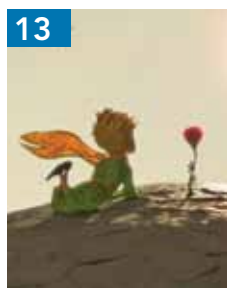



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Ed Ruscha, *Standard Station*, 1966. Color screen print, 25 5/8 x 40 in. Published by Audrey Sabol, Villanova, Penn. Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, museum purchase, Mrs. Paul L. Wattis Fund, 2000. PHOTO: ©ED RUSCHA

Ed Ruscha and the Great American West

BY SHARON ANDERSON

THE FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF San Francisco presents an exhibition through Oct. 9 exploring the art of Ed Ruscha and the American West. The museum acquired the artist's complete graphic archive in 2000, which included all

published editions of Ruscha's prints and a pledge to receive those made in the future. This exhibition draws heavily from the institution's permanent collection in a continued desire to bring major exhibitions of post-war American art to the Bay Area.
Born in 1937, Ruscha drove to California from Oklahoma in 1956. His

trip roughly followed the legendary Route 66 through the Southwest, and all its billboards, gas stations, and open skies later defined his signature style. Ruscha studied with Robert Irwin at the Chouinard Art Institute, and became an active member of the Los Angeles Pop Art

RUSCHA, continued on 12

REYNOLDS RAP

Grow up, Airbnb

You're a big business now — time to follow the rules

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

*Dear SF Tax Collector,
You know the \$12 million in hotel taxes?
Don't spend it all in one place.
Love, Airbnb*

— From a series of Airbnb ads in San Francisco, October 2015

LAST FALL, AIRBNB WAS EMBROILED IN A NASTY battle to beat Proposition F, which would have strengthened regulations on the short-term home rental start-up and its competitors. The company spent more than \$8 million on deceptive ads to scare the day-lights out of anyone using the service ("Don't let the government in your bedroom!"). Proponents of Proposition F spent almost nothing and still got 45 percent of the vote, but ultimately the pricey ad assault paid off and Airbnb defeated the measure.

That was just fine with moderates on the Board of Supervisors like Julie Christensen. Handpicked by Mayor Ed Lee to represent District 3 after David Chiu went to Sacramento, she told me in an interview that

REYNOLDS RAP, continued on 4

Real Estate Investor

Property market shifts gear

New high-end condos change the market

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

SUPPLY AND DEMAND STILL HAS THE FINAL SAY, EVEN in San Francisco's wild real estate market.
Early this month, developer Trumark Urban is expected to begin selling a batch of units in its \$200 million luxury condominium project, The Pacific, located at 2121 Webster Street in Pacific Heights. A walk or drive along Market Street in the Castro shows many new and under-construction condo projects lining the street. SoMa has been home to numerous tall cranes building even more housing units in recent years. In another part of the market, there are potentially tens of thousands of "in-law" units, or accessory dwelling units, that could come onto the market in the near future if a new pact between supervisors Mark Farrell and Aaron Peskin becomes reality and boosts generation of new such units (see News Briefs, page 3).

People who have wondered when all of the new construction would begin to reduce housing prices are finally getting an answer: Now.

It's not a dramatic drop, and it's not even affecting all property types. Currently it is being felt on high-end

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THE BACK STORY



Left: Nude study by Arnold Genthe, early 1900s; Right: *Dream*, a 1910 photograph by Imogen Cunningham. PHOTOS: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

San Francisco is famous for famous photographers

Part 1 of 2

BY ERNEST BEYL

THESE DAYS EVERYONE IS A photographer. Have you noticed? If you are a 21st-century photographer with a cell

phone, you're posting your photos on Facebook, Instagram, and Photobucket. And a lot of the photos are quite good. It was not always this way.

Do you remember the days of 35 millimeter Leicas and Nikons? Of lens openings and shutter speeds?

Of depth of field and "pushing" the film's developing time in the darkroom? If you remember these arcane terms and actions, you are much like I am. And you may miss those good old days.

To me, being a photographer these days is just too easy. There are so many pointing smartphones at this and that, taking selfies, and marveling at the results. Yes, I miss those good old days of real photographers.

But do you know that San Francisco has been a haven for real photographers, using real cameras, since shortly after the Gold Rush? This city is famous for famous photographers. Let me tell you about some of them.

ARNOLD GENTHE

A member of an academic family in Berlin, Genthe immigrated to San Francisco in 1895 to become the tutor for a young man from a German family. In his off hours, Genthe explored the city, especially the enclave known by its Chinese name, Tangrenbu. The locals called it Chinatown, and Genthe was attracted to it because to him, and other outsiders, it appeared strange and exotic. Soon he acquired a cam-

BACK STORY, continued on 12

TOP 10 STEAKS IN AMERICA

Osso Steakhouse - San Francisco, CA

Bobo's - San Francisco, CA

Peter Luger Steakhouse - Brooklyn, NY

Bern's Steakhouse - Tampa, FL

CUT - Beverly Hills, CA

Emeril's Delmonico - Las Vegas, NV

Mario Batali's Carnevino - Las Vegas, NV

Chicago Cut - Chicago, IL

The Precinct - Cincinnati, OH

Elway's Cherry Creek - Denver, CO

Osso STEAKHOUSE

is a romantic hideaway tucked in the landmark Gramercy Towers, near The Fairmont, Mark Hopkins and Huntington Hotels. The stylish Art Deco-inspired design provides an elegant yet relaxed ambiance.

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The Little Prince is leaping out of the pages of your childhood memories and onto the big screen, and resident starry-eyed film critic Michael Snyder says it's the perfect film to be stranded on a small planet with; plus, the best sellers. 13

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ONLINE SPECIALS

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News BRIEFS :: Parks, housing, and more

Water and in-laws don't mix

NEW FUTURE FOR FRANCISCO RESERVOIR

Russian Hill's Francisco Reservoir will finally have a new life as a city park, following a go-ahead from the Board of Supervisors in July. The board supported Supervisor Mark Farrell's bill to authorize the Recreation and Park Department to work with the Francisco Park Conservancy (FPC) to make the park happen.

FPC can now engage in public outreach and community meetings, as well as fundraising. It will need about \$25 million for the park's construction and \$150,000 annually for its maintenance.

"Turning the abandoned and dilapidated Francisco Reservoir into a brand-new citywide park is a once in a lifetime opportunity that is one step closer to reality today," said Farrell.

"With today's approval, the difficult and fun work of soliciting input from residents and neighborhoods about the park they would like to see created begins," Farrell added. "The neighborhood, open space, and environmental advocates fought for decades for this park and I am forever grateful for their efforts."

EVERYONE LOVES THEIR IN-LAW UNITS

Two Northside supervisors often on the opposite sides of issues managed to find consensus on the matter of accessory dwelling units, commonly called "in-law units." District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell and District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin agreed in late July to merge their competing proposed ordinances on the issue, making it more likely that possibly thousands of new housing units could be added to the city's tight residential housing stock.

Their joint legislation would permit homeowners to provide unlimited in-law units in buildings that have five or more units, but will restrict the in-law units to one per building when there are four or fewer units in the building. Any new units would have to be built within the building's existing structure or "envelope," and they would be rent-controlled unless they were built within existing condo

buildings that had no history of evictions.

Peskin said the legislation was the realization of something he has been working on since his first go-around on the Board of Supervisors, in 2002: "Since then, we've improved it through a robust community and legislative process, and I am focused on ensuring that the city does everything possible to incentivize the use of the affordable housing tools we are creating. I want the city to work with property owners to encourage use of this program, so we start reaping the benefits as soon as possible."

Farrell highlighted the new legislation as a balm for the city's housing woes. "Our housing crisis continues in San Francis-

co, and I believe we need to do everything possible at the Board of Supervisors to build more housing at every income level. This law will help realize thousands of new permanently rent-controlled units, protect and promote neighborhood character and diversity, and will make a meaningful impact in our city's housing shortage and crisis."

Only 10.9 percent of tech workers would consider getting a job at a start-up.

In-law units have also been a priority for Supervisors Scott Wiener and former District 3 Supervisor Julie Christensen, who had earlier gotten unanimous board approval for legislation that eased the legalization of such units in district 3 and 8.

co, and I believe we need to do everything possible at the Board of Supervisors to build more housing at every income level. This law will help realize thousands of new permanently rent-controlled units, protect and promote neighborhood character and diversity, and will make a meaningful impact in our city's housing shortage and crisis."

