era.”

Officially recognizing the site, Mandelman contended, “will ensure that future generations understand its rich history and role in the neighborhood’s early transition from ranchland to residential community, and as one of San Francisco’s earliest Catholic parishes.”

The building is known for its asymmetrical steeples, each topped with a cross, visible throughout Noe Valley and the Mission. The spires, one towering 200 feet and the other 170, are cloaked in slate and adorned with copper trim.

With a capacity for 1,400 people, the building also features a cross-gabled roof and stained-glass windows imported from Munich, Germany. Its spacious interior has mosaic tile floors, an altar made of marble from Carrara, Italy, and a vaulted ceiling supported by Corinthian columns.

Preservation of LGBTQ Sites

The last Noe Valley property to be designated a city landmark was the home of the late trailblazing lesbian activists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon. The supervisors in 2021 approved landmarking the couple’s 756-square-foot cottage, located on a large double lot at 649–651 Duncan St., just off Newburg Street.

At the time, Mandelman made the request in response to fears the property’s new owners might tear down the cottage and replace it with a much larger building. In the four years since the landmark designation, no new development has occurred at the site.

Like the Lyon–Martin House, seven of the 16 properties Mandelman is now seeking to add to the list of city landmarks have ties to the LGBTQ community.

They include the former home of the late *Bay Area Reporter* weekly newspaper founder Bob Ross, at 4200 20th St., and the inaugural site of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at 514–520 Castro St.

The historic former site of the LGBTQ synagogue Sha’ar Zahav (1983–98), at 220 Danvers St., and the



Valley Street artist Royce H. Vaughn painted this view of St. Paul’s from Bernal Heights in 1996. The spires were restored in 2009, and the centennial was celebrated two years later.

LGBTQ-friendly Most Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church, at 100–117 Diamond St., are also on the list.

The locations of several pioneering but now defunct LGBTQ businesses would also be recognized. They are the former site (1966-89) of Maud’s lesbian bar at 929–941 Cole St., the former site (1971-77) of the Castro Rock Steam Baths at 582 Castro St., and the former site (1974-77) of the Full Moon Coffeehouse at 4416 18th St.

Other Proposed Landmarks

The other proposed landmarks include St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 3281 16th St., and St. Nicholas Cathedral (Russian Orthodox) at 2005 15th St. Two locations related to the city’s fire department—Hose Company No. 30, located at 1757 Waller St., and Engine Company No. 13, at 1458 Valencia St.—are also on the list.

Three residential properties would also become landmarks due to their architectural significance. They include 102 Guerrero St., 361 San Jose Ave., and the Chautauqua House located at 1451 Masonic Ave. The latter, built in 1909, was where the American Indian Historical Society had its headquarters from 1967 to 1986 and would be the first city landmark specifically linked to American Indian history.

The last building on the list is the Bank of Italy building located at 400–410 Castro St., at the intersection of Market Street, built in 1922. Amadeo Peter Giannini founded the financial institution in San Francisco in 1904 to serve immigrants refused service by other banks. It was renamed the Bank of America circa 1930. ■

Corrie M. Anders contributed reporting to this story.



The rose window in the façade, like much of the stained-glass at St. Paul’s Catholic Church, was imported from Germany.

denser housing developments could be built. The supervisors are voting on revisions to the plan this fall, including an amendment offered by Mandelman that would exempt city landmarks. As he said at a hearing last month, new housing should not come at the expense of historic structures.

“It is incumbent on us to do the work on the front end before those development proposals come forward and that we identify those buildings we think require additional protections as landmarks or parts of historic districts,” said Mandelman.

Once the Family Zoning Plan is implemented, Mandelman warned, “the reality is” it will bring added pressure to demolish buildings in areas upzoned for denser housing.

“I don’t think the deal is we need to demolish our historic resources to get the units we need. If that is the deal,



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5

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FRI
NOV
7

ANNA ANSARI WITH GEORGIA FREEDMAN • SILK ROADS • 6:30 P.M. FREE! A dazzling journey through Silk Road flavors, memories, and migrations with ninety recipes tracing taste and home across continents.

MON
NOV
10

CHRISTINA WOOD WITH BECKY DUFFETT • PASTRY TEMPLE • 6:30 P.M. FREE! Boost your layered dough confidence by mastering pastry's holy trinity—brioche, puff, croissant—with recipes that venture boldly beyond the basics.

WED
NOV
12

DAVID WONDRICH WITH CAMPER ENGLISH • THE COMIC BOOK HISTORY OF THE COCKTAIL • 6:30 P.M. FREE! A spirited, illustrated look at cocktail history - mixing wit, art, and booze in one intoxicating graphic adventure.

THURS
NOV
13

TICKETED EVENT! FABRIZIA LANZA & ALICE WATERS • FOOD OF SICILY & ALICE WATERS: A SCHOOL LUNCH REVOLUTION • 6:30 P.M. TIX: OMNIVOREBOOKS.COM Two culinary legends meet for an inspiring, delicious conversation.

MON
NOV
17

OFFSITE EVENT! PADMA LAKSHMI & W. KAMAU BELL • PADMA'S ALL AMERICAN • 7:30 P.M. AT THE SIDNEY GOLDSTEIN THEATER! TIX: CITYARTS.NET A vibrant celebration of American cuisine and the diversity that shapes how we eat.

WED
DEC
3

OFFSITE EVENT! ALISON ROMAN • SOMETHING FROM NOTHING • 7:30 P.M. AT THE PALACE OF FINE ARTS! TIX: PALACEOFFINEARTS.ORG

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Bookstore Says It Won’t Tolerate Transphobic Slurs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Noe Valley Books declined requests to be interviewed for this story, referring instead to the September Instagram statement.

“It is heartbreaking to see this kind of messaging anywhere, let alone among books with the capacity to increase awareness, understanding, and kindness for fellow humans,” the post continued. “Books with LGBTQIA+ characters and perspectives make the world better for everyone—and can be a lifeline for trans and queer people. So we plan on drowning out the hate the best way we know how: uplifting amazing trans stories.

“Please, continue to read and love and share queer books! Wear hats and stickers and other goods that show off your pride and allyship. Plan and join events that celebrate community for all. Join us in supporting nonprofits like Books Not Bans, whose mission is to send queer books to communities that struggle to get them. No matter what, spread love and Trans Joy wherever you go.”

During the month of October, the bookstore gave a 10% discount to customers buying or donating LGBTQ+ books to the nonprofit Books Not Bans (booksnotbans.org).

Annalee Newitz, a queer and non-binary author who had a book launch in August (for their novel *Automatic Noodle*) hosted by Noe Valley Books at Bethany United Methodist Church, told

the voice that the shop had always been hugely supportive of LGBTQ authors like myself.”

Newitz said they are “a longtime customer and fan of Noe Valley Books. “I felt terrible that they were targeted like this, but appreciate that they responded immediately with a post on social media warning shoppers and apologizing—not that they should have to apologize!” Newitz wrote in an email. “Honestly, as a resident of Noe Valley for over 10 years, I can tell you that we’ve had some truly strange—and usually amusing—stunts like this. Once, someone slipped weird apocalyptic zines about the evils of Noe Valley into all the mail slots on our street. I hope the next stunt involves people leaving friendly stickers and flyers everywhere about how trans and queer people are the best....”

