



Mollie Poe

Top Producer 1% SFAR
 mollie@molliepoe.com
 m: 415-902-2447
 CalBRE# 01 239280

Declan Hickey

Top Producer 1% SFAR
 declan.hickey@compass.com
 m: 415-902-2446
 CalBRE# 01 356209

www.molliepoe.com

MP

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3 BED | 2 BATH | FOR SALE AT \$1,299,000

Spacious NOPA Condo with 3 full-sized bedrooms / 2 full-baths.

Large bay windows. Large eat-in kitchen. Open floor plan includes a large fireplace in living/dining room. Hardwood floors. Independent 1-car parking. Common area yard and deck. HOA \$450 /month with good reserves.



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Modified with permits to accommodate today's family-style living.

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NOPNA News

A Publication of the North of Panhandle Neighborhood Association

2017 : issue 4



Photo: Joseph Wilinski / Erika Alexander

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOPNA HOLIDAY PARTY

You're Invited! All Neighbors Welcome
Jannah • 1775 Fulton Street
Saturday, December 9th, 6:30-9pm

NOPNA GENERAL MEETING

Oasis Cafe • 901 Divisadero
Thursday, January 18th, 7pm
Thursday, March 15th, 7pm

SFPD PARK STATION COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Park Station Community Room
Second Tuesday each month, 6pm

DIVISADERO FARMERS MARKET

Grove@Divisadero, Sundays, 10am-2pm

PANHANDLE PARK STEWARDS

Second Saturday each month, 9am-12pm
panhandlepark.blogspot.com



North
Of
Panhandle
Neighborhood
Association

Contact us:

board@nopna.org or www.nopna.org

NOPA residents, business owners, and commuters began noticing construction and "No Parking" barricades along Masonic Avenue and its intersecting streets back in March or April of this year. Once complete, the Masonic Avenue Streetscape Project will boast safety enhancements for all roadway users, including raised bike pathways, wider sidewalks, better lighting, and sewer upgrades. After almost six months, Alex Murillo of SF Department of Public Works (SFPD) anticipates the project to end in April of 2018. The project is on track to stay on budget (\$26 million) pending any additional unforeseen conditions or issues.

The improvement project has made parking in the area more difficult, with a total of 167 spaces removed to make

space for the other improvements. This has been partially offset by additional residential parking and new parking spaces created on Turk and Fulton streets. Even with this mitigation, however, the project continues to make parking difficult and create challenges for many neighbors. For instance, an online group of local mothers has pointed to the increased noise due to construction and parking difficulty as additional challenges to parenting young children. One local business owner (who asked not to be named in this article) has seen a negative impact to sales as traffic congestion, lack of parking, and sidewalk barricades deter customers from coming into the neighborhood.

(continued on page 3)

FROM THE BOARD



Charles Dupigny is the President of the NOPNA board.

GIVING BACK

It's been a great year with positive changes in the neighborhood. We are proud of the beautiful Panhandle Park improvements — new lighting, irrigation, asphalt paving, benches, bike racks, signage, and landscaping — completed through our collaboration with the city Recreation & Park Department. In addition, there has been a focus on pedestrian and bike safety with traffic calming, Bike Share, Masonic Avenue changes, and improved bike lanes. And we continue to host community-building events like the annual block party, Sunday Streets & Sidewalk Sale, and Halloween. We've hosted political leaders in our general meetings and we are continuously seeking ways to improve our newsletter, website, and social media presence. And yet, we are still highly aware of the tumultuous world in which we live today.

So, as we approach the holiday season, we want to encourage you, as our neighbors, to be safe and give back to your community. NOPNA is a non-profit organization and we always welcome tax-deductible donations to help fund events, our newsletter, and the Panhandle. But, beyond NOPNA.org, we want to encourage neighbors to give locally to some important non-profit organizations that are doing great work for our young people, families, and parks. As the Season of Giving approaches, please consider donating to one or more of the following organizations:

Larkin Street Youth

<http://larkinstreetyouth.org/>

Within our neighborhood, Larkin Street Youth houses homeless youth who find themselves on the streets of San Francisco through no fault of their own. Larkin Street is a city-wide non-profit and we believe in what they are doing — helping young people find safe places to live and get back on track to a positive lifestyle. Three out of four youth who complete Larkin Street's programs exit street life.