TECH WORKERS ON THE MOVE

Nearly 70 percent of tech workers don't think it's important to be in Silicon Valley, and fewer than half of Millennials consider it important to work in Silicon Valley. That's the word from a new survey from Indeed, which reports another surprising statistic: 88 percent of tech workers intend to leave their current employer for a different job.

At a time when tech hiring has slowed, some observers might be won-

CRIME CONTINUES TO DECLINE

dering if this is further fuel for the slowing of the go-go tech economy. But it might reflect more that tech workers, and especially younger ones, are pickier about what jobs they take. According to Indeed, only 10.9 percent of tech workers would consider getting a job at a start-up for their next job; it's the established whales of the Silicon Valley economy — Apple, Facebook, and Google — that are more in their sights.

Most categories of criminal activity citywide and in the Northern District have recorded declines between April and May of this year. According to Northern Station Captain John Jaimerena, the fol-

lowing changes have occurred citywide and in the Northern District, respectively: burglary is down 13 percent and 24 percent; auto theft is down 5 percent and 33 percent; theft from auto actually rose 20 percent and 29 percent; arson dropped 30 percent and 25 percent; and "other theft" rose 11 percent and 24 percent.

APOTHECARIUM

In terms of violent crime citywide and in the Northern District, homicide declined 29 percent and had no change, respectively; rape dropped 47 percent and had no change; robberies rose 7 percent and declined 21 percent; and aggravated assaults rose 13 percent and dropped 5 percent.

Medical marijuana store The Apothecarium, after a lengthy public approval process, has received its permits and will begin construction soon at its new location at 2414 Lombard Street. The company looks forward to opening in a few months.

The Apothecarium's first location is in the Castro.

News tips? E-mail: john@marinatimes.com

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Reynolds Rap

continued from page 1

Proposition F was nothing more than a way to “stick it” to Airbnb. She and other supervisors also claimed that further regulating the vacation rental start-up would stifle their innovation, which is just plain malarkey — let’s not forget that Apple managed to invent the iPhone while following the same pesky rules as any other for-profit company. The bottom line is that Airbnb and other “sharing economy” upstarts (yes, I’m talking to you, Uber) have no interest in following rules, because their very business model depends on breaking them.

Under public pressure, the Board of Supervisors passed a short-term rental ordinance in February 2015 requiring hosts to register with the city and remit hotel taxes. Since San Francisco’s mantra is “More bureaucracy is better,” the Office of Short Term Rentals was established to oversee the new rules, but (surprise, surprise) they haven’t had much luck with enforcement. Had Proposition F passed, it would have required Airbnb and similar companies like HomeAway and FlipKey to help with that enforcement. Airbnb puts out a lot of press statements saying that they “really hope to work with the city to make things right,” but behind the scenes they’re fighting tooth and nail to do just the opposite.

A year after the new ordinance went into effect, just over 1,600 of Airbnb’s nearly 10,000 hosts had registered. That didn’t sit well with Aaron Peskin, who beat Christensen to win back his old District 3 supervisor’s seat last November. A vocal critic of Airbnb, it took Peskin’s return to give progressives a voting edge, but more notably, it took his political prowess to garner unanimous agreement from the oft-divided board to amend the short-term rental law. The new common-sense verbiage, which would force Airbnb to take responsibility for monitoring its moneymaker, is fair and to the point: Hosting platforms must refuse listings that lack a registration number or face penalties of up to \$1,000 a day per illegal listing.

Airbnb immediately filed a lawsuit with the U.S. District Court of Northern California saying the new requirement would violate its First Amendment rights, leaning on that stalwart web company crutch, the Communications Decency Act. The CDA, and in particular Section 230, was passed by Congress two decades ago to help strengthen what was then a budding Internet economy by shielding online companies from the actions of their users. That the Internet is now a thriving multi-billion-dollar juggernaut and the antiquated, terribly vague CDA needs overhauling is a whole other column, but as the law stands now, Airbnb could win the case. To head off Airbnb’s claims, Peskin and fellow supervisors David Campos, Eric Mar, and John Avalos introduced new language removing the prohibition on displaying unregistered listings but fining companies each time they accept fees from guests who book those properties (sites such as Craigslist that simply publish listings without acting as intermediaries would be exempt).

Of course, none of this time-consuming, convoluted legislation would be necessary if Airbnb would just grow up and be a responsible corporate citizen. The pre-Peskin Board of Supervisors and Mayor Lee bear a large chunk of responsibility for kowtowing to tech companies that set up

shop here, lavishing them with tax breaks and giving them carte blanche to behave like insolent, arrogant teenagers. I’ve never understood why San Francisco can’t stand up to start-ups. In the real Silicon Valley where I’m from, household names like Google, Apple, and Facebook play by the rules and it hasn’t hurt them. In fact, they could buy and sell most of the unprofitable, overvalued firms here, which subsist on the venture capital equivalent of welfare. But Airbnb seems to think San Francisco should be grateful for its mere existence and the million bucks a month in hotel taxes generated by their few registered users. We know they feel that way because of the obtuse, out-of-touch series of ads they plastered on bus stops and billboards last October that said things like, “Dear Public Library System: We hope you use some of the \$12 million in hotel taxes to keep the library open later. Love, Airbnb.”

If Airbnb’s privileged young executives stepped out of their bubble for a few minutes, perhaps they would see the undeniable effect they’ve had on the city’s housing stock. In a May 2015 report, San Francisco’s independent budget analyst

Harvey Rose estimated that in some neighborhoods Airbnb units comprise as much as 40 percent of potential rentals, and that 2,000 entire housing units — nearly 25 percent of available vacan-

cies — have been removed from the market because of Airbnb. The report also drew comparisons between Airbnb and evictions, pointing out that in the Mission, for example, there were 315 hosts last year and 323 evictions.

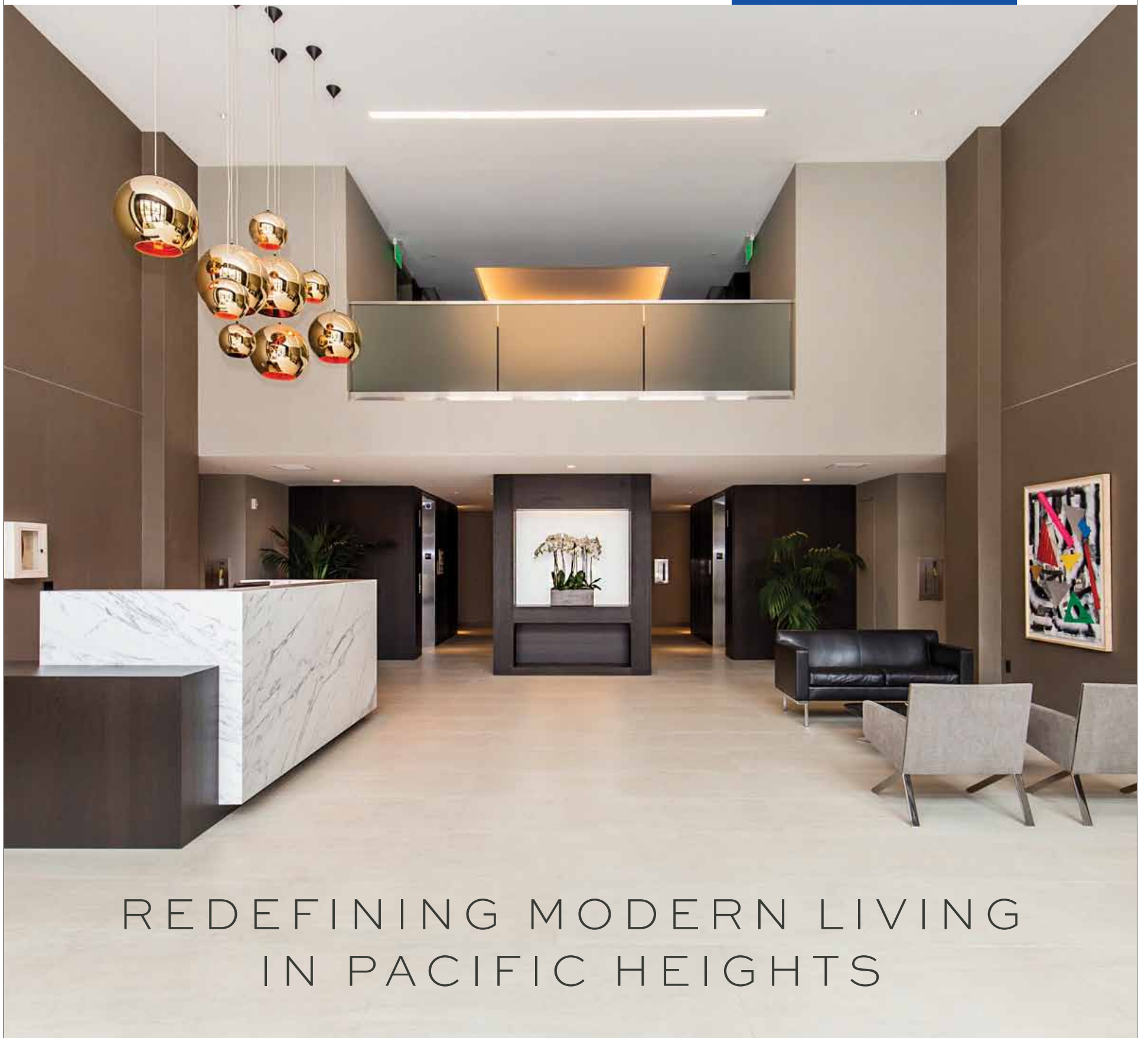
While some of Airbnb’s most passionate supporters are so-called “casual hosts” who use the service to supplement living expenses, Rose’s analysis focused on the impact of “commercial hosts,” who are booked in excess of 58 days a year and consider short-term rentals as a steady source of income — in other words, they’ve turned their vacant houses into hotels, which is illegal. Not to say those casual hosts don’t break the law. One host, who spoke to me on condition of anonymity, said that he makes upward of \$4,000 a month renting out rooms in his flat on Airbnb. When I asked why he hasn’t registered with the city, he said, “I can’t. My landlord doesn’t know I’m doing it and my lease doesn’t allow subleasing.” Turns out he’s been living for more than two decades in a rent-controlled apartment where he pays \$500 a month. “Airbnb allowed me to quit my job and travel a bunch,” he beamed. While short-term rental foes focus on landlords evicting tenants to make money off of Airbnb, many hosts are tenants making money off of landlords without their knowledge or permission. And they, too, contribute to the housing shortage by not renting vacant rooms to residents. It’s a massive mess that only Airbnb has the power to fix, but I don’t see that happening unless they’re dragged kicking and screaming by court order.