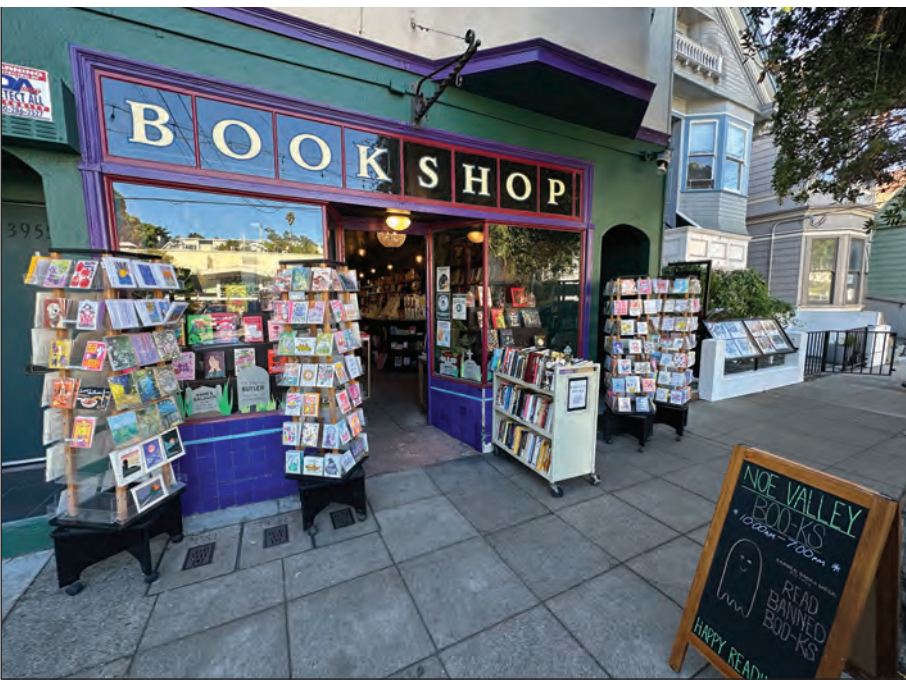
Books Not Bans was launched two and a half years ago at Fabulosa Books, at 489 Castro St. (Oasis Arts came on in June 2024 as BNB’s fiscal partner.)

In its first 18 months, Books Not Bans sent over 2,100 queer and banned books to 25 organizations around the country.

Reached for comment on the transphobic flyers at Noe Valley Books, Fabulosa’s Alvin Orloff said that something similar had happened at the Castro neighborhood bookstore several months ago.

“Yes, it did happen here,” Orloff said. “We just threw out the offending stickers.

Asked whether he had words of advice, Orloff said, “I’m not sure we have anything to add or say, other than we wish the people doing this would cut it out.” ■



Noe Valley Books makes clear where it stands.

Photos by John Ferrannini



2026 Races Heat Up for U.S. House and District 8

By Matthew S. Bajko

On Oct. 22, former District 8 supervisor and current state Senator Scott Wiener announced his bid for the U.S. House seat long held by Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco).

The prominent gay leader, known for his moderate stance, had previously said he would wait for Pelosi to reveal her plans before making a move. But as speculation mounted—and progressive challenger Saikat Chakrabarti, a former chief of staff to Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-New York), gained traction—Wiener took the leap and entered the race.

Two weeks later, Pelosi confirmed she would retire at the end of her term in January 2027, closing a nearly four-decade career that began with her 1987 special election victory following the death of Congressman Sala Burton. Her decision was expected to open the floodgates for additional contenders, with District 1 Supervisor Connie Chan, another progressive, widely rumored to join the field. Candidates have until March 6, 2026, to declare.

Under California’s open primary system, the top two finishers, regardless of party, will advance from the June 2 primary to the November general election. A majority vote next fall will decide who takes over Pelosi’s seat.

As for the District 8 supervisorial contest on the 2026 November ballot, patent attorney Michael Trung Nguyen, who performs as drag queen Juicy Liu, has launched his campaign to succeed Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who is termed out and will leave office in January 2027. If Nguyen is elected, he will make history as the first drag persona and first gay Asian American to serve on the Board of Supervisors. A resident of Twin Peaks, Nguyen is a progressive member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee, which oversees the local Democratic Party. He also co-hosts the *Between the Fog and Fury* podcast, and talks about politics from an Asian American perspective.

Nguyen joins two other gay contenders in the race—Gary McCoy, a longtime aide to Pelosi, and Emanuel “Manny” Yekutieli, owner of the popular cafe and event space Manny’s on Valencia Street. Yekutieli lives in the Castro, while McCoy lives a few blocks from Nguyen in Twin Peaks.

Besides the Castro and Twin Peaks, District 8 includes Noe Valley, Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Duboce Triangle, and Cole Valley.

Mandelman, who is currently serving as board president, is the latest in a line of gay men to represent District 8 since 2001, the year the city reverted to electing supervisors by district. The filing deadline for the District 8 race is June 9, 2026.

Mandelman is expected to seek Wiener’s state Senate seat once it becomes open.



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Community Outreach Public Notice

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

Participate on a Board or Commission!

The Assessment Appeals Board (AAB)

The AAB resolves legal and value assessment issues between the Assessor’s office and property owners. Hearings are quasi-judicial, conducted in a manner similar to a court setting, with evidence and testimony presented by the parties. The Board then evaluates the evidence and testimony and renders its decision. To be eligible for seat appointment, you must have a minimum of five years professional experience in California as either a: (1) public accountant; (2) real estate broker; (3) attorney; or (4) property appraiser accredited by a nationally recognized organization, or certified by either the Office of Real Estate Appraiser or the State Board of Equalization.

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

Want to work for the City?

Visit the website <https://careers.sf.gov/> and find a job that’s right for you!

Department Announcements

Child Support Services

Child support matters can be complicated, stressful, and confusing. The Department of Child Support Services helps parents understand the process so they know their rights and options for making and receiving support payments. We are available to assist you in person or by phone. Virtual services are also available. Call us today at (866) 901-3212 for more information. Enroll online or schedule an appointment at sf.gov/dcsc to learn how we can help you.

Count on WIC for Healthy Families!

WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for women, infants, and children.

You may qualify if you:

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

WIC Provides:

- Nutrition education and health information
- Breastfeeding support
- Food benefits for healthy foods (like fruits and vegetables)
- Referrals to medical providers and community services

You may qualify:

- If your family’s income is within the WIC Guidelines. Learn more at: MyFamily.wic.ca.gov or www.wicworks.ca.gov
- Enroll early! Call today to see if you qualify and to make an appointment.

Newly pregnant, migrant workers, and working families are encouraged to apply.

Emergency Management

sf.gov/ReadySF - The place to find everything you need to know before, during, and after an emergency. Stay ready, so you don’t have to get ready. Brought to

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Housing Authority

The Housing Authority of the City and County of San Francisco (Authority) is actively seeking new property owners to participate in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. The program provides housing assistance to eligible individuals and families by paying a portion of their rent to private property owners.

Key benefits:

1. **Guaranteed Monthly Rent:** Property owners can rely on timely direct deposit rental payments from the Authority.
2. **Expanded Tenant Pool:** Property owners gain access to a broader pool of prospective tenants.
3. **Community Impact:** Partnering with the Authority supports affordable housing and the community.

We are interested in expanding housing opportunities in San Francisco zip codes 94129, 94123, 94105, 94127, 94114, 94131, 94116, 94118, 94158, 94122, 94107, 94117, 94112, 94121, and immediate suburban areas. For more information, please contact us at customercare@sfaa.org or learn more at www.sfaa.org.

Rent Board

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR LANDLORDS

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

San Francisco International Airport

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

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

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The View from Newberg and 27th streets.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim



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The Colors of Fall in Noe.

Photo by Jack Tipple

The Cost of Living in Noe

A September Surge

By Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley residential sales rebounded in September, as neighborhood shoppers snapped up 11 single-family detached homes, nearly triple the number sold in August, when only four deals closed.

The total matched the 11 sales recorded a year earlier, according to data provided monthly to the Voice by Corcoran Icon Properties.

Condominium sales also gained momentum, with nine units changing hands, compared to six in August and three in September 2024. The month also saw a modest uptick in sales of apartment buildings.

“It’s one of our seasonal cycles,” explained Christine Lopatowski, manager of Corcoran Icon’s 24th Street office. “We have more inventory that hit the market, and everybody’s back from vacation.”

Even so, Lopatowski said, the increase in listings wasn’t enough to satisfy strong buyer demand in the neighborhood.

