



# THE POTRERO VIEW

JANUARY 2024

Serving the Potrero Hill, Dogpatch, Mission Bay and SOMA Neighborhoods Since 1970

FREE

## Franklin Square Park Gets a Pit Stop



Rendering of proposed 17th and Bryant streets building. IMAGE: Courtesy of Arcadis IBI Group

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

In November a staffed Pit Stop public toilet opened in Franklin Square Park. Friends of Franklin Square hope that the temporary toilet will ultimately be replaced with a permanent facility.

Franklin Square Park Pit Stop costs \$290,000 a year, paid by San Francisco Public Works. That covers staffing, unit rental, water, soap, hand towels, a used-needle receptacle, and dog waste station. The facility averages about 180 uses a week, according to Rachel Gordon, Public Works spokesperson.

Hunters Point Family provides staffing as part of a workforce development initiative. The nonprofit also offers programs relating to health and the

environment, youth enhancement and development, family and community.

“While we don’t have people staffing the toilets, we have a Public Works team that manages the Pit Stop program to ensure it is operating as expected,” said Gordon.

Franklin Square is one of 30 Pit Stops citywide, including 24-hour facilities at Mendell Plaza and 2500 Jennings Street. There are five Pit Stops in the Mission, two located near Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, two South-of-Market. Typically, Public Works relies on street-cleaning data to determine Pit Stop locations.

*PIT STOP continues on page 9*

## Three Generations of Community Activists: the Maxwell and Hatter Families

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

Enola D. “Miz” Maxwell, Sopenia “Sophie” Maxwell, and Edward Hatter are part of a generational line of civic advocates, which began with Enola’s arrival to Potrero Hill.

Enola was born on August 30, 1919, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She moved with her children, Barbara and Ronnie, to San Francisco in 1949, following her mother, Lena Carmena, who had a job at a laundromat. In 1950, she gave birth to Sophie.

Enola first resided in the Haight-Ashbury District, where she served on the Haight-Ashbury Neighborhood Council. Enola befriended Hill resident and fellow activist Ruth Passen – who would become the *View’s* publisher

– when both campaigned to stop construction of a freeway through Golden Gate Park.

Later, Enola moved to the Carolina Projects at 18th and Carolina streets. She earned a living as a house cleaner and then as a postal worker before attending divinity school at Dominican University in San Rafael.

By the mid-1960s, Enola was working with Lena at the Little Red Door, a thrift store operated by the Potrero Hill Olivet Presbyterian Church. The store was initially located at 1400 18th Street, now home to Christopher’s Books. In 1976 it relocated to 1426 18th Street, which today houses Le Marché Cezanne.

Peter Linenthal, director of the

*ACTIVISTS continues on page 8*

## New Buildings Attract New Residents to Area

BY CHAITANYA TONDEPU

Potrero Hill was mostly used as pastureland by European settlers during the 19th Century. The earthquake and fire of 1906 triggered mass migration into the community from adjacent neighborhoods, including South of Market, with newcomers establishing modest dwellings. As Dogpatch industrialized, the Hill’s population increased, with residents commuting to shipyard and canning companies.

The Great Depression and World War II led to another wave of immigrants to the Hill, drawn by employment along the Central Waterfront and development of what would become the Potrero Annex-Terrace public housing. The lower cost of living and proximity to Downtown attracted artists to the area.

The neighborhood emerged as a center of affordability for a diversity of residents.

Today, the Hill is no longer affordable. A one bedroom, one-bath apartment fetches an average \$3,100. The trend towards higher housing prices began during the Dotcom era of the 1990s and early 2000s, which brought a highly educated, well-paid demographic to the area. According to City Real Estate, the Hill is now home to roughly 14,000 people, with a median age of 35, the majority of whom are college-educated, earning a median salary of more than \$100,000 a year.

With 5,700 people per square mile, the area is significantly less dense than the citywide average of 18,700 people per square mile. The availability of former industrial land has induced a plethora

*NEW BUILDINGS continues on page 9*



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PUBLISHER'S VIEW

Charity

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

One of my dominant childhood memories is of my father's constant quest to get something for nothing. He'd pile my three sisters, my mom and me into our station wagon and troll the streets for shopping center and bank openings offering free cookies, balloons, and plastic key chains. I'd eaten hundreds of those flower-shaped shortbread cookies with cherry-flavored jelly in the middle – the kind you only find at low-end receptions or bakery outlet stores – by the time I was ten.

My father's pursuits were made possible by the incredible bounty of free things our society spits out. Every minute of every day, somewhere in the United States, someone is giving away a complimentary cup, flashlight, calendar, or food item at a conference, "grand opening," or street festival. For a while I followed in my father's footsteps, compulsively elbowing my way to the table of free snacks at Costco or Trader Joes, downing foul tasting samples of new beverages simply because they were gratis. At one point I had two shoe boxes packed full of tiny bottles of lotions, shampoos, and conditioners collected from various hotels I'd stayed at.

My wife, Debbie, put an end to my inherited hobby, by insisting I unload

my boxes of potions and lotions, or at least get them out of the house. I resisted at first, but then decided to distribute my collection during my travels to less-wealthy countries. Whenever someone on the street asked me for money in Peru or India, I handed them a bottle of liquid soap. I'd usually get a smile in exchange, though one Nepalese woman demanded what use conditioner would be to her.

Recently I've been traveling to Niger, one of the planet's poorest countries. I asked my father if he could give me some of the pens he'd been collecting to dispense, a request he took as a challenge to re-double his efforts to score freebies.

Each afternoon in Niamey, Niger's capital city, after a late lunch of take-out food eaten in my room, I'd take a stroll around the hotel, carrying a Walgreen's canvas bag of logoed pens collected by my father over a lifetime – I recognized a pen that I'd seen as a child, carrying the name of a bank that no longer exists – and a few Halloween candies stolen from my daughter, Sara's, stash. The pens were soaked up like water in the desert: shop keepers, children, and beggars of all stripes were delighted to

PUBLISHER'S VIEW continues on page 4

SHORT CUTS

Political Fallout

Farley's has been a Potrero Hill small business stalwart for coming up on 35 years, fostering community by sponsoring an annual Halloween pet parade, inviting artists and musicians to share their craft, and creating a homey place for families and friends to enjoy a cuppa and a snack. It has a newsstand! Which made it one of the most unlikely establishments to become the center of accusations of antisemitism at its Farley's East location, fostered by a graffiti-strewn bathroom and weirdly tone-deaf staff, who were filmed acting badly...Farley's has historically taken a laid-back approach to bathroom scrawls, which may have lulled the café's owners into a false quiescence about the ugly nature of the messages. Once made aware, however, that the graffiti was part of a staff-driven political propaganda effort, they promptly, publicly, and persuasively apologized, and discharged the offending individuals... Employees have a right to their opinions, but not to hijack their employers' shop in service of asserting them. Small enterprises mostly just want to do what they're in business to do: sell coffee or the like. Farley's has gone out of its way to nurture neighborliness. Keep community in their cup.