If I could post an ad in a bus stop, it would read, “Dear Airbnb: You’re not a very good neighbor. For all that talk about being innovators, you’re really just out to make millions for your founders and investors, even if that means breaking the law while hiding behind your users and the First Amendment. Grow up, Airbnb. You’re a big business now — time to follow the rules. Love, Susan.”

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Marina-Cow Hollow Insider : Fashionable



The Paris-designed clothing line at Les Lunes on Fillmore Street is made from bamboo.

PHOTO: LESLUNES.COM

New food and fashion hit the Cow Hollow

SUMMERTIME IN THE CITY

The afternoon sun is grand as are the crowds enjoying Saturdays at **The Lot SF Pop-up Beer and Spirit Garden** (thelotsf.com) in the former parking lot of the Taco Bell/KFC space on the corner of Fillmore Street and Lombard. There's a varied selection of brews, bubbles, wine, and cocktails throughout the summer, and you can even reserve a table (18 are vintage German) for a group from noon to 2 p.m. And, proceeds benefit local charities, so it's an all-around win. Drop by with your ID or shoot them an e-mail for group rezzies at hello@thelotsf.com, and follow their Instagram page for updates. You gotta love these pop-ups that donate to charity, right?

To combat your munchies, the next-door **Poki Time** (2101 Lombard Street, pokitime.com) has popped up to serve an easy-to-choose menu of poki your way before the entire building is demolished for condos. So poki and party while you can.

One of our go-to places is **Marengo on Union** (1980 Union Street, marengosf.com), where we often stop after our Sunday trek to the **Fort Mason Center Farmers' Market** (2 Marin Boulevard, fortmason.org), which, by the way, is currently brimming with all things summer — berries, stone fruits, and tomatoes. Marengo's back bar, with its retractable roof, is the perfect mix of sunshine and breeze, and just the place to grab a refreshment and a light slider snack, like a chicken 'n waffle, Monte Cristo, or a bacon 'n biscuit (which is a house-made biscuit, mind you). All range from \$3–\$4.75, which seems like quite the deal in our fair foodie city.

To help us get over hump day, and make us think we're on a tropical vacay, **The Palm House** (2032 Union Street, palmhousesf.com) recently launched a "Weekend Wednesday" menu from 5–9 p.m. that's cocktail-focused — the fruity kind adorned with umbrellas and orchids served in a pineapple with two straws for sipping with your favorite person (but no one says you have to share). If you don't like fruity, you can choose from two rum flights. Enjoy it all with a pu pu platter of coconut-crusted prawn and kalua pork wontons and other tasty bites on the popular sunny outside seating area, or in the playful tropical-themed indoors with the lighted birdcages.

CHARMED BY ELIZABETH

We needed a birthday gift recently, and because we always purchase those from local merchants, we headed to **Elizabeth W**

(900 North Point Street, elizabethw.com) in Ghirardelli Square, the flagship boutique of the local brand. We recently came across some samples in a small white paper bag, with the name elegantly penned in silver ink, so with a soft spot for simple elegance, and heartwarming stories (the founder named the store after his great grandmother because of all the fragrant scents he recalled as a child visiting her Sierra Nevada ranch), and the enclosed card with a dog running on Baker Beach, their letterpress packaging, and no animal testing, we were five times charmed. Check out their most popular scent, the woodsy, earthy vetiver, suitable for both genders. And their oversized silk (or wool) sleep masks with a velvet strap, for those of us who prefer not to wake up every time the neighbors turn on their bathroom light.

A few days later, we stumbled upon another Elizabeth, **Margaret Elizabeth** (2230 Chestnut Street, margaretelizabeth.com), which opened recently to showcase their own jewelry collection of semiprecious gems dipped in 24k gold, plus collections from other artists. With their first store and office on Sacramento Street in the Laurel/Presidio Heights neighborhood, they recently came down the hill to where it's really happening, and did a beautiful rehab of the former women's clothing boutique De Novo. Also in their finely honed inventory is a delightful array of lovely gift items like scarves, Herbivore bath salts and body oils, and, our favorite, lovely hand-crafted bowls and small vases.

ANOTHER FILLMORE FASHION FIND

The Bermuda Triangle is now a fashion paradise. **Les Lunes** (3027 Fillmore Street, leslunes.com) opened recently right next to **Palette Boutique** (3027A Fillmore Street, paletteboutique.com), which we told you about last month. Les Lunes features clothing for both men and women designed in Paris and constructed of beautifully draping and travel-friendly sustainable bamboo, and in sustainable styles (no trends) sewn in their workshop in Shanghai. Before you turn your nose up about "made in China," the values-driven, woman-owned company encourages its seamstresses to participate in the design process to create quality products and also to spend time with their families while paying them an above-average wage. Drop by on Thursdays from 5–8 p.m. for their neighborhood meet-up, Styling & Sips, and check out their collection.

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Answering your questions about the city

BY MARK FARRELL

What can the city do about ensuring we don't have to endure massive budget cuts at the next economic downturn? Do we have a rainy day fund? Is it sufficient?

As chair of our city's Budget and Finance Committee for the past four years, I have made it a priority to fight for and secure record amounts of savings into our city's budget reserves to protect against the next economic downturn. Each and every year under my leadership our budget reserves have grown, and I will continue to fight each and every year at the board to ensure we maintain those smart savings investments.

Our economy operates in cycles. We are currently going through the longest duration of economic growth in San Francisco history without experiencing an economic slowdown. Our city's financial health is strong and growing because of our commitment to saving responsibly, but there is more we can and must do to fend off massive budget cuts that will affect vital public services that our residents depend upon. No one wants to experience what it was like in 2009 and 2010 when people were losing their homes

and vital services like parks, police, and transportation services were being cut, and I have made fiscal responsibility one of my biggest priorities.

What should the city's priorities be during the remainder of Mayor Lee's term?

I believe our priorities as a city should be on reducing homelessness, enhancing public safety, building more housing, and working to improve the quality of life for all San Franciscans.

