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NOVEMBER 2024

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

FREE

Muttville Moves to Mission Creek

BY JESSICA ZIMMER

Last summer, Muttville Senior Dog Rescue moved to a \$15 million, 18,000 square foot campus at 750 Florida Street, settling into buildings that had housed Advance Pleating & Button Company for roughly four decades. The former garment factory, run by the Cruz family, specialized in tucking, hems, swimwear, and button covering.

In 2019, the property was eyed to be developed into 94 condominiums over eight stories, with more than 7,000 square feet of Production, Distribution, and Repair space and a basement garage, plans that didn't materialize.

Muttville rescues senior dogs and offers them to foster or adopt. The San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SFSPCA) and San Francisco Animal Care and Control (SFACC) care for dogs and other animals of all ages, while Muttville exclusively focuses on older canines.

The nonprofit's move involved more than four years of renovation work and creation of another roughly 11,000 square feet. Muttville's previous 255 Alabama Street facility was 7,000 square feet.

During a pre-move garage sale to fundraise and consolidate inventory, "Muttville gave away pet clothing, costumes, beds, collars, dog ramps, and diapers to individuals and blankets and unused medicine to organizations. People were hesitant to take things until volunteers encouraged them," said Audrey Sun, a Muttville volunteer.

Major contributors to the new building included Ken Fulk, a San Francisco



Lounging in the adoption center at Muttville.

PHOTO: Courtesy of Muttville

interior designer who donated whimsical furniture, Maddie's Fund, a Pleasanton-based animal welfare nonprofit, and The Rachael Ray Foundation.

In 2023, the nonprofit sponsored

1,270 adoptions. That same year SFACC had 161 dog adoptions, while SFSPCA boasted 1,924. Since the move, Muttville

MUTTVILLE continues on page 15

Showplace Square Open for Business

BY LORRAINE SAWICKI

Many people believe that the San Francisco Design Center caters exclusively to professionals. While it's true there's limited public access, some showrooms welcome casual shoppers, especially for small projects.

The café at the Galleria, tables beautifully set with glassware and napkins, is open to the public, said an employee, "... and the food is quite good". A to-go menu features light lunch options and pastries from Neighbor Bakehouse. Just two out of sixteen tables were occupied midday on a recent Friday.

A receptionist at Showplace, a building kitty corner from the Galleria, stated that showrooms were only open to tradespeople or wholesalers. However, there's some flexibility, particularly if a customer already has a relationship with a shop or designer.

Showrooms are filled with colorful fabrics, luxury furniture and high-end finishings: tile, lighting fixtures, and cabinets. A walnut Vladimir Kagan "Gigi Chair" in the Holly Hunt showroom is on offer for \$27,000. The Sloan Miyasato showroom featured a stunning chandelier made of blown-glass leaves in the "Foglia" collection of Healdsburg-based Studio Bel Vetro.

"While all neighborhoods were significantly affected by the pandemic, the Design District experienced some bright spots, benefiting from a surge in home goods sales during that time," said Santino DeRose, Principal at Maven, a commercial real estate agency.

Several furniture stores have opened in Dogpatch and Potrero Hill over the past several years. Minneapolis-based Blue Dot, on Missouri Street, and RH,

SHOWPLACE SQUARE continues on page 10



A chandelier made of blown-glass leaves by Healdsburg-based Studio Bel Vetro. PHOTO: Lorraine Sawicki

Jackson Park Dog Debate Tails Off

BY JENNA DUNCAN

Last summer's conflict between dog owners and athletics groups over whether canines should be allowed to roam free in Jackson Park appears to have subsided, but tensions remain over the park's purpose and priorities. Earlier this year, signs prohibiting dogs from the park were repeatedly stolen and, in at least one instance, smeared with feces. A quartet of placards were removed within two weeks of being posted. Maintenance workers reported urine pooled inside the common's locked storage bin on four separate occasions. According to Tamara Barak Aparton, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Deputy Director of Communications and Public Affairs, the vandals, four-legged or two, haven't been identified.

Dog owners gathered 1,000 signatures supporting a park that's accessible to everyone, including pets. The advocates pointed to the inconvenience of traveling to the nearest dog run. Meanwhile, sports leagues have pushed for a stricter ban on dogs, citing damage to the grass and creation of hazards, such as pooh-dug holes. They point out that Mariposa Park and McKinley Square are within a mile of Jackson Park. Avalon Dogpatch Dog Park, on Indiana Street under the 18th Street overpass, offers a fenced green area for dogs, 0.8 miles and a steep hill away from Jackson Park.

According to J.R. Eppler, Potrero Boosters president, who coached youth baseball at Jackson Park for years, "the outfields tend to be a little bit rough, and you have to keep your eyes peeled for any waste." Off-leash dogs also disrupt game play. Jackson Park's baseball diamonds are in high demand from organized leagues and school athletic programs. Reservations are required; games are strictly timed. When a canine runs loose through the field, play must stop until the animal is cleared.

"We have to first get the attention of the dog owner, and get the attention of the umpire," said Anna Marjavi, head coach of Mission High School's girls' softball, who has been playing on the field for more than 15 years. "The whole game stops; you lose game time." San Francisco Recreation and Parks offers only eight baseball and softball fields citywide. "Kids from across the city play there. This is one of the few fields where kids routinely play, plus the adult-

JACKSON PARK continues on page 11

PUBLISHER'S VIEW

Fiction: The Sounds of Silence

BY STEVEN J. MOSS

"I haven't spoken to her in twenty-two years, and I don't intend to start now," my mother proclaimed, scrubbing at the already clean counter to emphasize her point.

"But Mom, it's a silent retreat. You won't be talking to her. In fact, you'll be encouraged not to," I said to the back of her head. I noticed her hair was still mostly black, with only a few specks of grey.

"Yes, well, as long as she doesn't try to talk to me. I'm not having any of that."

I'd made the mistake of telling my mother about a retreat I was going on with Aunt Gen. Knowing of my budding interest in Buddhism, Gen had found a course for me to take at Green Gulch, a meditation center in Marin. She offered to pay the fee, and, after we talked about it, asked if she could come along. I was delighted to spend time with my aunt, who'd taken up Spanish at 60, and tap dance lessons at 65.

After I told my mother she insisted on joining us. Not because of any interest in Buddhism, but to make sure her older sister didn't spend any more time with me then she did. Still, she wanted to make it clear that while she was going to the retreat, she wouldn't be speaking

to my aunt.

"Mom, why don't you talk to Gen?" "Because of what she did to me."

She turned to face me, her lips clamped shut. I'd asked her before, and knew I wasn't going to get any more information. Once, after badgering her for more than a week, she'd told me her grudge had something to do with borrowed money. Gen said that her husband Sam had lent my father a few hundred dollars, which he'd never repaid. She claimed it was no big deal, and didn't know why my mother still made a fuss about it. But I knew Sam, a gruff, self-made man with a long memory. If money were involved, Sam wouldn't have let my father or mother forget it.

Since I'd initially agreed to go with Gen, I decided to drive with her. My mother said that was fine, but of course she wouldn't think of being in the same vehicle as her sister. As Gen and I slid into Green Gulch's gravel parking lot Mom slowly rolled in beside us.