Money Missing

The San Francisco-Marin Food Bank is behind on its 2023 fundraising goals by about one-third, in the face of what appears to be increasing need. A recent survey of 9,000 Food Bank participants found that 61 percent couldn't cover a \$400 emergency ex-

pense, 83 percent worry about running out of food, and 54 percent have had to buy less fare because of rising grocery prices. Meanwhile, as reported in the August View, public sector funding is diminishing. The Food Bank serves, and wants to continue to serve, 50,000 families every week.

Minnesota Mired

A Potrero Hill resident contends that a proposed permit for 945 Minnesota Street doesn't comply with the San Francisco Planning Code, further delaying progress to renovate the structure (see "Minnesota Street Building Blight," December). Construction that started in 2019 stalled because the owner went beyond the scope of their permit, was forced to stop, and is still working to bring the building into compliance, while also paying Department of Building Inspection enforcement fees for the unpermitted work. According to the Hill resident, there should be a minimum of 33 feet of rear yard setback/mid-block open space. The Planning Department counters that the minimum rear yard depth should be 25 percent of the lot's total depth, or 15 feet, whichever is greater, because the property aligns with a rear building wall. The Historic Preservation Commission will make the final call on who's right, but only if the property owners pay their outstanding bills.

Bridge to Nowhere

The Islais Creek Bridge, a 73-year-old drawbridge on Third Street, con-

SHORT CUTS continues on page 4

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# A Study Abroad that Disrupted My Sense of Self

BY SARA MOSS

I knew going into the SIT Study Abroad program in South Africa last fall that I'd be one of two white undergraduates in a group of less than a dozen students, each of whom came from a different American university. I took no issue with being a minority, rather seeing it as a learning opportunity. I was prepared to be uncomfortable. What I didn't expect was how my experiences in the program would lead me to deeply question my own identity. And not in a good way.

"Multiculturalism and Human Rights" focused on examining the complex multiple identities that have shaped South Africa and continue to do so. I entered the program with a strong sense of personal identity. I felt that I largely knew who I was. Over the course of almost four months, though, the experiences I had challenged my sense of self. Over time, I almost lost myself entirely.

In early interactions with my African American classmates, they'd express something along the lines of "I'm not normally friends with white

people" or "I hate white people and I hate interacting with them." I believed this attitude had very little to do with me and was more the result of the context in which they lived, and their learned understanding of the history of oppression white colonists had imposed on other races. I took what my classmates said as something with which they'd spent years struggling. Confronting the apartheid system in South Africa brought wounds up that maybe they'd never really dealt with.

When I was fresh to the program, I talked about my Jewish identity, to share my own experiences, just like my classmates were doing. It became clear pretty quickly that the other students didn't appreciate my talking about my Jewish character, which included attending Jewish middle and high schools, and being the granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor, at least not without intimately tying it to colonialism. When I asked my fellow students about their largely negative and uniform reactions, they told me that they felt that the way I was talking about my Jewish identity made them feel like I was diminishing their own identities and experiences.

I was shocked. I'd never been in a position in which my expression of being Jewish was seen as a way to tear down others. It was not my intention to make anyone feel less than. In response to the consistent and universal efforts to shut me down, I removed myself. I took my identity and placed it in a box. I stopped letting myself be myself. Over time, I started walking in the world differently. I became ashamed of my own identity and questioned who I was. I became angry at myself, at my classmates, at colonialism, and at the racial divides that seemed so intractable. Mostly at myself, though.

As the war started between Hamas and Israel, I began to feel more and more alone. My Jewish identity was increasingly weaponized in conversations with my classmates and over social media, especially TikTok, as the conflict accelerated. There was no one to turn to convey my emotions. When I tried to talk about my feelings with my classmates, they told me I was being selfish. My Jewish friends back home were too far away for me to reach out to them. I noticed myself losing myself.

It wasn't until I met up with other South African Jews that I fully realized what was happening. I went to a family friend's house for Shabbat (Sabbath) dinner and told them about my experiences. We talked about the different South African host families I'd stayed with, who included an elderly couple in a Black township, a large family in a

rural village without indoor plumbing, and a Muslim household in Cape Town. Though they each exhibited strong attitudes about different races, all of them welcomed me in whatever ways their culture allowed. They never questioned my Judaism or made me feel as though it was something to hide.

My feelings of isolation had come mostly from my interactions with my classmates rather than the South Africans I'd been living with. The family I was having Shabbat dinner with were shocked and confused. It wasn't until that moment, seeing my hurt reflected in their faces, that I realized the damage I was doing to myself.

Maybe the comments my classmates made were harmless and constructive. But they deeply stung me. They became my narrative, whether I realized it or not. This is not the way to heal racial divides. Quite the opposite; it leads to one group asserting dominance over another, essentially a repeat of toxic historical cycles. Yet it seems to be the dominant way in which young Americans, whether "woke" or conservative, Black, or white, are interacting with one another, in person, or on social media: my reality is your reality. It's the only reality that exists.

*Sara Moss, who grew up on Potrero Hill until she was eight years old, received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in Environmental Policy from the University of Puget Sound last month.*

## HANDY NUMBERS

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State Senator Scott Weiner	415.557.1300

## GETTING INVOLVED



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New year, new board - sign up for the Green Benefit District board elections begins in January. Contact [info@greenbenefit.org](mailto:info@greenbenefit.org) for more information. Interested in other ways to support the GBD? Volunteer with us at [greenbenefit.org/volunteer](http://greenbenefit.org/volunteer). Not familiar with the GBD? Check out our latest annual report at [greenbenefit.org/reports](http://greenbenefit.org/reports).

### The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association | [potreroboosters.org](http://potreroboosters.org)

The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association informs, empowers and represents the residents of the Potrero on issues impacting our community in order to develop and maintain complete, vibrant neighborhoods. We're continuing to **meet via Zoom** on the last Tuesday of each month. Go to [www.potreroboosters.org](http://www.potreroboosters.org) to learn more about how to join us!

### The Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association | [potrerodogpatch.com](http://potrerodogpatch.com)

The Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association promotes and advocates for independent, locally owned businesses while actively supporting our neighborhood and our wonderful communities.

### PREFund | [prefund.org](http://prefund.org)

PREFund brings neighbors together to support education and build community. We are accepting new members to our Community Advisory Board this Fall! Learn more [prefund.org/volunteer](http://prefund.org/volunteer)

### Starr King Open Space | [StarrKingOpenSpace.org](http://StarrKingOpenSpace.org)

Please join our monthly **volunteer days** on the second Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This month it is January 13th.