Homelessness in San Francisco continues to persist and was recently rated the number-one issue of concern citywide. There is no silver bullet for reducing homelessness. But making smart investments in housing programs and services that have been proven to save money over time is where we should continue to focus our efforts. With the newly created Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, the city for the first time is centralizing its homelessness efforts, and I am confident we will make the progress that our residents deserve and expect to see.

Public safety is also front-of-mind for all San Franciscans. Though violent crime continues to trend downward, we have a

surge in property crime that we need to continue to address. We need more police officers walking beats in our neighborhoods, and thankfully we have more academy classes planned to get more officers onto our streets.

Housing and affordability and the cost-of-living issues also continue to persist. We are producing more housing and have more units in the pipeline than ever before. We have to continue to plan responsibly for appropriate growth and focus on community involvement in the development process to ensure we maintain neighborhood character and vitality. Along with affordability, improving the quality of life must be a constant focus. We are set to invest more in our parks system, resurfacing our streets, improving transit, and more neighborhood-focused programs and services — all areas that are important to making life in San Francisco more enjoyable.

I heard the news about Francisco Reservoir finally moving ahead with a plan. What will happen to it and how soon will it be completed?

Since I was elected in 2010, I have been working with the community and open-space and envi-

ronmental advocates to turn the abandoned and dilapidated Francisco Reservoir in Russian Hill into a brand-new citywide park.

I am thrilled that we continue to push the Francisco Reservoir Park project forward, and that we recently just approved the next major milestone in doing so at the Board of Supervisors. The board just approved the agreement between the city and Francisco Park Conservancy that allows for the private fundraising and next phase in the public outreach process for input into the overall design of the park. Public outreach will continue throughout the year, and we expect construction to begin in 2018 and to be completed in 2019.

We are making such fantastic progress on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. To learn more about the project, or to get more involved, please visit the website, franciscopark.org.

I'm getting fed up with repair work and street work that disrupts my street. Is there any way we can know ahead of time what's going to happen?

I hear from residents from District 2 and across the city about how the sheer amount of work on our streets is causing traffic con-

gestion and disrupting our quality of life. I took those concerns and recently just authored and passed three pieces of legislation that seek to provide more advance and better notice to neighbors through modern means.

Now, all contractors will have to produce "construction parking plans" informing neighborhoods citywide of planned residential construction when their work will take up more than one parking space for longer than 30 days. Second, we recently approved my construction and building permit reform legislation that will give new powers to city departments to revoke permits from individuals who either are not completing their work in a timely manner, or not meeting the stated parameters of the permit they were issued.

Last, the board just recently approved my Neighborhood Notification Act, which will create San Francisco's first online and centralized notification system. Soon, residents will be able to access any city notice on any issue that may impact their neighborhood. From wanting to know why your Muni stop was moved, to learning more about the construction work occurring on your block, I want our city residents to be proactively informed through



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Sketches from a North Beach Journal

The truth about baccala; Beat Museum plans move, seeks angels; the loss of a McCourt poet

BY ERNEST BEYL

AL CIPPOLINA AND BACCALA ALLA MESSINESE

If you're around North Beach on a Friday, you might want to drop into the Original U.S. Restaurant. That's the day Al Cippolina makes his baccala alla Messinese — salt cod, potatoes, capers, olives and raisins, in a spicy tomato sauce. Al, one of the owners of this fine Sicilian restaurant, loves salt cod and is an expert in preparing it. For the uninitiated, salt cod is the dried, salted, slabs of fish encountered at real Italian delicatessens. The slabs of dried fish look like the soles of well-worn sneakers. To enjoy salt cod, it is necessary to soak it in a bucket of water for several days to rinse out the salt from the dried fish and reconstitute it before it is cooked.

In the old days, North Beach residents rinsed their dried cod by placing it in the water tank of their toilet — not the kind most of us are used to now, but the kind our grandparents had, with the water tank up near the high ceiling with a long pull chain running down to the business end. Every time the toilet was flushed the cold water in the tank rinsed the fish and it became less salty. I have this on the good authority of a North Beach old-timer who is well beyond his sell date.

JERRY CIMINO'S BEAT MUSEUM VISION

Back in 2003, Jerry Cimino, a former tech guy who worked for IBM, opened a tiny museum on Upper Grant Avenue in the space now occupied by the gallery Live Worms. It was a shrine to the Beat Generation — a group Jerry Cimino wishes he had been part of. The small, nonprofit outfit honors Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, and other Beat poets who made North Beach their home in the 1950s.

Cimino moved his Beat Museum in 2006 to its present site at 540 Broadway, not far from that other Beat shrine, City Lights. These days he has a new and somewhat grandiose idea to “further preserve the legacy of the Beats in San Francisco,” as he puts it.

The idea (call it Jerry Cimino's vision) is for the museum — with its collection of Beat memorabilia, including original manuscripts; first editions; letters; personal effects like Allen Ginsberg's typewriter; and a 1949 Hudson Commodore, the kind Kerouac and his buddy Neal Cassady drove cross country — to purchase the building at 580 Green Street (at Stockton), recently vacated by Citibank. The building as it exists now without modification would double the space of the present Beat Museum.

A BEAT HOTEL FOR NORTH BEACH

So the guy who wanted to be a Beat now wants to broaden the scope of the museum, put it closer to the heart of the old Beat neighborhood, and create a literary meeting place that would include a Beat cafe and a small Beat hotel. Preliminary plans by designer Michael Palumbo include a small cafe on the first floor, museum space on the second and third floors, and a boutique



The Beat Museum is looking to become supersized, with some super help.
PHOTO: CURTIS CRONN; FLICKR.COM/CRONNCC

Beat hotel on the fourth. Jerry Cimino recalls that there was a so-called “Beat Hotel” in Paris at one time. Ginsberg, Kerouac, William Burroughs, Gregory Corso, and other Beat writers stayed in the cheap, Left Bank hotel in the late fifties and early sixties. “What a thrill it would be to have a Beat Hotel in North Beach,” he says.

ANGELS WANTED BUT NOT ANGELHEADED HIPSTERS

That's Jerry Cimino's dream — and it may be a stretch because it will take bucks, lots of bucks, to put this deal together. How does he propose to realize his dream? By fund raising, of course. Jerry Cimino is an enterprising and persistent guy — a guy who doesn't accept “no” for an answer. He says the Beat Museum at its present location is at a crossroads. “We need more space and we need a sense of permanence,” he says. He worries that this city, in which many small businesses and organizations have had to shut down after being priced out, will eject his baby.

So what's the status of the Beat Museum's fund-raising project? A building fund has been set up and the word has gone out asking for financial support. He was quoted in Hoodline saying, “We're seeking the support of likeminded people who believe in the ideals of the Beat Generation.”

At this point it would seem that what Jerry Cimino needs is an angel, or perhaps a heavenly host of angels. *Howl* poet Allen Ginsberg's “angel-headed hipsters” need not apply.

Good luck Jerry. We wish you well.

POET ALPHIE MCCOURT

In last month's Sketches column on San Francisco's homeless citizens, I included a poem about them by Alphie McCourt, one of the famed McCourt brothers. A few days after my column appeared, I got word from Malachy McCourt that Alphie (baptismal name Alphonsus) had died in New York. All who knew Alphie will miss him greatly.

E-mail: ernest@marinatimes.com

Doing our j-o-b

BY AARON PESKIN

THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRON-
icle recently ran an editor-
ial (“Length of Novem-
ber ballot spells problems in
California democracy”) that
took City Hall to task for the
“interminable” length of the
proposed Nov. 8 ballot:

San Francisco’s poten-
tial ballot ... reflects a
shocking abdication of
responsibility on behalf of
its city leadership. Instead
of doing the hard work
of negotiating the city’s
priorities, they’re threat-
ening to dump that task
on the voters.

While the *Chronicle* editorial
staff failed to analyze the
underlying reasons why
there is such a vacuum
of leadership at City Hall
— from the mayor to the
president to the rest of
the board — the editorial
acknowledges that San
Francisco voters deserve
real access to direct democracy.

My personal philosophy has
been that the ballot should
always be used judiciously —
as a last resort. Certain things

require voter approval by law.
For example, we must take char-
ter amendments to the ballot by
law. We must take tax increases
to the ballot by law. And, when
the legislative body fails its con-
stituents during the legislative
process, the voters have the right
to take the discussion to the bal-
lot via signature, like Proposition
B’s “No Wall on the Waterfront”
campaign.