"Hello, Sarah," Gen called out, as we got out of our respective cars.

"Hmhhh," my mother nodded, and glared at me.

SOUNDS continues on page 11

SHORT CUTS

Dogbio

In an eight-to-two vote in September the **San Francisco Board of Supervisors** exempted **MBC BioLabs'** proposed 700 Indiana Street project from further environmental review. District 10 Supervisor **Shamann Walton** was one of the two dissenting votes. Earlier this year, the **Dogpatch Neighborhood Association** and **Potrero Boosters** filed a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) appeal stating that MBC BioLabs and the **Planning Department** didn't sufficiently analyze the project's potential environmental impacts nor identify

mitigations related to hazardous materials, shadowing of Dogpatch Arts Plaza, air quality, and noise. "Two of the three supervisors who represent the type of zoning present at 700 Indiana Street agreed that there were CEQA issues with the project," Potrero Boosters President J.R. Eppler said. "The other supervisors unfortunately did not agree. We'll remain focused on amending the Planning Code to ensure that these questions don't come up again." In late October, the City's **Board of Appeals** will hear Planning Code arguments and determine whether or not the project can proceed.

HANDY NUMBERS

District 10 Supervisor Shamann Walton	415.554.7670 waltonstaff@sfgov.org
Recology	415.330.1300
San Francisco Animal Care and Control	415.554.6364
San Francisco Fire Department (non-emergency)	415.558.3200
San Francisco Police Department	671-2300; tip line, 415.822.8147 SFPDBayviewStation@sfgov.org
SFHOT/Homeless Outreach Team	311 or 415.734.4233
State Senator Scott Wiener	415.557.1300

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Meet the Reporters: Jessica Zimmer



Reporter Jessica Zimmer.

PHOTO: Rohit Prasanna

BY ROHIT PRASANNA

A regular *View* contributor for close to a decade, Jessica Zimmer started her journalism career at *The Santa Rosan*, her high school newspaper. She's since written for periodicals throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and in Florida, including *Asian-Week*, *The Tallahassee Democrat*, and *The Gainesville Sun*.

Within minutes of talking to Zimmer it's clear she takes pride in knowing the *View's* readership area, its civic-advocates, and merchants. Despite living in Santa Rosa, she fluently described La Fleur Hair and Nail Spa on Arkansas Street, Christopher's Books on 18th Street, and Jackson Park. She's delighted to have met *View* founders at an anniversary party at Farley's. She likes to walk the neighborhoods, talk

to a range of people, and bring friends to show them places and observe their reactions.

Her approach to reporting embodies deep curiosity about and an intimate understanding of neighborhood perspectives and faith that collaboration at the local level can foster community growth.

"Neighborhood issues are more complex than they may seem," she highlighted, noting that her job requires transparency, listening, peacemaking, and collaboration. "I show people the neighborhood."

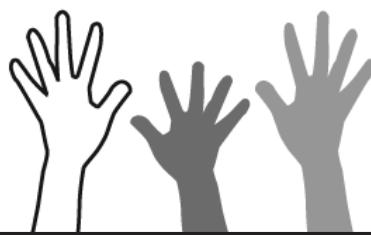
"Jessica is a careful and diligent reporter who wants to accurately reflect the facts," said *View* publisher Steven Moss. "She has strong ties to and great compassion for the neighborhoods we cover."



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Sign up for planting events and other events at greenbenefit.org/volunteer. Help make the Green Benefit District greener. Running into an issue? Let us know at greenbenefit.org/report-a-problem

The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association | 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.potrero boosters.org to learn more about how to join us!

Dogpatch Business Association | dbasf.com

Dogpatch Business Association (DBA) promotes and supports Dogpatch businesses. Business owners and community members are invited to get involved!

- Join the DBA! (dbasf.com)
- Sign up for our newsletter to find out about member meetings, opportunities, and local news
- Follow us on **Instagram** @destinationdogpatch to learn more about Dogpatch businesses, events, and activities
- Explore Dogpatch through a curated wayfinding map of local businesses, available online at <https://linktr.ee/exploreregion>

The Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association | 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

PREFund brings neighbors together to support education and build community. Learn more and get connected at prefund.org

Starr King Open Space | StarrKingOpenSpace.org

Join our **monthly volunteer days** on the second Saturday of the month. This month it is November 9th at 10 a.m. **Donate** to help keep Starr King Open Space open, accessible, and well-maintained for our neighborhood. StarrKingOpenSpace.org

For a \$200 annual fee your organization can be listed in Getting Involved.
[Contact production@potrero view.net](mailto:production@potrero view.net)

Food for Thought

BY MARK STEENSLAND

Jenny Phreab, owner of Thinkers Café, located at 1631 20th Street, across from the Potrero Hill branch of the San Francisco Public Library, has realized the American Dream. Though not without some sleepless nights.

She came to the United States from Cambodia in 1998, anxious to put memories of her impoverished childhood in the rearview mirror, motivated by her belief in hard work as the road to success. Ten years later, she sold her first business—a bakery in Mountain View she'd owned since 2003—and bought Thinkers Café, name and menu included.

She purchased the shop for three reasons: "The neighborhood, the weather, and the view."

She enjoys these attributes after a 90-minute commute from Patterson, California, near Turlock, where she lives with her family, including three children: 24-year-old Michael, 19-year-old Khannikha, and five-year old Allie. She originally planned to move closer, but rent is too expensive.

Like many small business owners, she's faced numerous challenges. The COVID pandemic hit her especially hard. Although she didn't close, people stopped going out to eat; she lost customers. In 2022, thieves broke in, vandalized the counter and stole all the cash on hand. It wasn't the first time, but the damage was extensive enough to warrant a GoFundMe campaign to help pay for repairs. She quickly raised \$1,500 and, with help from the landlord, installed a stronger security gate designed to prevent future break-ins.

Post-COVID recovery has been slow. In a recent San Francisco *Chronicle* article, Michelle Allersma, director of the Office of the Controller's Budget and Analysis Division, said that sales tax revenue is down sharply throughout the City compared to pre-pandemic levels. This is especially true in the Financial District, where much of the blame can be placed on the switch to remote work, which has kept people away from shops and restaurants they formerly patronized during their workday. This year's \$774,000 total sales tax revenue generated in Potrero Hill is down 34 percent from the same period in 2019.

Phreab remains optimistic. "I consider myself lucky," she said, "A lot of other small businesses out there, they lost. But I survive." Something she credits to her dedicated employees and regular customers.

Phreab has added drink options, such as smoothies and frappes, as well as panini-style sandwiches. She's especially proud of the bread she uses, which is made by a friend who owns several bakeries in Campbell.

"I get all our bread from her because I can't find anything like it anywhere else."

Phreab confessed that she doesn't know the origin of the café's name. The logo, which features a likeness of Rodin's famous statue pondering a cup of coffee, provides a clue. Perhaps the proximity to the library offers another. The answer is something you can ponder when you visit.

Thinkers Café is open daily from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Bakery Blossoms in Dogpatch

BY DANNY PHAM

Butter& offers cakes that feature modern designs and unique flavors. Located on Indiana Street, next to Esprit Park, the bakery's storefront is characterized by a sleek, minimal aesthetic that reflects the style of its confections.

Founder Amanda Nguyen initially intended to serve ad-hoc functions or one-off requests.