Village Project

<http://thevillageprojectsf.org/>

Adrian Williams, Executive Director, created the Village Project in 2006 and has grown it from an all-volunteer summer lunch program into a larger community-based non-profit with an after-school academic program and a summer enrichment camp. The project provides public and co-operative housing residents with positive activities and events for the "Village Kids" and their families.

Ella Hill Hutch Collective-Impact

<http://www.collectiveimpact.org/ella-hill-hutch.html>

Ella Hill Hutch Community Center opened its doors to the Western Addition area of San Francisco over 30 years ago. A full-service site, the center boasts a gymnasium, playground, community gardens, classroom space, a computer lab, and four newly resurfaced tennis courts. Ella Hill Hutch has a MAGIC Zone program offering out-of-school programming for primarily low-income K-12 students during the school year and summer.

SF Parks Alliance

<http://www.sfparksalliance.org/>

Our neighborhood has worked a lot with the San Francisco Parks Alliance to help us make improvements to the Panhandle. Its mission is to inspire and promote civic engagement and philanthropy to protect, sustain, and enrich San Francisco parks, recreation, and green open spaces.

Be safe and have a splendid holiday season!



The **NOPNA News** is published by the North of Panhandle Neighborhood Association for the residents, businesses, and friends of our neighborhood, which is bounded by Masonic Avenue and Turk, Divisadero and Fell Streets.

PUBLISHER

NOPNA Board of Directors

EDITOR

Jason Cauthen
jason@nopna.org

LAYOUT AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

Brian Donovan

BUSINESS OUTREACH/ADVERTISING

Carmen Chan

COPY EDITORS

Nathan Lovejoy
Erika Alexander
Ann Kim

DISTRIBUTION

Will Valentine

PRINTING

Image Printing, San Francisco

NOPNA's mission: The purpose of this association shall be to establish neighborhood unity, maintain multi-ethnic and multi-cultural diversity, foster a sense of neighborhood pride, promote a safe and clean community, and improve the quality of life for all residents of the neighborhood.

Please join us! You can sign up online at nopna.org.

Interested in donating to NOPNA? Check if your employer double your donation with a matching gift! NOPNA is a registered 501c3 organization.

GET INVOLVED!

NOPNA has launched an annual survey to hear what you think. Please check out our website (NOPNA.org) and fill out the 2017 NOPNA-Neighborhood Survey.

If you are interested in joining our email list or would like some ideas for how to get more involved, please email us at board@nopna.org.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with events or distribute the newsletter or help with safety.

We hope to hear from you!



PHOTO: Joseph Wilinski / Erika Alexander

MASONIC UPDATE *(continued)*

Nearly a decade after community outreach began, we are reaching the final stages of one of the most significant neighborhood improvements we have seen in a long time. Assuming all goes as planned (and thanks in part to the recent overnight water-line work), NOPA should be enjoying the new Masonic Streetscape, originally petitioned for over 10 years ago, as early as this coming spring.

For more about the project and its progress, go to the DPW website at www.sfpublicworks.org/masonic for the latest updates.

Carmen Chan - is a San Francisco native with an interest in engaging local businesses in the community. She and her husband moved to the neighborhood in 2009 and live here with their young son.

FREE HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS

If you are interested in the history and architecture of our neighborhood, check out the free North of Panhandle tour from San Francisco City Guides. SF City Guides is an organization of volunteer guides who give free tours (donations are always welcome) all over the city. The walk, which lasts about an hour and forty-five minutes, takes you through the ups and downs of NOPA's history, highlighting its changing demographics and superb Victorian architecture.

Join a NOPA walk to hear about and see the details of the physical, cultural, and demographic changes that have shaped the neighborhood over the last 150 years. The tour starts at 1 p.m. at the McKinley statue in the Panhandle on the Baker Street side, and is given twice a month. You can always find the date of the next tour on the City Guides website: <http://sfcityguides.org/index.html>.

