

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Grate Drama Ends Swimmingly

Neighborhood Dives In To Retrieve Teacher's Keys

By Heather World

The morning didn't start well for Alvarado kindergarten teacher Leslie Zwemer. Her electricity was out, and for a coffee lover with an electric garage door opener, that was bad enough. Then things got worse when she stepped out of the taxi she'd hired to get to Philz Coffee on Douglass Street for a quick cup of caffeine before work: her keys fell down the sewer grate.

But what started as a Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (a book she has sometimes read to her class) became a touching story of neighborhood empathy and generosity as Noe Valley came to her rescue.

"I'm in Philz, crying," said Zwemer, in recalling the Feb. 24 event. A sympathetic barista gave her a free coffee and muffin and suggested she contact the city to report the lost keys. A small crowd gathered around the sewer grate to help, but no one could retrieve the keys and a shaky Zwemer had to get to school anyway.

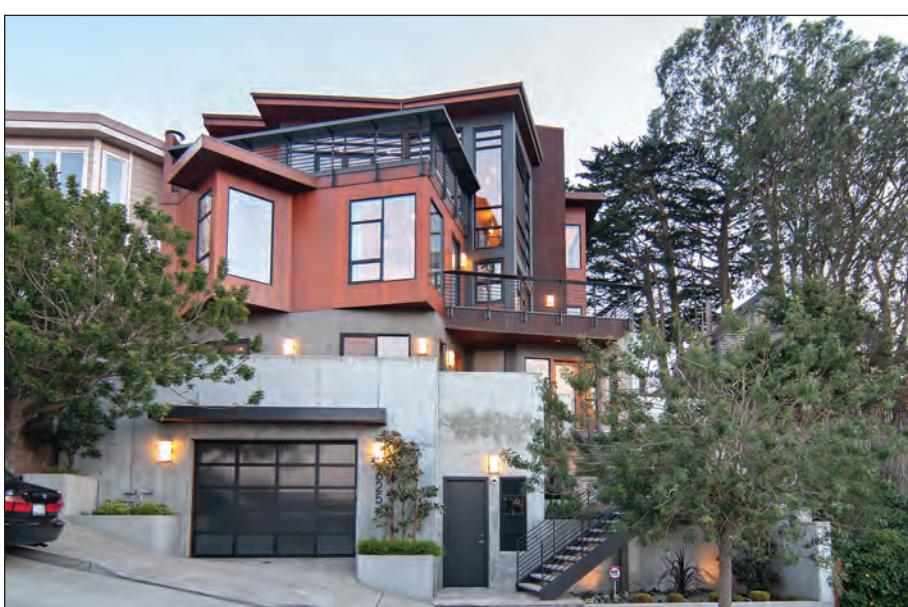
"A Good Samaritan walked me to school," she said. "Her wallet had been ripped off the day before, so she could identify with someone who was hys-

Continued on page 9



Part of the Rescue Team. A valiant worker from Hernandez Engineering descended into the sewer to help find the set of keys dropped down the hole.

Photo courtesy Leslie Zwemer



The Gold Standard: This house on Duncan Street sold for \$7 million in March, establishing a new benchmark for home sales in the neighborhood. Still, it wasn't the only local address fetching a mind-blowing price. Find out more on page 16. Photo by Sean Poreda/LuxHomeTours



Back from the Abyss: Her bad day was already brewing by the time Leslie Zwemer (second from right) lost her grip at the corner of 24th and Douglass streets. But the black cloud lifted in the afternoon, thanks to a crew of Good Samaritans, including Philz Coffee manager Greg Matt (right) and baristas Max Wechter and Michelle Vail. Photo by Beverly Tharp

Solomon-Like Solution for Noe Courts

Fence and New Rules May Separate People, Dogs, and Sports

By Heather World

City planners are proposing a combined tennis and basketball court at Noe Courts, leaving room for a dog-friendly quadrant and a fenced-in "people zone" in the small park at Douglass and 24th streets.

The compromise was born of four community meetings held in 2013, hosted by the Recreation and Park Department as it sought to coordinate spending slated for the .93-acre park.

Scheduled to go before the Recreation and Park Commission on May 15, the hybrid combines two half-court basketball courts and a tennis court in the southwest corner of the park. The court would have no fence along most of its eastern side.

The department would balance the needs of basketball and tennis players by posting the hours each sport had priority on the court.

The plan also calls for a fence bisecting the park from north to south, creating a grassy swath on the east side that is ter-

raced down to the children's playground in the southeast corner.

Neither the fence nor the combined courts would be included in the first round of improvements because funding

Continued on page 11

Continued on page 11



Last Days in May: Customer Randy Koss helps Global Exchange store manager Kara Roguly by lightening the load she'll have to pack in preparation for moving from Noe Valley. The store is leaving after 25 years on 24th Street.

Photo by Corrie M. Anders

Global Exchange Closes Local Outlet

Fair Trade Store Can't Swallow Rent Increase

By Corrie M. Anders

Global Exchange, a pioneer in the fair trade movement—selling housewares, jewelry, and crafts from independent makers around the world—has decided to call it quits in Noe Valley. The store at 4018 24th St. will close its doors on Sunday, May 4.

In announcing the closure, the store said it had been caught up in the pressure-cooker of rising rents affecting small businesses all over the city. The decision

to shutter the shop, a fixture in the neighborhood for 25 years, came after negotiations with the landlord failed to garner a new multi-year lease.

Global Exchange staff said they are looking for a less expensive venue, most likely outside Noe Valley, and that they plan to open an online store sometime this summer. The Global Exchange outlet in Berkeley will remain open.

The Noe Valley store's final month attracted a steady stream of shoppers, who rummaged through merchandise including organic cotton clothing from Peru, tote bags made in El Salvador from recycled tires, and silver jewelry handcrafted in Bali.

While browsing for bargains, cus-

Continued on page 9

Library Ups Hours to Seven Days a Week

Read All About It From Monday to Sunday

By Olivia Boler

The Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library is turning a new page this month. Starting the week of Sunday, May 11, the branch will be open on Mondays. That means the historic Carnegie library at 451 Jersey St., renovated in 2008, will now be open seven days a week..

Monday hours will be from noon to 6 p.m. All other hours will remain the same. (See page 27 for the complete schedule.)

"Library users want the convenience of having the library open every day," says Susan Higgins, adult services librarian for the Noe Valley branch. "By adding Mondays to our schedule, we're providing better service to the community."

Last year, the *Voice* reported that library hours on Saturdays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays might be reduced if the Monday hours were added to the schedule. However, the city's Library Commission

apr.com



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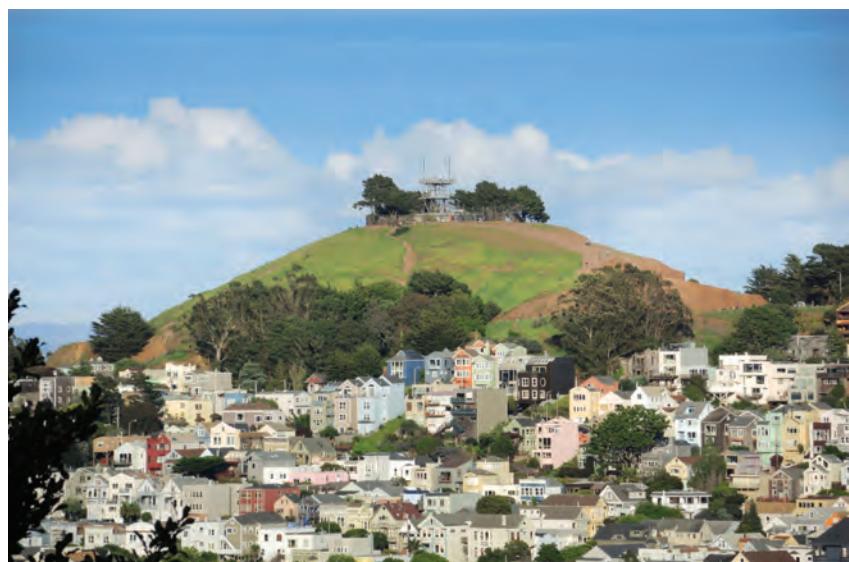
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If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.

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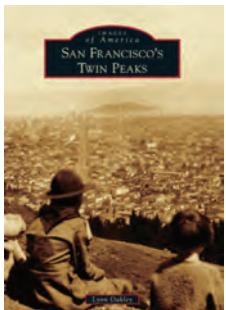
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Marina • 1858 & 1864 Union St.

May Events! Save the Dates...



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Local Author - Lynn Oakley

Book signing and reception • Books will be available to purchase

NV Merchants Giant Sidewalk Sales!

Sat. May 17th 10am-7pm • Deals galore!

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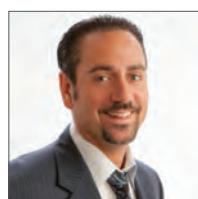
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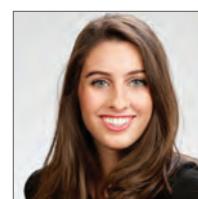
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Tari Frank



Nicole Leonel



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justforfun.invitations.com



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From the Hill to the Valley, Claudia's got you covered.



Claudia Siegel has called this corner of the city home for over 20 years. As a parent, dog owner and green-certified professional, she truly cares about our neighborhoods.

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2014 Voting Guide

Vote for an economically stronger San Francisco on June 3

VOTE YES

Proposition A: Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond

- Help ensure San Francisco's firehouses, police stations and emergency water systems are able to function after a major earthquake, without raising taxes.

VOTE NO

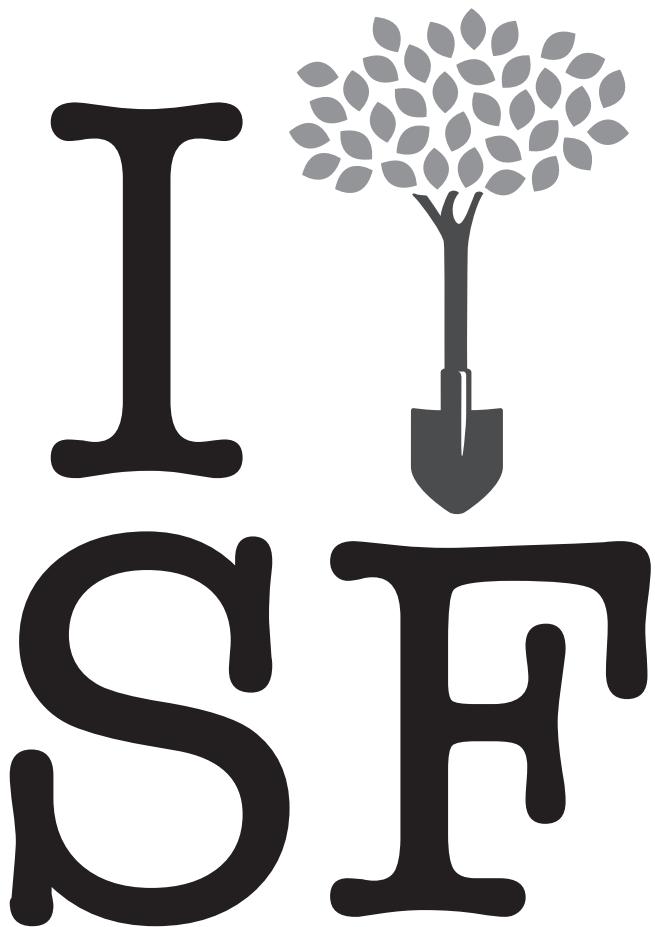
Proposition B: Waterfront Height Limit Initiative

- Prop. B means losing the chance to build vitally needed new housing for middle and low income San Franciscans
- Prop. B destroys the maritime infrastructure of the Port of San Francisco
- Prop. B takes away from the Port, Planning Commission, State agencies, community leaders and our elected officials the ability to approve well thought out and critically important waterfront projects



SF Forward is the Political Action Committee (PAC) of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

SF Forward is comprised of local business owners and residents who support sound economic policy and exceptional quality of life in San Francisco. The PAC is dedicated to insuring that political reforms strengthen the local economy, improve the business climate, and streamline the operation of government.



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THE CROSSWORD BY MICHAEL BLAKE

Two Dozen

ACROSS

- Word on candy valentines
- AWOL trackers
- "___ guy walks into a bar..." (joke start)
- SFO workers' org.
- Concert ending?
- Ace
- Get too big for
- Architect Maya ___
- 24, to a body builder
- Nike or Puma rival
- Film rating grp.
- Vegas bag-tag letters
- 24, to a transit rider
- Vowel sound represented by an upside-down "e"
- Put up a fuss
- TV Hall of fame
- "Velvet" or "Hallow" attachment
- 24, to a Gallery of Jewels buyer
- Onetime Alcatraz resident
- People who go along to get along
- Traveling, as a music group
- da-DUM, da-DUM, da-DUM, in poetry
- 24, to a window shopper
- Grassland
- '70s hairstyle
- Long times
- 24, to an electric biker
- Noe Valley ___ Co. (Church Street shop)
- Some Louisianans
- Grand ___ (wine classification)
- Doris Day's "___ Sera, Sera"
- Abbr. before a home ph. #
- Foucault's Pendulum* author Umberto
- Abbr. before any ph. #
- Sch. paper
- Spring bloomers
- Pioneering computer
- Go "poof!"
- Speedometer abbr.
- TV ad, e.g.
- Tom Kaha Gai and Po Tak at Regent Thai
- Until now
- "I'd love to, Yvette!"
- Churchill successor, Clement ___
- Hawaiian bean at Martha & Bros.
- Cuba, Haiti, etc.
- Con ___ : (with élan)
- Le Zinc waiter's order response
- "H-E-L-P!"
- "How cute!" sounds
- Annoying insects
- Whistle blower
- Up in arms
- avis (oddity)
- Wear away
- Likes clothes at Cece's Closet
- BART's Powell or Embarcadero, for short
- Begin
- Order at Griddle Fresh
- Neither partner
- Project- or percent-ender
- Hawaiian bean at Martha & Bros.
- Cuba, Haiti, etc.
- Con ___ : (with élan)
- From ___ distance (cautiously)

Solution on Page 27

NOTE: The current Voice Crossword and all past puzzles can be found at www.noevalleyvoice.com

LETTERS

Corner Store Will Be Missed

Editor:

Concerning St. Paul's Market at 29th and Sanchez streets, which closed in early April (Rumors Behind the News, Voice April 2014):

When I moved to Sanchez Street in 1987, St. Paul's Market was owned by Jack Louh, who ran it with his sons, Alex and Joe. After Jack passed away, Alex took over.

This corner store has meant so much to me and my family over the years, and we are very sad to see it go. Jack, and then Alex, was always there seven days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 or 9 p.m. Always.

Jack and later Alex would sign for our packages, let us use the phone (before cell phones), and keep me informed about the neighborhood events. It was so great to have a corner store to buy ice cream, milk, coffee, and other items. They always tried to give us free donuts.

We will miss Alex very much, a true Noe Valley fixture.