"It all started when my sister wanted to throw a party for my newborn nephew for the first time. The party was in a couple weeks, and I had never bought a cake before, so I reached out to a few local bakeries. What I found was that it was already too late; everyone was booked up! So, I decided to take it on myself," said Nguyen. "I'd been baking for years and years; macarons, pies, cinnamon rolls, croissants, sourdough bread. But I'd never touched cake before, so I jumped in and got something done just in time for my nephew's party. After that, I was hooked; I just loved how cake making brought together baking and art."

As Nguyen honed her craft, she shared her creations on Instagram under the handle "Mandamakes" in 2016, which amplified her work to future clients.

"I was working in tech at the time, and my coworkers found my account and started asking me to make things for them. Then they started actually paying me to make things. Then their friends started contacting me, and before long I didn't even recognize the names of folks who were ordering from me!" said Nguyen.

As Mandamakes gained momen-



Amanda Nguyen.

PHOTO: Andriya Rances

in my apartment."

Nguyen's husband and Butter& co-founder, Ted Moran, her boyfriend at the time, landed on the appellation Butter& after receiving advice from Facebook friends.

"I just made a poll and asked people which one to choose. It's a little ridiculous in hindsight, ha-ha. The people chose Butter&! I liked that it was still open-ended... 'Butter& what? It could be anything,' said Nguyen. "Leaving things open-ended is important for me creatively."

Like most small businesses, the shop had to find ways to adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly going bankrupt as wedding and birthday celebrations disappeared. With only a few weeks of cash left, Nguyen and Moran had a realization.

"People are still celebrating at home, but it's just one or two people now. We came up with a tiny little cake, called it a 'Quarantine Cake,' and put snippets of CDC advice on it like 'wash your hands' or 'don't touch your face,' said Nguyen.

Media outlets like *People Magazine*, The Kelly Clarkson Show and *USA Today* highlighted Butter&’s creativity. The business experienced a surge of demand.

"It was insane! We had 100 orders due per day, but we only had 20 cake pans; so, we had to bake around the clock to fulfill all of the orders. We grew a lot during that period, it's kind of a blur," she said.

According to Nguyen, what makes Butter&’s cakes special is its Greek yogurt-based buttercream, which creates an ultra-creamy but still light-weight texture. Strawberries & Cream is popular. She's excited to make the limited-edition Black Sesame & Red Bean flavor a permanent offer; it sells out annually during Lunar New Year.

"I've decided that people should be able to have it year-round," said Nguyen. "As I started to explore the cake world, the aesthetic I saw at the time was either over-the-top detailed or very traditional. I didn't personally gravitate to those styles at the time. The architecture and interior design I enjoyed the most balanced form and function together,

and I appreciated that. Why should cakes be any different? I still think that the most important thing about design is knowing when to stop."

Nguyen also wants her company to support quality jobs. Many food industry workers are hired as contractors. They can be let go at a moment's notice while the company avoids paying healthcare, according to Nguyen. Butter& employees are paid above-market wages and provided with health care, company ownership, and weekly one-on-one meetings to help employees achieve their personal and professional goals.

"Ethical employment is part of our mission," she said. "I love how easy we make it to celebrate life at Butter&. Whether it's a wedding, a birthday, or just a little dinner party, I'm so proud that you can get something really special and you don't have to plan months in advance. I think that's something people need everywhere, so Ted and I are planning to expand to more locations over the coming years. We'll start with the Bay Area and then see how we feel."



Weathered stone foliage cake. PHOTO: Courtesy of Butter&

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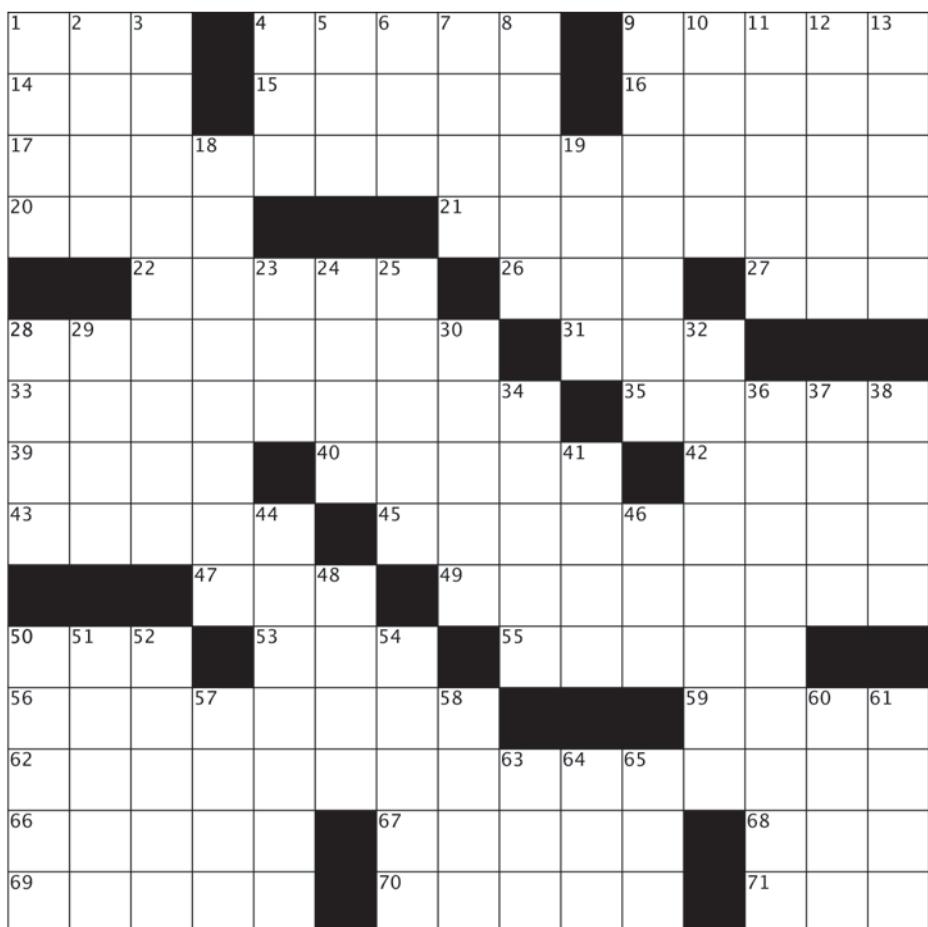
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Animal Medical Center

sfamc.com

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Crosswords

BY DENA WITKES



ACROSS

1. Nat Geo or Mad, for short
4. Don Draper, for one
9. Future J.D.s' hurdles
14. Friendly introduction?
15. Service leader at Sha'ar Zahav
16. "Aw, shucks!"
17. Design center between 101 and 280
20. Street named after San Francisco's first alcalde
21. Close inspection
22. Native of Trinidad or Suriname
26. SFO info
27. Hush-hush org.
28. Equipped for a weekend in Tahoe, say
31. Part of the DOJ
33. With 62-across, the country's first cage-free shelter (Adopt, don't shop!)
35. Some offshoots
39. There is one at Pier 43 and several at the Palace of Fine Arts
40. Media-watchdog group founded during the AIDS epidemic
42. Potatoes, at Besharam
43. Like Blake Snell's game on 8/2/24
45. Works in Clarion Alley?
47. It's not gross
49. Coats, in a way
50. Gym rat's six-pack
53. Sharks' org.
55. Flies high
56. Theater opening, perhaps
59. Land of leprechauns
62. See 33-across
66. Unlike leftovers
67. Wordle and Spelling Bee
68. 100%
69. Squirrel away
70. Car that didn't go far
71. The, en français