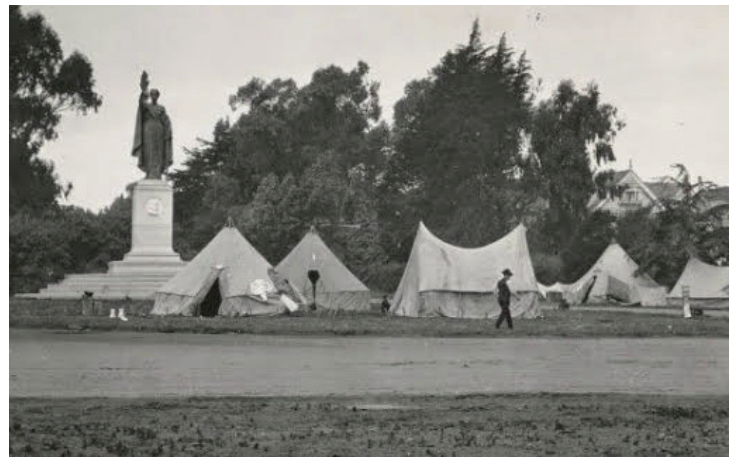


PHOTO: 1906 earthquake refugee camp by the McKinley Monument.

Linda Ackerman leads the NOPA City Guides tours along with Ernie Ng, who developed the tour.



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Cafe specialties (pastries, sandwiches, and
"one-cup-at-a-time" coffee) available all day

Great selection of Ethiopian coffee blends for sale

Wheelchair accessible • No reservations required

PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Pastor Paul Hall recently joined the Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ at 1915 McAllister Street. He brings with him some new ideas for the church and how it can reach out to the neighborhood. The following Q&A is based on a recent interview with Pastor Hall.

How long has the church been in the neighborhood?

The Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ has sat at 1915 McAllister since the early Sixties, in a building that was previously a local store. Over the years, it has had several leaders. I came to the church at the beginning of 2017, but was already acquainted with the congregation through spotlight sermons conducted throughout 2016.

Can you tell me a bit more about your background?

I was originally called to the ministry in 1996, prior to being selected as Lt. Commander in the Navy. I am “bi-vocational” and earn a living through careers outside of preaching. After retiring from the Navy, I worked as a teacher, later working my way up to be an executive in the San Lorenzo Unified School District.



PHOTO: Pastor Paul Hall of the Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ.
PHOTO CREDIT: Jason Cauthen

What are your impressions of the Pentecostal Temple COGIC?

In my relatively short time here, I have observed a lot of love, flexibility, and willingness to change from a welcoming congregation. The congregation itself is made up of people from as far away as Vallejo or Hayward, as well as some who have grown up in our neighborhood.

What is your vision for the church's place in the community?

The church has a long and rich history and I am looking for ways to adapt it to the changing neighborhood and the changing times. For example, I am looking for ways to welcome in the community, with musical

events, comedy nights, education sessions on stewardship, and even just opening the front door during services, so people feel welcome poking their heads in to see what is going on. I want to show people you can have good, clean fun.

My wife, Lady Angela Hall [a former director of the Boys and Girls Club in Tracy], and I are particularly dedicated to children and their development. We are seeking to develop reading programs and other programs to help children we see reading as essential to our mission of sustaining and helping the community.

What do you hope people learn from attending a service?

I want people to study the word for themselves. I hope they leave with a clear message and a call to action, not just an emotional high

If you're interested to learn more about the church or the programs they are doing, get the latest from their Facebook page or drop by the church, where you may catch the Pastor before or after a service. Pastor Hall mentioned that one way he's met the most neighbors is when he sweeps up the leaves in front of the church — so keep an eye out and welcome him to the neighborhood!

Jason Cauthen is a San Francisco native who lives in the neighborhood with his wife and two boys.

FORD GOBIKE EXPANDING FOOTPRINT IN NOPA

Ford GoBike stations are rapidly becoming integrated into the heart of San Francisco neighborhoods, and NOPA residents have mixed feelings. Representatives from Ford GoBike recently attended two neighborhood meetings in order to address concerns and answer lingering questions. The major concerns from neighbors who attended these meetings include loss of parking — which are about four parking spots per dock station — and the ultimate value of the program.



PHOTO: Meg's parents enjoy an excursion through Golden Gate Park on a recent visit/ Meg Rahner

70% of GoBike riders in San Francisco are city residents, and many neighbors are taking advantage of these bikes — including 150 rides a day out of NOPA stations alone. Matt Schoolfield, a NOPA resident, often commutes with a Ford GoBike instead of his own. “Bike theft is a huge problem,” Schoolfield said, “I don’t feel comfortable riding my bike downtown and parking it. As soon as I park the GoBike, I can forget about it and go about my day without worrying.”