In June, several members of
the Board of Supervisors placed
complex and frankly even silly
measures directly onto the
already-crowded November bal-
lot, skirting any kind of dialogue
or opportunity for a public legis-
lative process at City Hall. After
signature gatherers missed the
deadline to submit their soda tax
measure, Supervisor Cohen put

sial tent encampment measure.
Supervisor Wiener placed a set-
aside onto the ballot to create a
special police unit that would
pull officers from other neigh-
borhoods to deal with whatever
“quality of life” crimes are get-
ting the most noise in the city.
And Supervisor Tang put
the density bonus legisla-
tion crafted by the mayor
and the Planning Depart-
ment directly onto the
ballot as well. One of the
problems with these bal-
lot initiatives is that any
future tweaks or amend-
ments would have to go back to
the voters rather than the city
legislature.

My office has been diligent-
ly working with all of my col-
leagues to try to trim this ballot
down. After several weeks
of amendments at the
board and ongoing nego-
tiations with Supervisor
Tang, we were able to pass
a fully vetted 100 Percent
Affordable Density Done
Right version of the den-
sity bonus program. Not
only does it have the support
of affordable housing advocates
as a practical and effective tool
for affordable housing creation,
but neighborhood groups that

contributed amendments to
strengthen and improve the
planning process and protect
both residential and commercial
tenants have signed on to the
legislation as well. This is what
the legislative process is for, and
it works when we let it.

four signature measures from
the ballot. I want to commend
my colleagues who have taken
steps to put forward legislative
alternatives to these ballot mea-
sures at the board. For instance,
Supervisor Kim has introduced
an ordinance, with input from
the incoming director of
the new Department of
Homelessness and Sup-
portive Housing, to set
forth a process at the
Board of Supervisors that
outlines best practices,
based on the federal gov-
ernment’s Interagency

Council recommendations, to
deal with tent encampments. I
am supporting Supervisor Kim’s
efforts to get this done in the
People’s House — not set in
stone at the ballot, as proposed
by Supervisor Farrell.

We were elected to do our
jobs as lawmakers in the Board
of Supervisors’ chambers. The
mayor was elected to do his job
as the city’s chief executive, in this
case managing air traffic control
on our unwieldy ballot. Punt-
ing issues off to the ballot is the
easy and sloppy political way out.
Going through a public process
and crafting consensus legisla-
tion is hard work, but it’s what we
were hired to do: our j-o-b.

**These discussions generated
amendments that would not
have been possible had Farrell
kept his measure on the ballot.**

Supervisor Tang has removed
her density bonus ballot mea-
sure from the November ballot.
After several weeks of negoti-
ating with Supervisors Farrell
and Wiener, we have agreed on
amendments to my accessory
dwelling unit legislation that will
contribute another instrument
for affordable housing creation.
These discussions involving
very technical issues, as well as
additional community feedback,
generated several more amend-
ments that would not have been
possible had Supervisor Farrell
kept his measure on the ballot.

By the time you read this, there
will be only a couple of days left
to remove the remainder of the

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The Tablehopper :: New and updated



Pour one out for Mike Shawa of North Beach icon Sam's, who has sadly left us after saving us with countless late-night burgers. PHOTO: ©TABLEHOPPER.COM

Union Street percolates with new projects; Mason Pacific is back in action

BY MARCIA GAGLIARDI

THERE IS A TAKER FOR the former **Betelnut** (2030 Union Street) space, and it's **Adriano Paganini's** restaurant group (Belga, Beretta, Delarosa, El Techo, Lolinda, Starbelly, Super Duper, and whew, Uno Dos Tacos). They will be unveiling the new casual dining concept this October; it will be open for lunch and dinner, and the front patio will be designed to be a lively space.

Another project coming to Union Street is **Naples On Union** (2136 Union Street), a 100-seat upscale Italian restaurant, "artisanal pizzeria," and wine bar, opening late summer in the former La Cucina space. Details are sparse at the moment, but we'll keep you updated.

After 10 years in Cow Hollow, **Umami** (2909 Webster Street) has closed. Based on the melancholic note posted on their website and outdoor menu board, it seems the closure wasn't what the partners had in mind. ("Call us another casualty of a changing San Francisco.")

The former **Tacolicious** space (2031 Chestnut Street) will become the fourth Bay Area location for **Asian Box**, which serves up "farm to box street food." Tacolicious has moved into larger digs at the old Grove space (2055 Chestnut Street).

A while back, we told you Pete Mrabe would be opening **Don Pisto's Tequila Bar** (2030 Lombard Street) in the former Mas Sake space, and it has now opened. The menu has smaller portions of Pisto's classics, and everything is less than \$15 (except specials). You'll find Pisto's enchiladas, their amazing tortilla soup, and machaca beef and egg as well as a street food section, with items like a fish or carnitas taco, braised beef tamale, street stand burger,

and ceviche tostada, available by the piece for \$3-\$7. There's a full bar — Duggan McDonnell consulted on the list, which he also did for Pete's (the former Amante).

NORTH BEACH

A few other updates in Mrabe land: At **Pete's** (570 Green Street, 415-398-2551) in North Beach, there's a new menu for dinner on non-game days, with brunch starting soon.

If you swing by **Central Station Deli** (728 Vallejo Street, 415-658-7310), you'll note the offerings there have ramped up significantly. Daniel Sudar, who makes desserts for Pete's, is making pastries, croissants, apple pie, and cheesecake. You can also pick up their hefty deli sandwiches, including a New York-style pastrami, plus breakfast sandwiches, lunch salads, lasagna, and other items to take home for dinner. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

Was sorry to read **Mike Shawa**, the mustachioed owner of late-night burger church **Sam's** (618 Broadway Street, 415-391-1539), has passed away at the age of 70. Hoodline reports Shawa's uncle Sam opened the burger joint in 1966. He will be missed by his many patrons, whom he treated as kindly as family — because his customers were family! Condolences to his family and many friends.

NOB HILL

One of San Francisco's more charming restaurants, **Mason Pacific** (1358 Mason Street, 415-374-7185) has reopened after a kitchen fire in March. A new fixture in the kitchen is chef Max Mackinnon, who is launching a new menu which includes dishes like braised lamb with flowering broccoli and citrus broth. The Cali native was previously the chef-owner of Pistou in Burlington, Vt., and has

cooked at Restaurant Relae in Copenhagen, Fish & Game in Hudson, N.Y., and most recently Rose's Luxury in Washington, D.C. He was also a commis in the 2011 Bocuse d'Or competition, so you know this guy has his sauces down.

This is a great place to swing by for a glass of wine (or two) and a few small plates. Master sommelier Dustin Wilson (maybe you saw him in *Somm* and *Uncorked*) and managing partner Eric Railsback (who is also a partner in Lieu Dit Winery) will continue to run the rocking wine program.

FISHERMAN'S WHARF

Owner Mike Gerald confirms that he is retiring and Chris Henry of Tommy's Joynt on Van Ness Avenue is buying **No. 9 Fishermen's Grotto** (2847 Taylor Street, 415-673-7025). The oldest sit-down restaurant on the Wharf, the Grotto has been in the family since 1935. It sounds like Henry will be updating the menu this fall to feature sustainable and local ingredients, and here's a nice slow clap that they aren't going to touch that vintage front bar, the most fantastic time capsule. The wonderful staff will also stay on.

FILLMORE

The adored and stylish bakery-cafe **Jane** will open a third location in the previous Taco Bell/KFC space (1881 Geary Boulevard) smack-dab in the middle of the Fillmore to be used for bakery production, in addition to being a cafe space for the public (coffee, smoothies, sandwiches, and more). Owner Amanda Michael likes the strip mall location, one of the last in San Francisco, and there's that convenient parking lot! Look for a September opening.

Follow @tablehopper on Twitter and Instagram for

Old and notable: Fior d'Italia, America's oldest Italian restaurant

BY ERNEST BEYL

LOYAL READERS WILL NOTE THE *Marina Times* frequently discusses newly opened restaurants in the column New and Notable. I always read these dispatches with considerable interest. Sometimes I patronize the “new and notables,” sometimes not. I am an old-fashioned diner; I’ve been called that repeatedly because my style is to patronize the “old and notables” and then write about them for this publication.