Sidney Hollar
Sanchez Street

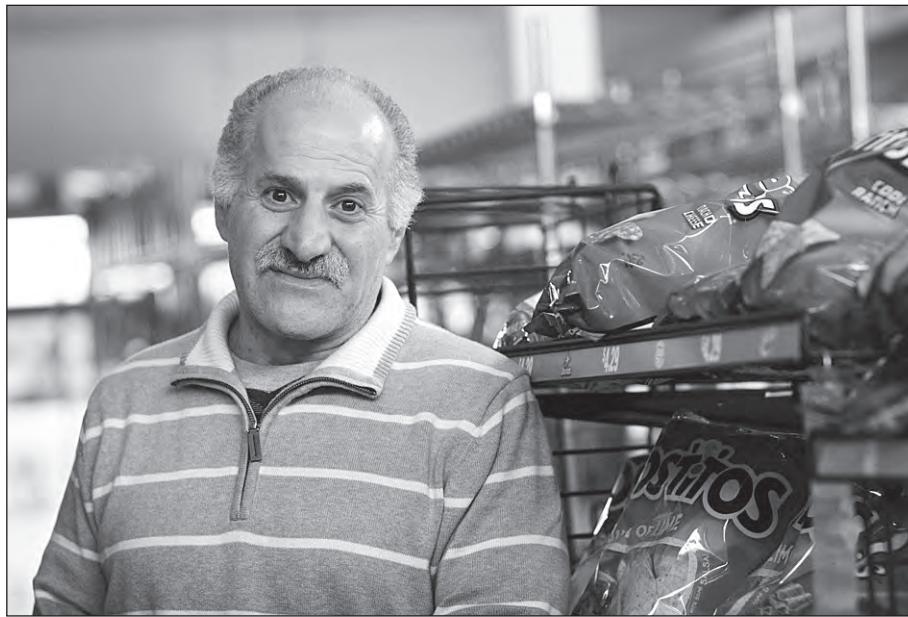
Neighborhood Without Soles

Editor:

How sad it is that our neighborhood offers obscenely priced women's clothing stores, wine bars, and nail salons, but the shoe repair shop couldn't survive.

Does anyone besides me miss the Goodwill drop-off truck in the parking lot? It sure provided a much needed service in this neighborhood of mass consumption. It must have raked in all sorts of (designer) treasures when it was here.

Jane Lewis
29th Street



In early April, owner/proprietor Elias "Alex" Louh closed the doors of St. Paul's Market on Sanchez Street, citing failing health. Founded in 1973 by his father, Yacoub "Jack" Louh, the store was a popular deli, grocery, and gathering place.

Photo by Najib Joe Hakim

Faster Than Snail Mail

Editor:

At last I've found a kindred spirit in Lynn Sunday, whose snail relocation method [April Voice] mirrors one that my husband Dan and I have employed for over 20 years. (In fairness, Dan deserves most of the credit.)

We routinely collected and relocated our resident snails to a strip of open space alongside 280. Our work has paid off, because we don't see many snails in the yard these days. Good thing too, because our local greening committee has transformed the open space into a garden, which I would hate to mar with more of our leaf-munching French friends.

Keep up the good work, Lynn and Riley!

Vicki Engel
Sunnyside

In Defense of B&Bs

Editor:

Supervisor David Chiu is to be congratulated for his right approach to hosting in private homes, which is a traditional "cottage industry."

Bed and Breakfast San Francisco is a B&B reservation service, established in 1978. It supports the San Francisco community by providing needed accommodations that professional lodgings cannot fulfill in San Francisco's residential neighborhoods.

We provide the added income to the elderly that enables them to keep their properties, and have helped young families pay for a new mortgage and helped neighbors to accommodate their guests.

Our hosts have included doctors,

teachers, well-known San Francisco lawyers, top real estate people, retirees, and even a senator.

We never had a single crime nor guest that disturbed the neighbors in the last 35 years. We filled the gap in San Francisco. Now that gap is being filled around the world due to a new generation and advanced Internet technology, which I believe cannot be stopped.

The desire of all private accommodations services is to provide safe and unique hospitable accommodations around the world.

Thank you, Supervisor Chiu, for coming forward with the right and human solution to keep San Francisco adjusted to the new trend of "sharing economy" that will benefit all.

Richard Kreibich
bbsf.com

'Mascot of 29th Street'

Editor:

Susie was put down Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at the San Francisco SPCA due to kidney failure. Susie gave us 13-1/2 years of unconditional love. She was known as the Mascot of 29th Street. Susie served the sixth and eighth floors of St.



Luke's Hospital as a Recreational Therapist for three years.

Connie R. Maracle and Saul Fenster
Day Street

P.S. Susie would recommend anyone to contribute to the San Francisco SPCA, 250 Florida St., San Francisco, CA 94103, in her memory.

CORRECTION

In the Rumors Behind the News column in the March 2014 Voice, we mistakenly wrote that the St. Clair's building at the corner of 24th and Sanchez streets was destined for demolition. In fact, it's the single-story building next door, at 3904-06 24th St., that potentially will be torn down to make way for a larger commercial/residential building. We apologize for the error.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

THE VOICE welcomes your letters to the editor. Write the *Noe Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Or email editor@noealleyvoice.com. Please include your name, street, and contact information. (Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.) Be aware that letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. We look forward to hearing from you.



"Shrimp Boy" Chow is not the only city dweller who's had a brush with the law. Consider these shady characters from Noe Valley's torrid past. —OBF

Editor's Note: Twelve-year-old Lakpa Guta of 27th Street recently won first place in the Asian Pacific Fund's annual "Growing Up Asian in America" essay contest. We're grateful we can reprint the winning essay.

An Asian in America

By Lakpa Guta

Whoever thought Asia could be so magnificent? Even though I was born in Nepal, I came to San Francisco when I was only 5 years old. Last summer, I went to China. To tell you the truth, it was the food that tempted me back to Asia.



Let's start from the beginning. Living in Asia was difficult. I never remember meeting my mother, and my dad was always working. My brother and sister were older than I. We were poor. That meant hand-me-down clothes. But nothing stopped us from eating great food. My dad owned a momo restaurant. My earliest memory was stuffing delicious dumplings into my mouth. When my dad couldn't take care of all three of us kids, his youngest child (that's me) was put up for adoption.

I moved to San Francisco with my adoptive mother, Kathryn. I didn't speak any English. I didn't have any friends. I wondered what I would eat. My first hamburger seemed so dry. Luckily, I continued to be surrounded by Asian food.

I live next to Eric's Chinese Restaurant and above Kama Sushi Japanese restaurant in Noe Valley. My favorite foods at Eric's are fried rice, chow mein, and pot stickers. The pot stickers remind me of my dad's momos. My favorite foods at Kama Sushi are California rolls, spicy tuna rolls, and their nabeyaki udon (seafood mixed with noodles). I love noodles.

Last summer, my school sponsored a trip to China. Of course, I wanted to see the Great Wall, but mostly I wanted to eat the food. I had a hunch that Chinese food would taste even better in China and I wasn't disappointed. We made noodles, dined on duck, and ate lots of fried rice. It was a great experience. I got to see how my favorite foods were made and why they tasted so wonderful. Asian food in America is good, but when you get it from its place of origin, it tastes so much better!

I can't remember much about my early life in Nepal. It feels like such a long time ago. People sometimes ask what it was like and I tell them about the rice, momos, chicken, curry, hot sauce, and so on. As well as food, I tell them about other memories. For instance, I remember being pelted by tiny pebbles of hail. Ouch, they hurt! When it was not raining, my brother, sister, and I would play soccer with our bare feet. We didn't know what shoes were. When I go through old photos and see my brother and sister, I sometimes wish I could go back and visit. Even if I can't get on a plane, I've found that I can travel across oceans and continents in just a few bites! When I eat Asian food, it makes me feel like I'm back in Nepal with my family. Food helps me remember where I'm from. It gives me a strong identity and a strong body, too.

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

P.O. Box 460249
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www.noealleyvoice.com

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

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Noe Valley Democratic Club



June 3rd Election Endorsements

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Governor



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Lt. Governor



Kamala Harris
Attorney General



Fiona Ma
Board of Equalization
District 2



Betty T. Yee
Controller



John Chiang
Treasurer



Derek Cressman
Secretary of State



Dave Jones
Insurance
Commissioner



Tom Torlakson
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

LOCAL PROPOSITIONS

A – YES Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond.

B – NO Waterfront Height Limit Initiative.

STATE PROPOSITIONS

41 – YES Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act.

42 – YES Public Records. Open Meetings. State Reimbursement.

FYI: Please note that candidates/campaigns needed to receive 60% of the votes to be recommended for endorsement.

The Noe Valley Democratic Club generally meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond Street at Elizabeth. Check the NVDC website or Facebook page to confirm meeting times and location.

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Local End for Global Exchange

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tomers also stopped at the counter to say goodbye to staff.

"It's never good to see a local merchant go away," said Randy Koss, a Dolores Heights resident who has patronized the shop for years.

Koss walked out the door with an armful of Indonesian picture frames reduced from \$16 to \$10.

Sarah Starling was another longtime customer. "I've spent a lot of money on jewelry and clothes in here, but mostly on jewelry," said the 26th Street resident.

Her latest purchase, however, was for two tea candle holders. "My husband always needs candles at dinner," said Starling, gingerly holding the small glass containers.

Kara Roguly, who has managed the store for the past three years, said many of the shoppers had become friends.

"I'm going to miss our regular customers, for sure," said Roguly, who earlier this year toured India to meet with workers making products for the store.

Long History of Trade

The nonprofit Global Exchange arrived in Noe Valley in 1989 with a mission to provide fair compensation to artisans and craftspeople from poor and developing countries.

It opened in a small garage space next to St. Clair's Liquors on 24th at Sanchez Street. Ten years later, as the store became a popular destination for fair trade artists and their customers, the business needed more space and relocated a block away.

In January, Global Exchange staff began talks to renew the store's lease. The store's negotiators were emphatic that a new contract needed to keep the status quo on the landlord's remuneration.

"We could not afford any increase in rent, and signing a lease that included any increase wasn't sustainable," said Jocelyn Boreta, program director for the Global Exchange Fair Trade Stores.

The landlord "didn't want us to go," she said. "But he wasn't willing not to increase the rent."

Boreta noted that the property owner "was kind enough to reduce the rent slightly over a few years during the recession."

The rent returned to its previous level as San Francisco's economy rebounded. However, the store's business never fully recovered from a 50 percent drop during the 2008-10 recession, she said.

A Modest Increase

Sam Salamah, one of the building's owners, said he had proposed a modest \$300 a month increase on a two-year lease. The difference would have raised Global Exchange's rent to \$6,000 a month for the approximately 2,000-square-foot space.

"But they wouldn't accept that," said Salamah, adding that the store already was paying below market-rate rents. "They only wanted to pay \$5,700."

Commercial rents along 24th Street currently range from \$4 to \$5 per square foot, according to several sources familiar with leasing prices in the neighborhood. That would suggest a rent for a 2,000-square-foot space of between \$8,000 and \$10,000 a month.

'Shifting Face' of the City

In a blog post on the company's website announcing the store's demise, Boreta directed blame in general towards the economic "forces changing the face of our San Francisco community."

"This closure is not a reflection on the state of Fair Trade business, but rather a reflection on the shifting face of a city that is no longer able to foster the growth of small, local businesses," she wrote.

"We want you to be sure that your purchases go towards supporting economic justice through Fair Trade," she continued, "not towards covering the violently inflated cost of rent in San Francisco."

The fair trade store operations represent the commercial arm of Global Exchange, a nonprofit human rights organization founded in 1988, a year before the Noe Valley shop opened.

Founders of the parent organization included three Noe Valleyans: Medea Benjamin, who now heads the activist peace organization Code Pink; Kevin Danaher, who helped start the city's Green Festivals; and Kirsten Moller, a former resident and leader in Global Exchange. ■



Signs in the windows foretold the news that Global Exchange Fair Trade Store was leaving 24th Street in search of greener—and more affordable—pastures. Photo by Corrie M. Anders



David Duenas (holding keys) and Jose Gallardo of Hernandez Engineering scooped swill from the sewer for 40 minutes to help find an Alvarado teacher's keys. Photo courtesy Leslie Zwemer

Lost Keys Unlock Doors to Kindness

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tical." That was just the beginning of the neighborhood heroism. On the advice of a parent from the school, Zwemer returned to the grate as soon as she could—3 p.m.—with a classroom magnet attached to some string, hoping to fish the keys out.

"I couldn't even see down in the drain," she said.

A crowd again gathered as Zwemer tried to attract the metal keys. A passerby attached Zwemer's magnet to a longer string, but still she was unsuccessful. Then a contractor stopped, noticing the crowd.

"He told me, 'You need two men, a crowbar, and a big bucket,'" Zwemer said. Within two minutes, David Duenas and Jose Gallardo of Hernandez Engineering came from the nearby construction site where they'd been working.

The men pried the grate off, lowered a

bucket into the sewer pipe, and tried scooping out the water in the drain. When that didn't work, Gallardo climbed into the narrow sewer hole to fill the bucket with water himself.

"I don't know how much water went down the street—more water and more water—there was so much water in this drain," Zwemer said. "Then they got to the leaves and started pulling out old muddy leaves."

Philz manager Greg Matt came out and began combing through the mucky leaves to see if the keys were there.

Finally, 40 minutes after the sewer grate had been pried off, Matt pulled the keys from the pile of leaves. To celebrate, he gave Zwemer, Gallardo, and Duenas free coffee.

Reflecting on the day, Zwemer marveled that so many people stopped their work to help her, and that many of them were complete strangers.

"Losing one's keys is really not the end of the world," she said. "But these many random acts of kindness gave me a renewed hope for the real meaning of a true community at work." ■

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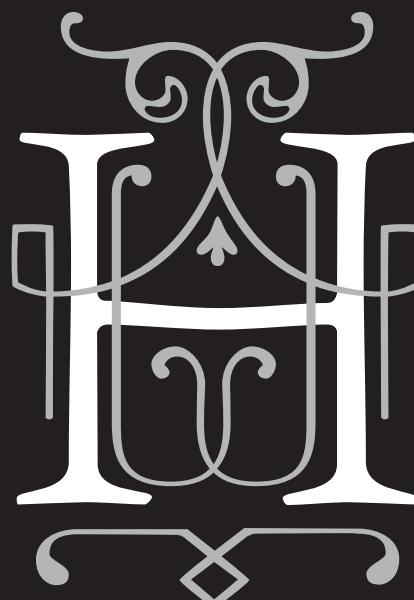
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Adult Services Librarian Susan Higgins, Branch Manager Irene Lee, and Children's Librarian Catherine Starr (l. to r.) invite you to explore the world of the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Library, featuring books, music, and movies on loan; workshops in yoga, opera, writing, and e-reading; and children's story time, occasionally with a puppy dog pal. Photo by Pamela Gerard

Library Open Seven Days, Including Monday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has shelved those cuts for now.

"We surveyed library users about potential changes to our schedule, and many indicated that they wanted us to keep our existing schedule," Higgins says.

The Glen Park and Haight-Ashbury libraries also will go to seven days a week, joining 16 other "full-time" branches in the city. The expanded hours are funded by voter-approved library bonds and by efficiencies in other areas of library operation.

Patrons of the Noe Valley Library can expect the same level of weekly service from Higgins, Children's Librarian Catherine Starr, Library Manager Irene Lee, and other staff members at the branch. Resources and services are always free (with library card) and include the loan of books and DVD films, as well as CDs of books, music, and language learning.

Besides books and movies, library users can check out "What's Your Watt" in-home electricity meters, which measure energy in home appliances. This service is part of the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library's Green Stacks effort to inform library users about greener living.

An Array of Events

Another great feature of the Noe Valley branch is its hosting of community programs and events. Adults can take part in two separate discussion groups, the Great Books Discussion Group and the Noe Valley Book Discussion Group, which meet monthly on different Wednesday evenings. There's also an opera lecture series, and a monthly feature film. For those who want to get moving in a meditative manner, there are tai chi classes with teacher Patrick Lau (although this month's series is currently full).

"We have a really special writing workshop in May," says Lee. Writing for Real meets on four Saturdays, at 10:30 a.m., and is for writers who want to learn how to get their work published, in print or online. Jules Older is the teacher and "a prolific author of magazine articles, novels, and children's books," Higgins says.

Starr, also known as Miss Catherine, tells her Toddler Tales twice on Thursday mornings, at 10:15 and 11 a.m. On Thursday, May 22, local resident and storyteller

Doris Feyling will be the special spellbinder. On Thursday afternoon, May 29, the Reel to Reel preschool films program features short animated or live action films, often based on children's literature.

Teens are encouraged to attend the Friday Matinee program. This month's movie, on May 9, 2 to 4 p.m., will be *To Kill a Mockingbird*, based on the classic Harper Lee novel.

Summer Fun at the Branch

Special weekly programming is in the works, and will take place throughout the summer. Look for an origami workshop, a magic show, a Native American storyteller, yoga, and shadow puppetry. Of course, promoting a love of reading is always at the top of the library's mission.