Competition was fierce: 10 of the 11 single-family homes sold at or above their asking price. The only one that went “for a little bit under the asking price,” Lopatowski noted, “had been sitting on the market for a long time.”

On average, buyers paid 11 percent over the list price—up sharply from August, when homes sold for 98 percent of asking.

\$9.6 Million Sale

Among September’s standout deals was a house in the 700 block of Elizabeth Street, between Diamond and



This ultramodern home on Elizabeth Street attracted the second highest price ever paid for a house in Noe Valley: \$9.6 million. Built in 2021, the five-bedroom, five-bath manse featured an elevator, a gourmet kitchen, four decks, and sweeping views.

Douglass streets.

The four-story, five-bedroom, five-bath residence sold for \$9.6 million, the second-highest price ever paid for a home in Noe Valley. (Only a \$12 million Duncan Street sale in 2017 ranked higher, according to Voice records dating back to 1999.)

The buyer or buyers, according to agents familiar with the deal, paid 7.6 percent above the seller’s asking price (\$8,995,000) and may have links to the booming artificial intelligence sector, which is reshaping the upper-end housing market across the city.

Compass Real Estate market analyst Patrick Carlisle reported in September that “luxury” homes in San Francisco—those priced above \$5 million—were selling for 55 percent more than last year, fueled largely by stock-rich employees at AI and other tech startups.

Though Carlisle did not break down sales by neighborhood, he told the Voice there had been “absolutely” increased interest in homes in Noe Valley.

“Noe Valley has always heated up

extremely quickly with each of the technology booms,” said Carlisle.

Like the dot-com and Tech 2.0 waves, the AI surge is “powered by people mostly in their 30s and 40s,” noted Carlisle. “Those people love the Noe Valley area. They love the neighborhoody feel. Though they’ve become wealthy, they are not the Pacific Heights buyers with 8,000-square-foot mansions. They want nice homes in good condition and remodeled technologically, and they want to walk down to 24th Street. Their life is much more low-key.”

For their money, the Elizabeth Street buyers received a four-year-old, tech-smart home with 4,512 square feet on four levels, complete with an elevator, central air, and a two-car garage. Its open-plan living spaces flowed past a 15-foot Italian marble island and

kitchen with bespoke cabinetry and appliances. Floor-to-ceiling sliders opened to a landscaped garden, while bedroom suites and multiple decks offered sweeping views of the city’s hills.

Other Standouts

The month’s biggest overbid was for a three-bedroom, two-bath renovated Victorian in the 3800 block of 25th Street, between Dolores and Church streets. It sold for \$2,562,000, an eye-popping 35 percent over asking (\$1,895,000).

That wasn’t the only over-the-top offer. A buyer anted up \$1 million over asking for a six-bedroom, five-bath home on 23rd Street, between Castro and Diamond streets. The final sale was \$6 million—20 percent above the seller’s price for the renovated 1904 residence (\$4,995,000).

Like their single-family counterparts, condo buyers also paid premiums. On average, condo shoppers spent 9 percent over asking in September.

Lopatowski said the most expensive condo sales involved a two-unit 1941 building in the 1000 block of Dolores Street, between 24th and Jersey streets. Both units were listed for \$1,285,000 and sold for \$1.7 million—31 percent over asking.

Each two-bedroom, two-bath residence offered distinctive features. The upper unit, with 1,307 square feet of living space, had a large kitchen, high ceilings, a fireplace, a Juliet balcony, and views of downtown and Twin Peaks. The 1,256-square-foot lower flat boasted a remodeled kitchen, an original fireplace, large windows, and detailed moldings. The building also included a sunny central patio and one-car parking for each unit. ■



A buyer paid 38 percent more than the asking price for this three-bedroom, two-bath restored Edwardian on 25th Street. It sold for \$2,562,000. Photos by Corrie M. Anders

Noe Valley Home Sales*						
Total Sales	No.	Low Price (\$)	High Price (\$)	Average Price (\$)	Avg. Days on Market	Sale Price as % of List Price
Single-family homes						
September 2025	11	\$1,525,000	\$9,600,000	\$3,050,000	31	111%
August 2025	4	\$1,725,000	\$4,900,000	\$3,338,750	20	98%
September 2024	11	\$1,885,000	\$6,800,000	\$3,170,775	39	107%
Condominiums/TICs						
September 2025	9	\$740,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,247,500	34	109%
August 2025	6	\$1,550,000	\$1,862,500	\$1,687,500	107	110%
September 2024	3	\$1,075,000	\$2,655,000	\$1,826,667	46	118%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
September 2025	6	\$1,204,000	\$1,695,000	\$1,490,000	76	99%
August 2025	2	\$1,325,000	\$1,610,000	\$1,467,500	43	98%
September 2024	1	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	10	100%
5+-unit buildings						
September 2025	3	\$2,350,000	\$8,400,000	\$4,250,000	68	99%
August 2025	0	—	—	—	—	—
September 2024	1	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	\$2,085,000	31	84%
*This survey includes all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley is loosely defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The Noe Valley Voice thanks Corcoran Icon Properties, San Francisco, for providing sales data. NVV11/2025						

Noe Valley Rents**					
Unit	No. in Sample	Range October 2025	Average October 2025	Average September 2025	Average October 2024
Studio	4	\$1,995 – \$3,750	\$2,835 / mo.	\$2,275 / mo.	\$2,223 / mo.
1-bdrm	13	\$3,299 – \$5,300	\$3,950 / mo.	\$3,557 / mo.	\$2,975 / mo.
2-bdrm	12	\$2,555 – \$6,200	\$4,794 / mo.	\$5,544 / mo.	\$4,195 / mo.
3-bdrm	8	\$5,795 – \$9,500	\$6,892 / mo.	\$7,781 / mo.	\$6,683 / mo.
4+-bdrm	0	N/A	/ mo.	\$10,000 / mo.	\$9,197 / mo.
** This survey is based on a sample of 37 Noe Valley rental listings appearing on Craigslist.org from Sept. 15 to Oct. 10, 2025. In October 2024, there were 75 listings. NVV11/2025					

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STORE TREK

Store Trek introduces new shops and businesses in Noe Valley. This month, we feature a restaurant that has expanded its culinary roots.

RIN'S THAI
4301 24th Street at Douglass
415-792-6134
<https://rinthaisf.com/>

Longtime patrons of Rin's Thai have been discovering dishes on the menu more traditionally served in Thailand. They are a nod to the culinary tastes and the street food enjoyed in the northern parts of the Southeast Asian country.

In particular, the recipes are influenced by the city of Chiang Mai, where chef and co-owner Krittaya "Pim" Sutraromluck grew up. She and her wife, Joy Cho, whose family hails from Bangkok, took over the restaurant earlier this year.

"Our food is more like what Thai people eat," said Sutraromluck.

Another innovation is a daily happy hour, where certain special drinks and all appetizers are \$2 off.

"It is a good thing so people can try our appetizers," said Cho.

They bought the restaurant at 4301 24th St. from Meily Ly, who had owned it for 18 years. After a brief closure and time to retool the menu, Sutraromluck and Cho reopened Rin's April 4.

"Meily was Vietnamese, so the old menu was very Asian fusion," explained Cho, who manages the restaurant and has been with Sutraromluck for a decade. "We do foods the way we grew up in Thailand."

Thus, the Firecracker Chicken listed on the previous menu is now called Spicy Basil Chicken. Sutraromluck serves it with jasmine rice and offers a beef option as well.

"It is the same thing, but we use a different name," said Sutraromluck.

One of the more popular dishes the couple added to the menu is Chiang Mai Curry Noodle (Khao Soi). Resembling a bird's nest, the dish consists of egg noodles in an orange curry sauce with a choice of BBQ pork, chicken, or beef, with green and red onions, and crispy egg noodles (\$30).

"It is based on Northern Thailand comfort food," said Sutraromluck.