If you can, please **donate** to help keep Starr King Open Space open, accessible, and well-maintained for our neighbors. [StarrKingOpenSpace.org](http://StarrKingOpenSpace.org)

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# Elections to be Held in March

On March 5, 2024, San Francisco voters will be asked to decide whether to remove two Superior Court judges from the bench, elect generally behind-the-scenes but influential Democratic (and Republican) party officials, and weigh in on proposals to combat drug addiction and manage the police department, among other contentious issues. Below is an early taste of what's at stake, a sneak peek at voters' future homework assignments.

## Proposition A: Affordable Housing Bond

Local elected officials widely support issuing a \$300 million general obligation bond to subsidize affordable residences. The bulk of the taxpayer funds — \$240 million — would go towards helping to finance 1,500 units already in the housing pipeline. Another \$30 million would be dedicated to preserving aging sites, accounting for more than 60 units, with the last \$30 million investing in adding 120 supportive housing beds for domestic violence survivors. A few hundred million doesn't buy much housing in San Francisco. The bond needs to be approved by two-thirds of voters.

## Proposition B: Police Officer Staffing Conditioned on Future Funding

Supervisor Matt Dorsey drafted a measure to mandate new police hiring and retention. Supervisor and mayoral candidate, Ahsha Safaí, amended it to condition increased hiring on new funding, most likely a tax. Dorsey and the present mayor argue that the City should staff the police department with existing funds. Safaí and organized labor counter that the proposition could

help boost public safety hiring, not just police. Ultimately, the measure is mostly atmospheric, as it'd only produce something tangible if a funding mechanism is separately adopted.

## Proposition C: Real Estate Transfer Tax Exemption and Office Space Allocation

This measure would waive the tax for transferring properties from office to residential uses, as a means to avoid the dreaded "doom loop," and contribute to revitalizing Downtown.

## Proposition D: Changes to Local Ethics Laws

Sponsored by the Ethics Commission, this measure would reform conflict-of-interest laws to place more explicit prohibitions on gifts to public officials, and mandate more ethics training, since officials apparently are insufficiently educated on the topic, as evidenced by recent scandals.

## Proposition E: Police Department Policies and Procedures

This measure would allow police to install security cameras on public property and use drones to monitor certain crimes, expedite reporting procedures for officers' use of force, and require the Police Commission to gather more feedback from the public.

## Proposition F: Illegal Substance Dependence Screening and Treatment for Recipients of Public Assistance

This measure would require people receiving county welfare who are suspected of being addicted to illegal drugs to undergo testing and obtain treatment.

## Proposition G: Offering Algebra 1 to Eighth Graders

This nonbinding statement urges the San Francisco Unified School District to offer Algebra 1 to students by the eighth grade. The district already plans to undo its 2014 policy, which removed the course from middle schools, mostly for equity reasons, but was met with outrage from those who thought their eighth grader should be able to continue to advance in math if that's what they wanted to do. This measure gives voters a chance to wield their ballot pencils in support of reform of the reform.

## County Central Committees

The Democratic County Central Committee is the governing board of the San Francisco Democratic Party and—in addition to making influential endorsements—is perceived as a farm team for future candidates. Moderate Democrats want to take control of the committee, which has historically been

captured by "progressives," proffering a 24-person slate that includes Board of Supervisor candidates Trevor Chandler and Marjan Philhour. There's also a push by the Briones Society, which describes itself as a "center-right" Republican group, to elect a slate to the Republican County Central Committee. Yes, there are Republicans in San Francisco.

## Local Offices: Superior Court Judge, Seats 1 and 13

Superior Court judges are often appointed by the governor but must stand for election during their terms if another lawyer runs against them. With frustrations over vehicle break-ins and errant street behavior running high, two incumbent judges are being challenged. Michael Begert, who occupies Seat 1, is facing corporate lawyer Albert "Chip" Zecher. Patrick Thompson, who holds Seat 13, is up against prosecutor Jean Myungjin Roland.

## PUBLISHER'S VIEW from page 2

receive them. One twenty-something woman in a cycle wheelchair, with baby strapped to her back and young girl at her side, chased me half-way down the hotel's entry-boulevard, only to beam a thousand-watt smile after receiving two plastic pens.

Everyone was happy with the pen distribution; everyone, but the street boys. These urchins, who ranged in age from perhaps seven to ten, complained if their pen was too plain, and always aggressively demanded more "bics."

One afternoon I packed my bag as usual and headed into the dusty streets. I was quickly approached by one of the more dogged boys, who'd glued himself to my side a few days previously in an attempt to score multiple pens. This time I quickly gave him a pen and a tootsie roll; after which I was immediately swarmed by a dozen boys, most dressed in rags, jumping, grabbing, yelling for pens. I tried passing them out, but soon I was overwhelmed, said "enough," and walked away.

Followed by three of the boys. "Can I have a pen? Give me a pen? Can I have a pen? I didn't get a pen," the most aggressive pen worshiper chanted "Just us three need a pen; we didn't get a pen," he repeated, even after one of his friends mistakenly flashed two of the pens he'd received a few moments ago.

"No," I responded, "it is finished." I ducked into a pharmacy. They were there when I left. I walked into a crowded street market, hoping they wouldn't follow me. But they did. "Can I have a pen? Give me a pen? Can I have a pen? I didn't get a pen."

Finally, I could take it no more. I spotted a man, sitting in an empty market stall, fingering his prayer beads. I motioned him over to me. "Here," I said, and emptied the entire contents of the bag into his willing hands; perhaps two dozen pens of various designs, along with an equal number of candies. He looked like he'd just received a handful of gold and thanked me profusely. I dramatically shook out the bag, indicating it was completely empty, and walked away. The boys did not follow.

I felt liberated, ecstatic, and guilty all at once. What lesson had I taught them? That they should be polite? That the penniless children weren't worth a few extra pens? And the man with the

prayer beads, my own personal marabou, what of him?

I walked back to the hotel, exhausted. I laid down on the flimsy foam mattress. As I closed my eyes I saw them, there, next to my suitcase: more pens. Dozens more pens.

*This essay was first published in the January 2008 View.*

## SHORT CUTS from page 2

nects Dogpatch in the north to Bayview in the south. Muni's T-Third Street light rail line runs down the bridge's center. The span needs to be renovated; the **California Department of Transportation** has identified structural deterioration and other troubling issues. But a forthcoming \$60 million project to replace the aging bridge would sever a main thoroughfare connecting Bayview to the rest of San Francisco and halt light rail service in the historically underserved neighborhood for up to two years, with potentially devastating economic consequences to the tattered Bayview commercial district. The plan is to demolish the existing structure and replace it with a fixed-span bridge with a center 26-foot-wide dedicated light-rail transit lane, four lanes for vehicles, two for pedestrian traffic. While work is being done cars, buses, bicycles, and pedestrians would be detoured around Third Street to surrounding routes, with light rail temporarily replaced by bus shuttle service. Construction could start as soon as spring 2025. A **Planning Commission** hearing on the project is scheduled for January 4.