"In June, Puppy Dog Tales is an SPCA program that connects dog-and-owner therapy teams with children to grow children's literacy," Higgins says. "It's wonderful for those learning to read who 'underperform,' or who need extra attention to vocabulary or grammar." The program is geared to children ages 4 to 7, but older kids are welcome.

Digital Offerings

Online, patrons can check out eBooks and eAudiobooks for their mobile devices, as well as stream movies and TV series. If you have an eReader and aren't sure how to use it, you can drop in for an hour-long tutorial on Tuesday, May 13, at 10:30 a.m.

To find out more about online resources, Higgins advises going to the Library's website, sfpl.org. "There are language-learning databases, online homework help, business directories, online courses for adults, and databases with magazine, journal, and newspaper articles, including *Consumer Reports*," she says.

Finally, if you use the self-service checkout kiosks, be sure to "check out" a small exhibit of black-and-white photos by library staffer Jennifer Weiser called "Portraits: Women of the Khentii Aimag, Mongolia." It's located in the display boxes right next to the reserved book shelves. Lee hopes to make this a permanent art space in the future. ■

Ways to Word

Try the *Voice Crossword!*

See page 6 for this month's puzzle. You can also go to our website to find old puzzles. You can do them online or print them out to work with pencil and paper.

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Combined Court Proposed for Tennis, Basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

is not yet available, according to a department update. The plan is scheduled to go before Rec and Park's Capital Committee on May 7 at 2 p.m.

The money to revamp the park comes from a parks bond passed by voters in 2008. Some money from the bond will be used to upgrade the outdated bathroom, which dates back to the 1930s. Around the same time, Friends of Noe Courts, a neighborhood group supporting the park, won a \$211,000 grant from the bond's Community Opportunity Fund in 2011 to fix the site's notoriously bad drainage and add some seating.

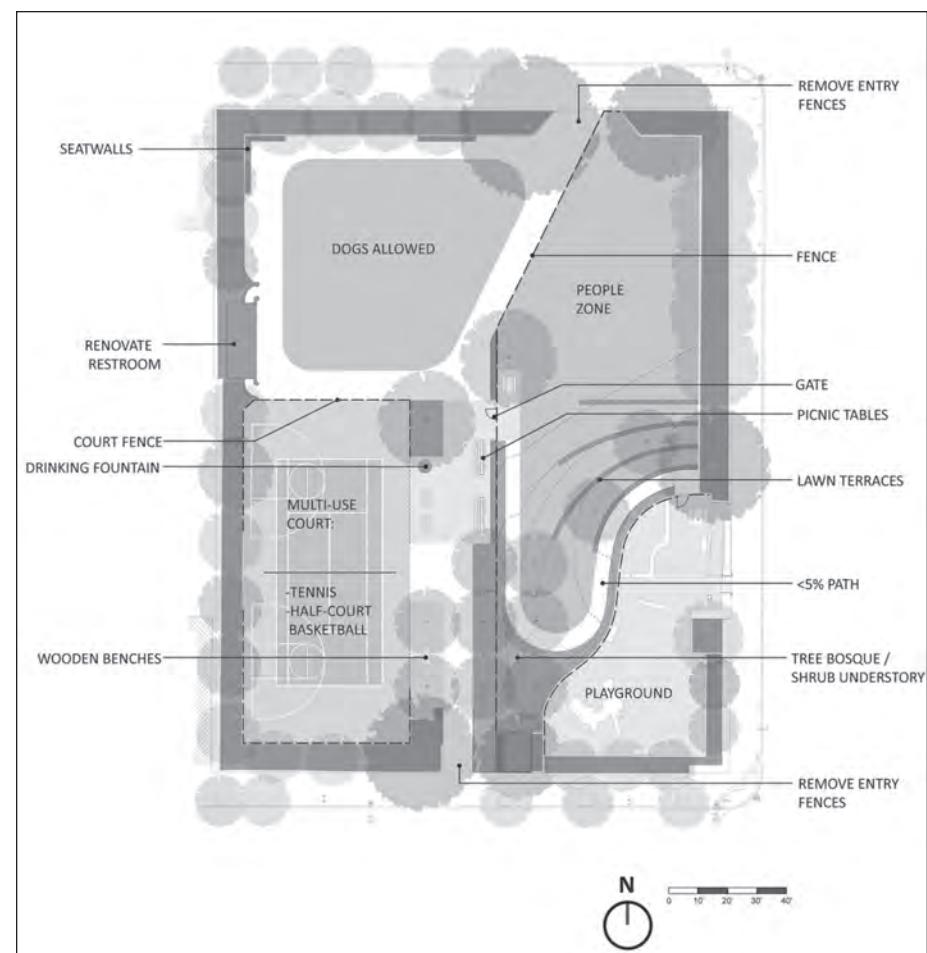
Friends of Noe Courts has applied for a COF grant worth \$306,000 from the

2012 park bond, said Laura Norman, one of the group's members. The city will notify bond money winners in August.

At last year's public meetings, some neighbors wanted more grass but worried new open space would become a de facto dog run. Others did not want to remove athletic courts to free up green space. A straw poll conducted at the final meeting tallied 38 votes for the two options with no tennis court, 34 votes for keeping the park layout as it exists while improving its amenities, and 3 votes for the hybrid option now being proposed.

Meanwhile, the opening of Upper Douglass Dog Park at Douglass and 26th streets has been delayed until summer. The park, which has been closed since March 2013, was originally scheduled to open in October, then in the spring, but persistent drainage problems have kept it shut.

For information about the plan for Noe Courts, contact project manager Marvin Yee at marvin.yee@sfgov.org. ■



Proposed Noe Courts Park Improvement Plan, April 2014.

Illustration Courtesy of S.F. Department of Public Works Landscape Architecture



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Upcoming Events at Folio Books

Odd Monday Salon Series

May 5th | 7pm | Frances Payne & Andrew McIntyre

Olive Oil Tasting

May 10th | 3pm | *Featuring olive oils & balsamic vinegars from Olive This Olive That.*

Indies First Storytime Day

May 17th | 11am - 2pm | Local authors read from favorite titles

Storytime with Paula Ginsburg & Linda Lewin

May 18th | 2pm | *One Simple Thing & The Spiders' Journey*

Odd Monday Salon Series

May 19th | 7pm | Holman Turner & Carol Ruth Silver

Pajama Party Storytime with Corey M.P.

May 29th | 6pm | *Goodnight World*

Puzzle Challenge Night

June 5th | 7pm | Hosted by Tyler Hinman, author of *Winner's Circle Crosswords*.



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For a full description of our upcoming events visit: foliosf.com/events

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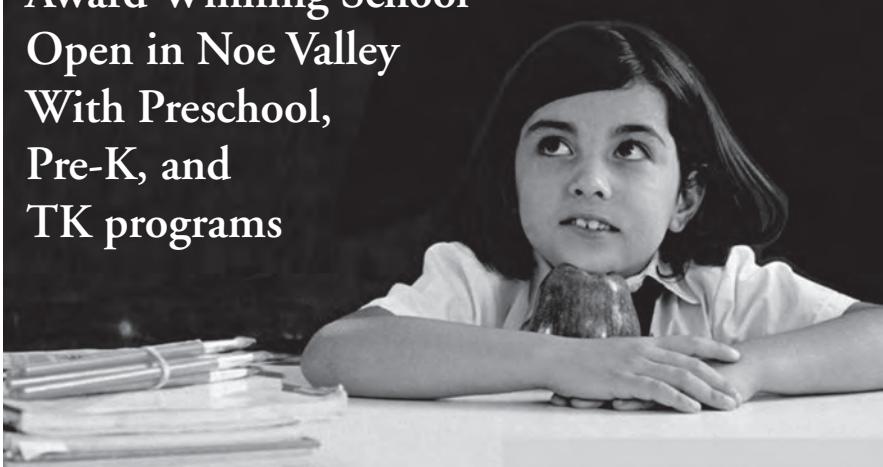
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Try a Taste of Art

Michelle Lee Invites You to
'Eating Cultures'

By Jeff Kaliss

Art and food nurtured Michelle Lee as she was growing up in the Outer Richmond District, the daughter of caring Chinese-American parents. Now 32 and living at 23rd and Dolores streets, Lee has creatively combined these two influences in "Eating Cultures," an art exhibition she is curating and presenting all this month at SOMArts Cultural Center.

As a child, Lee accompanied her folks on regular outings to the de Young Museum and Palace of the Legion of Honor. Back at home, food provided not only nourishment but a means of connecting with her grandfather.

"He was from China, and had been a cook for the Merchant Marine," she recounts. "His English wasn't great, and my Chinese wasn't great. But we spent a lot of time in the kitchen and eating, so that's the way we communicated."

While attending art classes at UC Santa Cruz and the School of the Art Institute in Chicago, Lee began blending food and art in her studies and practice.

"There had been a slowly growing movement, incorporating food into art," she points out. "I wrote a thesis titled 'Ingestional Aesthetics: Deciphering Eating in Contemporary Art.' It was about artists who actually served food as part of their work."

Why put food in art? "I think it's the context and the parameters," says Lee, "because putting anything in an art context allows people to look at it through a different lens, so it doesn't seem like an everyday activity anymore. Then, even how you relate to people in the context of eating can become different."

Lee returned to San Francisco last year, after spending time in Los Angeles. "I wanted to make a career shift and have more fulfilling work in general, so I started apprenticing at ForageSF," which describes itself as an incubator for artisan food businesses as well as a roving supper club.

She also volunteered at the Asian



When this photo was taken in April, Michelle Lee was in Yangshuo, China, learning to press soy milk in the traditional fashion. The artist and curator will be back in San Francisco this month, eager to present the works of 30 Asian Pacific American artists exploring food in art.

American Women Artists Association (AAWAA), founded in 1989, "and became more involved in their programming. Their mission was to raise the visibility of Asian-American women [because] historically, the art world has been centered around white males." Lee counts the late Noe Valley artist Ruth Asawa and other "grandmothers of the Asian-American artist community" as muses.

Her table not yet full, Lee found a fresh way to pair food and art, this time in an Asian-American setting, the AAWAA's annual juried exhibition. She also saw an opportunity to help dispel stereotypes associated with low-quality Asian food.

"That's probably the first way—or the only way—that many people get exposed to Asians culturally in their daily life," she

says. "So it gets used in a derogatory or pejorative sense, [evoking] greasy fast food. It carries over to how people think about Asian-American culture in general, when it's actually a reflection of Americans themselves."

Lee worked with the AAWAA to apply for grants, to put the call out to artists local and distant, and to select a jury to assess submissions. The 30 artists chosen, hailing from all over the United States, represent a variety of media and Asian Pacific American experience. The month-long exhibition at SOMArts will be interspersed with special events.

On opening day, May 1, "there'll be a panel discussion...talking about how the popularity of various Asian foods affects how people perceive Asian Americans, with a question-and-answer session. I think now a lot of artists take everyday cultural practices as an inspiration for their work. On May 17, we'll have a literary reading curated by May-lee Chai [author of *Dragon Chica* and *Tiger Girl*]. She's asked writers to look at images of works that are going to be in the show, and to create pieces on how they're inspired by them—poetry, mini-memoirs, and flash fiction," Lee says. "Then there's the closing reception [on May 30]. We're doing a community potluck, so anyone can bring in dishes to share. And Genevieve Erin O'Brien, who's half-

Vietnamese, will actually cook and grill sausage while she tells stories about her father's life, where each story has a special set of ingredients. You'll hear the story, then eat the food, so you have a whole-body experience."

The exhibition itself will display "a lot of different angles on food. One piece, by an artist whose father was a dim sum chef, is watercolors based on the poor working conditions of restaurant workers. Another series of paintings is based on food hoarding by the ruling party in North Korea, and the effect on the reunification of the two Koreas." Sculpture will also be featured.

Lee says she is pretty pleased with food consciousness in Noe Valley, where she frequents Omnivore Books "for research materials." As for eating out, "I love the Little Chihuahua's plantain burrito. But if anyone's looking for a fancy meal, I send them to La Ciccia."

As for the exhibition—which is co-presented with the Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center and funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, among others—all the looking, listening, and eating are for free. Gallery hours at SOMArts, located at 934 Brannan St., are Tuesday through Friday, noon to 7 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. For a preview of events, go to SOMArts.org/eatingcultures or call 415-863-1414. ■



Jessica Tang's intricate Chinese Bowl—made of muslin, wire, and embroidery floss—and the painted ceramic Fruit (with real fruit) by Cathy Lu are among the standouts in "Eating Cultures," an exhibition running May 1–30 at SOMArts Cultural Center.

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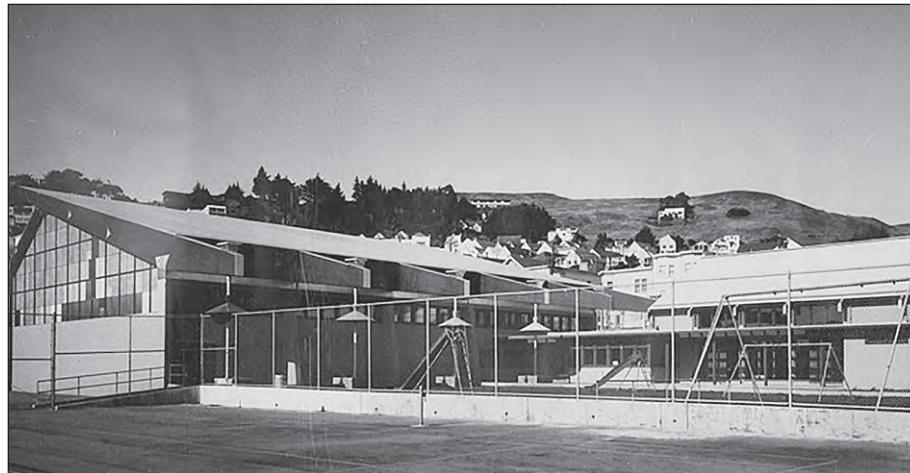
Free babysitting and someone recording your neighborhood memories? That's what's planned for Noe Valley History Day Saturday, May 17, 1 to 4 p.m. at Upper Noe Recreation Center.

Sponsored in part by Friends of Noe Valley Rec Center, the event aspires to gather neighbors and record their memories as they see old friends and make new ones.

"The focus is on personal experience," says Chris Faust, head of Friends. "Everyone who lives and works in our community is a part of the greater Noe Valley area's history, and each has wonderful stories to share."

Organizers will have local historians, archival photos, and memorabilia on hand to spark conversations among long-time residents, community leaders, church and school representatives, merchants, and new neighbors.

"While the focus is on Noe Valley, nearby neighbors are pieces of the quilt



Do you recall the dedication of this building on Day Street? If so, you might want to share your memories at Noe Valley History Day, to be held Saturday, May 17, at Upper Noe Recreation Center. 1957 photo courtesy Philip Fein Collection, University of California Environmental Design Archives

that make up the character of our neighborhood," says Faust. "Their input is most welcome."

Though details are still being hashed out, there may be interns to transcribe the stories to create a locally based historical record that will be distributed in the Friends of Noe Valley Rec Center newsletter and available online.

"The output of this event is, of course, a closer relationship with our neighbors and a stronger sense of community," Faust says.

Local merchants will provide tea and treats, and park department staff will offer free babysitting that includes arts and crafts, music, and the giant foam building blocks called Imagination Playground.

Anyone with photos or other items to share is encouraged to contact the event organizers in advance, and all are asked to RSVP to assist the planning process, Faust says. Email info@noealleyrec-center.com with a phone number and the names of people planning to attend.

Sponsors include the Upper Noe Community Recreation Council, the Recreation and Park Department, Whole Foods, and DavidsTea.

For more information, contact info@noealleyrec-center.com or talk to facility coordinator Cheryl Woltjen at the Recreation Center, 415-970-8061.

Neighbor, Neighbor: How Does Your Garden Grow?