DOWN

1. Jibe
2. In need of a visit to Qua Spa
3. Kudos to a proofreader
4. Dada father
5. Lentil dish at Noor Fusion Kitchen
6. CFO's degree
7. Pre-K basics
8. Sofia Coppola, to Talia Shire
9. Japanese plums seen on trees in San Francisco
10. "___ the front door!"
11. Once more
12. Seabirds with forked tails
13. "Peace out!"
18. Become tiresome
19. Mex. miss
23. Cause to go "vroom"
24. "Understood!"
25. Chicago five
28. FBI agent
29. €
30. Purchase at Heath Ceramics
32. Facial characteristics
34. Brings home the bacon
36. Spotify category for Bach
37. Civil suit case
38. They're often lit
41. Like Coit Tower
44. Muscle-to-bone connectors
46. Gay Nineties, e.g.
48. Norse god of thunder
50. Befuddled
51. Silver-scaled fish
52. Rudolph's boss
54. Register, as a complaint
57. Purchases from Goat Hill Pizza
58. Way to go
60. Word with slide or home
61. Slippery swimmers
63. Brian Sabean and Buster Posey, e.g.
64. Riddle-me—
65. Course for aspiring bilinguals at CCSF

Solution on page 14.

Hill Resident Stephen Lewis Creates Feature-Length Documentary

BY REBEKAH MOAN

San Bruno Avenue resident Stephen Berkeley Lewis is a dreamer. After seeing *Star Wars* at age nine, he decided to become a filmmaker, creating movies in middle and high school, as well as a University of Southern California student. A short documentary he made screened at Sundance in 1992.

However, after a promising start, he decided that he didn't want to make films after all, at least not in Los Angeles.

"I didn't have the temperament to survive in the film industry down there. I was too thin-skinned," he said.

In 1992, he shifted his artistic pursuits to the game industry in San Francisco where he moved with his then-girlfriend, now wife, Barbara Pollak-Lewis. He worked as an animator, designer, and programmer for many years until that, too, stopped feeling satisfying.

"I was getting a little burned out on the entertainment software industry," he said. "I wanted to apply that dreamy, creative side of me toward a project that could potentially help people. Maybe use my video game skills to create a VR app or some kind of visual therapeutic experience."

A Google search led to a hypnosis course in San Rafael. After experiencing the intervention's transformative and healing effects, Lewis became a certified hypnotherapist and opened a private practice, Arc Hypnosis, on Carolina Street in 2017.

A part of him, however, felt like a frustrated filmmaker.

"I still really wanted to continue making movies, but I didn't know how to make that happen," he said. "I had a lot of little false starts."

That changed when he met surrealist photographer Arthur Tress on a ferry to Mare Island. The two started chatting about cameras; Tress had his Hasselblad slung around his neck. Lewis thought he'd heard of Tress. It turned out that Pollak-Lewis was fascinated by Tress' work and it influenced her own photography while attending art school in Rhode Island in the 1980s. She owned several of Tress' photography books.

Beyond that connection, Tress and Lewis clicked because of the dreamy quality Lewis brings to his therapy work.

"Arthur was interested in what I do with hypnosis because he describes the state when he's taking photos as a kind

of flow state," Lewis said. "He's really focused, the world becomes magical, and he has a heightened sense of reality that helps him capture that magic in his photos. His work state is quite similar to how I would describe a hypnotic trance. Some people have the perception that a trance is being out of it or not being in touch with anything but it's not, at least not in the therapeutic context. It enables access to deeper layers of consciousness and that's what I aim for in my work as a hypnotherapist."

That crossover in interests and a mutual fascination with each other led Lewis to make a short film about Tress.

"He said it was a good idea, but only if I finished it," Lewis said. "It was a revelation because I realized he was right. It became a mantra that propelled me through what became a 4.5-year-long filmmaking adventure with him."

The multi-year project was initially intended to be significantly shorter; Lewis planned to make a 10-minute film.

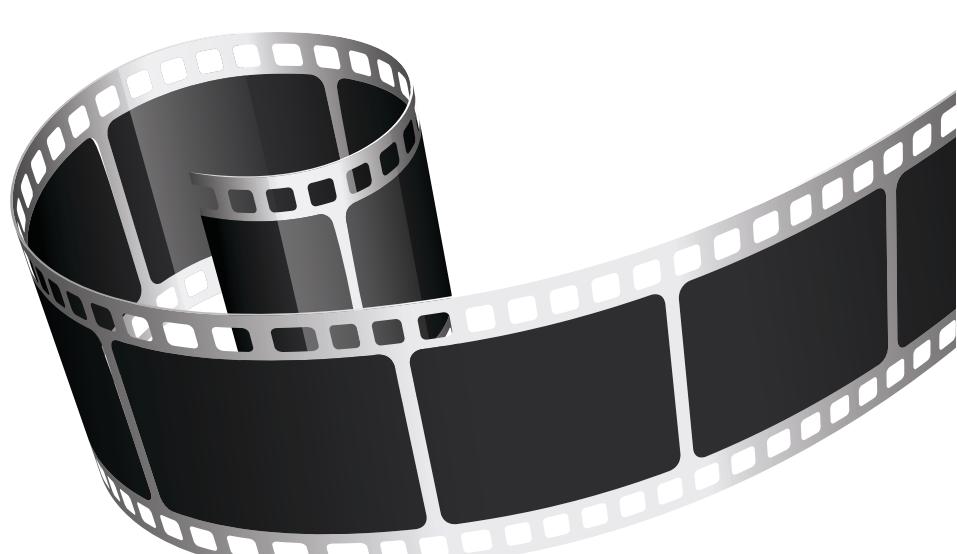
"It was really fun to go with Arthur on these photography outings all over the City and Mare Island," Lewis said. "I thought it would be a few weekends of filming and a couple of weeks of editing. I soon put together a short sequence and he really liked it because he said I had accurately captured the way he worked. That was when he started to open up his life to my camera and the film evolved to become a much more intimate portrayal."

The short film morphed into a feature-length documentary, *Arthur Tress: Water's Edge*, that covers how Tress works as well as his relationships, legacy, the aging process, and his loneliness as a gay octogenarian living in San Francisco. *Arthur Tress: Water's Edge* premiered at the Getty Center in Los Angeles last winter. It's now on the festival circuit and will be screened on November 14th in San Francisco at the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, coinciding with a Tress gallery exhibition there, curated by Pollak-Lewis.

Lewis is contemplating a documentary on hypnotism as well as dramatizing the story of his mother's life as a young child growing up in the Philippines during the World War II Japanese and U.S. occupations.

"But I'm still very much an outsider to the film industry so who knows?" Lewis said.

For more information about the film, visit www.arthurtressmovie.com.