## No Visa

Following a February 2023 "Publisher's View" titled "Privilege," Voice of America aired a news feature outlining systematic racism associated with the U.S. State Department's student visa process. International students who want to study at a school in the U.S. must apply for an F-1 visa, allowing them to live in the states while studying. A July 2023 report from an alliance of higher education leaders found, however, that African students are denied visas at a higher rate than those from other continents, Report: F-1 Visa Denial Rate Highest for African Students (voanews.com)

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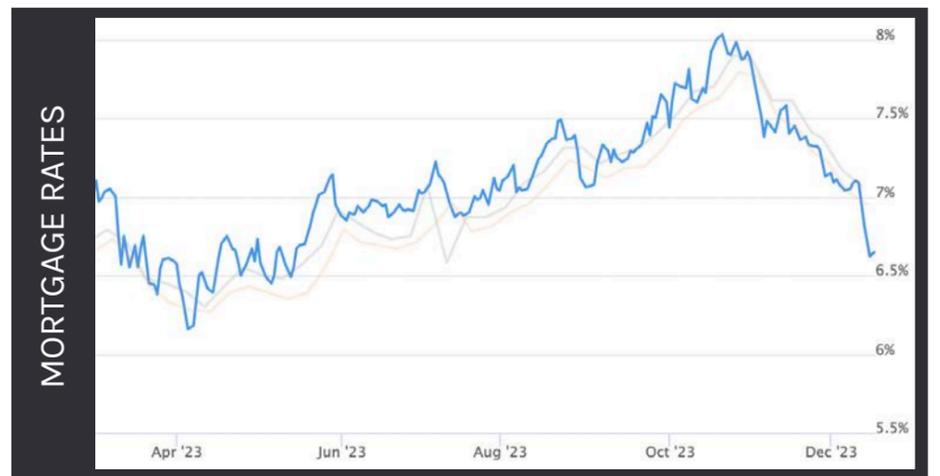
Potrero Hill Market Data from 1/1/2023 - 12/18/2023

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SINGLE FAMILY	<b>\$2,300,000</b>			
2-4 MULTI UNIT	<b>\$1,800,000</b>			
CONDO*	<b>\$1,200,000</b>			
TIC	<b>\$810,000</b>	<b>MOST EXPENSIVE SINGLE FAMILY SELLING PRICE</b>	<b>MOST EXPENSIVE CONDO SELLING PRICE</b>	<b>MOST COMPETITIVE HOME RECEIVED OFFERS</b>
		<b>\$7.675M</b>	<b>\$3.6M</b>	<b>15 OFFERS</b>

\*excluding Below Market Rate (BMR) units

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2023	29	48
	SINGLE FAMILY	CONDO
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**Travel: Happy Hour**  
Meet like-minded people and swap stories! Under 30 Experiences and Over 30 Experiences are a community of people who want to see the world. All are welcome, regardless of age or travel background. Attendees interested in booking a future trip with the group can learn more from event hosts. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Asiento, 2730 12th Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/47ZVRD6>

## 11 thur

**Martin Luther King Day: Day of Service**  
Commemorate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. Participate in community sharing and an act of service. Food will be served. 3 to 5 p.m. Hope SF Potrero Hill Community Wellness Center, 1700 25th Street. For more information, contact Michelle Daniels at 628.217.522

## 13 sat

**Comedy: Imaginary Friends**  
Victory Hall-arity’s Comedic Relief will be a gathering of talented local comedians. Enjoy the show while feasting on chicken and waffles from Little Skillet. 8 to 9:30 p.m. Free (donations welcome). Victory Hall and Parlor, 360 Ritch Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3GQSFxs>

## 16 tues

**Food: Chef Pop-up**  
Institute of Contemporary Art shares

its space with local food and beverage popups to support small businesses and build community. This popup features Clandestina Cocina’s Cuban soul food with Chef Lilian Duran. Curatorial exhibition tours begin at 6 p.m. Open to all with special perks for 901 Club members, learn more at <https://bit.ly/48DJtJ1>, including a complimentary menu item and drinks. Food and drinks are available for purchase while supplies last. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3v2GiMe>

## 17 wed

**Art: Art Battle, San Francisco**  
Be a part of the electrifying energy as skilled artists engage in a high-speed showdown, flinging paint with every stroke. Cast your vote and crown the champion in three pulse-pounding rounds. As the night unfolds snag a one-of-a-kind masterpiece; every piece created goes up for auction. 7 to 11 p.m. \$20 to \$25. The Great Northern, 119 Utah Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3Ryyeuu>

## 18 thur

**Art: Introduction to Letterpress**  
Learn the rich history and engaging techniques of letterpress printing. This class introduces the process, materials, machines, and satisfaction of printing by hand on a Cylinder proof press. Participants will learn the basics of setting type using San Francisco Center for the Book’s vast collection of lead type and decorative ornaments, as well as inking, locking up and pulling a print. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$80. All materials provided. San Francisco Center for the Book, 375 Rhode Island Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/48IIEdV>

**1/19 Friday through 2/3 Saturday Comedy: SF Sketchfest**  
With more than 600 comedic talents performing throughout the Bay Area, this festival features major comedy stars and up-and-comers from around the world for nonstop entertainment, including sketch, standup, alternative comedy, music, improv, films, tributes, live podcasts, storytelling, family shows, workshops, and panels. For more information on events hosted at Brava Theater Center: <https://bit.ly/3RKDb4o>

## 20 sat

**Gardening: Grow Your Own Food**  
Learn to take full advantage of San Francisco’s unique climate and grow fruits and vegetables year-round. Join the Garden throughout the seasons for Grow Your Own Food workshops. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$25 to \$50. Garden for the Environment, 1590 Seventh Avenue. For more information and to reserve your space (no walk-up registration permitted): <https://bit.ly/3tdPG6K>

## 21 sun

**Art: Redbrick Ceramic Studio Sunday**  
Hands on clay workshops taught by artist members. Step-by-step instruction. 1 to 3 p.m. \$20. Red Brick Ceramic Studio, 2111 Mission Street, third floor. For more information: <https://bit.ly/48bSsRk>

**1/22 Monday through 3/7 Thursday Education: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Winter Session 2024**  
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at San Francisco State University is a community of peers

age 50 and up engaged in learning through classes, interest groups and events. OLLI’s six-week Winter session courses include topics such as The Manhattan Project, San Francisco crime short stories, the history of the public library, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and more. Online and in-person courses offered. \$125. Annual membership (\$55) required. In-person courses are held at OLLI SF State, 160 Spear Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3RtMDI6>

## 24 wed

**Art: Pay What You Can**  
Every Wednesday visitors can pay what they wish for admission. “Designing Peace,” on view through February 24, 2024, explores the unique role design can play in pursuing peace. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Museum of Craft and Design, 2569 Third Street. For more information: <https://sfmcd.org>