Unlock the gate to 10 Secret Gardens on this year's Friends of Noe Valley Garden Tour Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Selections include Zen and palm gardens, a garden for chickens and one for entertaining, and a garden enhanced with found objects, among others.

There will be no shuttle, but the gardens are within close proximity to one another, and two are adjacent, says organizer Linda Lockyer. Back by popular demand, container-gardening demonstrations conducted by Charmain Giuliani will happen at the On Lok Senior Center, 225 30th St.

Tickets, which come with a map and guide, cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors, but volunteer greeters who work a two-hour shift will get in free.

To volunteer, email Linda Lockyer at LindaLockyer3@gmail.com.



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You can buy tickets online at www.friendsofnoealley.com, on Saturday mornings at the Noe Valley Farmers Market on 24th Street, or at Cliché Noe Gifts, Independent Nature Garden Store, Just for Fun, Olive This Olive That, Omnivore Books on Food, Folio Books, or Small Fry's.

This year's proceeds will benefit the 22nd Street Jungle Stairs Project, a community-led effort to rehabilitate, beautify, and maintain the steps on 22nd Street between Diamond and Castro. Learn more at junglestairs.wordpress.com.

Twin Peaks Descend on Noe Valley

Explore Twin Peaks from Noe Valley when local author Lynn Oakley appears at Cliché Noe, 4175 24th St., Thursday, May 8, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to talk about her pictorial history of that windswept neighborhood.

Oakley's grandparents were early settlers on Twin Peaks, and her stories of Ohlone Indians, early Spanish settlers, and modern times are interspersed with photographs from her own collection, among others.

The book is the latest in the sepia-toned localized history series from Arcadia Publishing, three of which have been featured at Cliché Noe book parties.

The events are more than just marketing, says proprietor Dani Sheehan-Meyer. "It's our way of giving back to community, too."

Cliché Noe provides the wine, appetizers, and books for sale. Oakley will sign books as well.

Not-So-Silent Film Festival

The movies are silent but the Castro Theatre will be filled with sound during the 19th San Francisco Silent Film Festival May 29 to June 1, when film buffs can enjoy 19 pre-talkies set to live music.

The festival will commemorate the centennial of World War I by opening with *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*, starring Rudolph Valentino. The 1921 epic will be set to music played by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra. Afterwards, guests are invited to head over to the top-floor loft of the historic McRoskey Mattress Company Building,

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Tackling Homelessness

Homelessness, a problem that has vexed San Francisco for decades, will be the focus of a panel discussion at the May 14 meeting of the Noe Valley Democratic Club.

"It's a huge and seemingly intractable problem," said Molly Fleischman, club vice president. Fleischman said the panel would not just focus on the causes of homelessness but would put "a heavy emphasis on solutions, proposed and existing."

Former Supervisor Bevan Dufty, the mayor's point man on homeless issues and director of Housing Opportunity Partnerships and Engagement (HOPE), will direct the conversation. Dufty promises "a dynamic discussion about homelessness and how this can be a critical time to dramatically reduce the 3,400 people living on our streets."

Other panelists include Dr. Kim Norman from the Department of Psychiatry at UC San Francisco, who co-facilitates a weekly support group with medical students at the city's largest homeless shelter, and Jennifer Friedenbach, director of the Coalition on Homelessness. Friedenbach has spent more than a decade helping to find care, counseling, and shelter for her homeless clientele.

A question-and-answer period will follow the panel presentations.

The meeting gets under way at 7:30 p.m. at St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St. between 24th and Elizabeth streets. Parking is available on the street or behind the church (car entrance on 24th Street).

For more information, contact Fleischman at molly@ffrsf.com or 641-5838.

—Corrie M. Anders

1687 Market St., for an opening night celebration with food and live music.

Over the next four days, the theater at 429 Castro St. will screen classics like *The Good Bad Man*, a 1916 Western starring Douglass Fairbanks, as well as a feminist flick from Sweden, a gangster movie from Japan, and science fiction from the former Soviet Union.

The festival closes Sunday with a 9 p.m. showing of *The Navigator* (1924), starring Buster Keaton.

Tickets cost \$20 for opening and closing films, \$15 for films in between, \$42 for the opening night film and party, or \$225 for a pass to all 19 shows. (Members get a reduced rate on all tickets.) To buy tickets and see a complete schedule, visit www.silentfilm.org.

Fair Bargains on Fair Oaks Street

Five blocks of clothes, appliances, furniture, antiques, and toys await bargain hunters at the 39th annual Fair Oaks Street Fair Saturday, May 10. The block party is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., though some will come earlier.

"Lots of people are already setting up early, and often antique pickers are prowling the streets at 8 a.m.," says Charlie Moser, a longtime participant.

The popular multi-garage sale runs from 21st to 26th streets, along Fair Oaks between Dolores and Guerrero. Hosted by Fair Oaks Neighbors, the sale also raises money for Jamestown Community Center Youth Programs, thanks to \$20 donations pitched in by each house selling goods.

This month's Short Takes were written by Heather World.

Interested homeowners can apply through the regular Planning Department process. For more information, contact Wiener's office at 415-554-6968 or email Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org.

—Corrie M. Anders

The Cost of Living in Noe

Mystery Buyer Pays \$7 Million for Home on Duncan

By Corrie M. Anders

A homebuyer in March paid \$7 million for a swank hillside home in Noe Valley, making it the most expensive single-family property ever sold in the neighborhood.

The record-setting deal was one of 11 detached homes that closed escrow during the month—all of them for more than the asking price, with anxious buyers in one case throwing in an additional \$1.3 million to outbid the competition.

Even in a market that has seemed bonkers for the past three years, the \$7 million sale caused quite a stir.

"That's the highest sale in Noe Valley history," said Randall Kostick, president of Zephyr Real Estate, who collects monthly data for the *Voice*. "It was amazing."

The new owner, whose identity remains a mystery, paid a quarter-million dollars over the asking price to acquire the four-story, four-bedroom, 4.5-bath home in the 600 block of Duncan Street near Newburg Street. (See photo on page 1.) Built in 2007, the house has 5,933

square feet of space—including a separate one-bedroom apartment—and three decks, a wine cellar, an elevator, and a four-car garage.

Its scenic views and modern design, distinguished by sharp angles, cantilevered roof lines, and floor-to-ceiling windows, originally caught the eye of entrepreneur Bruce Gilpin, cofounder and chief executive officer of Versity Software, a San Francisco software storage company. He purchased the property in 2008 for a then-record neighborhood price of \$5,818,000.

Five years later, Gilpin led a campaign before the city Planning Commission to prevent a developer from building a five-story home on the vacant lot next door.

He lost the fight, so neighbors speculated that the agency's approval of the project—and the prospect of living amid a major construction upheaval— influenced Gilpin's decision to sell.

"I can understand why people would think it was a factor," Gilpin said later, calling the agency's ruling "disappointing,...but our decision to move to Healdsburg was a separate thing."

He said he and his husband, pilot Paul Moreno, and the couple's two children "had already moved to Sonoma County and were just waiting for the 2014 selling season when the decision from Planning was made."

Gilpin said he did not meet the new buyer, who went to considerable lengths to conceal his identity. Real estate agents involved in the transaction said they signed a nondisclosure agreement that



This modern four-bedroom home on Hoffman Avenue sold in March for \$5.1 million—\$1.3 million more than the owner's asking price. Photo by Corrie M. Anders

prevented them from revealing the buyer. City Hall documents recorded the owner as John Miller LLC—a limited liability corporation. Sources said the John Miller named in the deed was not the name of the buyer.

"Bruce moved out, and the mystery man has yet to be seen," said Diane McCarney, a co-director of the Duncan-Newburg Association, who lives a few doors from the home.

Overbidding Over the Top

The Duncan Street house wasn't the only eye-popping purchase in Noe Valley in March. A buyer paid just over \$5.1 million—35 percent more than the asking

price—for a four-bedroom, 4.5-bath home in the 400 block of Hoffman Avenue, between 24th and 25th streets. It took only one week for the new owner to close escrow and pick up keys to the five-year-old, 4,500-square-foot house, with a high-end kitchen, panoramic city views, and two-car parking.

Indeed, competition for houses was so fierce that buyers overall paid an average 18 percent more than what sellers initially sought. The average sales price in March topped \$2.8 million—a figure skewed upward by the \$7 million and \$5 million homes—compared to \$1.7 million in March a year ago.

Kostick said strong demand from affluent buyers, forced to compete for a small supply of homes on the market, was the driving force behind Noe Valley's frenzied real estate activity.

"They want to buy. They've got the money to buy, but they can't seem to find a house," Kostick said. "Over time, it's a factor of frustrated buyers tired of being beaten out by higher offers...and stepping to the plate" with breathtaking bids. ■

Noe Valley's Most Expensive Home Sales

- \$7 million, 625 Duncan St., March 2014
- \$6.1 million, 526 Duncan St., July 2011
- \$5.8 million, 625 Duncan St., November 2008
- \$5.5 million, 3816 22nd St., October 2013
- \$5.25 million, 651 29th St., August 2013

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						
March 2014	11	\$1,153,000	\$7,000,000	\$2,854,455	15	118%
February 2014	10	\$950,000	\$4,000,000	\$2,441,000	40	108%
March 2013	15	\$739,500	\$3,625,000	\$1,693,611	50	105%
Condominiums						
March 2014	11	\$885,000	\$1,775,000	\$1,078,091	23	114%
February 2014	4	\$620,000	\$1,125,000	\$867,500	20	114%
March 2013	6	\$920,000	\$1,370,000	\$1,160,500	30	109%
2- to 4-unit buildings						
March 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2014	3	\$1,550,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,865,000	17	107%
March 2013	1	\$1,850,000	\$1,850,000	\$1,850,000	17	128%
5+unit buildings						
March 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
February 2014	0	—	—	—	—	—
March 2013	1	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	124	100%

* Sales include all Noe Valley home sales completed during the month. Noe Valley in this survey is defined as the area bordered by Grand View, 22nd, Guerrero, and 30th streets. The Voice thanks Zephyr Real Estate (www.zephyrsf.com) for providing sales data.

NVV 5/2014

Noe Valley Rents**

Unit	No. in Sample	Range April 2014	Average April 2014	Average March 2014	Average April 2013
Studio	4	\$1,950 – \$2,525	\$2,256 / mo.	\$1,969 / mo.	\$1,659 / mo.
1-bdrm	28	\$2,095 – \$4,245	\$2,822 / mo.	\$2,702 / mo.	\$2,669 / mo.
2-bdrm	39	\$2,800 – \$8,500	\$4,542 / mo.	\$4,347 / mo.	\$3,765 / mo.
3-bdrm	14	\$4,750 – \$8,500	\$6,335 / mo.	\$6,599 / mo.	\$6,237 / mo.
4+-bdrm	3	\$5,400 – \$9,800	\$7,166 / mo.	\$8,350 / mo.	\$8,236 / mo.

** This survey is based on a sample of 88 Noe Valley apartment listings appearing on Craigslist from April 7 to 22, 2014.

NVV 5/2014

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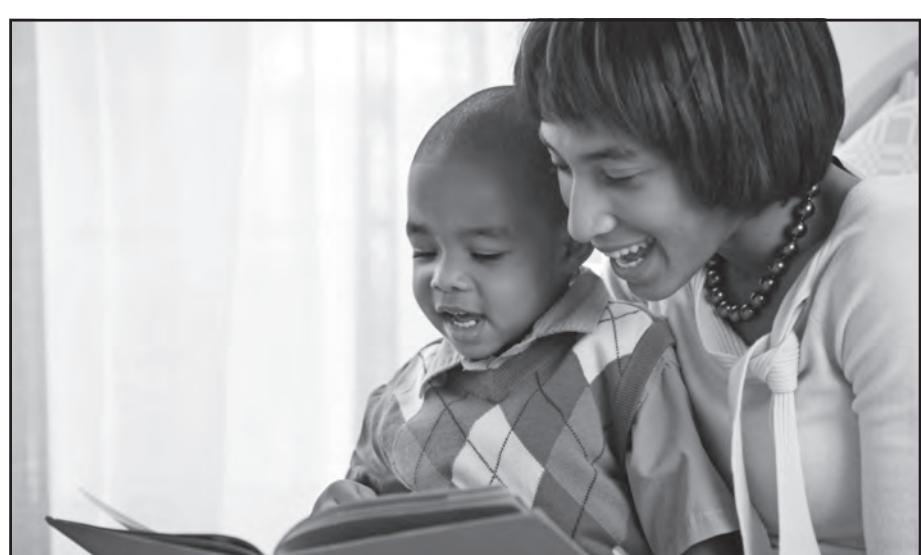
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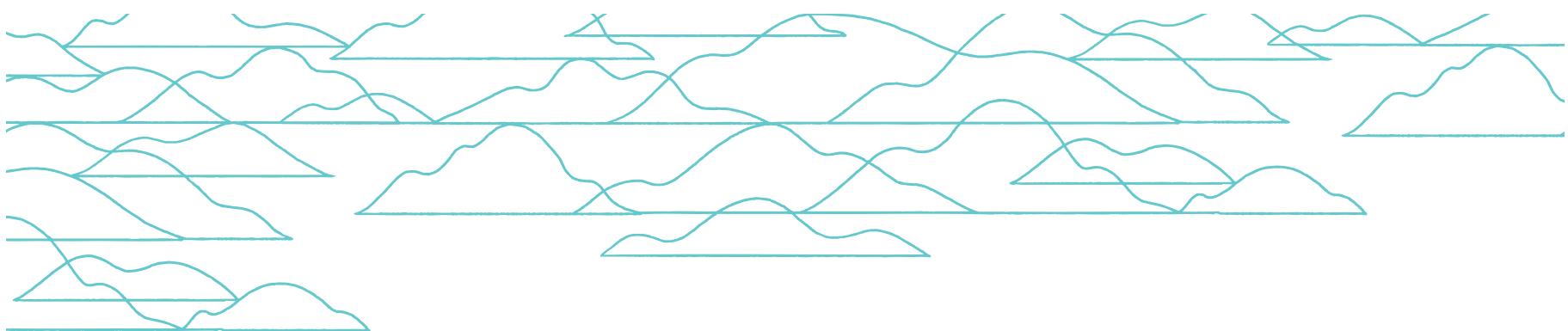
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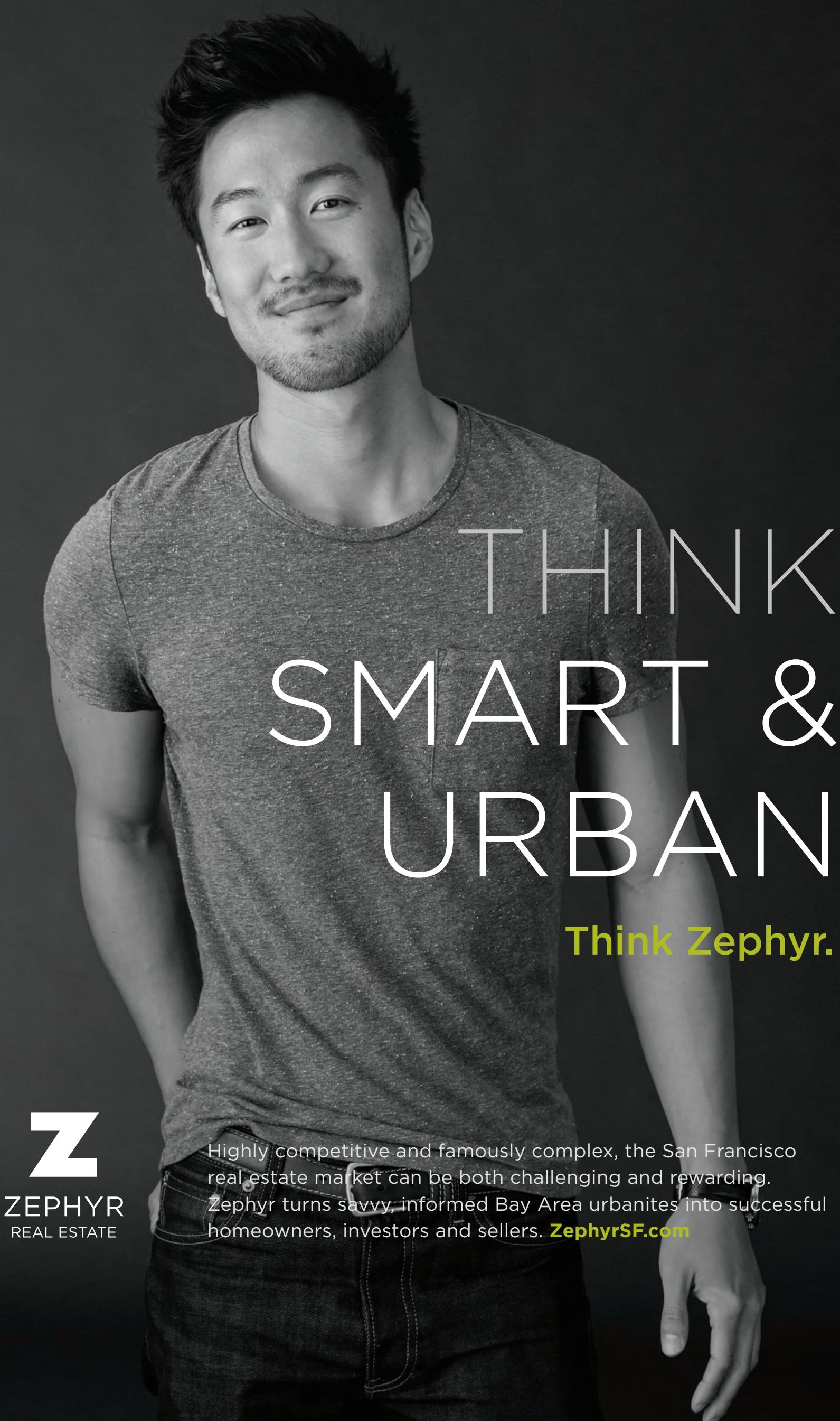
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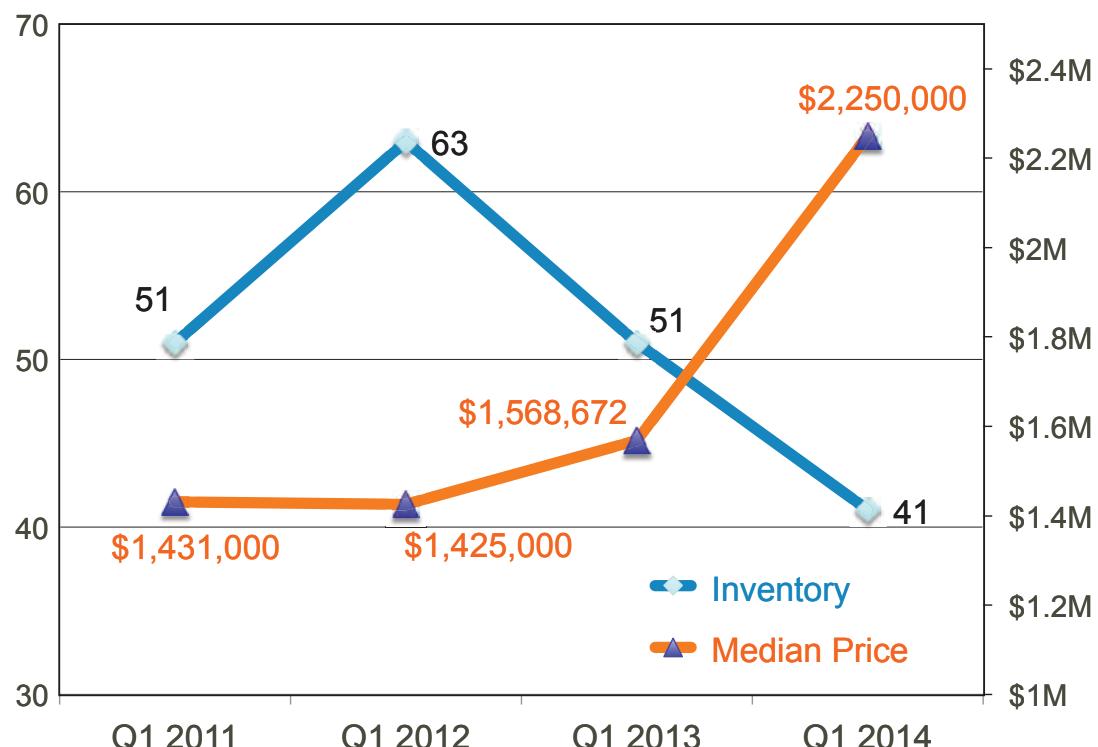
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Heather Green is a 5th generation San Franciscan. She relocated her family from Noe Valley to Silicon Valley in 2012.