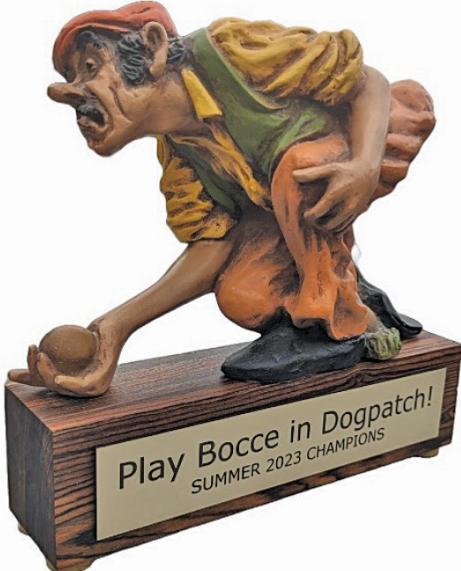


Progress Park Bocce: Rolling Through the Seasons in Dogpatch

BY CHRISTINE MINEART

If you live near Progress Park in Dogpatch, you may have noticed a lively gathering of prosciutto-loving locals or heard the knock of a heavy bocce ball against a backboard on Sunday afternoons. Since 2021, the Dogpatch Bocce League attracted dozens of people to a competitive, but friendly, sport.

League founder, Adam Gould, loves all things bocce. After the long-running Embarcadero-based Ferry Bocce League dwindled during the pandemic, he founded the Dogpatch League. Four years later, it's thriving, with eleven



A custom tournament trophy created by the league.
PHOTO: Courtesy of Dogpatch Bocce League

teams tossing bocce across three seasons annually.

The league is a diverse mix of Alvarado Elementary School parents, Dogpatch Saloon regulars, and diehard competitors hailing from Bayview, Mission Bay, and Potrero Hill. Only two people are needed for a game, with four required to compete in a tournament. League champions are Slow Your Roll, with Dirty Rollers, a team of well-practiced moms, emerging as formidable opponents.

A game is played until one team reaches 13 points or ends at the top of the hour with the highest-score taking the win. Points are notched by rolling the bocce – a large ball – as close as possible to the *pelino*; a single tiny white ball.

A fall game between Slow Your Roll and the newer Progress Park Players showcased how competitive a match can get in the one-hour playtime. Progress Park Players made an impressive comeback after falling behind, winning in the game's final minutes. A specialized

tool to measure distances between the *pelino* and bocce had to come out to make a tight call.

Convivial smack talk is commonplace during heated games. Spouses find themselves on opposing teams, Adam and his wife, Joanna, are frequent court rivals.

Dogpatch Saloon is known for its rattling battle cry yelped around the brick meditation labyrinth under Interstate 280 before each game. It doesn't come unwarranted. Inside Dogpatch Saloon, the bar, a collection of their tournament trophies are displayed on the bar. Each award is a bespoke creation, designed by Gould. He hunts down vintage bocce memorabilia and transforms it into an enviable tournament prize.

The league knows how to have a good time. Each game officiant – referee – sets the mood with a playlist and blasts a digital air horn when a team achieves a rare four-point frame, the maximum score. At tournaments, Gould ensures players are nourished with the "Three Italian Ps" – prosciutto, Peroni, and Prosecco."

Gould is raising money to install shade structures along the court, a \$25,000 project.

"Progress Park is a lovely place to bring your kids, it's maintained by the Green Benefit District and there are loads of flora and fauna, there's exercise equipment and plenty of room for kids to play while the parents play Bocce," said Gould. The League "...is a material amount of activity a Progress Park. I think it justifies building a permanent structure so that the people who are participating in 20+ weekends of bocce can shade themselves from the sun."

Gould volunteers to schedule matches and distribute a weekly newsletter while adding personal touches



Aaron Adiego of the Progress Park Players throws a bocce in a recent October match in the Dogpatch.

PHOTO: Christine Mineart

like a custom scoreboard adorned with tournament plaques, fostering a sense of camaraderie among league members. The league is accepting new teams, with the next season beginning in March. It's \$150 to register a team with a minimum of two people who can commit to showing up at Progress Park on Sundays.

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COMMUNITY | NOVEMBER

2 sat

Art: Handmade Typographic Banners
With guidance from instructor Lizette Greco, transform paper, magazines, and calendars into personalized typography for signs and banners. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$39.19. SCRAP, 2150 Newcomb Avenue. For more information: <https://bit.ly/4eQLfJN>

Día de los Muertos: Festival of Altars

The Marigold Project presents Día de Los Muertos, Festival of Altars, and Ritual Poetry Circle. Bring your altar or offerings: flowers, photographs, and favorite objects to honor loved ones; votive candles should be encased in glass. Sign up to reserve a location. Free. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Potrero Del Sol Park, 25th Street and San Bruno Avenue. For more information: <https://www.dayofthedeadsf.org/>

11/2 Saturday and 11/3 Sunday

Art: Renegade Craft Fair

Featuring creations by artisans from near and far. The fair is indoors and will proceed rain or shine. Free admission. Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fort Mason Center, 2 Marina Blvd. For more information: <https://bit.ly/renegade-fortmason>

3 sun

Sport: Pickleball Festival

San Francisco Social Club and Volo Sports present a pickleball tourney and festival, featuring hot chocolate, cider, smores, and connecting with others over friendly competition. For players of all levels, 1 to 5 p.m. \$17.85 to \$76.54. Bay Club Gateway, 370 Drumm Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3Ye6AYb>



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**at the Jackson Park Clubhouse
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friendsofjacksonpark.org



Jackson Liles
ARCHITECTURE



December 2, with an anticipated November 12 peak. The November 5 South Taurid meteor shower is expected to be a better show than the North Taurids due to the waxing crescent moon; three days before a full moon, which'll interfere with meteor shower viewing on November 12. About 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3zLmHmA>

Social, 601 Mission Bay Boulevard North. For more information: <https://bit.ly/480HgYL>

10 sun

Art: Watercolor Theory

Shasta Garcia teaches methods to create essential blends: blues, greys, and greens, using a limited color palette. \$92.55. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. ARCH Art Supplies, 1490 17th Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/4gVYE5e>

15 fri

Astronomy: Last "Supermoon" of 2024

Because the sun is about 50,000 miles closer to the Earth than at its furthest point – and it's a full or new moon – the moon will appear larger and brighter than most full moons. To be considered a supermoon, it must be within 224,851 miles of our planet, as measured from the centers of the moon and Earth. The best time to observe the supermoon is when it's near the horizon during either moonrise or moonset, with objects in the foreground, like buildings or trees, to provide reference points for estimating the moon's size. 4:41 p.m. to 6:43 a.m. Free. For more information: <https://bit.ly/3TYHwl8>

17 sun

Biking: Winterfest 2024

Connect with the bike community. Presented by the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition. 5 to 9 p.m. \$44.52 to \$268.61. SOMArts, 934 Brannan Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/4dBn94s>

22 fri

Historic: Mechanics' Institute Evening Tour

The Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco was founded in 1854 with four books and a mission to serve the vocational and social needs of mechanics, artisans, and industrialists. Today, Mechanics' Institute is a historical landmark and membership