AMERICA'S OLDEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Recently I walked from Telegraph Hill to the historic San Remo Hotel (2237 *Mason Street*) for lunch at Fior d'Italia. One of the city's oldest dining places, Fior d'Italia bills itself as “America's Oldest Italian Restaurant.” It dates to 1886 when it opened at 432 Broadway. Enrico Caruso, in town to sing his tenor role in *Carmen*, dined there the night of April 17, 1906. The following morning the great earthquake struck and Caruso left San Francisco in a hurry, never to return. In the many years since, the long-lived establishment has occupied several sites. Five of these previous locations were on Broadway, with one move necessitated by the famed earthquake and fire. In 1954, it moved to Union Street where Original Joe's is now located. Then in 2005 the Union Street location gave way to the present site in the historic San Remo Hotel, which opened in 1906.

Although I am a devotee of old San Francisco restaurants and bars, I have given scant attention to Fior d'Italia (Flower of Italy) in recent years. I vowed to check it out and see what was going on.

THE SAN REMO DINING ROOM

Fior d'Italia's dining room was a nostalgic trip back to Italy. It brought to mind pleasant stays in a boutique Rome hotel where I walked down a twisting staircase from my room to enter the hotel's dining room for a fine lunch. Now, here I was in a handsome room — with dark carpet, widely spaced tables set with white tablecloths, crisp napkins, good cutlery and sparkling wineglasses. It was partially occupied by other diners, perhaps guests from the old hotel upstairs. The pressed tin ceiling was offset by beige and tan wooden columns. Large windows let in a soft light from the street. A low murmur of conversation made the experience seem all the more like my Roman hotel.

A SIMPLE, ELEGANT LUNCHEON

My wife and I were seated by a man in a chef's white jacket and a black baseball cap. After he left us I realized the man was Gianfranco Audieri, longtime Fior d'Italia chef and now owner. There was one waiter on duty, a young, helpful man in a white

shirt, black tie and vest and black pants. His service was smooth, without undue social frills. A few minutes later, a basket of dark and crusty sourdough was set down and shortly my glass of Simi Sauvignon Blanc (\$10) appeared as well.

Our lunches were simple, elegant, and satisfying. My wife chose a salad — pomodoro con mozzarella (\$14). It appeared with a ring of ripe tomato wedges, offsetting the mozzarella decorated with frisee, and drizzled with olive oil.

The white plate was ringed with a tracing of balsamic vinegar. Joan proclaimed it excellent. I opted for linguine con vongole (\$18). Two dozen or more,

tiny Manila clams graced my linguine, moistened by a clam liquor and white wine sauce that was perfumed by a bit of minced garlic and topped by a sprinkling of fresh parsley. It was as fine a luncheon dish as I've had in recent months.

Bear in mind this account is not a *Marina Times* review of Fior d'Italia. It's simply an account of a pleasant lunch at a classic Italian restaurant.

THE SAGA OF THE OSSO BUCO

We decided to wrap up this totally satisfying midday meal with an espresso (\$3). I had noticed that our young waiter served all diners their meals. But when it came

to dessert or coffee, Gianfranco popped out of the kitchen to do that himself. I was looking forward to talking to him and sure enough, here he came with our espressos.

“Do you know the first time I ate in Fior d'Italia? I said.

“Tell me,” Gianfranco answered.

“It was in the early fifties when the restaurant was on Broadway. I was with the *Chronicle* and writing the annual Gourmet Guide. I ordered osso buco. The waiter dropped it on the floor and I wound up ordering spaghetti and meatballs.”

“Oh, you're the guy who wrote about that in the *Marina Times*,” he said.

Indeed, I was the guy.

GIANFRANCO AND THE FLYING SALMON

“Now let me tell you a story,” Gianfranco said. “I'm from Milan but I studied cooking in Switzerland. Later I got a job in a fancy restaurant in Lausanne. One night I prepared a beautiful salmon Bellevue for a party — a cold poached salmon in aspic decorated with potatoes, chopped carrots and peas in mayonnaise,” he said.

“It was on a heavy silver dish. I held it over my head and walked out of the kitchen into the dining room and tripped on a loose carpet. The salmon Bellevue sailed over one table and landed squarely in the middle of another one.” Gianfranco laughed and finished his story: “So what's a dropped osso buco in comparison to that?”

I agreed.

E-mail: ernest@marinatimes.com



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Back Story continued from page 1

era and became a regular presence in Chinatown, photographing the inhabitants.

Genthe professed to shoot his Chinatown photos candidly, but studying his classic, now famous glass plate negatives and prints, one realizes two important factors: First, most of the photos were taken on Chinese holidays, apparent because many inhabitants were wearing Chinese holiday garb. So for the most part, Genthe wasn't recording the usual day-to-day street life. Second, Genthe carefully scratched out or erased from his glass negatives any representation of Western culture that appeared in the frame.

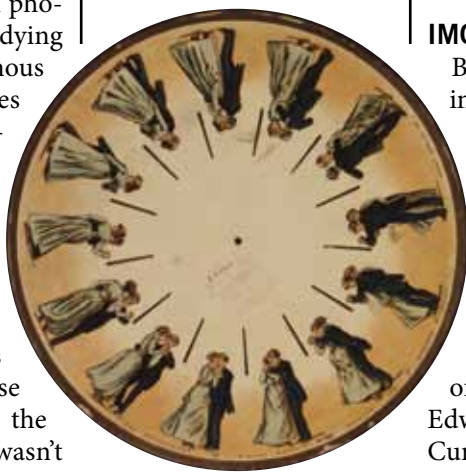
These two factors discredit his desire to have his photos appear as candid representations. Nevertheless, his contribution is immense in depicting life in San Francisco's Chinatown in the 1880s and 1890s. And not only are his Tangrenbu photographs an important record but a beautiful one as well. He is also famed for shooting some of the most memorable photos of the devastating 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire.

EADWEARD MUYBRIDGE

In the 1870s, railroad baron and former California governor Leland Stanford made an intriguing wager with a friend that ultimately led to what we know today as movies.

Stanford bet \$25,000 that at full gallop all four of a horse's hooves are off the ground at the same time. All he had to do was prove it. On Stanford's Palo Alto estate in 1878, an English-born photog-

Motion. Admission was 50 cents. The show featured the thoroughbred Sallie Gardner and a gymnast named William Lawton. Sally was the precursor to Lassie, Lawton to Arnold Schwarzenegger.



Eadweard Muybridge's phenakistoscope animation device, 1893.
PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

rapher Eadweard Muybridge rigged a series of 24 cameras and set them to release their shutters in sequence when one of Stanford's thoroughbreds, Sallie Gardner, galloped by. The experiment proved two things. First, Stanford was correct in his assumption about galloping horses. But it was the second discovery that led to what we know today as Hollywood: Motion could be reproduced in a realistic fashion.

Muybridge, with financial aid from an enthusiastic Stanford, then constructed a primitive, sequential photo projector called the zoopraxiscope. Two years later, Muybridge presented the first public movie screening on May 4, 1880. It was held at the San Francisco Art Association Exhibit Hall on Pine Street and was called Illustrated Photographs in

IMOGEN CUNNINGHAM

Born in Portland, Ore., in 1883, and after graduating with a degree in chemistry from the University of Washington in Seattle, and already interested in photography, Cunningham worked for the great photographer of American Indians, Edward S. Curtis. With Curtis, she refined her desire to be a photographer, then married artist-teacher Roi Partridge and moved to San Francisco.

Her botanical photographs, as well as nudes and landscapes, attracted attention, and she co-founded Group f/64, a collective of like-minded San Francisco photographers. They took the unusual group name from a large-format camera's smallest aperture setting, which, when used adroitly, produced photos of amazing sharpness and clarity. Cunningham's work is found in many museums and private collections. Her detailed close-ups in sharp black and white are haunting and evocative of an almost surreal universe.

Other members of the Group f/64 collective included Edward Weston and Ansel Adams — the latter of whom is discussed in more detail next month along with additional famous photographers with a San Francisco connection.

Ruscha continued from page 1

movement during the 1960s. Working in painting, photography, film, printmaking, publishing, and drawing, Ruscha honed his offbeat, humorous approach to subject matter.

What is Ruscha trying to say with all these buildings, roadways, and parking lots? This seemingly expressionless representation of the world around him could make the viewer ask, "Why is it art?" Ruscha's style might initially seem void of aesthetic meaning given that his conceptualism is, in some sense, baffling and confrontational. Though Ruscha seems to avoid narrative and emotion, what at first seems reductive becomes more meaningful when we consider that the artist's craft and identity has been, for the most part, removed. The viewer is left to regard these scenes as a simple flat surface — perhaps the same kind of "flattening" Ruscha experienced with the fatigue of a long road trip through the solitude of the Western desert.