NOPA currently has three Ford GoBike stations at McAllister and Baker, Fell and Central, and Grove and Divisadero, which dock about 70 bikes total. Two future locations have yet to be finalized and will be shared with neighborhood associations once they are selected in the next few months, and will likely be rolled out by mid-2018. Two intersections under consideration are Grove and Masonic, and Fulton and Broderick.

According to Justin Nguyen, Outreach Coordinator at Motivate, “Station locations take into account the feedback we’ve received from neighborhood groups including the recent meetings at NOPNA and PROISF, neighbors who attended workshops or who reached out to provide suggestions, institutions such as USF and St. Mary’s Medical Center, and stakeholders adjacent to chosen station locations. All station locations also undergo rigorous traffic safety review from numerous city agencies, including SFMTA, DPW, SFPD, and SFFD.”

The success of the program will be evaluated within the next six months to understand how neighborhoods are using the system and to address whether any changes should be made. If you have feedback or questions for the Ford GoBike team, please email outreach@fordgobike.com.

Meg Rahner is an Erie, Pennsylvania native who has lived in NOPA since 2010. She works in tech marketing and in her spare time enjoys yoga, cooking, and exploring San Francisco.

We are proud to support the North of Panhandle Neighborhood Association.

Michael Leeder

Senior Vice President – Wealth Management
Wealth Management Advisor

415.676.2585 • michael_leeder@ml.com

Resident of NOPA

Merrill Lynch

555 California Street, 9th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104

fa.ml.com/michael_leeder

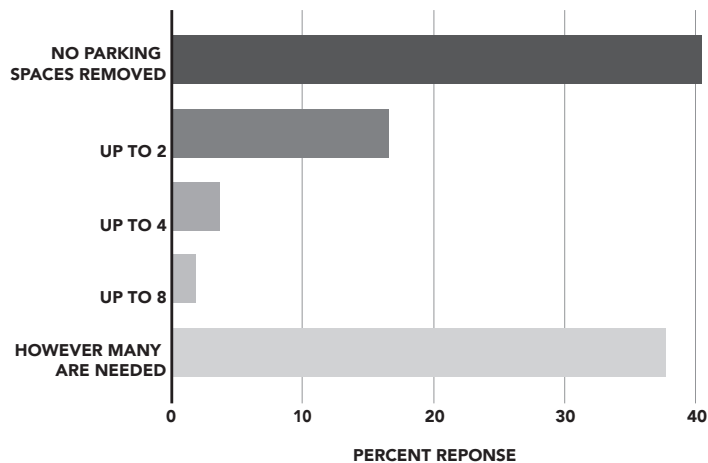


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SURVEY: TRAFFIC CALMING

QUESTION:

How many parking spaces do you feel it is appropriate to remove at any proposed location in favor of traffic calming?



Source: NOPNA

VISION ZERO

NOPNA ran a survey early in 2017 asking the community which streets and intersections, if any, need traffic calming. Two-thirds of the 112 respondents supported traffic calming.

When asked to consider the trade-offs between traffic calming and parking, 40% thought no spots should be removed and 60% were distributed among those willing to remove two or more parking spaces up to however many are needed.

Desire for traffic calming was primarily focused on the east-west streets. Fulton (from Central to Divisadero) was the most frequently selected (four of the six highest selected blocks were on Fulton), with stretches of Grove (from Lyon to Divisadero) and Hayes (from Masonic to Lyon and Broderick to Divisadero) also drawing votes in the top ten.

The NOPNA board will further discuss and evaluate the information and, if agreed, reach out to the street residents to gain specific feedback. Funds are allocated annually for traffic calming and intersection safety improvements, so NOPNA can apply for this regularly if neighbors support it. Your responses will also be considered at the board meeting along with injury data to draw on as possible improvements.

The results of the survey, collision data and maps, and program details are all on our website under the Resource page. If you have thoughts or feedback, please share your thoughts at board@nopna.org.

Jason Cauthen and Tim Hickey are members of the NOPNA board and enjoy spirited discussions about infrastructure.

Brenda's

MEAT & THREE

SO WHAT'S A MEAT & THREE?

A southern culinary tradition, a meat & three is a meal with one meat entrée and three side dishes, which the diner chooses from a list of options.

We pay homage to this tradition with our meat & three style diner.