Another dish she encourages customers to try is the Ginger Sea Bass, which is flavored with celery, green onions, and ginger in a light broth



New owners Joy Cho and Krittaya "Pim" Sutraromluck are bringing new dishes made with authentic Thai recipes to the menu at Rin's Thai on 24th Street. Photo by Matthew S. Bajko

(\$28).
"It is light and a more healthy dish," said Sutraromluck.

In the seafood category, Rin's has crab fried rice, broccoli shrimp, and three kinds of salmon, including Chu-Chi, grilled salmon with a creamy Thai red curry sauce (\$28).

Also recommended is the Kua Kai Kai Ob, chicken with pan-fried flat rice noodles, green onions, bean sprouts, and a fried egg on top (\$20).

For vegans or vegetarians, there are a number of tofu dishes, such as deep-fried Spicy Tofu (\$17) and Praram Tofu (\$15), fried tofu and steamed vegetables in peanut sauce.

Among the appetizers, ranging from \$12 to \$16, is the Sai Ua, a pork sausage known in Chiang Mai for its fresh herbs; the Duo Fried made with fried tofu and chives; and traditional spring rolls and crab rolls. The list also includes chicken satay, calamari, samosas, and brussels sprouts.

Rin's serves a trio of Thai soups, such as the hot and sour Tom Yum, made with mushrooms, red onions, galangal (a gingery spice), lemongrass, and makrut lime leaves.

There are also six salads on the menu, including the Luangprabang salad with papaya and Thai eggplant.

Mango black sticky rice, fried bananas, and roti ice cream (crispy round flat bread with coconut ice cream) are among the dessert choices. Beer, wine, and sake are available, along with mocktails, teas, and other non-alcoholic beverages.

The menu, which changes seasonally, offers monthly specials such as the Spicy Seafood Soup featured in October.

Unless customers request otherwise,

most of the dishes are prepared with mild or medium spice. Extra spicy sauce can be requested on the side.

"Normally, Thai food is spicy, but people here have told us they like it more mild," said Cho.

The couple live in Nob Hill and first met in San Francisco. Sutraromluck had opened a creperie in the Haight back in 2017, but closed it five years ago to move to Chiang Mai, where they opened a noodle house in a food court.

Called Pocha, the eatery has been overseen by Sutraromluck's mom since the couple returned to San Francisco in 2023. Having befriended Meily Ly, they asked her about taking over Rin's Thai after they learned she wanted to retire.

Due to its good reputation in the neighborhood, Sutraromluck and Cho saw no reason to change the restaurant's name. Affixed to the wall separating the dining room from the kitchen and above the archway is a lighted sign with "Rin's Thai" in black lettering on a white background.

"Rin's Thai has been here for years. We are not the ones to change the name. People still want Rin's Thai to be here," said Cho.

Reaction from customers to the menu changes has largely been positive, Sutraromluck told the *Voice* in late October, a few days before the women took a week off to visit family in Thailand.

"People are so nice and open for us. We will try the best things to make it the best here," she said. Customers' feedback is welcome, they said.

Added Cho, "I love the people around here and love to talk to them. They are awesome. They always ask us if everything is okay."

Rin's Thai is open seven days a week for lunch from noon to 3 p.m., happy hour from 4 to 6 p.m., and dinner from 4 to 9 p.m.

—Matthew S. Bajko



Chef Phatsonlak Sangiamphakdee turns out a bowl of Shrimp Pad Thai, a favorite at Rin's Thai restaurant at 4301 24th St. Photo by Art Bodner



Diners at Rin's Thai can now take advantage of a happy hour between 4 and 6 p.m., offering appetizers at \$2 off the regular price. Photo by Art Bodner

MORE FOOD TO EAT

Chicken Tikka Masala

This month I tried the Indian spot on 24th Street I’d passed by on several occasions but somehow never entered. I’m glad I finally did.

Noe Indian Cuisine, at 4166 24th St. between Castro and Diamond, envelops you in a delicious aroma the minute you walk in the door.

As I’ve mentioned before, I usually write these pieces while I’m eating. But this time, that was nearly impossible as I had trouble putting my fork down. I even neglected to take a photo until after I’d sampled a taste.

Chicken Tikka Masala (\$14.95), chicken breast marinated in a tomato-onion curry, really hit the spot.

The sauce is a perfect balance—rich and creamy but light enough to disappear before you know it—and the chicken brings that hearty, comforting body that ties the whole thing together.

I like mine with Garlic Naan to chase down every last bit of sauce, though rice works just as well. And if you’re cutting carbs, honestly, the chicken tikka masala can stand on its own.



The spice leaves a gentle warmth that lingers just long enough to remind you why this dish deserves its reputation as a classic.

My partner Katie and I tried a handful of other dishes that were all excellent, but given my soft spot for tikka masala, this one earned the nod.

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

Have a suggestion for a dish to try in Noe Valley? Send an email to Matt Fisher at MoreFoodtoEatNoeValley@gmail.com.



Advanced Volleyball at Upper Noe is a full-throttle game of thrills and spills. Come to watch or to play on Wednesdays, 5 to 7:30 p.m. Photo by Chris Faust

Keeping It Spiffy at Upper Noe Rec Center

Fall Session runs through Dec. 19 with lots of fun activities. See the 2025 Fall Daily Schedule, view the full Rec and Park Fall Catalog, and learn how to register at <https://uppernoerecreationcenter.com/sf-rec-and-park-classes/>.

Drop-in classes like pickleball and zumba and anytime activities like ping pong welcome all as the mood strikes you. Equipment is available to borrow from the office.

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

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

Call the Upper Noe Rec Center office at 415-970-8061 or visit www.uppernoerecreationcenter.com for more information.

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

—Chris Faust, Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

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

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

Tuesday 9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pickleball (all ages) 12 to 1 p.m. Pilates (18+) 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Strength & Flexibility (18+) 2 to 5 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE 5 to 7:45 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis – Beginning (ages 8-10) 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+) 7 to 8 p.m. Tennis – Beginning / Intermediate (18+)	5 to 7:45 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Yoga Vinyasa (18+)
Wednesday 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE 10 to 11 a.m. Basketball – Pee Wee (ages 3-5) 12 to 1 p.m. Feldenkrais (18+) 12 to 2 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE 2 to 5 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE 5 to 7:30 p.m. Advanced Drop-In Volleyball (18+)	Friday 9 to 10 a.m. Zumba (outside) FREE 10 to 11 a.m. Futsal for Tots (ages 3-5) 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE 12 to 2 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE 2 to 4 p.m. Open Basketball (youth) FREE 2 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play FREE 4 to 5 p.m. Flag Football Junior Division (ages 8-10) 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 8-10) 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 10-12) 5 to 6 p.m. Flag Football Senior Division (ages 11-13) 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 10-12) 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Girls Volleyball League (ages 12-14) 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. Girls Teen Drop-in Volleyball (12-17) FREE 6 to 7 p.m. Tennis – Beginning (ages 8-10) 7 to 8 p.m. Tennis – Beginning / Intermediate (18+)
Thursday 10 to 11:30 a.m. A Place to Play FREE 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pickleball (18+) FREE 12 to 1 p.m. Pilates (18+) 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Strength & Flexibility (18+) 2 to 4 p.m. Open Basketball (18+) FREE 4 to 5 p.m. Petite Bakers (3-5) 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Girls Basketball Fundamentals (ages 9-12) 4:30 to 6 p.m. A Place to Play FREE	Saturday 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Open Basketball (all ages) FREE 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Family Zumba – Play Pass \$5 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. A Place to Play FREE



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SHORT TAKES

Gather for Friendsgiving

Events coordinator Leslie Crawford says November at the Noe Valley Town Square is all about gratitude and good company. The month's centerpiece will be the second annual Noe Valley Friendsgiving, on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 1 to 3 p.m.

"Bring a dish to share—or just bring yourself," says Crawford, and enjoy the afternoon listening to live music or playing Speed Meet a Neighbor or Friend Bingo. Representatives from 10 local nonprofits will be on hand to offer volunteer opportunities.