Having spent most of my life in a walkable city like San Francisco, one of the biggest reservations I had about moving to the suburbs was becoming car-dependent. I loved being able to walk just about anywhere I needed to go and feared that moving to the suburbs would put an end to all of that glorious convenience and communing with neighbors and nature.

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To read the entire article, go to heathergreenhomes.com/sf2pen. For honest, straightforward advice on moving to the Peninsula, let me be your guide.



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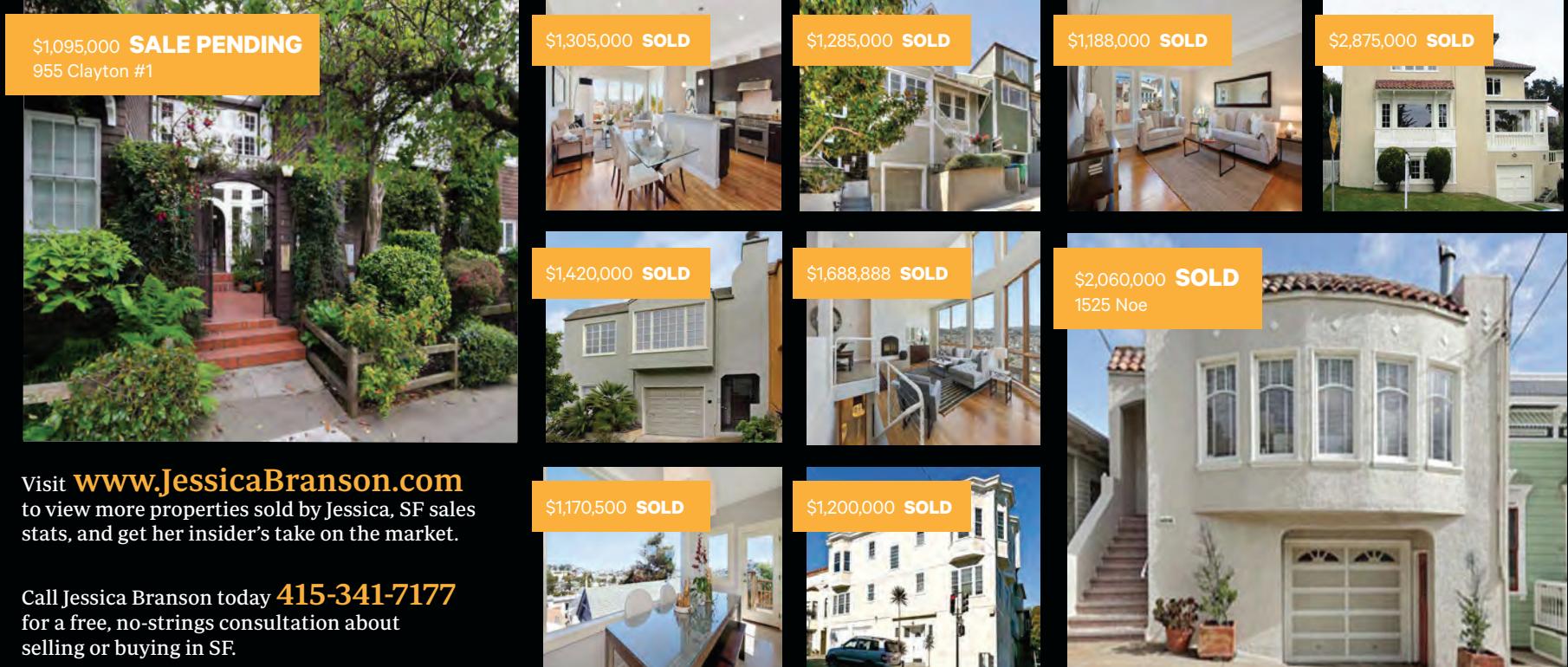
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SCHOOL REPORT

Festivals, Fundraisers, and Farewells

By Heather World

Noe Valley's three Spanish-language schools will bring a little of the Mission to Noe and a little Noe to the Mission this month, all in the name of Carnaval.

FiestaVal at Fairmount Elementary, 65 Chenery St., starts Saturday, May 3, at 11 a.m., when the Fabulous Fairmount Choir sings. Students, their families, friends, and neighbors then have until 3 p.m. to enjoy live music, a YMCA bike rodeo, live butterflies, and an art auction. A make-your-own-hula-hoop station will ready participants for the festival's "hoop-off," a hula-hooping competition.

There is no entrance fee, but the school raises money by selling tickets for food, drinks, and games.

Pupusa lovers will be happy to hear that **Alvarado Elementary School**, 625 Douglass St., will host its Carnaval Saturday, May 17, from noon to 4 p.m.

About 400 people usually drop by to enjoy traditional Central American food before heading out to the cakewalk, dunk tank, and water slide. The school's PTA runs booths featuring games with prizes that promote science, literacy, art, and environmental stewardship.

Finally, about 40 students from all grades of **Thomas Edison Charter Academy** will dance in the city's Carnaval Parade Sunday, May 25.

This is the school's eighth year as part of the contingent from Mission Cultural



Ane Lizarralde (left) and friend Bea Opie-Lederman were Wonder Women at Fairmount School's FiestaVal 2013. This year's event takes place Saturday, May 3. Photo courtesy Ellen Opie

Center for Latino Arts. As she has for all eight years, teacher Michelle Rodriguez attended Carnaval choreography classes at MCC on Saturdays to learn the dances. Then she teaches them to the children twice a week after school on its campus at 3531 22nd St. Student costumes are designed by former Carnaval king Mario Chacon, Rodriguez says. This year's colors are orange, turquoise, and fuchsia.

"It is our tradition, a great opportunity to connect with our community, and something that the students really look forward to," Rodriguez says. "Students often start asking me when Carnaval practices start—and what we will be wearing—when I see them at the beginning of the school year!"

James Lick Middle School, 1220 Noe St., invites its new parents to a light dinner mixer Wednesday, May 7, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Later in the month, everyone

from new parents to alumni is invited to the school's Flick Event Thursday, May 22, from 6 to 11 p.m. at El Rio, 3158 Mission St. Food and raffle sales benefit the middle school and one of its elementary school feeders, **Leonard Flynn**.

For more information, contact Liz Torres at lizard701@yahoo.com or 415-695-5669.

James Lick, built in 1932, is scheduled to get ready for its seismic and ADA makeover this summer, thanks to local bonds approved by voters about a decade ago.

Classes will be relocated to portable classrooms on the schoolyard while the work proceeds, says district spokesperson Heidi Anderson. Construction is scheduled to start next September and end by November 2015, when the classes will be moved back into the school and the portables taken away.

El Rio is also the site of **Glen Park Elementary's** second annual silent auction Thursday, May 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. Auction items include tickets to athletic events, Disneyland, and summer camps. Bid online at www.32auctions.com/glenparkpto.

St. James School, 321 Fair Oaks St., will benefit from the proceeds raised Saturday, May 17, at the Vision of Hope seventh annual Day at the Races. Held at Golden Gate Fields, the event will feature a live broadcast of the Preakness Stakes—the second leg of the Triple Crown—along with a silent auction and raffle.

Vision of Hope is run by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose and supports eight inner-city Catholic schools in California that were slated to close until the sisters started raising funds.

Tickets cost \$75 or \$100 for premium seating and include valet parking, admission to the Turf Club, a lunch buffet, and a copy of the daily racing program. For tickets or more information, visit www.visionofhope.org or call 510-533-5768.

St. Philip's celebrates its 75th anniversary Sunday, May 18, by inviting all alumni to an open house and reception at the school, 725 Diamond St., following a 10:30 a.m. mass and student May Crowning ceremony.

Finally, **St. Paul's** bids farewell to its graduating eighth-graders, sending the 23 students to schools around the city including **Archbishop Riordan High, Gateway, Immaculate Conception, Lick Wilmerding, and Lowell**.

Five graduates accepted placement in Sacred Heart Cathedral's DePaul Scholar and Inquiry and Innovation Programs, one was accepted to the Women in Medicine Program at Mercy High School, and 11 graduates were accepted to their high school honors programs. ■

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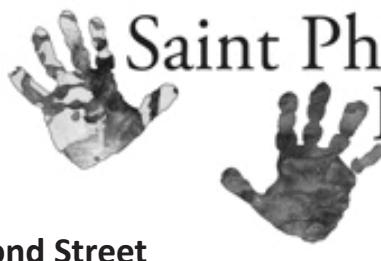
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Submissions: The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions of short fiction, essays, or poetry, particularly those relating to Noe Valley. Email editor@noealleyvoice.com or write Noe Valley Voice, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. Please include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



HOW TO PLACE A CLASS AD

It's easy. Just type or print the text of your ad, multiply the number of words by **40¢ per word**, and send us a check or money order for the total. (Note that a phone number, including area code, counts as one word.) Then mail your ad text and payment, made out to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by the **15th of the month** before the month in which you'd like to advertise. The address is *Noe Valley Voice* Class Ads, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146. (Sorry, the *Voice* is unable to accept Class Ads by phone or email.)

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

The next *Voice* will be the **June 2014** issue, distributed in Noe Valley the first week of June. **The deadline for Class Ads is May 15.**

Note: The next issue will be on the streets for one month. The Class Ads also will be displayed at www.noealleyvoice.com.

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

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CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Paper Airplanes: Folding and Launching. In observance of "Maker May," the library will sponsor a paper-airplane-making workshop for ages 5 and up. Paper and how-to guides will be on hand to help you create the planes, test them, and see how far they fly. Saturday, May 10, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Master Storyteller Doris Feyling presents an enchanting story time, featuring songs, finger plays, and puppets. All ages welcome. Thursday, May 22, 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Toddler Tales: Children ages 16 to 36 months and their parents or caregivers are invited to come for stories, songs, rhymes, and movement led by Children's Librarian Miss Catherine. Thursdays, May 1, 8, 15, and 22, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. and 11 to 11:30 a.m. (There will be no 11 a.m. on May 22, as Doris Feyling presents her story time then. See above.)

Preschool Films: An assortment of short films, geared for children ages 3 to 5 with parent or caregiver, will be shown on Thursday, May 29, 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., and 11 to 11:30 a.m.

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

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Two Dozen by Michael Blake

**MORE BOOKS TO READ****More Hours to Browse: Library Open on Mondays**

The public library has big news. Starting on Sunday, May 11, the Noe Valley/Sally Brunn Branch Library at 451 Jersey St. will be open seven days a week. The branch will now open its doors on Mondays, noon to 6 p.m. The hours for the rest of the week will remain the same (see chart below). That comes to a total of 50 hours a week.

The extra day may inspire you to check out more books and DVDs, such as those suggested in this column by Adult Services Librarian Susan Higgins, Children's Librarian Catherine Starr, and Children's Services Intern Miranda Phaal.

You'll also want to stop by and see the library's new exhibit space, the Art Box Gallery, located across from the checkout machines. The current exhibition is *Portraits: Women of the Khentii Aimag, Mongolia*, black-and-white photos by local artist Jennifer Weiser.

To get more information—about the hours, the books, or the exhibit—visit or call the branch at 415-355-5707. Meanwhile, here are the library's latest offerings.

New Fiction

- South African author Tatamkhulu Afrika's experience as a World War II prisoner of war inspired his autobiographical novel *Bitter Eden*.