CALENDAR continues on next page

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CALENDAR from previous page

organization boasting a general-interest library, active cultural event calendar, and world-renowned chess club. New, long-time, or prospective members will receive an orientation of the building, an overview of history and mission, and outline of current services and membership benefits. After the tour, stay for CinemaLit at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be for sale. 5 p.m. Free. For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/mxy8mpew>

23 sat

Music: An Afternoon of Chamber Music

An intimate concert featuring chamber music from Bay Area musicians, hosted by the San Francisco Civic Music Association. Chamber Music Concert Series or "Afternoon of Chamber Music" is held monthly from October 5,

2024 to June 14, 2025 and introduces audiences to a range of chamber ensemble musicians. 3 to 5 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street. For more information: <https://bit.ly/48cVO81>

11/23 Saturday and 11/24 Sunday Holiday: West Coast Craft Fair
Featuring 275+ artists and designers. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission. Fort Mason Festival Pavilion, 2 Marina Boulevard. For more information: <https://www.westcoastcraft.com/>

12/7 sat

Community: Dogpatch Winter Market Walk

Find unique gifts, delicious treats, and festive fun at the Dogpatch Winter Market. Free event tickets available online at Eventbrite; search for Dogpatch Winter Market. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Alex the Great, at the Dogpatch Music Series.

PHOTO: Potrero View Staff

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SHOWPLACE SQUARE from front page

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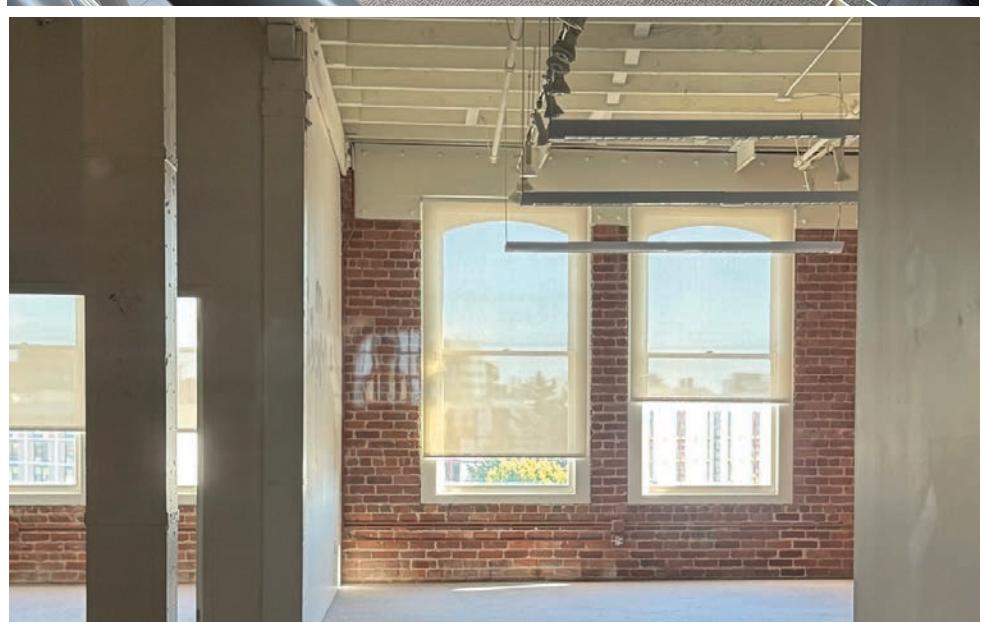
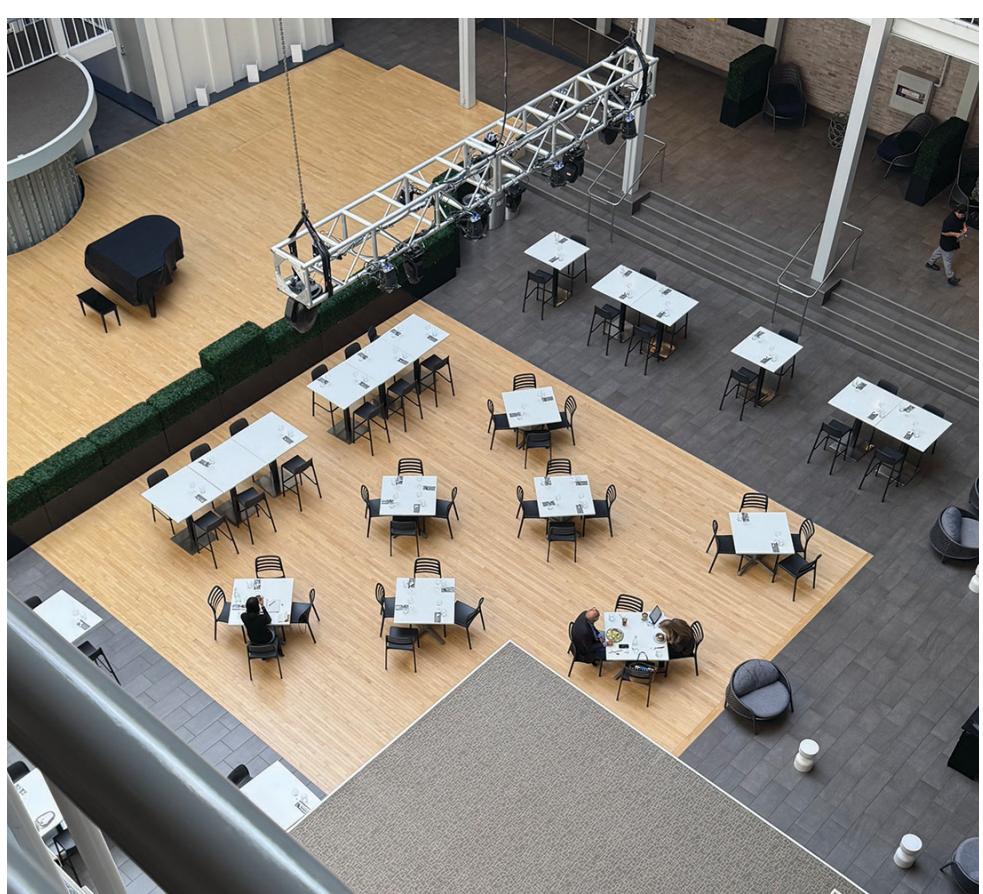
Near the SFDC Galleria, the space that previously housed The Grove, at 1 Henry Adams Street, has remained vacant since closing in 2022. Gas warmers that once kept customers toasty sit rusting underneath an awning. Another restaurant, "The Henry," on Showplace's ground floor, is "coming soon" with no opening date identified.

San Francisco Design Center maps indicate vacant showrooms. More than 10 units are either papered over or

obviously empty. The spaces feature brick walls and large windows, a potential inspiring base for a business.