An autonomous Waymo car drives by a parking lot of recently suspended Cruise vehicles at the northeast corner of 17th and Pennsylvania. Last month Cruise laid off 900 workers. PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II

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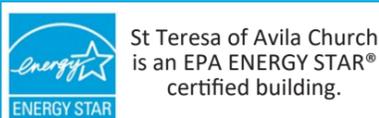
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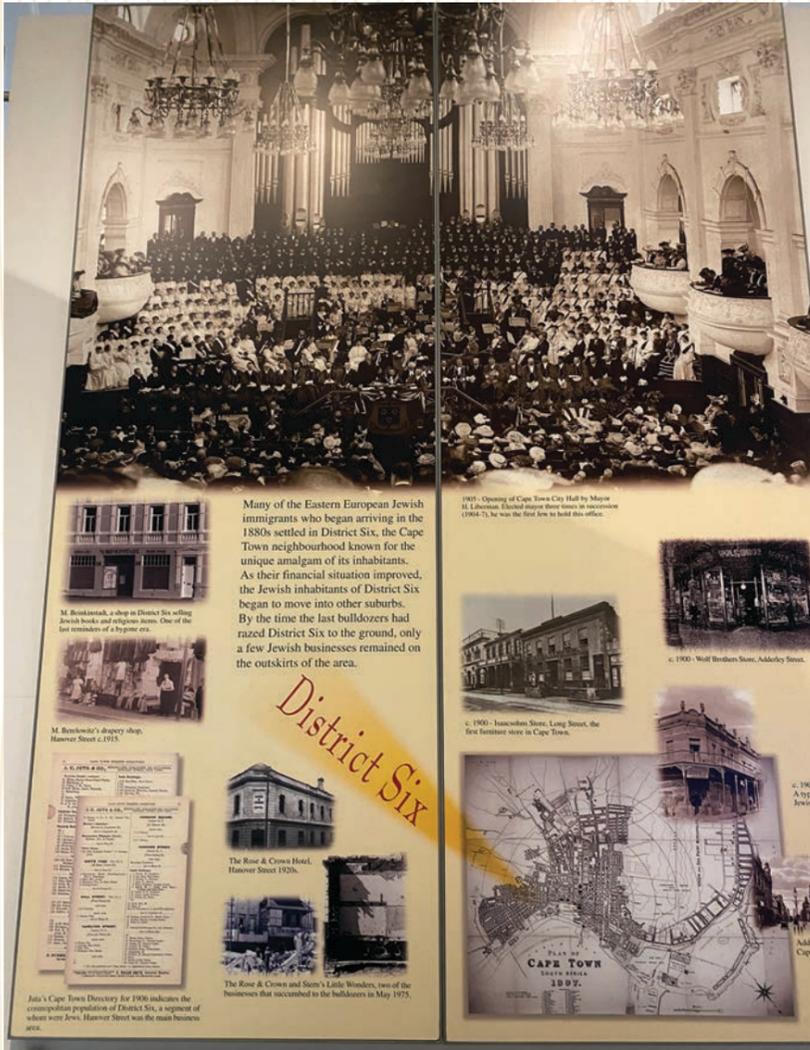
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# Redevelopment in Cape Town and San Francisco Relocated Blacks



The federal 1949 Housing Act authorized demolition and reconstruction of urban neighborhoods that were considered slums. Under the legislation, "redevelopment" targeted low income and non-white neighborhoods. In the 1960s, with its old Victorian houses and mostly Black population, the Fillmore became the focus of San Francisco's urban renewal. Jazz clubs were shuttered. Businesses torn down. Two-lane Geary Street turned into a giant expressway, Geary Boulevard, slicing into the community's heart. Residents were forced from their homes, often without much warning or adequate compensation. In the 1963 documentary, *Take This Hammer*, James Baldwin stated that redevelopment was "removal of Negroes." Fillmore was ground zero for one of the West Coast's largest urban renewal projects, impacting nearly 20,000 people. By the time new housing and storefronts were completed in the 1980s, most former Fillmore residents couldn't afford to move back...Redevelopment in the Fillmore and other American communities was part of a worldwide movement with racist underpinnings. While San Francisco was

moving Blacks from their homes, so too was the City of Capetown, South Africa, forcing Blacks from "District 6" to Langa, a segregated township. These actions continue to reverberate to the present, with many families and their heirs dislocated from San Francisco and District 6 struggling to recreate a thriving home for themselves. The Fillmore itself has never fully recovered from efforts to "improve" it. PHOTO: Steven Moss

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**ACTIVISTS** from front page

Potrero Hill Archives Project, later bought the 1400 18th Street building.

"Enola was a very nice, welcoming, and warm woman. She was also folksy and direct, and very effective at getting things done," said Linenthal.

While attending Dominican Enola was assigned to the Potrero Hill Olivet Presbyterian Church, a house of worship she began attending in 1968, becoming its first woman and Black minister. She graduated from Dominican in 1970 and remained a minister at the church until 1971.

During her time as minister Enola set up a coffee shop in the church basement as part of a new program, Street Ministries. All comers were invited to enjoy music and discussion. Enola also served as a spiritual advisor to the Black Panther Party and got involved in the City's civil rights movement.

Enola had been an insurance agent in Baton Rouge, a job she wasn't able to secure in San Francisco, possibly due to racial discrimination. After she'd saved enough for a down payment on a house, she found that no real estate agent would sell her one on the Hill. She bought a home on Harrison Street instead.

In 1972, Al and Jerrie Meadows, as well as other Potrero Hill Neighborhood House board members, asked Enola to become the nonprofit's executive director. The "Nabe," located on De Haro Street, offered programs for children, families, and seniors. Enola became its first Black director, serving in that position until 2003, a year before she died.

"Enola was the "grande dame" who knew everyone, all the movers and the shakers," said Edward Hatter, the Nabe's current executive director and Enola's grandson. "When Willie Brown

was mayor, between 1996 and 2004, she could call on him at the drop of a hat. She was always pulling plugs and calling in favors to get resources for the Nabe and people on the Hill."

Gordon Chin, who launched the Chinatown Community Development Center (Chinatown CDC) in 1977, and served as its director until 2011, fought for decades alongside Enola for affordable housing. Chin said it was hard to say "no" to her.

"Enola spoke with a forceful but quiet demeanor. People listened when she spoke. They paid attention when she spoke about Potrero Hill," said Chin.

Brenda Berlin co-founded The Julian Theatre in 1965 with her then husband Richard Reineccius, as well as Doug Giebel and other San Francisco State University graduates. The group was invited to become the theatre-in-residence at the Nabe, where it went on to produce more than 200 plays, including new works, political plays, and plays for children. After Enola became the Nabe's director, she continued to welcome The Julian Theatre for close to two decades.