Earlier in the month, we can practice our gratefulness at other Square (3861 24th St.) events:

The Loose Interpretations, also known as The Loosies, will be there to

perform a cappella pop, rock, and soul at Acoustic Sunday, on Nov. 16, 1 to 3 p.m.

Then, on Sunday, Nov. 30, The Buds will bring their blend of original songs and classic covers—think Bob Dylan, the Grateful Dead, and Neil Young.

For those who like to stretch before applauding, there is free Sunday morning yoga in the Square Nov. 9, 16, and 30 (no class Nov. 23), led by Yoga Flow from 11 a.m. to noon.

And don't forget to be grateful for Farmers Market Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. They have apples for the pie.

After Friendsgiving comes the Noe Valley Night Market on Tuesday, Nov. 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. The gathering will fill the square and street with handmade gifts, art, food, drink, and live music.

Then, all can be thankful for the Holiday Tree Lighting and Celebration in the Square on Monday, Dec. 1, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be caroling, Noe Valley Bakery cookies, hot chocolate from Martha & Bros., face painting, and an acrobatic LED show.

And if you're still in the spirit, take the Winter Wine Walk sponsored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. Get tickets (\$45) at Eventbrite or in front of the Town Square the day of the event.

For more information or updates, go to noevalleytownsquare.com.

Sip and Shop at St. Philip's

St. Philip School at Elizabeth and Diamond streets is inviting its friends and neighbors to the annual Holiday Sip & Shop on Friday, Dec. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m.

"This is a treasured school tradition and community-building event," says school parent Andrea Sieminski. "A hundred percent of proceeds go to fund the teachers' classroom wish lists."

The event will be held in the Parish Hall at 725 Diamond St. (You can also enter through the parking lot on 24th Street next to Edward Jones.)

For the \$25 entrance fee, guests will enjoy a wine tasting, light appetizers, and shopping at the tables of dozens of local vendors.

To reserve a spot and/or donate to the wish lists, visit saintphilipschool.org.

St. Philip School, at 665 Elizabeth St., serves pre-K through eighth-grade students.

For information call 415-824-8467.

Visions of Johanna

Noe Valley artist/photographer Cary Friedman has created a retrospective exhibition of photos honoring his wife, Johanna Friedman, and others with Alzheimer's disease.

Johanna, who is in her 70s, received her diagnosis 4-1/2 years ago, and until recently Cary has been her sole caregiver. "I can't leave Johanna home alone. It is extremely stressful and makes me very sad to see an intelligent, strong woman having to deal with Alzheimer's," Cary says. "It's a very cruel disease."

He and Johanna came from Chicago to San Francisco in the 1970s. A graduate of the Chicago Art Institute, Cary pursued photography and teaching, and Johanna her own art and natural health interests. In 1995, she opened Beyond the Sea at 1303 Castro St., an aromatherapy and gift boutique that thrived for nine years.

"She made wonderful soaps and other natural care products," noted



This portrait of Johanna Friedman is among the photographs displayed by artist/photographer Cary Friedman in an exhibition at 4190 24th St. through November.

Cary. "She was also a doula, yoga teacher, and manager of several small shops, including Cocolat French pastries on 24th at Castro."

The photo exhibit will be on display through November at 4190 24th St., in Meagan Fishell's office at Edward Jones, open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"The reception [in late October] was very well attended and was magical," said Cary. "I especially want to thank Meagan."

The show is Cary's fourth exhibition during the 35 years he and Johanna have lived in their flat on 24th Street. "While scanning old negatives, I had the idea of honoring Johanna," he said.

To find out more, contact Cary Friedman at fotoartiste@icloud.com.

Relax into Well-Being

Noe Music is trying out something new in January: a Well-Being Concert modeled after those at Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute in New York, exploring how live music can soothe, restore, and reconnect us.

Listeners will be able to settle onto yoga mats, pillows, or chairs and "let the music carry you inward," says Meena Bhasin, co-artistic director of Noe Music with husband and fellow musician Owen Dalby.

In the first concert, on Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., vocalist and composer Sarah Elizabeth Charles will perform music from her album *Dawn*—a meditation on birth, ancestry, and creation—and be joined by singers from Noe Music's Lullaby Project.

Also, the Well-Being Concert will be a "choose-what-you-pay" evening.

Bhasin, who will guide the event, hopes the new concert will become a regular space "for reflection, connection, and renewal—reminding us of music's ability to heal both individually and collectively."

To pick your price for the inaugural event, go to noemusic.org.

P.S. While there, you might want to pause on the Mainstage concerts still happening this fall. They include a Nov. 21 performance by vocal star ganavya and a Dec. 7 all-Schubert recital by pianist Inon Barnatan featuring a special collaboration with violinist and co-artistic director Dalby.

—Pat Rose

A Sky Full of Song

The San Francisco-based Resound Ensemble returns to Noe Valley this month with "Across the Vast Eternal Sky," an evening of music celebrating the beauty and wonder in nature.

The mixed-voice chorus will perform

Meal Programs at St. Aidan's and Elsewhere

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, located at 101 Gold Mine Drive a short walk from the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, will host a free Thanksgiving dinner for its neighbors in the community.

The sit-down meal, which will be held in the church sanctuary on Thursday, Nov. 27, from noon to 1:30 p.m., is open to the public.

"Our focus is on the neighborhood, which is basically Diamond Heights," said church treasurer Dave Frangquist. "But if people come from a little further, that's okay." He said they would not ask for IDs.

Frangquist said the church expected to serve 100 diners—about the same number as last year. St. Aidan's launched the tradition back in 2012.

This year's event, catered by Curveball Food Truck, will feature a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with turkey, cranberry sauce, and all the trimmings. The meal also will include dessert, likely pumpkin pie, Frangquist said.

Meals are also available for homebound family members.

Frangquist said volunteers are welcome—to help set up chairs and tables, put out serving utensils, work the serving line, and help clean up afterwards.

Thanksgiving is not the church's only food outreach. On the first Wednesday of the month, starting at noon, St. Aidan's serves a lunch for seniors called Diamond Diners.

More importantly, the church partners with the San Francisco/Marin Food Bank to host a food pantry on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. It offers fruits, vegetables, bread, eggs, and other staples to anyone living in the 94131 zip code. In this instance, a photo ID or other proof of address is required.

For more information, call St. Aidan's at 415-285-9540 or email office@staidansf.org.

Note: Seniors 60 and over, no matter their zip code, can get a free or low-cost meal in Noe Valley at On Lok 30th Street Senior Center, 225 30th St. To pick up a to-go meal (weekdays only), sign in as early as 9 a.m. for a 10 to 11 a.m. pickup at the senior center. Dine-in lunch is available Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. For more details, call the senior center number at 415-550-2210.

—Corrie M. Anders

three concerts—Friday and Saturday, Nov. 14 and 15, and Monday, Nov. 17—at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., all at 7:30 p.m.

Highlights will include contemporary works by Marques L.A. Garrett, Ola Gjeilo, Elaine Hagenberg, Stephen Paulus, Rosephanye Powell, Jake Runestad, and Caroline Shaw.

Founded in 2011, Resound draws its singers from all walks of life—teachers, tech workers, doctors, small business owners, doctors, and musicians—and prides itself on erasing the divide between popular and classical music.

Tickets online start at \$17.85. For more information, visit www.resoundensemble.org.

Short Takes are by Sally Smith, unless otherwise noted.

Pickled Quail Eggs—Why Not?

Scott Kravitz knows his Ray's Cocktail Eggs are a hard (boiled) sell, given that such garnishes are rarely a staple among the olives and pickled onions people stock in their homes. His using quail eggs for a product that must be refrigerated adds another barrier to getting people to buy, let alone taste, his briny concoction.

"Nobody comes to a store looking for a pickled quail egg," acknowledges Kravitz, a longtime Noe Valley resident and former professional bartender who co-owned a bar in the city's upper Market Street corridor. "Once they try it, then they get it, and they understand what it is all about."