Ruscha is also famous for his word paintings. Graphic illustrations of words become objects in space — a new kind of still life with letters instead of bowls containing fruit. A series of liquid stains

or splatters form the words "Adios" and "Rodeo." In *A Particular Kind of Heaven*, those words float above, looking down from the sky, white print hovering over the sunset. In *The End*, the words appear confrontational in large dark print covered in white vertical streaks like a film's bleak conclusion on a damaged reel of celluloid.

The thread that runs through all of Ruscha's work is his consistency in illustrating the "thingness" of his subjects. Words, like landscapes, apartment complexes, and telephone poles are treated equally in that they are objects taken out of context. This exhibition includes 99 works that travel through Ruscha's evolving technicolor landscapes, expansive skies, and mundane renderings of retro buildings that make up the great American West and its unexpected possibilities.

Ed Ruscha and the Great American West: 9:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, July 16-Oct. 9; \$20; M.H. deYoung Museum, 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, Golden Gate Park; 415-750-3600, famsf.org

Sharon Anderson is an artist and writer in Southern California. She can be reached at mindtheimage.com.

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Michael Snyder on ... Film

Accomplishing a princely feat

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

IMAGINE MY DELIGHT AT LEARNING of a new animated movie based on French author and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupery's beloved 1943 novella, *The Little Prince*, a book I've cherished since I was a kid. For the uninitiated, it's the touching tale of a pilot who crashes his plane in the Sahara Desert. There, he meets a young boy who says he comes from a planetoid in the heavens, has fallen to Earth, and must return to his home amid the stars to nurture a rose that will die without his ministrations.

The English-language voice cast assembled for the motion picture was impressive, with talented actors including Jeff Bridges, Paul Rudd, James Franco, Rachel McAdams, Marion Cotillard, Benicio Del Toro, Albert Brooks, Ricky Gervais, and Paul Giamatti on board. Not too shabby. And it was directed by Mark Osborne, who helmed the wildly successful *Kung-Fu Panda*, still my favorite in the Dream-works Animation catalog. That was more good news.

Yes, there was a live-action feature adaptation in 1974, not particularly memorable despite being directed by the great Stanley Donen, best known for such timeless films as *Singin' in the Rain*, *Funny Face*, and *Charade*. There was also a short *Little Prince* cartoon done in 1979 by Claymation wizard Will Vinton. And the French did an animated TV series inspired by the book, running from 2010-13. But Osborne's version was a widescreen feature mixing the latest in CGI with stop-motion animation.

AN UNEXPECTED DETOUR

The Little Prince was set for worldwide release starting in France last July with distribution over much of the globe by Paramount Pictures, whose Paramount Animation wing co-produced the movie along with France's Orange Studio and a

few more partners. Sure enough, it rolled out in most of the targeted countries during the rest of the year — except the United States.

Paramount apparently had cold feet, and took the movie off of its 2015 U.S. schedule. Instead, it rescheduled the release for spring 2016, only to drop it as a theatrical presentation at the last minute. Happily, Netflix picked up *The Little Prince* for its streaming service, starting Aug. 5, and will launch a run in North American theaters on the same day, so stateside fans will finally be able to see it on the big screen (or a smaller one).

In literary form, this gentle yet stirring fable is considered a national treasure and a must-read for the young in France, where Saint-Exupery is seen in heroic terms and was even featured on the country's pre-Euro 50 franc note (along with the Little Prince himself, and two

other images from the book, as well as a few lines of text in anticounterfeit micro-print). I first encountered the Aviator, the Prince, and the rest of the story's archetypal characters when I was in high-school French class. I was charmed. Some might call it a little sparse on the plot side. It's a very slim volume, albeit decorated with a number of evocative line drawings by the author, but there is great beauty in its simplicity and its central message: What is most essential in life is invisible to the eye. There are other themes inherent in *The Little Prince*, among them the value of friendship and loyalty, the pettiness of vanity, greed, and prejudice that can come with adulthood, and the rewards of braving the unknown in the interest of discovery and personal growth.

BUILDING ON A CLASSIC

To expand on Saint-Exupery's book and fill out a movie, Osborne and his collaborators created a computer-animated framing story wherein a bright



The Little Prince leaps out of the pages and onto a welcoming big screen. PHOTO: ©PARAMOUNT PICTURES FRANCE

little girl and her mother — a buttoned-up single mom — move into a new home in a modern, architecturally bland suburban neighborhood. Mom's mission is to get her daughter into the best school in the area, which will require mature, disciplined preparation on the part of the child. The girl is on track until her regimen is derailed by the eccentricities of the elderly aviator living in the ramshackle house next door. The old man tells the girl about his desert encounter with a strange visitor from beyond, showing her a journal depicting the adventure. And that's where the source material is realized via the stop-motion technique, beautifully breathing life into Saint-Exupery's drawings and achieving a neat visualization of the dichotomy between book and movie. Eventually, the girl's world and the Little Prince's world intersect.

Although there will be those who consider the additions to this iconic property as tantamount to heresy, it's done quite respectfully and artfully. The movie stays true to the book's philosophical core, even as the script thrusts the girl into an

investigation of the Little Prince's existence beyond what we're told in Saint-Exupery's words.

Paramount honchos have been quiet about the decision to dump the feature in the United States, which is odd since it was greeted with generally favorable reviews overseas and had already earned over \$100 million when the hammer dropped. Paramount's French division had no compunction about putting it out in France. Maybe the American powers that be couldn't get behind something that's adored in Europe and not particularly mainstream here. That's a pity. Taken on its own terms, the latest attempt to bring *The Little Prince* to the screen is a lovely, thoughtful and sincere accomplishment that deserves an audience on these shores. It now has a chance to find one.

Michael Snyder is a print and broadcast journalist who covers pop culture on KPFK/Pacifica Radio's David Feldman Show and on Michael Snyder's Culture Blast, via GABnet.net, Roku, and YouTube. You can follow Michael on Twitter: @cultureblaster

The Best of Books : What's flying off the shelves

The Marina Books Inc. bestseller list

COMPILED BY BRIAN PETTUS

BEST SELLER LIST:

1. **City of Thieves: A Novel**, by David Benioff (paperback)
2. **The Girls**, by Emma Cline (hardcover)
3. **Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life**, by William Finnegan (paperback)
4. **The Tender Bar: A Memoir**, by J.R. Moehringer (paperback)
5. **Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice**, by Bill Browder (paperback)
6. **The Sympathizer**, by Viet Nguyen (paperback)
7. **Sweetbitter: A Novel**, by Stephanie Danler (hardcover)
8. **Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance**, by Angela Duckworth (hardcover)

9. **China Rich Girlfriend**, by Kevin Kwan (paperback)
10. **The Sense of an Ending**, by Julian Barnes (paperback)

NEW RELEASES: FICTION

House at the Edge of Night, by Catherine Banner

Described as *Beautiful Ruins* meets Isabel Allende, this magical novel tells the story of the island of Castellamare, and nearly 100 years of lives and loves among the residents. Lush prose and a magical story make this one of the year's most intriguing summer reads.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: Parts One and Two, by J.K. Rowling

Based on a story of Harry Potter 25 years later, this is the script for the play being performed in London, following Harry Potter and his family and friends. Both familiar and

shockingly different, this is a fantastic gift for the Harry Potter fan in your life.

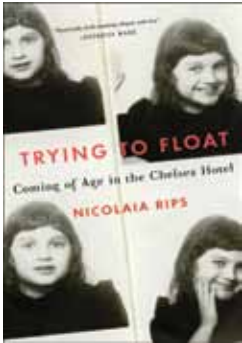
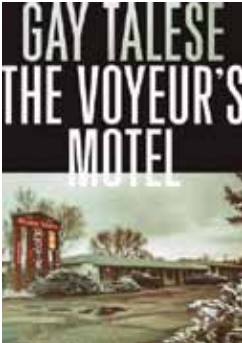
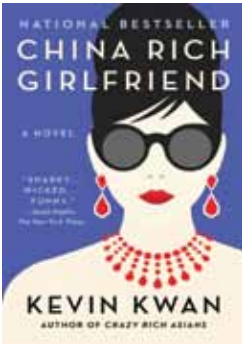
NEW RELEASES: NONFICTION

The Voyeur's Motel, by Gay Talese

A controversial story basically disavowed by the author before release, this book chronicles a motel owner's voyeuristic life over decades of spying on his guests. Tawdry and sensational, inconsistencies in the story make some doubt its veracity. You'll have to decide for yourself.