"She was very excited about the multicultural aspects of what we were doing. We welcomed children from the community to see our shows and had a diverse group of actors. She was also impressed that we fought for funding for neighborhood arts programs, which included theaters' presence in City neighborhoods, including the Hill," said Berlin.

In 1986 Enola helped found the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration Committee. The nonprofit continues to sponsor events that raise awareness about Dr. King and promote peace.

In 2001, the San Francisco Unified

School District renamed the Potrero Hill Middle School at 655 De Haro Street the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts. The campus is located on the site of the former Carolina Projects where Enola was a resident. Since 2017, it's been home to San Francisco International High School, which serves recent immigrants.

In the late-1990s, Sophie Maxwell, Enola's younger daughter, was living in Bayview, working as an electrician for Amtrak. She joined San Francisco's redevelopment project area committee, which provided community input on revitalization activities. After the committee elected her chair, U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and then-U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer encouraged her to deepen her political engagement.

"In 2000, she initiated her run for supervisor, inspired partly by the progress Enola had made. Everyone in the neighborhood, including Enola, got behind her," said Hatter.

Sophie Maxwell defeated City Planning Commissioner Linda Fadeke Richardson, who had been supported by then-Mayor Willie Brown.

"At the time District 10 was vast, running from the Hill down to Sunnysdale. It was experiencing the crack epidemic. There were a lot of handshake deals. Sophie learned to push for what residents wanted without offending anyone. That's what got her recognized Downtown," said Hatter.

Sophie worked to shut down the Hunters Point and the Potrero power plants, which closed in 2006 and 2011 respectively.

Philip De Andrade, who chaired the Potrero Power Plant Citizens Advisory Task Force in the early 2000s, said So-

phie's office was an essential part of the process of shuttering the Potrero plant.

"Ruth Passen and Enola were the conscience of Potrero Hill. Sophie continued that tradition," said De Andrade.

"Sophie also got tour buses that had operated in the San Francisco Wholesale Produce Market shut down. She did a lot of work to learn about and improve living conditions at the Potrero Hill Annex and Terrace," said Hatter.

Sophie's first term was two years because the City had changed from at-large to district elections. She ran unopposed in 2002. In 2006, she beat out six other candidates to be reelected.

"We worked very closely together on so many issues, from transportation and open space to affordable housing. Despite having residents of different ethnic backgrounds, the Potrero Hill and Chinatown communities saw eye to eye in so many ways," said Chin.

After Sophie termed out of office in 2011, she joined the board of the San Francisco Information Clearinghouse (SFIC), a nonprofit that oversees the Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO). CCHO, also known as "Choo Choo," is composed of 22 community-based housing developers and tenant advocates.

"Sophie and I have served on the SFIC board for many years. She has brought so much to the table, including her patience, knowledge of City politics, and advocacy for underserved communities. No one ever took anything she said personally because of the way she spoke. Whether you agree with Sophie or not, you come away respecting her," said Chin.

*This is the first part of a two-part article.*



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**PIT STOP** from front page

The Franklin Square Park Pit Stop was instituted as a result of advocacy by local residents and park users, who lobbied District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen.

“Given the area’s high volume of constituent activity, between constant soccer practices and games, youth activities, and families with little ones that play in the park, this well-loved community space has long been in need of a bathroom, with no service of this kind in the vicinity until now,” said Jennifer Ferrigno, legislative aide for Supervisor Ronen.

The Pit Stop is sited in a parking lot next to 300 Hampshire Street. It’s staffed daily between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Current plans are to field it until June 30, 2024, though its duty may be extended depending on the availability of funding.

“We have heard anecdotally from neighbors that the Pit Stop is very much appreciated,” said Ferrigno.

We understand “...that it’s impacted the park in a positive way; parkgoers are appreciative,” said Tamara Aparton, San Francisco Recreation & Parks spokesperson.

Jolene Yee, head of Friends of Franklin Square, said the organization met with Supervisor Ronen’s office to discuss the need for a bathroom last February.

“We’re really pleased because Sup. Ronen’s office said they were committed to getting a Pit Stop at Franklin Square this year. They made good on their promise,” said Yee.

“My daughter Lily, who is 10, plays soccer. This Pit Stop gives the kids in the neighborhood a place to play and feel safe. Also, before the Pit Stop was there, there was a strong urine smell in the park,” said San Francisco resident Matthew Young.

Yee and Young added that they appreciated that Pit Stop staff act as an “extra set of eyes and ears” keeping watch at the park.

“Our experience over the years has been that the Pit Stops have brought positive impacts to their locations with the staff on the ground. We have many cases of them calling for medical assistance, assisting law enforcement, and providing information to tourists,” said Gordon.

Residents and park users hope that the Pit Stop’s popularity will encourage establishment of permanent public bathrooms near the park.

“Local residents and members of Friends of Franklin Square joined the Potrero Yard Neighborhood Working Group to share input regarding the need for public bathrooms with San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority. SFMTA is developing the Potrero Yard Modernization Project, an affordable housing complex and bus repair yard across 17th Street from Franklin Square Park,” said Yee.

The Yard will consist of a three-story bus storage and maintenance transit facility, replacing SFMTA’s existing two-story depot, and accommodating electric vehicles. It’ll have up to 513 affordable residences, a mix of studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom units, designed for seniors, families, and transportation workers.

The Yard will include such amenities as laundry facilities, community rooms and retail shops. Last year SFMTA named Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC) as lead developer. PNC is led by Plenary Americas, an international infrastructure developer. SFMTA

met with neighborhood groups to craft the Yard’s design, including businesses on Hampshire Street, the Dogpatch/Potrero Boosters Joint Livable Streets Committee, and the Potrero Boosters Design and Development Committee.

Two restrooms are planned at the Potrero Yard. One will be a public facility located at Bryant and 17th streets, near Franklin Square Park. The restroom is a community requested public benefit developed due to Friends of Franklin Square and community member input.

The second will be in a retail space at the corner of Hampshire and 17th streets.

“It has not been decided what type of retail will be located there, but ideas like a coffee shop or café have been suggested. The retailer will have a restroom for customers,” said Stephen Chun, SFMTA spokesperson.

Chun said SFMTA will implement pedestrian safety measures between Franklin Square and the Potrero Yard, with planned bulb-outs, or curb extensions, which extend the sidewalk into the parking lane to narrow the roadway and reduce street crossing distances. SFMTA will also update crosswalks, including a proposed raised crosswalk, and directional curb ramps.

“These improvements will benefit those traveling between the Yard and the park, especially families using the public restroom and other amenities (at the Yard),” said Chun.

**NEW BUILDINGS** from front page

of market-rate residential construction over the last decade to accommodate demand from techies and those working at the Mission Bay health care hub. The *View* spoke to several residents who reside in recently erected buildings about their backgrounds and the area’s appeal.

It’s been a year since Prachi Kulkarni, a product manager in her late-20s, first moved to Avalon at Mission Bay from Chicago.