Thus, he has been offering free tastings at Noe Valley Wine & Spirits, with the next one taking place from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14. The shop at 3821 24th St. sells 6 oz. jars containing 10 of Kravitz's pickled eggs for \$15.50.

Kravitz makes them in clutches of 800 at a time in his home on Cesar Chavez Street. He lives down the block from Omnivore Books on Food, where he bought a book about pickling in 2020 amid the Covid pandemic. The freelance animator began experimenting with different pickling recipes using chicken eggs. A friend one day, as a joke, gave him quail eggs to pickle.

"When I pickled the quail eggs, I noticed they were the same size as a Spanish olive," recalled Kravitz. "I got the idea of putting an egg inside the drink instead of next to the drink."

He sources the eggs from a Central Valley farm or via a distributor based in San Jose. After boiling and deshellng them, he pickles them in a brine made from vinegar, red onion, vermouth, sugar, garlic, salt, and his secret mix of spices.

In the summer, he introduced a spicy version made with habanero peppers instead of red onion. They have been a hit at the downtown bar Holbrook House, which uses them to garnish its tomato martinis. They will be available to try at this month's tasting event.

To learn more about Ray's Cocktail Eggs, named after Kravitz's son, visit <http://www.rayspickledeggs.com/>.

—Matthew S. Bajko

CHILDREN’S FICTION

Jane Cabrera reimagines a classic nursery rhyme in *Itsy Bitsy Spider*. Ages 3-6.

Menudo Sunday: A Spanglish Counting Book is by Maria Dolores Aguila with illustrations by Erika Meza. Ages 3-7.

Witch-in-training Heidi Heckelbeck faces a rival in *Freakiest Trip Ever! Middle School and Other Disasters* by Wanda Coven, with illustrations by Anna Abramskaya. Ages 8-12.

In *Gus and Glory* by Sarah Guillory, a girl and her bloodhound search for her missing mother. Ages 8-12.

CHILDREN’S NONFICTION

Little Kids First Big Book of African Animals, by Catherine D. Hughes, includes profiles, photographs, and maps. Ages 4-8.

Tanya Konerman explains why elephants enjoy soaking in wet soil in *Mud to the Rescue!*, illustrated by Melanie Cataldo. Ages 4-8.

Finding Home: Amazing Places Animals Live is by Mike Unwin with illustrations by Jenni Desmond. Ages 5-8.

In *Delish: The How-To Cookbook for Young Foodies*, Joanna Saltz and the editors of *Delish* offer “75 skills and recipes that’ll make you a great cook for life.” Ages 8-12.

CHILDREN’S EBOOKS

Remember Who You Are, by Leona Prince and Gabrielle Prince with illustrations by Sara General, may help little ones start thinking of their ancestors. Ages 3-5.

A cat fits a bunch of friends in a car in *Pete the Cat’s Cool New Ride* by James Dean. Ages 4-8.

After saving Celdur Castle from the Shadow Queen, Faye faces new challenges in *The Witch Who Stormed the Palace*, by Ryan Graudin. Ages 8-12.

In *Rewilding* by Lisa Gerlits (illustrations by Savanna Durr), Joy works at starting a garden while she tries to hold her family together. Ages 9-12.

TEEN FICTION

A high school sophomore has to fight for her place on the RoboSub team in *Imposter* by Cait Levin. Ages 12-17.

The Infinite Glade by James Dashner is the final book of *The Maze Cutter* trilogy, which unearths shocking truths about the Cure. Ages 12-17.

Marisol and Genevieve become fireball witches in Ibi Zoboi’s *(S)kin*, a novel based on Caribbean folklore. Ages 13-17.

Holy Terrors is Margaret Owen’s third book in the *Little Thieves* fantasy series. Ages 14-18.

TEEN NONFICTION

Ages 11 to 14 will find answers in *The Middle School Survival Guide for Girls: The Inside Scoop on Dealing With School, Friends, Emotions, and Other Big, Big Changes* by Geraldine O’Sullivan.

Trans History: From Ancient Times to the Present Day is a graphic novel by Alex Combs. Ages 12-17.

Personal Finance for Teens for Dummies by Athena Valentine offers the fundamentals of money management. Ages 13-18.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Just Two Things by Michael Blake

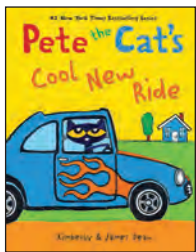
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MORE BOOKS TO READ

All Booked Up

This month, the San Francisco Public Library is holding a string of “First Person” events honoring **Native and Indigenous American** cultures. Check out the latest at branches around the city, including a Main Library exhibit of works by **Felicia Gabaldon**, known for her painted skateboard decks.

It also is inviting you to join a group-read of this year’s **One City One Book** selection: *The Worlds I See: Curiosity, Exploration, and Discovery at the Dawn of AI*, by visionary computer scientist Fei-Fei Li. In Li’s memoir, the Library

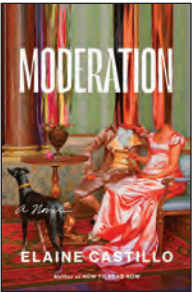
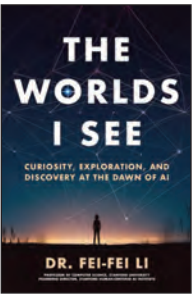


notes, “Li shares her remarkable journey from a childhood in China to becoming one of the most influential voices in artificial intelligence.” Li is co-director of Stanford’s Human-Centered AI Institute and winner of the 2025 Webby Lifetime Achievement Award.

When you’ve finished *The Worlds I See*, you might look for your next book among the titles on this page, offered by Children’s Librarian Madeleine Felder, Youth Librarian Cristal Fiel, Adult Services Librarian Amy Lewis, and Branch Manager Mary Fobbs-Guillory, of the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library.

To put items on hold, go to SFPL.org or use their mobile app. To speak with Lewis, Felder, Fiel, or Fobbs-Guillory, call 415-355-5707.

If you need some fresh air, bundle up and trek over to the library, at 451 Jersey St. Your dog might need a sweater too. (Please thank *Voice* bookworm and cat advocate Karol Barske for her unbiased concern, and for writing the book and film descriptions.) Note that all city libraries will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day, and on Nov. 27 and 28, for Thanksgiving. Have a happy one.



—Sally Smith, ed.

King: A Life, Jonathan Eig’s biography of Martin Luther King Jr., includes information from declassified FBI files. Ages 14 and up.

TEEN EBOOKS

Nimmi tries to reunite with her estranged mother in Sri Lanka, but a tsunami gets in the way in *Tall Water* by SJ Sindu, illustrated by Dion MBD. Ages 13-17.

Fearless, a romantasy by Lauren Roberts, is the last battle of love and loyalty in The Powerless Trilogy. Ages 13-17.

The final book in Vanessa Len’s *Only a Monster* trilogy is *Once a Villain*. Ages 13-17.

Six students compete in a magic competition in *Immortal Consequences: The Souls of Blackwood Academy* by I.V. Marie. Ages 14-17.

While on the run from seven years in foster care, 18-year-old Lucy discovers her Ojibwe roots in *Sisters in the Wind*, by Angeline Bouley. Ages 14-18

ADULT FICTION

In Daphne Fama’s *House of Monstrous Women*, a young woman in the Philippines is drawn into a dangerous game.

Two black writers try to find peace in a violent world in *People Like Us* by 2021 National Book Award winner Jason Mott.

The Sunflower Boys by Sam Wachman is about two Ukrainian brothers left to fend for themselves after a Russian attack.

Elaine Hsieh Chou’s *Where Are You Really From* is a collection of stories with a *Twilight Zone* flavor.

ADULT NONFICTION

The Second Emancipation: Nkruman, Pan-Africanism, and Global Blackness at High Tide is the second book in Howard T. French’s trilogy about Africa’s role in shaping world history.

Nicholas Boggs includes archival material, original research, and interviews in the biography *Baldwin: A Love Story*.