• *Shlepping the Exile* by Michael Wex is a humorous novel about a boy growing up in a Jewish community in rural Alberta in the 1950s.

• *The Son* by Philipp Meyer is a multigenerational novel about an ambitious family in Texas.

• A Los Angeles mother moves to Louisiana with her 11-year-old daughter after inheriting a sugarcane farm in *Queen Sugar* by Natalie Baszile.

New Nonfiction

- *The Art of Tinkering: Meet 150+ Makers Working at the Intersection of Art, Science & Technology* by Karen Wilkinson & Mike Petrich provides a fun look at a new type of art from the Exploratorium.
- Man Booker Prize winner Julian Barnes writes about his love and grief for his late wife, in *Levels of Life*.

• Julien Merceron's *À la Mère de Famille: Recipes from the Beloved Parisian Confectioner* is filled with beautiful candies, cakes, and ice creams.

• Ruth Kassinger presents an engaging history of botany in *A Garden of Marvels: How We Discovered That Flowers Have Sex, Leaves Eat Air, and Other Secrets of Plants*.

Films and TV on DVD

- A Swedish filmmaker confronts agricultural giant Dole in the documentary *Big Boys Gone Bananas!*, a film by Fredrik Gertten.

• *Mystery of Easter Island*, directed by Andy Awes, is a documentary about the original inhabitants of the Pacific island and how it became a treeless wasteland.

• Inhabitants of a small town turn into killer zombies after their annual grape harvest festival in *Raisins de la mort = The*

Grapes of Death, a French cult horror film from 1972 directed by Jean Rollin.

- Stephen Kessler directed *Paul Williams: Still Alive*, a documentary about the legendary singer-songwriter who disappeared from the spotlight.

Children's Fiction

• In *Fox Forgets* by Suzanne Bloom, Goose tells Fox to tell Bear that he is leaving for a while but will be right back. But...*Fox forgets*. Ages 2 to 6.

• Llama Llama loves school and playing with his friends, but it's hard to have fun when Gilroy Goat keeps calling him names, in *Llama Llama and the Bully Goat* by Anna Dewdney. Ages 3 to 5.

• In *Brimsby's Hats* by Andrew Prahin, a hat maker's best friend leaves to become a sea captain, and the hat maker must make new friends by doing what he does best: making hats. Ages 4 to 8.

• A young zombie girl with a passion for dancing joins a ballet class for real girls, but even a zombie can get stage fright in *Zombelina*, written by Kristyn Crow and illustrated by Molly Idle. Ages 4 to 8.

• *Poppy the Pirate Dog*, by Liz Kessler with illustrations by Mike Phillips, is the tale of a Dalmatian who while at the beach with her family decides she wants to be a pirate dog! Ages 5 to 8.

• In *Alvin Ho: Allergic to Babies, Burglars, and other Bumps in the Night*, by Lenore Look with illustrations by LeUyen Pham, Alvin must conquer a new set of fears: hockey lessons, a string of burglaries in the neighborhood, and worst of all, a new baby in the family. Ages 6 to 9.

• After learning a sleepover party is actually a camp-out, Grace worries about things like bugs and bears, but soon transforms her phobias into fun, in *Just Grace and the Super Sleepover*, by Charise Mericle Harper. Ages 6 to 9.

• From winning over his teacher, to pulling an all-nighter with his little sister Sal, to assisting Papa with his art, 7-year-old Billy Miller tries to tackle it all, in *The*

EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Mefistofele by Arrigo Boito will be spotlighted at Opera for the People, a lecture and video series taught by Larry Oppenheim, president of the Kensington Symphony Orchestra. Both new and experienced opera lovers are welcome. Saturday, May 3, 2 to 3 p.m.

Tai Chi for Health: A 10-week Wednesday series of tai chi classes taught by Patrick Lau continues through June 11. Call 415-355-5707 for information.

Friday Matinee at the Library screens *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962), based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee. The film stars Gregory Peck as a southern lawyer who defends a black man accused of rape. Friday, May 9, 2 to 4 p.m.

Writing for Real: Jules Older leads a four-session workshop on writing for publication, including books, magazines, and newspapers, as well as ebooks, apps, blogs, and videos. Space is limited, so stop by the library's information desk or call 415-355-5707 to register. Four Saturdays, May 10 to 31, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

eReader Help Session: Learn how to enjoy San Francisco Public Library's collection of more than 40,000 ebooks by attending an eReader Drop-In Class, aimed at those who'd like to borrow books to read or listen to on their tablets or other mobile devices. Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other eReader. Tuesday, May 13, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Great Books Discussion Group: The topic at this month's Great Books Discussion Group will be Delmore Schwartz's short story "In Dreams Begin Responsibilities." Contact Clifford Louie at cliffordlouie@sbcglobal.net or 415-750-1786 for a copy of the reading. Wednesday, May 14, 6:15 to 8:15 p.m.

Noe Valley Book Discussion Group: Newcomers are invited to join the discussion of *Netherland* by Joseph O'Neill at this month's meeting of the Noe Valley Book Discussion Group. Wednesday, May 21, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Year of Billy Miller by award-winning author Kevin Henkes. Ages 8 to 13.

Gareth P. Jones' *Constable and Toop*, a darkly comic story set in Victorian London, explores murder and intrigue, a ghostly bureaucracy, and the power of friendship. Ages 10 to 14.



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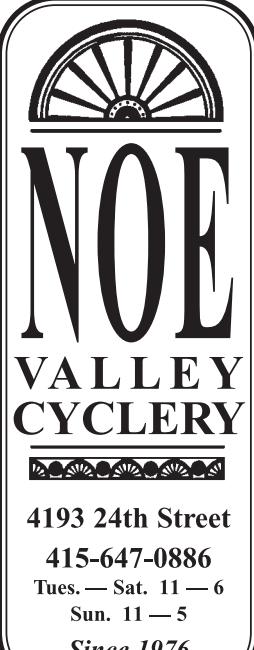
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Lunch and Dinner: Monday – Thursday 11 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 10 p.m. • Sunday 12 noon – 9:30 p.m.

May 1: Glen Park Elementary School holds its second annual SILENT AUCTION. 6-9 pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 32auctions.com/glenparkpto.

May 1, 8, 15 & 22: The Noe Valley Library hosts Miss Catherine's TODDLER TALES, featuring books, rhymes, music, and movement. 10:15 & 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29: Ryann Summers teaches a Thursday YOGA CLASS at Folio Books. 9:30-10:30 am. 3957 24th. 821-3477; ryannsummersyoga.com.

May 1-30: The exhibition "EATING CULTURES" features 30 Asian Pacific American artists. SOMArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan. 863-1414.

May 1-31: Noe Valley OVER-EATERS Anonymous meets Monday-Saturday, 7 am, at St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine. oasf.org.

May 1-31: 30th Street SENIOR CENTER serves lunches for people over 60, weekdays and Saturdays. Noon, 1 pm. 225 30th. 550-2211.

May 1-June 11: Creativity Explored exhibits "Elemental Renditions," featuring ARTWORK by Peter Cordova, Mirian Munguia, and José Nuñez. Mon & Tues., 10 am-3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat. & Sun., noon-5 pm. 3245 16th. 863-2108; creativityexplored.org.

May 2 & 3: Successories in the BUTTON BOX introduces the One New Road collection of scarves and textiles. 11 am-7 pm. 3904 24th. 642-4006; successories.weebly.com.

May 2-30: The Friday-night JAZZ series continues at Bird & Beckett with artists Don Prell, Jimmy Ryan, and the Third Quartet. 5:30-8 pm. 653 Chenery. 586-3733; birdbeckett.com.

May 2-30: Buttons Candy Bar hosts "A Popping Good Time," POP-CORN TASTING, Tuesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 pm. 4027 24th. 970-9035; buttonscandybar.com.

MAY 2014

May 2-30: Call out "BINGO!" at St. Paul's on Friday nights at 7 pm (doors open at 5 pm). St. Paul's Parish Hall, 221 Valley. 648-7538.

May 2-30: Dolores Park Cafe hosts Friday-night MUSIC and spoken word. 7:30-10 pm. 501 Dolores. 621-2936; doloresparkcafe.com.

May 3: The 5K Bay Area BRAIN TUMOR WALK in Golden Gate Park begins with 9 am registration. 10 am-1 pm. Hellman Hollow. braintumor.org.

May 3: The Dolores Heights Neighborhood Association will hold a get-to-know-your-neighbors GATHERING on Sanchez Street between Hill and 21st. 10 am-2 pm.

May 3: FIESTAVAL at Fairmount Elementary includes live music, a YMCA bike rodeo, live butterflies, an art auction, food, drinks, and games. 11 am-3 pm. 65 Chenery.

May 3: Folio Books celebrates California BOOKSTORE DAY with Ashley Wolff reading *Baby Bear Counts One*, 11 am; an artist drawing customers as their favorite animal, noon to 1 pm; trivia games and discounts. 9 am-9 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477; foliosf.com.

May 3: The OPERA for the People series continues with a talk about *Mefistofele*, by Arrigo Boito. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 3: Deborah Madison discusses *The New VEGETARIAN Cooking for Everyone*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 3 & 4: The 25th Shipyard Artists Spring OPEN STUDIOS features over 125 artists, including Noe Valley artists Marc Ellen Hamel and Josepha Vaughan. 11 am-6 pm. Hunters Point Shipyard. shipyardartists.com.

May 4: SF City Guides leads a free WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays at 1:30-3:30 pm. Meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

May 4: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts Frances R. Payne,

author of *They Make Us Dangerous (Bolivia 1964-1980)*, and Andrew McIntyre, author of *The Short, The Long, and the Tall*. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

May 6: Omnivore Books hosts a LUNCH with Deborah Madison, author of *The New Vegetarian Cooking for Everyone*. 11 am-2 pm. Foreign Cinema, 2534 Mission.

May 3-31: Each Saturday, the Noe Valley FARMERS MARKET brings you fresh produce and live musicians from 8 am to 1 pm. 3861 24th. 248-1332; noevalleyfarmersmarket.com.

May 3-31: Meet under the rainbow flag at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro and Market) for a City Guides walking tour of the CASTRO. Sat., Sun. & Tues., 11 am. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

May 4: Josey Baker introduces his entry-level cookbook, *Josey Baker BREAD*. 3-4 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 4: Noe Valley CHAMBER MUSIC presents a concert by the Lee Trio. 3:15 pm pre-concert talk, 4-6 pm concert. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell. 928-7770; nvcm.org.

May 4 & 18: SF City Guides leads a free WALKING TOUR of Noe Valley on first and third Sundays at 1:30-3:30 pm. Meet at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 557-4266; sfcityguides.org.

May 4-Nov. 23: The Glen Park Village FARMERS' MARKET is open Sundays, 10 am to 2 pm, in the Glen Park BART parking lot at Bosworth and Arlington. pcfma.com.

May 5: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts Frances R. Payne, author of *They Make Us Dangerous (Bolivia 1964-1980)*, and Andrew McIntyre, author of *The Short, The Long, and the Tall*. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

May 6: Omnivore Books hosts a LUNCH with Deborah Madison, author of *The New Vegetarian Cooking for Everyone*. 11 am-2 pm. Foreign Cinema, 2534 Mission.

first Tuesday of the month. 750-3600; deyoungmuseum.org.

May 7: James Lick Middle School hosts a light dinner MIXER for new parents. 7:30-9:30 pm. 1220 Noe. For info, contact Liz Torres, lizzard701@yahoo.com.

May 7: Bring three treasures to "An APPRAISAL Affair" at the Old Mint, for an "Antiques Road Show"-type evaluation. 6-8:30 pm. 88 Fifth. 537-1105; sfhistory.org.

May 7, 14, 21 & 28: Amnesia offers Wednesday Night JAZZ by the Amnesiacs. 6 pm. 853 Valencia. amnesiathebar.com.

May 7, 14, 21 & 28: Eureka Valley Library's Wednesday BABY RHYME and Playtime, for infants to 18 months, starts at 1:30 pm. 1 Jose Sarria Court (16th & Market). 355-5616; sfpl.org.

May 7-28: CANDLE SING at Holy Innocents Church includes songs from Taize and the islands of Iona and Lindisfarne. Wednesdays, 5:30-6 pm. 455 Fair Oaks. holyinsf.org.

May 7-28: AL-ANON meets Wednesdays 8 to 9:30 pm at St. Philip's Church. 725 Diamond. 834-9940; al-anonsf.org.

May 7-Dec. 17: The Castro Farmers' Market has fresh PRODUCE on Wednesdays. 4-8 pm. Noe at Market. pcfma.com.

May 8: Join Supervisor Scott Wiener at Jane Warner Plaza, 7:45 am, for a BIKE TO WORK Day down Market Street. sfbike.org.

May 8: The LGBT SENIOR discussion group meets at 30th Street Senior Center. 10-11:30 am. 225 30th. 296-8995, ext. 5.

May 8: Twin Peaks resident Lynn Oakley introduces her new book, *San Francisco's Twin Peaks*, at Cliché Noe Gift Store. 6:30-8:30 pm. 4175 24th. 282-5416.

May 8-10: Gallery of Jewels hosts a trunk show by jewelry maker Stephany Hitchcock. 4089 24th. 285-0626.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT OMNIVORE BOOKS

SAT MAY 3	DEBORAH MADISON • THE NEW VEGETARIAN COOKING FOR EVERYONE • 3-4 P.M. FREE • A fully revised and expanded edition of the most comprehensive vegetarian cookbook ever published.
SUN MAY 4	JOSEY BAKER • JOSEY BAKER BREAD • 3-4 P.M. FREE • This is the first true entry-level bread-baking cookbook, from Josey Baker, owner of The Mill and San Francisco baking sensation.
TUE MAY 6	OFF-SITE EVENT! DEBORAH MADISON LUNCHEON AT FOREIGN CINEMA • 11 A.M.-2 P.M. • Join us to celebrate Deborah's <i>The New Vegetarian Cooking for Everyone</i> . Enjoy passed appetizers followed by a delicious 3-course meal inspired by the book, \$85 + tax and service. Call to reserve seats! (415) 648-7600 ext. 0.
SAT MAY 10	DAVID LEBOVITZ • MY PARIS KITCHEN: RECIPES AND STORIES • 3-5 P.M. FREE • In <i>My Paris Kitchen</i> , David remasters the classics, introduces lesser-known fare, and presents 100 sweet and savory recipes that reflect the way modern Parisians eat today.
WED MAY 14	JEFFREY WEISS • CHARCUTERIA: THE SOUL OF SPAIN • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • <i>Charcutería: The Soul of Spain</i> is the first book to introduce authentic Spanish butchering and meat-curing techniques to the American market.
THR MAY 15	LYNDA BALSLEAV & ROBERT HOLMES • ALMONDS: RECIPES, HISTORY, CULTURE • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • The authors provide a wealth of information about the versatile, high-protein, delicious almond including the history, cultivation and nutrition.
MON MAY 19	BRYANT TERRY • AFRO-VEGAN: FARM-FRESH AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN, AND SOUTHERN FLAVORS REMIXED • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Renowned chef and food justice activist Bryant Terry reworks favorite classic dishes of the African Diaspora to present wholly new, creative culinary combinations
WED MAY 21	RUTH REICHL • DELICIOUS! A NOVEL • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Through her restaurant reviews, Reichl has achieved a special place in the hearts of hundreds of thousands of readers.
THR MAY 22	LAURA SILVER • KNISH: IN SEARCH OF THE JEWISH SOUL FOOD • 6:30-7:30 P.M. FREE • Silver takes us on a knish-eye tour of worlds past and present, thus laying the foundation for a global knish renaissance.

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May 9: The Noe Valley Library hosts a screening of the 1962 FILM based on the Harper Lee novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. 2-4:25 pm. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 10: The Fair Oaks STREET FAIR features garage sales from 21st to 26th streets! 9 am-5 pm. fairoaksneighbors.org.

May 10: Noe Valley PET COMPANY celebrates its 15th anniversary with cake and champagne. 2-5 pm. 1451 Church. 282-7385; noevalleypet.com.