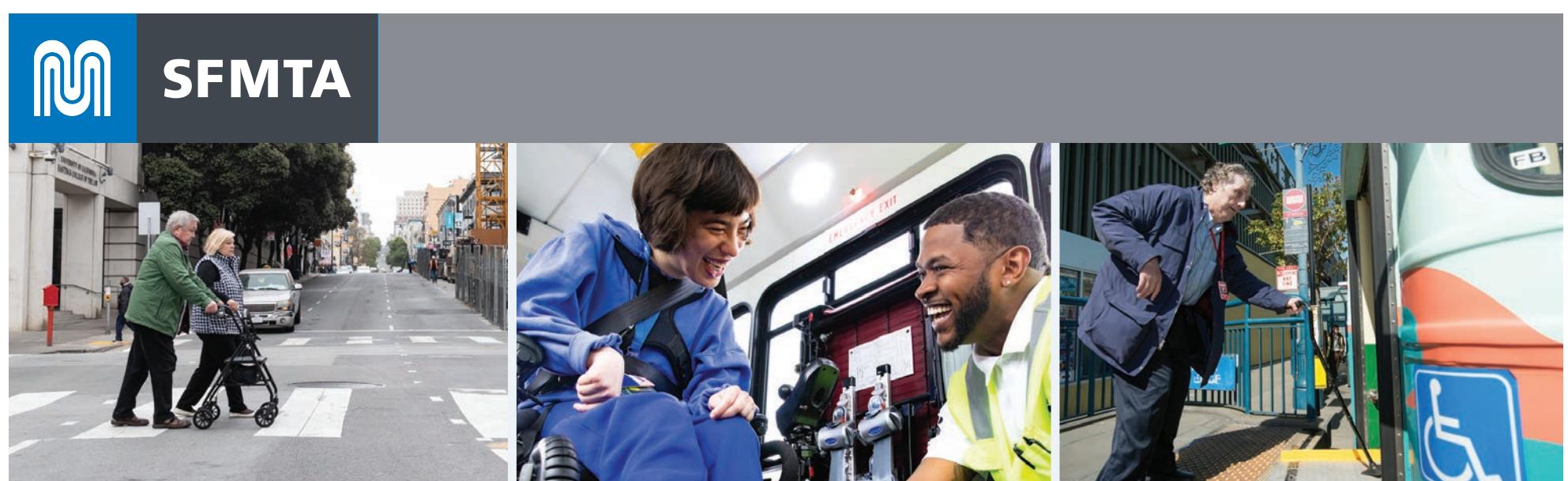
"Most of San Francisco's neighborhood retail corridors currently have vacancy rates below ten percent," said Santino. "The Design District's vacancy rate is slightly higher, largely due to the presence of larger spaces and diverse ground floor uses."

The San Francisco Design Center offers student memberships for \$10 a year; licensed interior designers, architects, and contractors can join for \$50 annually. Members receive exclusive event invitations and parking discounts.



Clockwise from left: A walnut Vladimir Kagan "Gigi Chair"; the café at the Galleria is open to the public; empty showroom space.

PHOTO: Lorraine Sawicki



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While Jackson Park awaits a more substantial makeover, the baseball diamond was spruced-up in October.

PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II

JACKSON PARK from front page

permitted leagues," Marjavi said.

According to Rec and Parks, it's difficult to verify if individuals who signed the petition live in the neighborhood, or even in San Francisco. Numerous parks-related requests are on Change.org, with varying degrees of possible or preposterous demands. "A quick search shows hundreds, including a petition to bring horses back to

McLaren Park, a petition to release 400 bears of various shapes and sizes into Golden Gate Park and many addressing subjects for which we already have a process in place, such as renaming parks or giving input regarding Outside Lands," Aparton said.

Friends of Jackson Park (FoJP) has spent six years planning to renovate the space in collaboration with municipal agencies and Dogpatch-based Fletcher Studio and Jackson Liles Architecture.

The plan includes a dog relief area, gardens, performance stage, and new playground. Another 1,850 square-feet would be added to the existing 4,750-square-foot clubhouse. The project is estimated to cost \$40 million, according to FoJP, Executive Director Jude Deckenbach, 75 percent of which has been secured. Renovations are expected to start by 2027, with the park closed for 18 to 24 months.

"The community of Jackson Park

SOUNDS from page 2

The meditation center was cool and cozy. A few dozen students were already there, shoes off, sitting silently. Gen and I picked out some pillows and found a place to position ourselves. My mother found a spot as far away from us as she could, while still maintaining a clear line of sight.

The teacher rang the bell twice and instructed us on the day's activities: silent sitting, silent walking, silent eating. I looked across the hall at my mother, who was silently frowning.

The morning passed quickly, and, in my meditation, I lost track of my aunt and mother, and sometimes, for a few short moments, even myself. I was surprised when, at lunch, my mother placed herself at the same table, directly across from Gen. Each of them chewed fiercely at their food, their eyes shooting needles across the table. Then, Gen stuck out her tongue at her sister.

"Oh, oh," I thought, "Here we go."

I silently prayed that whatever happened wouldn't be too loud. My mother straightened herself in her seat, and carefully placed her fork next to her plate. Using both her hands she pulled her mouth up and down and pointed her eyes sideways while wiggling her ears. Gen burst out laughing. My mother giggled. Both of them continued eating, flashing shy smiles the rest of the meal.

Later, during walking meditation, I saw them slowly and silently stepping, arm-in-arm. From a distance they looked like two graceful birds dancing together. At the end of the retreat, as Gen and I were putting away our pillows, my mother walked passed us without so much as a glance.

"Wasn't that a nice day, Sarah," Gen

called out.

"Hmmmmmmh," my mother responded, without turning her head.

She kept on walking, out of the center, and into the parking lot.

"Mom, Mom," I called, as I ran after her.

"I thought you and Gen made up."

"No." She bit off the words. "I'm

still not talking to her."

"But what about lunch, and walking with her?"

"That's not talking to her," she said, but for a second a smile skipped across her lips. Then she got into her car and drove away.

To this day my mother won't talk to her sister. But every month, long after I'd

users is quite diverse; people come from all San Francisco zip codes to play at Jackson," Deckenbach said. "We want everyone to have the opportunity to feel invested in their park." Athletes and dog owners alike have criticized the proposed design. Baseball and softball players are concerned that the changes would reduce the fields' foul zones, critical for game play, and an area the next team on deck uses to warm up. "When you shave foul territory down, you've changed the level of play," Marjavi said.

Meanwhile, dog owners and Dogpatch residents eagerly await the re-opening of nearby Esprit Park, which has been under renovation since 2023. The common's new north meadow will feature an off-leash dog play area, with the south meadow designated "dog-free." The park should reopen before the end of the year according to officials. Other dog-friendly parks in the area include Daggett Park, located in the wedge between 16th and Seventh streets, and the Potrero Recreation Center at the top of Arkansas Street. The Green Benefit District has also created a dog run at Progress Park near 25th and Iowa streets.

"If you don't give folks a place to go with their dogs, they end up using other spaces," Donovan Lacy, Green Benefit District board president said. "Even the most conscientious dog owner isn't going to catch every accident." According to Lacy, Crane Cove Park is supposed to be 100 percent on-leash only, a rule that's not strictly enforced.

Friends of Jackson Park will hold a community meeting on November 16th at the Jackson Park Clubhouse. More information: <https://www.friendsofjacksonpark.org/timeline>.

lost interest in meditation, or Buddhism, my aunt and mother meet at Green Gulch for a silent retreat. I know this only because Gen told me; my mother has never mentioned it. And, for now at least, it seems best that I keep silent.

This fiction story was first published in MANDALA.



600 block of Connecticut Street block party in October.