In *Destroy This House*, Amanda Uhle addresses the challenges of growing up in a difficult family.

Åsne Seierstad reports on the Taliban’s first year in power in *The Afghans: Three Lives Through War, Love, and Revolt*.

NEW ADULT EBOOKS

Penelope Fitzgerald searches for her inheritance in northern Mexico in *Fonseca*, by Jessica Francis Kane.

Scott Anderson recounts the events of 1977 in *King of Kings: The Iranian Revolution, a Story of Hubris, Delusion, and Catastrophic Miscalculation*.

Elaine Castillo’s novel *Moderation* takes on romance in the virtual workplace.

Regaining Unconsciousness: Poems is Harryette Romell Mullen’s first new collection in 12 years.

NEW DVDS/BLURAY

Forty Acres (2024), a post-apocalyptic

LIBRARY EVENTS

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

A workshop, “Introduction to **eBooks**” for adults is set for Monday, Nov. 3, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Toddler Storytimes, for ages 16 months through 2 years, are on Mondays Nov. 3, 10, 17, and 24, from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Space is limited; tickets available at the door; beginning at 11 a.m.

Family Storytimes are on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., Nov. 6, 13, and 20. Space is limited; tickets available at the front door beginning at 10 a.m.

The Graphic Novel **Memoir Book Club** for teens and adults discusses *Come Home, Indio*, by Jim Terry, on Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 5 to 6 p.m. Copies are held at the Noe Valley circulation desk for checkout.

The last two meetings of On Lok’s **Diabetes Empowerment** workshop for older adults are on Nov. 7 and 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. Registration required at 355-5707.

Meet at the library for a City Guides **Walking Tour**, “Noe Valley: Village Within a City,” on Saturdays, Nov. 8 and 22, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Reserve at sfcityguides.org; 415-375-0468.

Drop-In Tech Help is scheduled for Mondays, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Ages 10 through 18 can work on school projects, with help from librarians, at **Homework Hangout**; snacks available by request, on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 6 and older can make a **Beaded Corn** craft and learn about corn’s importance to Native Americans, on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 3 to 4 p.m.

Learn about colored **Diné Sand Painting** and make one of your own Monday, Nov. 17, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Niloufar Talebi leads a workshop, “**Root and Remix**: Writing from Culture, Memory, and Imagination,” on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

The Noe Valley **Short Stack Book Club** discusses *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* by Jeanette Winterson Friday, Nov. 21, from 3 to 4 p.m. Copies are held at the circulation desk for checkout.

Learn basic techniques at a **Creative Mending** workshop on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Teens and middle-schoolers are invited to a workshop, **Anime Character Drawing**, Tuesday, Dec. 2, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Noe Valley **Knitting Circle** also welcomes those who crochet and macrame, and meets on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Learn **Sashiko** mending at a workshop led by artist Lisa Solomon Sunday, Dec. 7, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Family **LEGO and Board Game** Night happens on Tuesday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

thriller by R.T.Thorne, stars Danielle Deadwyler as an African-American farmer trying to survive in 2075 Canada.

Eddington is a 2025 neo-Western by Ari Aster, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Emma Stone.

Nine-Ring Golden Dagger, a 2024 Chinese action film made by Feng Xiaojun, features Tianshuo Song and Xintong Zhang.

Sovereign, a 2025 crime thriller by Christian Swegal, stars Dennis Quaid and Jacob Tremblay.

—Annotations by Voice bookworm Karol Barske

BRANCH HOURS

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

Food for our neighbors. Hope for our city.

The rising cost of living continues to strain families across San Francisco. But you can provide a lifeline. Your donation to the San Francisco–Marin Food Bank directly supports our local pantries.

Every dollar you give provides two meals.
You can volunteer as well.

San Francisco–Marin Food Bank
www.sfmfoodbank.org
415-282-1900

Action SF, the National Movement in Your Neighborhood

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

Al-Anon Noe Valley

Contact: 834-9940; office@al-anonsf.org
Meetings: Wednesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., St. Philip Church, 725 Diamond St. (park on Elizabeth Street side; enter on 24th Street).
Thursdays, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Bethany UMC, 1270 Sanchez St. (enter through Clipper Street side door and go up the stairs)

Castro Merchants

Contacts: Terry Asten Bennett, President;
Address: 584 Castro St. #333, SF, CA 94114
Email: info@CastroMerchants.com

Comerford Greenway

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

Diamond Heights Community Association

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

Dolores Heights Improvement Club

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

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)

Contacts: Deanna Mooney, 821-4045;
Diane McCarney, 824-0303; or Lili Wu, 647-0235. Address: 560 Duncan St., SF, CA 94131. Meetings: Call for details.

Eureka Valley Neighborhood Assn.

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

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN

Fair Oaks Neighbors

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

Friends of Billy Goat Hill

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

Friends of Dolores Park Playground

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

Friends of Christopher Park

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

Festival Friends of Glen Canyon Park

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

Friends of Noe Courts Playground

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

Friends of Noe Valley (FNV)

Contact: Todd David, 401-0625
Email: info@friendsofnoevalley.com
Website: friendsofnoevalley.com
Meetings: Two or three annually.

Friends of Slow Sanchez

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

Friends of Upper Noe Recreation Center

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

Friends of Upper Noe Dog Owners Group (FUND OG)

Contact: David Emanuel
Email: info@fundogsf.org
Website: www.fundogsf.org

Glen Park Association

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

Juri Commoners

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

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association

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

Noe Neighborhood Council

Contact: Ozzie Rohm or Matt McCabe
Email: info@noeneighborhoodcouncil.com
Website: noeneighborhoodcouncil.com
Meetings: Quarterly at Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St.

Noe Valley Association-24th Street Community Benefit District

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

Noe Valley Democratic Club

Contact: Sam Maslin, President
E-mail: noevalleydemocrats@gmail.com
Website: www.noevalleydemocrats.org
Meetings: Monthly at Valley Tavern or Tacolicious, dates publicized on website.

Noe Valley Farmers Market

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

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)

Contact: Kristen McCaffery, President, Kristen@novysf@gmail.com, 829-8383; or Kathryn Gianaras, Vice President, Kathryn@novysf@gmail.com
Meetings: 9 a.m. Call to confirm location.
Website: https://noemerchants.com
www.No ValleyMerchants.com

Noe Valley Parent Network

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

Noe Walks

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

Progress Noe Valley

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

San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)

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

Upper Noe Merchants

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

Upper Noe Neighbors

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

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

editor@noevalleyvoice.com

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



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and now for the
RUMORS
behind the news

Hallow, Everybody

By Mazook

RAIN ON MY PARADE: Almost 2,000 people showed up at the Slow Sanchez Halloween Stroll on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. It was raining that morning, but the sun came out around two in the afternoon, as did most of the party-goers. By 4 p.m., the promenade went from Clipper Street all the way down to 28th, and was totally packed with people, most of whom were wearing costumes.

I went to the rain-soaked Noe Valley Farmers Market in the Town Square that morning. It was not packed at all. Several of the vendors did not show up, but most braved the rain and were ready for business.

Many showed up at the stage to see a performance by a dance group from Fresno and the Herr Family Farm (a vendor at the Farmers Market since it opened 22 years ago). I was not going to miss that show.

Kudos to the Herr family, who put on a music and dance show that wowed the crowd of shoppers. The younger performers are members of Rocky's Resilience Rhythms in Fresno, where the Herr farm is located. A shout-out to Janelynn Vaj, 6, Joy Vaj, 8, and Abigail Vaj, 11. Applause! Applause!

☎ ☎ ☎

HALLOWEEN AT YOUR DOORSTEP: Melissa Willett was in front of her residence on Sanchez, giving out a variety of treats to the kids. "I bought about a thousand candy and sweet treats and toys, like glow sticks and false tattoos for the trick-or-treaters," said Willett, "but the morning rain was not too encouraging."