“I also looked at apartments such as The Gateway, NEMA, 500 Folsom, 33 Tehama, Modera Rincon Hill, Trinity Apartments, and AVA Nob Hill,” said Kulkarni. “The deal breakers with those apartments were that they were either too expensive for the unit size or the neighborhood they were in didn’t seem very safe and walkable. I chose to continue staying at the Avalon because it was the most spacious studio I found within my budget, and I really liked the amenities. I also liked the convenience of having grocery stores, spas, workout places, within walkable distance of the apartment, and how safe and walkable the area is.”

“I usually see people in the late 20s to early 40s age range in my community,” Kulkarni continued, who fits into this demographic. “A lot of residents seem to be younger working professionals, some with kids in the two-to-four-year age range. In terms of ethnicities, I have primarily seen residents who are white or Asian.”

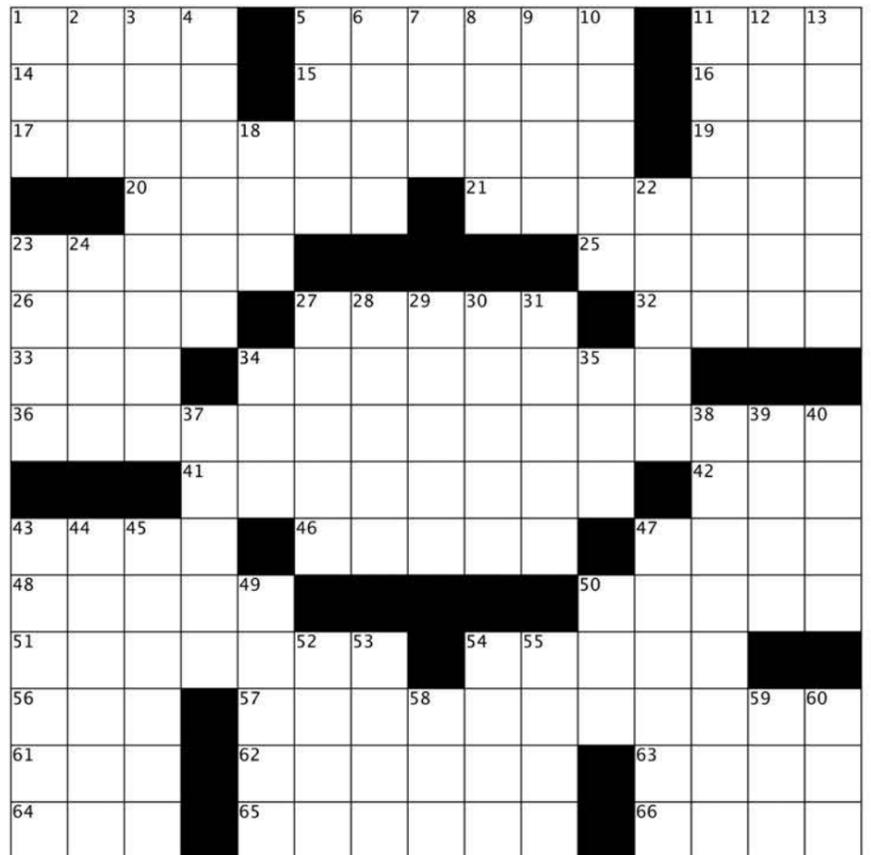
Ryan Findling toured almost a dozen places before finding the Madelon, a six-story, Class A, apartment building constructed four years ago in Mishpot.

“I had just gone home to Michigan after finishing school in Boston. I wanted to live somewhere long term and had the dream of living in the Bay Area since I visited at 12 years old. So, I decided to move to where my heart was in San Francisco. I did an extensive search

**NEW BUILDINGS** continues on page 10

# Crosswords

BY DENA WITKES



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**ACROSS**

- 1. Luggage
- 5. Current home to works by Kusama and Abad, in short
- 11. Meadow
- 14. Turning point
- 15. Haight-Ashbury denizen as of the late 1960s
- 16. Affordable housing for aging parent, for instance
- 17. Doppelgängers
- 19. Comedian Notaro
- 20. Purplish
- 21. Stone Age tool
- 23. Artesano sandwich meat
- 25. Cab alternative?
- 26. Eve's grandson
- 27. Treble and bass
- 32. French cosmetics brand
- 33. SF\_\_park.org
- 34. Reaction to traffic on 101
- 36. Uncomfortable pauses in conversation
- 41. Breakfast choice at Plow
- 42. Sourdough alternative
- 43. Soup at Moshi Moshi
- 46. Some new job requirements, in jargon
- 47. "I wasn't \_\_\_ yesterday!"
- 48. Stoked
- 50. Did some carpentry
- 51. Golden State Warriors, familiarly
- 54. Enjoy ramen noisily
- 56. Chop, as with 2-down
- 57. Comeuppance for a smash and grab, per Mark Rober
- 61. Palindromic preposition
- 62. Sea between Greece and Italy
- 63. "That so?"
- 64. The 'R' of Roy G. Biv
- 65. Uses X, say
- 66. Morays and congers

**DOWN**

- 1. Word before egg or apple
- 2. Guitar, slangily
- 3. David Bowie's genre
- 4. Civics and Accords
- 5. Sarah Snook's role in "Succession"
- 6. Parking ticket penalty
- 7. Fuel efficiency fig.
- 8. Dentist's directive
- 9. Bog
- 10. Moral authority?
- 11. Shakira or J. Lo
- 12. Steven J. Moss, per the Potrero View
- 13. Decade after Y2K
- 18. Regret
- 22. Flax fabric
- 23. Michael of "Superbad"
- 24. From the top
- 27. Apple gadget
- 28. Big dipper
- 29. Ford flop
- 30. \_\_\_-Lay
- 31. Seasons or seasoned sailors
- 34. Aries symbol
- 35. Oh em \_\_\_
- 37. Went a-courting
- 38. Kakasana, at Mission Ashtanga
- 39. Brontë heroine
- 40. E-mail command
- 43. Yosemite's Camp \_\_\_\_\_
- 44. "Present!"
- 45. Made like a geyser
- 47. 2023 blockbuster with the line "Thanks to \_\_\_\_\_, all problems of feminism and equal rights have been solved"
- 49. Really enjoyed something, man
- 50. Big \_\_\_
- 52. Huff and puff
- 53. Trig function
- 54. H, R, or E, for a Giant
- 55. Camera part
- 58. No-win situation
- 59. "Cool" amount
- 60. K-pop megastars

Solution on page 10.