PHOTO: Potrero View Staff

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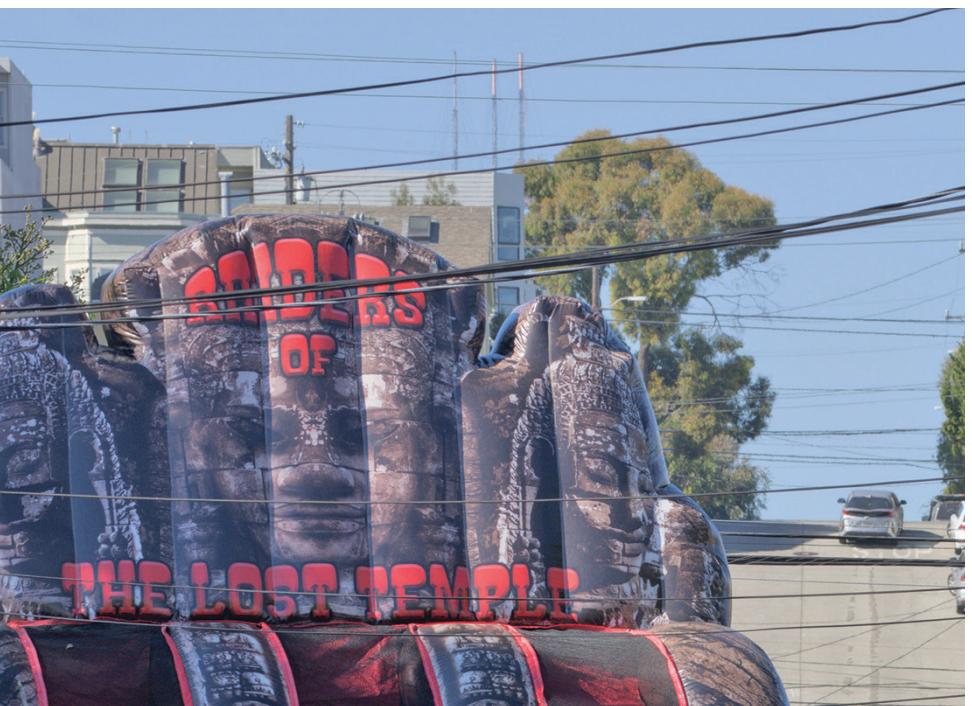
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CREATIVE YOUTHS!

The View invites those under 18 to submit any ***creative work*** suitable for publication, including ***drawings, short stories*** (fewer than 150 words), ***photographs, comic strips, jokes***, before the 20th of each month. Winning entries will receive a \$20 prize. Please send submissions to editor@potreroview.net.



C CROSSWORD N N E C T I O N

Solution on page 14.

What is in common? (1-7)
What is the overall connection? (★)

By Ashley Miller

1	Bug, Chip, Couch, Hot	_____
2	Head, Seed, Patch	_____
3	Hot, It, Right, Free	_____
4	Ginger, Short, Wheat	_____
5	Juice, Sauce, Dried	_____
6	Boat, Train, Country	_____
7	Cold, Day, Call	_____
★	_____	_____

From the Potrero Hill Festival last month (clockwise from top): A band plays at the Festival. PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II Several hundred people attended the Festival, which featured live music, vendors, and community offerings. PHOTO: Thomas Hunter II Mayor London Breed celebrates Potrero Hill, alongside Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Executive Director Edward Hatter. Potrero Dogpatch Merchants Association President Keith Goldstein is partially visible in the background. PHOTO: Paul McDonald Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin presented The Good Life Grocery with a municipal proclamation celebrating the store's 50th anniversary. PHOTO: Brett Villaume



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CROSSWORD

ANSWERS

What is in common? (1-7)
What is the overall connection? (*)

By Ashley Miller

1 Bug, Chip, Couch, Hot

2 Head, Seed, Patch

3 Hot, It, Right, Free

4 Ginger, Short, Wheat

5 Juice, Sauce, Dried

6 Boat, Train, Country

7 Cold, Day, Call

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2024



Old-timers detected a sound in early-October they'd never previously heard: the musical jingle of an ice cream truck. This photo was taken at the corner of Missouri and 19th streets, around the time the temperature reached 95 degrees. PHOTO: Potrero View Staff

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Board or Commission Vacancies:Participate on a Board or Commission!The Assessment Appeals Board (AAB)

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MUTTVILLE from front page

has seen its number of adoptions rise by 20 percent.

According to Sherri Franklin, Muttville's founder and chief executive officer, the adoption increase is due to the welcoming location and the publicity it received.

"We now have a makeover space, the Glam Shampoochery, a photo studio, the Puparazzi Photo Studio, and an outdoor park between the buildings," said Franklin.

Community members have been neighborly.

"One person across the street from us even put a sign in their window that says, 'Welcome Muttville,'" said Franklin.

Vallejo artist Rachel Rodi created a mosaic mural for the Florida Street entrance. Katie Wakeman, a Santa Rosa metal fabricator, fashioned the inside gates and fences. Walnut Creek

ecological sculptor Colin Selig designed the Florida Street dog bench.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company has been slow to electrify the facility, a chronic problem throughout the for-profit utility's service territory.

According to Dr. Shari B. O'Neill, shelter veterinarian for Muttville, the new facility allows the organization to provide almost all veterinary services, including spay/neuter surgery, dental procedures, vaccinations, routine health screenings, and X-ray imaging in-house.

"(This allows) us to be efficient with our resources and ultimately save more dogs. Our goal with medical care at Muttville is to provide what is urgently needed to have a dog ready for adoption with a focus on preventive care and treatments or procedures that will provide relief from pain or suffering," said O'Neill.

Additional new equipment include a washer and dryer.

"Although this may seem trivial, it

is a game changer for us. It allows us to prepare all of our surgical laundry the same day and keeps it separate from the rest of the shelter laundry," said O'Neill.

Shelter Director Gabriella Jew noted that the buildings feature a rescue clinic with surgery and dental rooms, Home of New Beginnings, with grooming, therapy, and recovery rooms, and Adoption Center, which has staff offices, an indoor play area, kitchen, foster house, adoption house, and community center, with space where local residents and community organizations can hold meetings.

"The community center has one large room, the Cuddle Den, and two smaller rooms. We've already hosted a few hospice symposiums," said Jew.

One of Jew's favorite areas is the Zen Space, an acupuncture and physical therapy room where volunteer acupuncturists and physical therapists help relax the dogs.

Nods to the City include the Painted Ladies, a set of five house frames for

staff offices that mimic the eponymous Victorian houses, and Lombard Street, an outdoor staircase with a winding American Disability Act ramp painted "International Orange," the same color as the Golden Gate Bridge.

"Little touches like our realistic fake fire hydrant in Playland give the center character. Just as important are the functional aspects, such as the hydraulic tub in the Shampoochery. That allows us to easily bathe dogs of any size. We also appreciate our "iso" units, to isolate dogs who are sick, and secure rooms for larger dogs, like True North, a Great Dane who knows how to open door handles," said Jew.

"We are getting used to communicating on a larger campus and learning how to make things easier for our staff and volunteers," said Franklin.

Muttville is open Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., by appointment during the week.



From left: Founder and CEO Sherri Franklin; volunteer groomer Cindy Perry with Fitzroy in the Shampoochery.

PHOTOS: Courtesy of Muttville

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