May 10: NaturalResourcesinvites you to meet doulas (2-4pm) and home-birth MIDWIVES (4-6pm). 1367 Valencia. 550-2611; naturalresources-sf.com.

May 10: Olive This Olive That hosts an OLIVE OIL TASTING at Folio Books. 3 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477.

May 10: David Lebovitz introduces *My PARIS KITCHEN: Recipes and Stories*. 3-5 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 10: Learn about different types of PAPER AIRPLANES, and fold and fly them; for ages 5 and up. 3:30-4:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 10: "Life is a Carnival," a tribute to THE BAND on their 45th anniversary, features Johnny Harper & Carnival. 8 pm. SF Live Arts (Noe Valley Music Series) at St. Cyprian's, 2097 Turk. 454-5238; noevalleymusicseries.com.

May 10, 17, 24 & 31: Jules Older leads a workshop on WRITING for publication. 10:30-11:30 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. Space is limited; call to register: 355-5707.

May 10-31: The MARSH presents Marga Gomez's *Lovebirds*. Fri, 8 pm; Sat., 8:30 pm. 1062 Valencia. 271-3256; themarsh.org.

May 11: The monthly PFLAG support group features speakers and discussions. 2-4:30 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church. 921-8850;

CALENDAR

pflagsf@aol.com.

May 14: The Glen Park Library's monthly KNITTING CIRCLE continues from 4:30 to 6 pm. 2825 Diamond. 355-2858.

May 14: The GREAT BOOKS Discussion Group analyzes Delmore Schwartz's short story "In Dreams Begin Responsibilities." 6:15-8:15 pm. 451 Jersey. 750-1786; cliffordlouie@sbcglobal.net.

May 14: Jeffrey Weiss discusses *CHARCUTERIA: The Soul of Spain*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 14: Noe Valley FILMMAKER Barbara Klutinis offers a free screening of *The Sum Total of Our Memory: Facing Alzheimer's Together*, at the Delancey Street Screening Room. 7-9 pm. 600 Embarcadero. thesumtotalmovie.com.

May 14: The Noe Valley DEMOCRATIC CLUB offers a panel discussion, "The Homeless," led by former Noe Valley Supervisor Bevan Dufty. 7:30 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond. 641-5838; molly@ffrsf.com.

May 15: The Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association celebrates SMALL BUSINESS WEEK with an awards ceremony. 6:30-8:30 pm. Wells Fargo Bank, 4045 24th. 550-0128.

May 15: Lynda Balslaev and Robert Holmes introduce *ALMONDS: Recipes, History, Culture*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 15: LITQUAKE Epicenter features Colson Whitehead discussing *The Noble Hustle: Poler, Beef Jerky & Death*. 7 pm. Hotel Rex, 562 Sutter. litquake.org.

May 15: COMEDY Returns to El Rio with a fifth anniversary show featuring Maureen Langan, Dhaya Lakshminarayanan, Eloisa Bravo, Julia Jackson, and Lisa Geduldig. 8 pm. 3158 Mission. ElRiosf.com.

May 17: "Indies First STORYTIME Day" offers Maria van Lieshout, Jordan Jacobs, Lynn Hazen, and Ivan Abeshaus reading and recommending their favorite children's books. 11 am-2 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477.

May 17: SPRING CARNAVAL at Alvarado Elementary features 18 games, a water slide, a cake walk, face painting, a bake sale, and pupusas and tostadas. Noon-4 pm. 625 Douglass.

May 17: Noe Valley HISTORY DAY invites residents to share photos, memorabilia, and reminiscences. 1-4 pm. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez. RSVP by email: info@noealleyrecenter.com.

May 18: Folio Books hosts an AFTERNOON STORYTIME with Paula Ginsburg and Linda Lewin. 2 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477.

May 19: The ODD MONDAYS series hosts Carol Ruth Silver discussing *Freedom Rider Diary: Smuggled Notes from Parchman Prison*, and photographer CCSF professor Holman Turner recounting stories of racism in Birmingham, Ala. 7 pm at Folio Books, 3957 24th. No-host supper, 5:30 pm, Haystack Pizza, 3881 24th (RSVP jlsender@webtv.net). 821-2090; oddmondays.com.

May 19: Bryant Terry discusses *AFRO-VEGAN: Farm-Fresh African, Caribbean, and Southern Flavors Remixed*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 21: RUTH REICHL introduces her first work in fiction, *Delicious! A Novel*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 21: The Noe Valley BOOK Discussion Group takes on *Netherland* by Joseph O'Neill. 7 to 8:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 21: Ocean Capewell reads from her recent novel *The Most Beautiful Rot*. 7-9 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 2919 24th. 282-9246.

May 22: Doris Feyling presents a STORYTIME for the entire family from 11 to 11:30 am. Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 22: Laura Silver discusses *KNISH: In Search of Jewish Soul Food*. 6:30-7:30 pm. Omnivore Books, 3885A Cesar Chavez. 282-4712; omnivorebooks.com.

May 24: The OPERA for the People series continues with a talk about George Fredric Handel's *Arianna*. 2-3 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 24: The Glen Park Library screens the 1941 MUSICAL COMEDY *Hellzapoppin'*. 3-5 pm. 2825 Diamond. 355-2858.

May 25: The CARNAVAL PARADE in the Mission includes 40 student dancers from Thomas Edison Charter Academy. 9:30 am. Start at 24th and Bryant, to 24th and Mission, north on Mission to 17th, east to South Van Ness. carnavalsanfrancisco.org.

May 27: MISSION POLICE STATION holds its community meeting the last Tuesday of the month. 6 pm. 630 Valencia. 558-5400.

May 27: Richard Everett discusses the WPA MURALS at the Maritime Museum at a meeting of the SF History Association. 7 pm. St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond. 750-9986; sanfranciscohistory.org.

May 29: Reel-to-Reel 16mm FILMS for preschoolers screen at the Noe Valley Library at 10:15 and 11 am. 451 Jersey. 355-5707; sfpl.org.

May 29: PAJAMA PARTY Storytime at Folio Books features Corey M.P. reading *Goodnight World*; ages 3 to 5. 6 pm. 3957 24th. 821-3477.

May 29-June 1: The 19th annual SF SILENT FILM Festival includes 19 films set to live music. 429 Castro. For tickets and a complete schedule: silentfilm.org.

May 31: Juri Commoners meet to clean up, weed, prune, and improve JURI COMMONS park, near 26th and Guerrero; volunteers welcome. 9 am-noon. meetup.com/Juri-Commoners/.

June 5: Tyler Hinman, author of *Winner's Circle Crosswords*, hosts a PUZZLE CHALLENGE Night. 7 pm. Folio Books, 3957 24th. 821-3477.

June 7: The annual Friends of Noe Valley GARDEN TOUR, "Secret Gardens," features 10 diverse private gardens and a container gardening demonstration. 10 am-4 pm. For tickets and map, friendsofnoealley.com.

JUNE QUITE SOON...

The next *Noe Valley Voice* will be the **June 2014** issue, distributed the first week of June. The deadline for Calendar items will be **May 15**. Write Calendar, *Noe Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 460249, San Francisco, CA 94146, or email calendar@noealleyvoice.com. Events in Noe Valley receive priority. Thank you.

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Sam's Got Good News!



Photo by Pamela Gerard

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GOOD NEWS

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Monday through Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

It's All in the Game at Upper Noe Rec Center

Registration for the summer term at Upper Noe Recreation Center begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 17. So take your marks to sign up for cooking and exercise classes starting in June at the park, located at 295 Day St. near Sanchez. Like all the city's rec centers, Upper Noe will be open on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the summer, affording more free-play hours for both kids and adults.

You can register now for the site's summer basketball camp for children ages 8 to 14 who want to learn fundamentals and play practice games. The camp runs 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and there are plenty of slots, especially later in the summer, said facility coordinator Cheryl Woltjen.

To sign up or view course descriptions, go to www.sfreconline.org. Note that classes are subject to change. For the most up-to-date schedule, including open gym hours, visit www.noevalleyreccenter.com, call 415-970-8061, or stop by the center. Current park hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Joby's Dog Run, the play area at the Church Street end of the park, is open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

UPPER NOE REC CENTER SUMMER 2014

MONDAY

Baby and Me (1-3 yrs old)

Mon., 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tennis (7-12 yrs old)

Mon., 3:30-4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Petite Bakers (3-6 yrs old)

Tues., 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Tennis (8-13 yrs old)

Tues., 3:30-5 p.m.

Combat Athletics, Intermediate (8-16 yrs old)

Tues., 4-5:30 p.m.

Tennis (adult intermediate)

Tues., 6-7 p.m.

Yoga (adult)

Tues., 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Boot Camp (adult)

Tues., 7:45-8:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Baby and Me (1-3 yrs old)

Wed., 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Tennis (4-5 yrs old)

Wed., 10:30-11 a.m.

Pilates (adult)

Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Karate Kidz: Little Kickers (4-5 yrs old)

Wed., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Food in Jars (adult)

Wed., 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Tennis (adult beginner/intermediate)

Wed., 6:30-8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Argentine Tango, beginner (55+)

Thurs., 1-4 p.m.

Yoga (adult)

Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Core Stability and Balance (adult)

Thurs., 7:45-8:45 p.m.

FRIDAY

Pilates (adult)

Fri., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Combat Athletics (8-16 yrs old)

Fri., 4:30-6 p.m.

Future Chefs (9-13 yrs old)

Fri., 6:30-8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Boot Camp (adult)

Sat., 9:30-10:30 a.m.

The Art of Baking Bread (adult)

Sat., 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tennis (5-8 yrs old)

Sat., 1-2 p.m.

SUNDAY

Tennis (8-11 yrs old)

Sun., 12-1:30 p.m.



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STORE TREK

Store Trek is a regular Voice column profiling new stores and businesses in Noe Valley. This month we introduce a children's store specializing in handmade infant and toddler clothing.

TUGTUG
3906 24th St. at Sanchez Street
regina@tugtugsf.com
www.tugtugsf.com

A new children's boutique featuring clothing and accessories by independent designers for children age 0-8 years opened its doors on 24th Street in February.

TugTug owner Regina Carter, a former Waldorf school teacher with a background in early childhood education, was first inspired to make clothes for her three girls, now teenagers, a decade or so ago. "At that time, you could not find any beautifully made clothes unless you went to Europe," says Carter.

She decided to share her love of thoughtfully designed and handcrafted clothing by starting TugTug as an online kidswear store in September 2013, while her son was still a toddler (he's 4 now). The store's name was inspired by "the push, pull, and guidance of our children."

After running the business for several months out of a studio space in her home in Marin, Carter dreamed of having a shop where she could interact with people. This past February, she opened her first brick-and-mortar store, on 24th Street at the former site of Bay Castle Cleaners, which was also briefly an outpost for Cardio-Tone. (The fitness studio



Regina Carter offers fine-made baby clothes and accessories at TugTug, her newly opened boutique on 24th Street.
Photo by Pamela Gerard

has since relocated to a larger space on Church Street.)

"I love being in Noe Valley," says Carter. "It's clean, sunny, and has families with children and such a friendly, welcoming atmosphere."

The shop's décor is whimsical and inviting. One-of-a-kind, hand-sewn cotton quilts from Hopewell Textiles grace one wall across from sustainably sourced wood display tables and shelving featuring pieces from popular designers for the younger set. There are tot-size Manimal moccasins, dolls by Petaluma artist Jess Brown, baby tops and bottoms from Flora and Henri, ballerina dresses from Wovenplay, and a collection of Soor Ploom rompers, bloomers, and playsuits in Liberty floral prints and solids.

Carter deals directly with each of the designers she carries. "I look for beauti-

ful and practical designs," she says.

All of the clothes are handmade, using high-quality cotton, linens, and wools.

Prices are high—dresses range from \$50 to \$150, tops and bottoms from \$25 to \$80—but Carter's philosophy is quality over quantity. "One beautiful dress you love to wear and play in is worth 10 less expensive dresses from Target," she says.

Some of Carter's favorite pieces include a Wolfechild mechanics jumpsuit in a green floral print with cotton lining, drawstring waist, and front pockets; the tiny Misha and Puff campfire pullovers in blueberry, strawberry, and pistachio, knitted by a women's collective in Peru; and the Jess Brown rag dolls, whose outfits are made of natural linen, vintage lace, and pink or gray tulle netting.

"This is a lifestyle choice to support small shops that produce handmade items," says Carter, who enjoys meeting the moms and kids who come into the shop. "Every little girl comes in to touch the tutus and play with the dolls."

TugTug is open Tuesday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The store is closed Sunday and Monday. For more information, email regina@tugtugsf.com.

—Pat Rose

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Al-Anon Noe Valley

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

Castro Area Planning + Action

Contact: 621-0120
 Email: info@capasf.org
 Meetings: Second Thursday, Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood St., 7:30 p.m.

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association

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

Castro Farmers' Market

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

Diamond Heights Community Association

Contact: Betsy Eddy, 867-5774
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Website: www.dhcasf.org
 Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Park Works

Contact: Robert Brust, 713-9061
 Email: Robert@doloresparkworks.org
 Website: www.doloresparkworks.org
 Meetings: Call or email for details.

Duncan Newburg Association (DNA)

Contacts: Pat Lockhart, 282-9360; Diane McCarney, 824-0303; or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045
 Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.

Fairmount Heights Neighborhood Association

Contact: Gregg Brooks
 Email: sflyric@yahoo.com
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31059, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Email for details.

MORE GROUPS TO JOIN**Fair Oaks Neighbors**

Email: hello@fairoaksneighbors.org
 Mailing Address: 200 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110
 Meetings revolve around activities such as the annual street fair 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: www.friendsofdolorespark.org
 Meetings: See website.

Friends of Glen Canyon Park

Contact: Richard Craib, 648-0862
 Mailing Address: 140 Turquoise Way, San Francisco, CA 94131
 Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of Noe Courts Playground

Contact: Laura Norman
 Email: lauranor@yahoo.com
 Mailing Address: c/o Friends of Noe Valley, P.O. Box 460953, San Francisco, CA 94146
 Meetings: Email for dates and times.

Friends of Noe Valley (FNV)

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

Friends of On Lok's 30th Street Senior Center

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

Friends of Noe Valley Recreation Center and Park

Contact: Alexandra Torre, Kate Haug, or Molly Sterkel
 Email: info@noevalleyreccenter.com
 Website: www.noevalleyreccenter.com
 Meetings: Email or check website.

Juri Commoners

Contact: Dave Schweisguth, MI7-6290
 Email: dave@schweisguth.org
 Website: www.meetup.com/Juri-Commoners
 Meetings: Most last Saturdays, 9-noonish. Check website.

Liberty Hill Neighborhood Association

Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 192114, San Francisco, CA 94119
 Meetings: Quarterly. Call for details.

Merchants of Upper Market and Castro

Contact: 835-8720
 Email: info@castromerchants.com
 Mailing address: 584 Castro St. #333, San Francisco, CA 94114
 Meetings: Call for details.

Noe Valley Association-24th Street Community Benefit District

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

Noe Valley Democratic Club

Contact: Hunter Stern, 282-9042;
 hls5@ibew1245.com
 Website: noealleydems.com
 Meetings: Third Wednesdays, St. Philip's Church, 725 Diamond St., 7:30 p.m. Call to confirm meeting dates.

Noe Valley Farmers Market

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

Noe Valley Library Campaign

Contacts: Kim Drew, 643-4695,
 kkdrew@yahoo.com
 Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, 710 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102; 626-7500
 Email: info@friendssfpl.org

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (NVMPA)

Contact: Robert Roddick, 641-8687
 Meetings: Last Wednesdays of January, February, March, April, July, October, and November, at Bank of America, second floor, 9 a.m. Breakfast meetings May and September at Noe's Nest, 10 a.m.
 Website: www.NoeValleyMerchants.com

Noe Valley Parent Network

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

Noe Valley Parents, San Francisco

Listserv contact: noealleyparent-owner@yahoogroups.com. Subscribe: noealleyparentssubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Noe Valley Preparedness Committee

Contact: Maxine Fasulis, 641-5536
 Email: mfasulis@yahoo.com
 Meetings: Call for details.

