

LABOR DAY PICNIC 2026

A Beautiful Day for a Picnic!

It was a beautiful day for a **Labor Day Picnic Palooza**! And nearly 200 of our neighbors took advantage of the beautiful day and met at Adrian Rosal Park for an afternoon of great food, beautiful music, games, face painting, raffles, and community.



Thanks to our incredible set up crew: **Les Schlesinger, Jon Alexander, Roge Alexander, Ellen McKenna, Roberta Adams, Janeko Bower, Charity & Warren Lanier, and Victoria Robinson.** Victoria also ran our food tent along with

Bonnie Monte, Ellen McKenna, Sherry Julin, and Marylyn Genovese. There

was some fine grilling being done by **Gerry Guarriello and Craig Jenkins.** So much to eat and so little time.

We could not have had such a successful party without the help of all of our volunteers who ran the booths, sold raffle tickets and helped the kids with the crafts: **Lori Diebel, Marilyn Vonschalscha, Dinah McClure, Carol Sherick, Les Schlesinger, Jon Alexander, Janeko Bower, Charity Lanier, Shirin Zehtabfard, Denise Dugan, and Gerry Guarriello.** We will never forget the sight of the kids playing "Granny Pants" or our bubblemaster, **Jake Alexander** with his giant bubbles. Les brought his special energy to the ring toss which was very popular with both adults and kids who went home with new sunglasses after winning.

Special thanks to our **Santa Venetia Neighbors Helping Neighbors Shelley Cooper, Mari Dannecker, Missey Jaquysh, Sue Anderson, and Linda Warner** as they once again provided their Spin-a-Wheel for free school supplies to the children who attended the picnic. And to **Daryl Kesecker**, a neighbor across from the park who went above and beyond by providing us with tables, chairs and buckets of water for one of our games. Our afternoon was filled with music first from **Kurt Huget and Craig**



Bartock and later from **Wayne Lechner** and

company. Then we had our remarkable cleanup crew of **Jon Alexander, Ellen McKenna, Janeko Bowers, Roberta Adams, Mary Carol Winkler, Shelley Cooper, Laurie Steese, Gerry Guarriello, Arlene Davis, and the whole Bortoli Family - Michelle, Alex, Natasha, and Dennis.** My final thanks go to my neighbor **Warren Lanier** and his son **Sid** who were waiting for me at home to help unload. (my apologies if I have missed anyone who helped)

We could not do these events without your help, and we always need more volunteers. Please text or email Laura if you would like to help, and she will let you know when volunteer opportunities are available: rosie.alexander@comcast.net 415-250-8870.

Our raffle brought in nearly \$1,000 towards support for our CERT team and our incredible volunteers who beautify our medians. Thanks to all of our raffle prize donors: **Rocky's Meats, Santa Venetia Market, Gaspere's Pizzeria, Le Chalet Basque, the Northbridge Pool, Anna Donovan, the Alexander and Godfrey Families, Missy Jaquysh, Gerry Guarriello, Carolyn Latham, Madeleine Wu, and Diya Dattani,** 11-year-old owner and operator of **Silver Sparrow Bakery.**





It was so great to spend the afternoon with our community getting to know our neighbors.

Remember that these great events are possible because of **SVNA** membership fees. If you haven't yet joined, please do so at www.thesvna.org — your membership helps support community and fun.

There were a few items found at the picnic that someone may be looking for: round pink sunglasses, a green coffee cup thermos, a white bowl, multiple serving utensils, and a solar powered charger in a bag with onions and oranges. If any of these are yours, please contact Laura to arrange pick-up.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to **Laura Alexander** for stepping up to organize and put together this and other events in our neighborhood. We all know the amount of work it takes to pull these off and she has done that and more. We are so appreciative! Hats off to her – Kudos to Laura!!!