Open everyday except Tuesday, 8am – 10pm
 Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner • Weekend Brunch
 919 Divisadero St 415.926.8657
brendasmeatandthree.com

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NOPA



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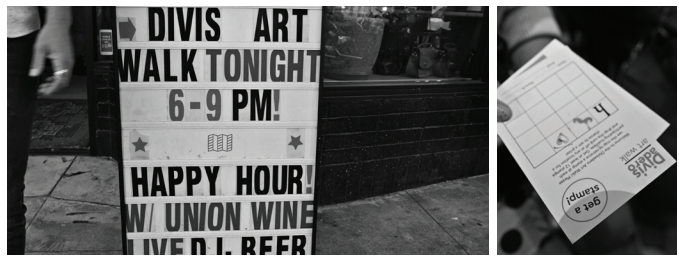
DIVISADERO ART WALK!

The merchants and artists of Divisadero Street felt the love one lovely Thursday night in September, when residents and visitors turned out to celebrate local artists and local merchants. The streets were packed with people enjoying art, music, food, drinks, and one another. Thank you to all who came out to support local businesses and artists!

Everyone had fun collecting stamps from businesses up and down the street. It was a great way for businesses to chat with customers and to get to know them better, and for residents to discover businesses that they've never been into before. The prizes for the raffle were top notch so it was truly a win-win for everyone!



Giselle Gyalzen is the owner of Rare Device at 600 Divisadero and one of the organizers of the Art Walk.



Cyprian's Center & Church
2097 Turk @ Lyon

Mindfulness Meditation Sessions
 {Free on Tuesdays @ 7 pm}

Free Community Dinner
 {6 pm Nov. 5 }

Folk Music Open Mic & Song Circle Free,
 {2nd & 4th Fridays @ 8 pm}

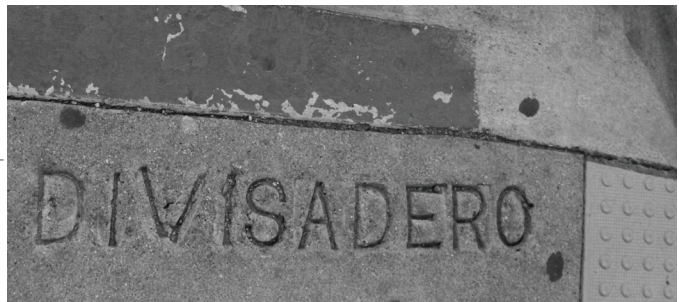
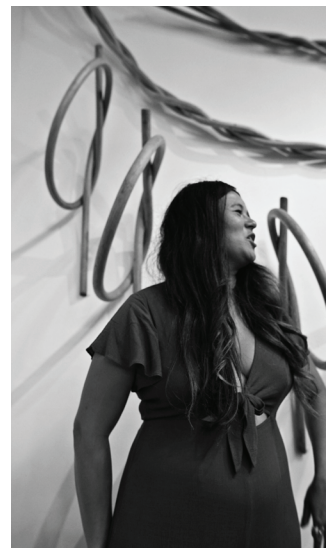
Day of the Dead Commemoration
 Blessing the memories of the dead
 {10 am Nov. 5}

Christmas Eve Gala Piano Jazz
Celebration with Stephen Prutsman
 {10 pm Dec. 24}

Christmas Day Carols & Prayers
 {10 am Dec. 25}

Kwanzaa @ Cyprian's {January 1, 2018}

cyprianscenter.org & cyprains.org



PHOTOS: Joseph Wilinski / Erika Alexander

GROVE STREET: ANOTHER SPOOKY-FUN HALLOWEEN!

The neighbors of Grove Street again opened their doors, and in some cases their yards and garages, to allow us all to celebrate Halloween with them. The legions of superheroes, animals, royalty, and other creative characters competed on cuteness, danced to the music, and of course delightedly trick-or-treated up and down the block. All the amazing costumes made judging no easy task for our VIP judges — District 5 Supervisor London Breed, Assemblyman Phil Ting, and NOPNA Board President Charles Dupigny — who awarded Certificates of Honor to the great winning costumes!

Just as many of us have spent Halloween reminding our little ones to say, “Thank you,” at each house, the NOPNA board would like to thank the neighbors of Grove Street for hosting this great tradition again this year. Thank you also to the many volunteers who helped monitor the barricades, run candy to houses running low, and help set up and breakdown the whole event. Thank you to the USF band for keeping things fun and lively, and to Madison (of Madison Hamilton Designs) for designing the NOPNA Halloween poster. Finally, NONPA thanks neighborhood realtor Jennifer Rosdail for her many years of support.