Outer Noe Valley Merchants

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

Residents for Noe Valley Town Square

Contact: Todd David, 401-0625
 Email: noealleytownsquare@gmail.com
 Website: www.noealleytownsquare.com
 Meetings: Call for details.

San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Streets

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

SafeCleanGreen Mission Dolores

Contact: Gideon Kramer, 861-2480
 Email: safecleangreen@bigfoot.com
 Website: www.safecleangreen.com

Upper Noe Neighbors

Contact: Vicki Rosen, 285-0473
 Email: president@uppernoeighbors.com
 Meetings: Quarterly. Upper Noe Recreation Center, 295 Day St., 7:30 p.m.

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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

The Daze of May

By Mazook

RENTAPALOOZA: The Noe Valley Bureau of Investigation (NVBI) has released its annual report, "The State of the Valley," which can be summarized in one word: "Expensive." The NVBI says the local economy has been operating on an ancient system known as Supply and Demand. Our little urban village is in high demand, and the available space here is in short supply.

Housing prices seem to have literally gone through the roof. In its analysis of the real estate gods online, the NVBI notes that a "For Sale" sign went up on a residence on 23rd Street (above Hoffman) for \$1.8 million and the home sold in April for \$1.1 mil over the asking price. It adds that a residence listed on Hoffman Street for \$3,795,000 sold for \$5,105,000, an overbid of \$1.3 million. Monthly rents in Noe Valley have soared to an average \$2,250 for a studio apartment, \$2,800 for a one bedroom, and almost \$4,500 for a two bedroom. Read and weep.



ON THE STORE FRONT: Meanwhile, in Downtown Noe Valley the NVBI reports that commercial space also is in short supply, and demand continues to be strong.

A retail space with two residences above is being built at 3820 24th St. (just

up from Shoe Biz) and will become available next year. Terranomics Real Estate representative Chris Homs says he has received many inquiries for the 2,300-square-foot commercial space. "We are looking for local qualified tenants in the retail or service business," he says.

Homs would not comment on the rent requested, but said serious inquiries had been made from "a stationery company, both women's and men's apparel businesses, as well as personal services including a fitness center, yoga studio, and a space for Pilates."



SHOE 'NUFF: It was last month's news that Mike's Shoe Repair at 4071 24th St. had closed, leaving a lot of equipment and unclaimed shoes on the premises. The store's windows were papered over and a "For Rent" sign put on the door for a day or two. Mike's rent had been \$4,100 per month, and the store had fallen a couple of months in arrears.

In April, J.J. Panzer of Real Management Company confirmed that the landlord listed the space for \$4,800 a month. He noted that those interested in renting the shoe repair spot included "men's and women's clothing, housewares, nail salons, and locals who are relocating their businesses, and some who are expanding their existing businesses."

At press time, Panzer alerted the *Voice* that a "final lease" would soon be inked. Meanwhile, we noted the old Wooden Heel "Shoe Renewing" sign had disappeared.

Then, at press-press time, the new tenant called, saying she would be opening a gift boutique/gallery in the space by mid-June. It will be the second location for Rare Device. "We will have modern local artists featured with handmade goods," says owner Giselle Gyalzen,

"and we're happy to expand our business from our original store, located at Divisadero and Hayes."



WRAP MUSIC: A block up the street, there have been changes at Noe Valley Pack & Ship, the UPS branch at 4104 24th St. (above Castro). Manager John Lee retired in March, and a new manager, Paul Taube, took over April 1, at the newly renamed UPS Store.

Taube says the store will offer basically the same services as did Noe Valley P & S—packing, shipping (UPS only), and copying, and notarial services. However, it will have the addition of a computer for customers to use. Also, the store's 200 mailboxes, which are currently located in

the adjoining 4102 24th St., will be moved next door to 4104, and 4102 will be vacated.

Taube says the building owner will also do some retrofitting in order to create an entrance that is totally ADA-compliant. "We will be open during this process and work around the construction," says Taube, who resides in the Castro.

The soon-to-be-vacated storefront at 4102 will also get a retrofit, and then it will be rented out. The NVBI has learned that once work has been completed, sometime this fall, an existing merchant on 24th Street (who wishes to remain anonymous for now) will be moving into that space.



NEW DELI: The NVBI also confirmed that Incanto Restaurant, which closed two months ago after a 12-year run, was reincarnated in mid-April as the much more casual Porcellino. The new restaurant (and market), located at the corner of Church and Duncan, opened grandly on April 16, "with a very affordable menu of everyday food that is very family-friendly," says co-owner Mark Pastore.

Pastore says he and celebrity chef Chris Cosentino have kept the menu simple. There are salads, sandwiches, pasta and salumi plates, hot dogs, and soft-serve ice cream.

And the dining is simple, too: you order from the counter, take a number, and then grab a seat. There is also a deli if you want a good old "to go" meal.

Pastore says one of the most popular dishes is the "Italian Dip" (\$9), a meatball and provolone sandwich which can be dipped in a marinara sauce. Another favorite is the Rigatoni & Incanto's Pork Ragu (\$14).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



One of Noe Valley's landmarks, the Wooden Heel "Shoe Renewing" sign, may be lost to history. It disappeared soon after Mike's Shoe Repair closed in March. According to the NVBI, a gift boutique called Rare Device will move into the store space, at 4071 24th St., by summer. Photo by Sally Smith



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\$499,000



Eric Rahe
415.518.7548

RUMORS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

To cater to families, "we have doubled our number of highchairs," says Pastore, "and we are open from eleven in the morning to 9 p.m., except Sunday, when we close at 6 p.m."

Porcellino's first week was so busy, Pastore put out the call for "a few more hands," specifically, cooks, food runners, and salumi slicers. (Send resumes to jobs@incanto.biz.)

It is kind of ironic that 13 years ago the spot was occupied by Speckmann's Delicatessen, Bierstube, and German Restaurant, which offered the neighborhood a similar kind of hearty fare, for almost four decades.



IT'S BACK TO THE FUTURE for the Dolores Heights Improvement Club. The group has been dormant the past few years, but it looks like there has been an infusion of new blood, so to speak, and the group is holding a block party on Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hopefully, the many recent neighborhood arrivals will sign up as new members.

"Neighbors will be serving a communal lunch and refreshments, and we will have live music and activities for all the kids," says DHIC spokesperson Randy Wilson, "and it will be a blend of the old neighbors with the new."

Membership in the "club" is open to all persons owning property or residing within the area bounded by Castro, 18th Street, Dolores Street, and 22nd Street.

The Dolores Heights Improvement Club was established in the 1960s around

neighborhood development issues. They pushed for, and created, a demarcated area called the Dolores Heights Special Use District, established in 1980 in response to the demolition of houses and the construction of large apartment buildings in the neighborhood.

The summit of Dolores Heights is at 21st and Sanchez (arguably the best view in the city), and the area has attracted some high-profile figures in the social media world.



MUSICAL CHAIRS: You will recall that Tom Nakatsuka closed Clipper Corner last June after 34 years in the dog-grooming business, saying his landlord had raised the rent from \$2,200 to \$3,500 a month (*see July 2013 Rumors*). A yoga studio called Be Yoga next opened on the corner of Clipper and Sanchez. Then we learned Be Yoga was not to be, and only lasted a three-month stretch.

In the middle of April, who should pop up at Clipper Corner but Lola, the same Lola who three years ago opened a "pop-up" boutique next to Cotton Basics on Castro (which lasted two and a half years). A popular designer of women's clothing, Lola Herrera left Noe Valley in September 2013, when her lease ran out, and moved her threads to Clement Street.

"I learned that the Clipper Corner was vacant," says Herrera, "and got permission from the landlord to set up the studio for my business and be much closer to my many Noe Valley customers, and then discuss terms for a lease."

She says "the response has been fantastic," and that she has been negotiating with the landlord and hoped a new lease could be signed before the first of May.



SHORT SHIRTS: After a short one-

year run, the women's boutique Kitami Ropa, universally described as "cute" but located in a place with not enough foot traffic, at 1478 Church near 27th Street, has closed. Soon to open in its place is a salon called TMI Colonics, owned and operated by Marianne Morrison, a certified colon hydrotherapist. TMI has a salon over near Nob Hill and can be reached at www.tmicolonics.com, where the home-page headline is "We really know our shit." Moving right along...

Mark your calendars for May 17, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., when Downtown Noe Valley merchants will have "Giant Sidewalk Sales" along 24th Street from Douglass to Dolores. Stores will be offering special treats and discounts, so it could be quite a parade.

Don't miss Noe Valley Pet Company's 15th anniversary celebration with champagne and cake, May 10, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the corner of Church and Cesar Chavez streets.

Congrats to Randall Kostick, the *Voice's* longtime friend in Noe Valley, who has gone big time. Kostick was recently appointed president of Zephyr Real Estate. He went from real estate agent in 1986 to partner in 2000 to general sales manager in 2006 to chief operating officer in 2009. Now he's at the top.

Spotted on southnoealley.nextdoor.com, "the private social network for neighbors in South Noe Valley," was an alert by a group member: "Our bantam frizzle chicken is missing. No sign of distress, no feathers, just gone. Her name is Toto." Toto was later found in the high brush... Not by Auntie Em.

As you Noe Valley chicken and dog walkers know, for the past few months somebody has been painting neighborhood fire hydrants in bright decorative colors, forcing the SFFD to repaint and

repair them at a cost of \$4,000 per. The "art" is a big-time safety issue, since the color distinguishes the type of hydrant firefighters can use. Keep a lookout for buckets.



OUR BAD: Regrettably, last month the print edition of Rumors mistakenly wrote that the corner building where St. Clair's Liquor resides would be part of a demolition and building project on 24th Street near Sanchez. No, no, no. The corner Victorian and St. Clair's store will remain untouched, and only the two stores next door will be demolished and the construction will come only after plans for a new residential/commercial building have been approved. Building co-owner Mousa Khouri estimates that will be sometime next spring.



BIG SMALL BUSINESS: Kudos to those who are being honored by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association in this year's Small Business Week Celebration: Justin K. Yip of Sea Breeze Cleaners (40 years in Noe Valley), Carol Yenne and Azia Bolos of Small Fry's (30 years), Christine Simmons of Terra Mia (20 years), Carol Robinson of Tax Managers (25 years), Donna and Kieran O'Leary of Ambiance (15 years), and *Noe Valley Voice* co-founder and reporter since 1977 Corrie M. Anders. The ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, starting a 6:30 p.m., at the Noe Valley Wells Fargo branch at 4045 24th St. Go and applaud!



THAT'S THIRTY: Happy Mother's Day. (Remember to send in those birth announcements: editor@noealleyvoice.com.) ■

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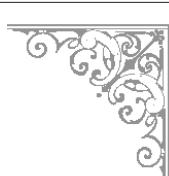


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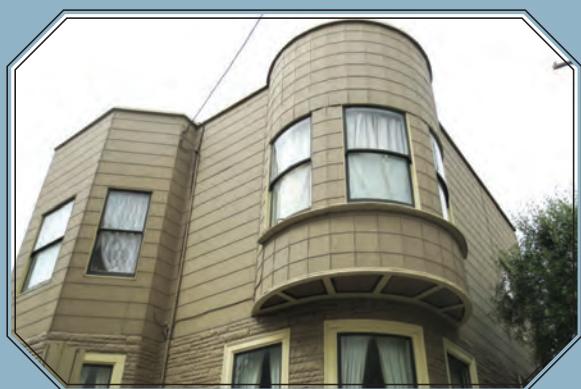
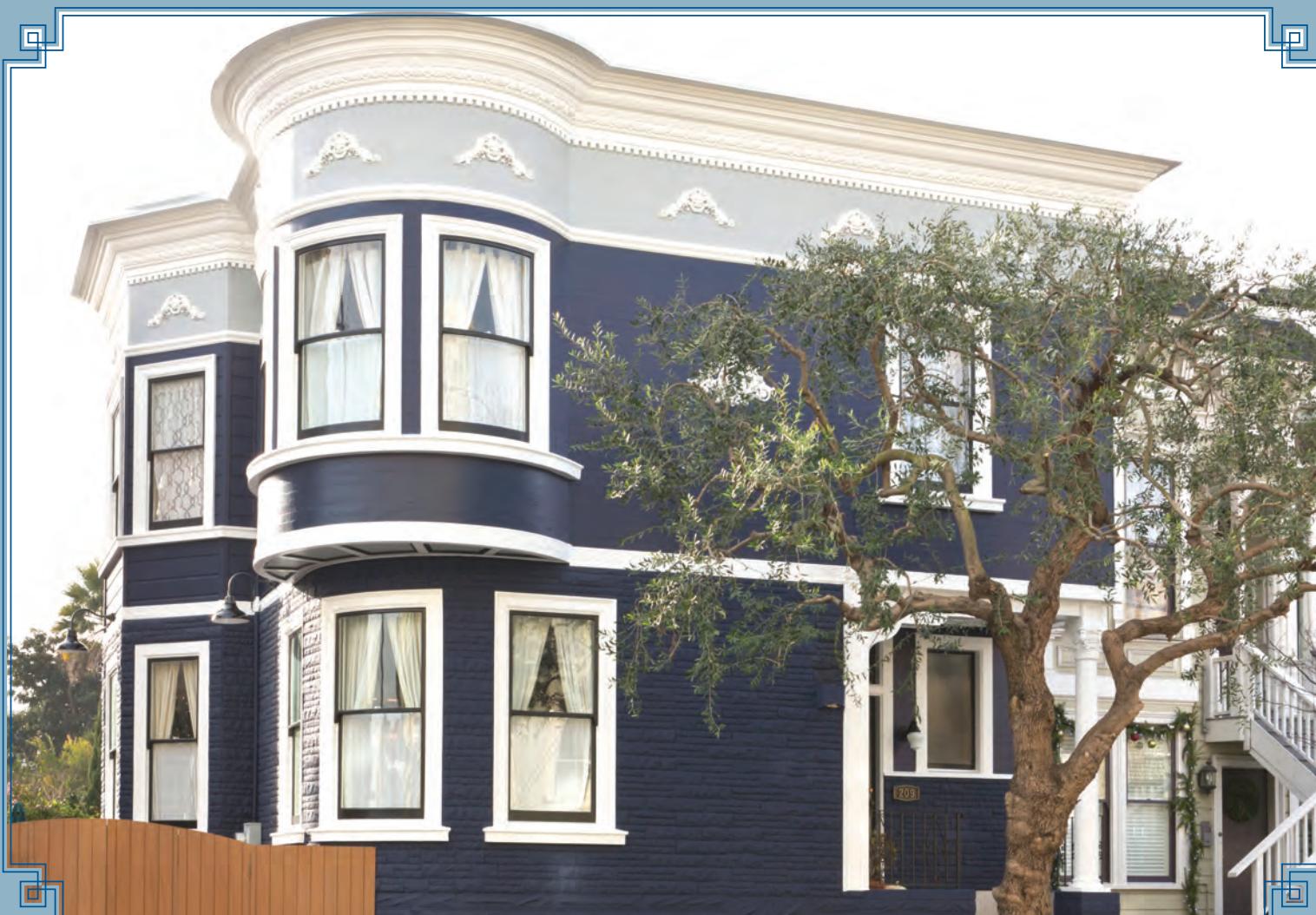


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Before the Teevan Restoration



Historical Image

Built in the early 1900's, this historic home had been subjected to the scourges of time and neglect. Original exterior details had been damaged, removed, and at some point - the classic redwood siding was covered with asbestos shingles.

Teevan was commissioned to restore the home to its original glory. Armed with a single black and white photograph taken in 1953, the Teevan team set out to recreate the original design using updated and more cost effective materials and techniques. Once restoration was complete, Teevan worked closely with the owners on the deep and dramatic exterior color palette, custom decorative architectural details and new exterior lighting.

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