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**NEW BUILDINGS from page 9**

and was struggling to find a place that wasn't in rough areas. I knew I wanted to be in neighborhoods like Mission, Potrero, Mission Bay, or Dogpatch. I was originally interested in a place on Mission Street and was in the area when my aunt and uncle and I walked by Madelon. I saw that it was very lively with restaurants and bars. I also talked to some guy outside the building, and he noted that a lot of people moved to Madelon as a first landing place in the City until they figured out where they would want to live. I haven't met many people in the building yet. Many of the cars in the garage don't have California license plates, so there is a mix of people with lots of working professionals that are mostly in their late 20s and 30s."

Findling was able to secure six weeks free rent for a studio at the Madelon, making it financially viable for him to choose the building.

Mason on Mariposa is located between Arkansas and Carolina streets.

Constructed in 2020, the complex boasts a two-story gym, free coffee, and multiple lounge and work areas. Danny Pham, a 35-year-old tech worker raised in the Bay Area, recently moved in.

"I moved to Mason in February of this year after unfortunately being flooded out of my previous apartment in the SoMa area stemming from the San Francisco winter storms," said Pham. "The staff are super friendly, and I love the amenities here. Potrero Hill is also a great location. It still has the City vibe to it but is also tucked away enough to have a homey, neighborhood feel as well. There's a mix of young professionals and families here, I'm assuming most are in tech or health care. I've really enjoyed living here. Three new eateries just opened up in our building, so I envision the area to become even more lively in the future as more people visit this part of Potrero Hill."

Pham wasn't as concerned about safety as Kulkarni or Findling but highlighted the importance of facilities

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and neighborhood liveliness.

The Landing, which opened in Dogpatch in 2019, offers an array of amenities, including a coding room, fitness classes, and daily housekeeping. The building has an arrangement with Airbnb that gives tenants the right to rent out their units using the online homestay marketplace, a generally restricted practice with rentals due to liability issues, since short-term lessees have no legal responsibility to take care of the unit and can disturb neighbors.

"The people I see are mostly Asian and Caucasian that are young professionals, although there are a few young families," mentioned Tiffany Pan, who grew up in the Bay Area and works in biotech. "I was in Daly City before moving in with my boyfriend. We looked at a few places around Potrero Hill and other neighborhoods. The Landing was in a good location for my boyfriend and myself, and everything was fairly new, clean, and modern in the building. They were also offering promotions that made it more attractive such as six months free parking and one and a half months free rent. We also have nice amenities such as a game room, gym, theater room, and dog relief area."

Sandra, who preferred using only her first name, was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Bay Area. She's now in her early 30s and a Potrero1010 resident, securing a Below Market Rate (BMR) unit in a lottery through the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

"I was lucky enough to get into affordable housing, but I was not making much money at the time, working full time and as a part-time student. That's how I qualified. I moved here in 2016 and back then it was still a quiet industrial waterfront. Tents were lined up on

Seventh Street next to the train tracks. There was plenty of parking. Potrero1010 had just opened and as a BMR resident, most tenants at the time were part of the same housing situation as me and it was primarily Black and Brown people. It's been eight years and we're still here; we can't afford to leave. When I've looked at our housing in the neighborhood recently, I don't see them as options for me or anyone I know because the prices are wild. If I ever left my unit, I would never be able to come back to the City and that's discouraging."

Sandra has noticed a shift in neighborhood demographics toward wealthier Caucasian and Asian American professionals.

"Now that they've built the California College of the Arts and Chase Center, and really developed the surrounding neighborhood, people you'd never think to live here before are here," she said. "I'm not sure if these groups directly influence housing in the neighborhood, but there has definitely been a change in the makeup, culture, and sense of community. I was lucky enough to have experienced the wave of authentic San Francisco spirit before it became what it is now."

When the View asked Sandra what changes she'd like to see in the neighborhood to return it to affordability, she wasn't optimistic.

"This is hard because it just feels too late and seems impossible to solve," she said. "In the end, it's up to the leadership but when you see local, small businesses closing, the crime, the open drug use, the homelessness, and people pleading for change and support from leadership throughout the entire City, but nothing improves, it's discouraging to believe they even care about protecting natives from these types of changes."

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
B	A	G	S	S	F	M	O	M	A	L	E	A			
14	A	X	L	E	H	I	P	P	I	E	A	D	U		
17	D	E	A	D	R	I	N	G	E	R	S	T	I	G	
20	M	A	U	V	E	N	E	O	L	I	T	H			
23	C	A	R	N	E	P	I	N	O	T					
26	E	N	O	S	C	L	E	F	S	N	A	R	S		
33	R	E	C	R	O	A	D	R	A	G	E				
36	A	W	K	W	A	R	D	S	I	L	E	N	C	E	S
41	O	M	E	L	E	T	T	E	R	Y	E				
43	M	I	S	O	R	E	L	O	S	B	O	R	N		
48	A	M	P	E	D	S	A	W	E	D					
51	T	H	E	D	U	B	S	S	L	U	R	P			
56	H	E	W	G	L	I	T	T	E	R	B	O	M	B	
61	E	R	E	I	O	N	I	A	N	I	S	I	T		
64	R	E	D	T	W	E	E	T	S	E	E	L	S		



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 Annual Fee

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\*Rates effective 10/01/22. All rates terms and special offers subject to change. Certain restrictions apply. For cash advances at a non-RCU location, the greater of 2% of the advance or \$20 will be charged. Cash advance transactions and balance transfers are excluded from earning points.



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# ON SALE

...at The Good Life Grocery



**Clover Dairy Organic Creamtop Yogurt**  
all flavors  
6 oz. -reg 1.59  
**4/\$5**

**Organic Meyer Lemons**  
-reg 2.99lb.  
**\$1.99 lb.**



**Clover Organic Cottage Cheese**  
16 oz. -reg 5.49  
**\$4.49**



**Maltagliati Organic Pasta**  
16 oz  
**\$1.99**

**Organic Navel Oranges**  
-reg 2.49 lb.  
**\$1.49 lb.**



**Clover Organic Half & Half**  
16 oz. -reg 3.29  
**\$2.49**

**Clover Organic Kefir**  
32 oz. -reg 5.79  
**\$4.79**



**Catalina Crunch Keto Cereal**  
9 oz. -reg 10.99  
**\$8.99**



**Clover Conventional Butter**  
salted & unsalted  
16 oz. -reg 6.99  
**\$5.99**



**Cascadian Frozen Fruit**  
8-10 oz. -reg 5.69  
**\$3.79**



**Bob's Red Mill Organic Oats**  
32 oz. -reg 8.49  
**\$5.29**



**Amy's Canned Soups**  
12-14 oz. -reg 5.99  
**2/\$8**

**RXBars Protein Bars**  
1.83 oz. -reg 3.29  
**\$2.29**



**Wildwood Fresh Tofu** **\$3.49**  
14 oz. -reg 4.79



Sale Prices effective January 4 - 24, 2024



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**Agnello Farms**  
Sonoma County Lamb Chops - Ground - Racks  
Only at The Good Life Grocery!

**Farm to Market to You!**

**The GOOD LIFE GROCERY**