She admits she "spent way too much." But the sun came out in the afternoon, and, "by about 3:30, hundreds and hundreds of people started showing up and were parading up and down the street till almost six o'clock." Smiling, she said, "There were fantastic costumes, a lot were homemade, and for me it was all joy."

Courtney Ferrell, who is friends with the residents at 1325 Sanchez, brought candy and an electric bubble machine, which she set up in the garage. "I ran out of all the candy I brought in less

than two hours," she says, "but the bubble machine kept the 'bubble storm' onto the street going until we finally turned it off at six o'clock."

What a party! Kudos go out to Keir McMaster, who lives at 1215 Sanchez, and was giving out prizes to all those who could bench-press 15-to-20-pound pumpkins fastened to each end of a metal bar. "While many could not do it, there were over a hundred people who were successful," said McMaster, "and many were women."

The lines at the door of the Noe Café on the corner of Sanchez and 26th were down the block and the pastries and coffee were flowing back out the door.

Inside the door there was a Chinese artisanal bakery pop-up called Trang-CakeKiss, which offered yummy rolls served in paper bowls with white noodles. The chef was Trang Hoang, who said she learned the recipes of this Bun Cha Banh Mi as a little girl from her mother. She and her husband, Michael Kagan, moved to San Francisco four years ago and recently started this business, after being encouraged to do so by many of their friends.

I suspect they will be back doing their thing at Noe Café soon. I hope so.

☎ ☎ ☎

SHUFAT & SUGAR: Just before sundown, I joined the Halloween march of trick-or-treaters up and down 24th Street, from Dolores to Hoffman. It was quite well attended.

According to Joe Porcaro and Kristen Wengeller, the street below their apartment (above Shufat Market) "was jammed with people, and the Shufat family was providing the treats!"

Gloria Ng, manager of Noe Valley Bakery two blocks up, said they baked 1,000 sugar cookies for the kids and they were gobbled up by 6:30 p.m. The cookies, that is.

☎ ☎ ☎

HALLOWIENER PARTY: The annual pumpkin-carving event put on by state Senator Scott Wiener at Noe Courts on Oct. 25, was attended by about "a hundred" people, including reporter Joaquin Palomino from the *SF Chronicle*. Since I was at the Farmers Market, I did not attend, but I was very happy to read about the event.

Palomino reported that a panel of drag queens gave prizes to the children in three categories: most creative, scariest, and overall best pumpkin. He then wrote that Wiener applauded the winners, saying, "Thank you for your creativity—creativity that I did not have as a kid. There are some pretty amazing pumpkins."



Owner Ken Yeung (left) welcomes SF Mayor Daniel Lurie to The Dubliner bar on Wednesday, Oct. 15. The mayor had cancelled plans with Marc Benioff that week, choosing instead to speak at the Noe Valley Democratic Club and tout the city's lowered crime rates. Photo by Sally Smith

The headline on the story was: "Scott Wiener's annual S.F. pumpkin-carving draws families—and protesters."

Turns out a couple of dozen protesters had come to the event dressed in chicken costumes, "because, they said, Wiener had refused to meet with them" to debate the various bills he'd authored to protect transgender rights.

I'm pretty sure the chicken protesters were not Noe Valleons.

☎ ☎ ☎

DEMOS, LET'S GO: Thanks to my editor, Sally Smith, who shared her notes with me, I have a few tidbits about the Noe Valley Democratic Club party held Oct. 15 at The Dubliner on 24th Street. I did not attend but really wish I had.

The club was celebrating the fourth anniversary of its current iteration. (I became a member back in 1972 of the club's first iteration.) Special guests at the party were SF Mayor Daniel Lurie, City Attorney David Chiu, Supe Mandelman, and comedian Stephanie Block, who hosts the Boom Boom Room Comedy Showcase at 1601 Fillmore on third Wednesdays.

Mayor Lurie strolled in around 6:15 p.m., his second visit to Noe in less than a month. He was escorted by Adam Thongsavat, the mayor's assistant, a longtime Noe Valley resident.

Shaking hands and meeting and greeting people, our mayor made his way through the bar (and behind the bar to shake hands with owner Ken Yeung).

After a quickie intro by Demo Club president Sam Maslin, the mayor gave a short speech.

Lurie started out by saying things were changing, and for the better. Crime was down by 30 percent city-wide, and down 40 percent at Union Square, and police officer applicants were up. "This city is on the rise."

He joked when he said, "[Noe,] you can park in your own driveway now. But it's got to be a driveway, let's be clear." (crowd laughs) "These little things we're trying to work on each and every day, to make life easier for small business owners, the residents, the people of San Francisco." But, since the week had been a rough one (Marc Benioff, Trump), he wound up the speech with a pep rally: "No one is coming to save us. The only people coming to save us are San Franciscans. We have all that we need in this city. So let's get it done. Let's go, San Francisco!" (big applause)

I must say, while I didn't vote for him, now with 20/20 hindsight, I wish I had. He sealed the deal with me when, a week later, he took a call from President Trump, in which he (Trump) said he would call off his planned "surge" of federal troops in San

Francisco. A "surge," I reckon, would have spurred a movement by San Franciscans to secede from the United States.

By the way, I hope you all voted on Prop. 50 on Nov. 4. Next month in the December issue I will give you the results of the Noe vote. I am predicting 95 percent of us voted yes, yes, yes.

☎ ☎ ☎

BANK ON IT: EverBank recently acquired the Sterling Bank branch in Noe Valley, at 3800 24th St., at Church Street. The \$44 billion bank, headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla., took over Sterling Bank & Trust in June.

EverBank, established in 1998, rebranded all 12 Sterling branches in the Bay Area (plus 13 in L.A. and one in New York) this fall.

EverBank opened its first California banks in Encino and Roseville in late 2024. Its West Coast hub is in Irvine. Accounts will continue to be FDIC insured up to \$250,000. The phone number is still the same, so you can call 415-970-9070 to find out details.

☎ ☎ ☎

BIG MYSTERY IN FOODLAND: Tacolicious founder and CEO Joe Hargrave and partner Mike Barrow abruptly closed the Noe Valley taqueria on Oct. 15.

I realized the restaurant had closed when I was on my afternoon walk that day. To my surprise, the front windows were covered and neatly papered over, and the parklet in front was cleaned and locked up. There was nothing posted—not even a "closed" sign.

Although I rigorously tried to contact someone at Tacolicious via phone and email for two weeks, to find out their plans, I have gotten zero response. Nada.

Joe Hargrave had spoken about his switch from Todo el Dia to Tacolicious at the Democratic Club meeting in August, held at Tacolicious. So I thought club president Sam Maslin might know.

But Maslin did not. Either that, or he discreetly declined to speak for Hargrave.

Hopefully, I will hear back from Hargrave by the December Rumors.... Or better yet, the Tacolicious doors will reopen.

☎ ☎ ☎

SHUTDOWN SOS: The chaos around the government shutdown and the pause in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits due to happen Nov. 1 hit many San Francisco families hard. Many depend for their fresh produce on weekly trips to the city's farmers markets, including the Noe Valley Farmers Market.

According to the NVFM team, the SNAP shoppers who regularly visited the market would have been able to use their benefit cards from October as long as they had a balance, but come November, if the government failed to credit their accounts, their ability to use them to buy produce would have come to a stop.

To help offset the impact, the city's Human Services Agency (SFHSA), in partnership with the Crankstart Foundation and other nonprofits, allocated \$18 million in emergency funding to support the roughly 112,000 residents who rely on SNAP (CalFresh) benefits in San Francisco.

If your benefits are delayed or to find out if you're eligible for SNAP or other benefits, go to the SFHSA website, <https://www.sfhhsa.org/>.

☎ ☎ ☎

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS: See you here in December. ■



On Saturday, Oct. 25, despite the wet morning, all of Noe Valley emerged from their cocoons to do the Slow Sanchez Halloween Stroll—including Cleopatra. Photo by Renee Koury

JESSICA



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