Only with your help is this wonderful tradition possible! Looking forward to next year!



SUNDAY STREETS/SIDEWALK SALE

Sunday Streets fell on a (very) warm Sunday this year and our neighborhood rose to the challenge. Not only did we frolic in the wide-open streets on bikes, skateboards, and on foot, but several neighbors took advantage of the weather to host a neighborhood-wide sidewalk sale.

Thank you to Myrna, Ed, Wylie, Jim, Suzanne, Heather, Carrie, Ruth, Bob, Coralie, Kara, Kate Noreen, Leela, and anyone else we missed for getting out there, connecting with your neighbors, and sharing all your great stuff with us!

Looking forward to doing it again next year!

NEIGHBOR PROFILE:

Fernando Aguilar, Director, Creative Arts Charter School

Creative Arts Charter School is one of several schools in the area that attract NOPA families. A charter school is an independent public school (it is part of SFUSD) granted a charter to focus on a particular mission. Founded in 1994, it was recognized as a California Distinguished School with an Exemplary Arts Education Program in 2014.

Tell us a bit about Creative Arts and what makes it special.

Our mission is to create lifelong learners who know how to get the most out of their educational environment and have the confidence to make a change in the broader community. Nothing is more encouraging than when a student can articulate understanding, make meaning, and show it; when their learning is demonstrated not through rote memorization, but through their creations in dance, drawing, sculpture, painting, music, photography, and theater. We've created a space where kids can feel safe, supported, and loved.

How is Creative Arts part of the neighborhood?

We have about 70 families from District 5 and we participate in events like the Alamo Square Flea Market and Sunday Streets. We periodically invite District Supervisors to the school to speak and not too long ago London Breed joined us. Right now we are talking with the



PHOTO: Fernando Aguilar, Director of Creative Arts Charter School. He earned his BA at Humboldt State and MA in education at USF. He has spent the past 6 years leading Creative Arts.

organizers of Divisadero Art Walk about how we can partner, which seems like a perfect fit.

What are your favorite parts of the neighborhood?

I used to live at Fulton and Ashbury. My brother, who lived at Fulton and Baker, and I were regulars at the Panhandle basketball court for years. Madrone Art Bar is a neighborhood fave — owner Mike is a CACS parent — and I still miss Brother-In-Law's BBQ.

How have the events of the last year affected students?

It has brought us together as a community. As first-generation myself and having a mother who made enormous sacrifices to ensure my education, this is also very

personal to me and my family. We are doing the best we can to ensure our community members feel safe and protected at Creative Arts.

What do you hope for your students as they graduate from Creative Arts?

I hope they know who they are as learners, as individuals, as community members. I am confident they will know about their responsibility to make an impact on the world because making a positive difference has been expected from them from the start.

What are your hopes for Creative Arts in the future?

Very specific to our school is that we are looking to expand and upgrade our facilities while staying at 1601 Turk. We love this neighborhood and are very connected to it. Our school community has put a lot of effort into making our current space work, but we are maxed out in our current building. An expansion for our facility would mean creating a computer lab, a well-equipped science lab, a maker space, and a performance space.

Broader than that, I want to create equity for all students to be successful — not just those in a few schools — and I want to support our teachers so they can live and thrive in the Bay Area.

Caitlin Storhaug is a marketing executive who has lived in NOPA for 14 years and whose 9 year old son is a 3rd grader at Creative Arts.



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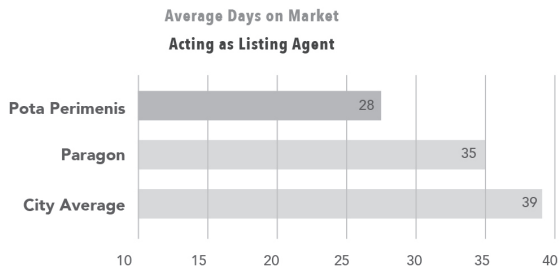
Pota Perimenis, #1 NOPA Listing Agent in 2016

My listings have higher sold prices and less time on the market.

POTA PERIMENIS Acting as Listing Agent in 2016 San Francisco Residential Sales



Listed & Sold More Homes in North of Panhandle in 2016 Than Any Other Agent



Data per sales reported to MLS, per Broker Metrics.

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