Trying to Float: Coming of Age in the Chelsea Hotel, by Nicolaia Rips

The Chelsea Hotel has been home to many luminaries over the years — Andy Warhol, Leonard Cohen, Patti Smith, to name a few. This memoir embraces the weird of growing up in Manhattan and in the Chelsea while



offering a sparkling insight into the life of a modern girl. The author is a current high-school student and still lives in the Chelsea.

AUGUST EVENTS: MARINA BOOKS INC.

Sunday, Aug. 28, 1:30 p.m.: Join special guest Karlin Gray, author of *Nadia: The Girl Who*

Couldn't Sit Still, an illustrated picture book biography of the famous gymnast Nadia Comaneci and her journey from a small-town Romanian girl who did cartwheels in the schoolyard to five-time Olympic Gold Medalist. (Ages 5 and up)

Brian Pettus is the manager of Books Inc. in the Marina.

AUGUST EVENTS

what not to miss this month

MAJOR EVENTS

9th Annual Outside Lands
Fri–Sun, Aug. 5–7, noon–9:45 p.m.
Golden Gate Park
This year's eco-friendly, three-day festival of music, wine, food, comedy/variety, and art sold out in record time. Radiohead, LCD Soundsys-tem, and Lionel Richie head up the bill along with many more. [sfoutsidelands.com](#)

43rd Annual Nihonmachi Street Fair
Sat–Sun, Aug. 6–7, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Japantown and Japan Center
Enjoy food, artisan crafts, local musical and cul-tural performances while celebrating and learn-ing about the Asian/Pacific American culture. Special events are the Art & Soul of Jtown (Aug. 6); Sounds of Thunder car show (Aug 6.–7); coed basketball tournament (Aug. 6–7); and Doggie World and Parade (Aug. 7). *Free*, [nihonmachistreetfair.org](#)



Eat Drink S.F.

Fri.–Sun., Aug. 26–28
Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center
Enjoy unlimited pours of wine, beer, cocktails, and tastes from the Bay Area's top restaurants. \$109–\$209, 415-781-5348, [sfchefsfoodwine.com](#)

LAST CHANCE

36th Annual San Francisco Jewish Film Festival
Daily through Aug. 7
Various Bay Area venues
This festival presents more than 100 screenings and other events, including a behind the scenes with *Star Trek's* Leonard Nimoy. \$13 individual films; \$35–\$295 multifilm passes, 415-621-0523, [sfjff36.jfi.org](#)

The Future of the Past: Mummies and Medicine
Tue.–Sun., through Aug. 26, 9:30–5:15 p.m.
Legion of Honor (100 34th Ave.)
This exhibition uses state-of-the-art scientific techniques to explore two of the museums' mummies. Learn how these embalmed individu-als lived, died, and were prepared for eternity. \$10, 415-750-3600, [famsf.org](#)

Quattro Storie
Tue.–Sun. through Aug. 28, noon–4 p.m.
Museo Italo Americano (Bldg. C, Fort Mason Cntr.)
This exhibition features works by two Italian art-ists (Adriano Castelli and Stefano Spagnoli) and two Italian American Bay Area artists (Paulette Perone Long and Michael Rizza). *Free*, 415-673-2200, [sfmuseum.org](#)

Cinco y Cinco/Five & Five
Thu.–Sun. through Aug. 28, noon–4 p.m.
The Mexican Museum (Fort Mason Center)
This exhibition features five invited artists, each of whom then nominated another artist to partici-pate, resulting in diverse viewpoints, approaches, media, eras, and ethnic identities. *Free*, 415-202-9700, [mexicanmuseum.org](#)

79th Annual Stern Grove Festival
Sundays through Aug. 21, 2 p.m.
Stern Grove (19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd.)
The O'Jays, Atomic Bomb, and The New Pornographers conclude the season at the outdoor amphitheater. *Free*, 415-252-6252, [sterngrove.org](#)

COMMUNITY CORNER

Korean War Memorial Opening
Monday, Aug. 1 10 a.m.–noon
Lincoln Blvd. at Sheridan Ave., the Presidio
Honor the service of Korean War veterans at the opening ceremony of this new memorial. *Free*, 415-561-5300, [presidio.gov](#)

GALAS & BENEFITS

12th Annual Flower Power Luncheon
Wednesday, Aug. 3, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Sir Francis Drake Hotel
Benefiting the Salvation Army's Back-to-School and after-school programs, this luncheon features renowned floral designer Ron Morgan, who will show guests how to create his signature designs at home. \$125, 415-503-2736. [flowerpowersf.org](#)

7th Annual Glide Legacy Gala
Saturday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.–midnight
The Regency Ballroom (1300 Van Ness Ave.)
The evening will benefit Glide's programs and honor "architects of change who embody Glide's values," and features entertainment, hosted bar, and hors d'oeuvres. \$85–\$150, 415-674-6124, [glide.org](#)

Help is on the Way XXII
Sunday, Aug. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Herbst Theater
Join the Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation for an elegant evening of receptions, live enter-tainment featuring both Bay Area and interna-tionally acclaimed performers, and a dessert party to raise funds for Bay Area AIDS service provider agencies. \$175 & up, 415-931-0317, [richmondermet.org](#)

ARTS & CULTURE

American Craft Council Show
Fri.–Sun., Aug. 5–7
Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center
Featuring more than 230 of the best contempo-rary jewelry, clothing, furniture, and home decor artists from across the country, this show is the largest juried craft show west of the Rockies. \$14, 612-206-3100, [craftcouncil.org](#)

23rd Annual Pistahan Festival & Parade
Festival: Sat.–Sun., Aug. 13–14, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
Yerba Buena Gardens
Parade: Saturday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m.
Civic Center to Yerba Buena Gardens
The largest celebration of Filipino Americans in the U.S., this event is expected to draw over 160,000 people. *Free*, [pistahan.net](#)

Festa Coloniale Italiana
Saturday, Aug. 20, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.
Stockton Street (btw. Union & Filbert)
The S.F. Italian Athletic Club Foundation invites you to celebrate the rich Italian and Italian-Amer-ican heritage in this festival featuring live Italian music and dancing, a pizza toss, and more, includ-ing Italian wine tasting. *Free*, 415-781-0166, [sfacfeasta.com](#)

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Bruce Davidson: Gifts to the Collection
Tue.–Sunday through Sept. 11
deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park
This exhibition of one of the most influential photographers of the last half century features subjects ranging from the civil rights movement to the urban grit of Harlem and the New York subway system. \$15, 415-750-3600, [famsf.org](#)

The Campaign for Art: Modern and Contemporary
Daily through Sept. 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (9 p.m. Thursdays)
SFMOMA (151 Third St.)
This exhibition highlights contributions from the museum's Campaign for Art and features works by Jackson Pollock, Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg, and Diane Arbus, among others. \$25, 415-357-4000, [sfmoma.org](#)

Wild West: Plains to the Pacific
Tue.–Sun. through Sept. 11
Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park
See more than 170 paintings, prints, historical objects, and other works that trace our shifting sense of the country's last frontier. \$20, 415-750-3600, [famsf.org](#)

PERFORMANCES



S.F. Playhouse: City of Angels

Tue.–Sun. through Sept. 17
450 Post St. (Kensington Park Hotel)
In 1940s Los Angeles, a struggling screenwriter attempts to pen his film noir masterpiece while his on-page creations start to become reality. \$30–\$125, 415-677-9596, [sfplayhouse.org](#)
PHOTO: JESSICA PALOPOLI

BATS: Summer Improv Festival
Fri.–Sat., Aug. 5–6, 8 p.m.
Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center
In this popular yearly Grudge Match (Aug. 5), S.F. and L.A. vie for the Improv Cup; the next night, both teams create Broadway's next musical. \$20, 415-474-6776, [improv.org](#)

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical
Tue.–Sun., Aug. 19–Sept. 18
SHN Orpheum Theatre (1192 Market St.)
Don't miss the inspiring true story of King's rise to stardom to become one of the most success-ful solo acts in popular music history. \$45–\$212, 888-746-1799, [shnsf.com](#)

DANCE

Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival
Fri.–Sun., Aug. 12–14
Dance Mission Theatre (3316 24th St.)
This festival highlights the important contribu-tions of deaf and hard of hearing artists, and features performers from London; Turkey; Mexi-co; and Washington, DC. \$25–\$30, 800-838-3006, [dancemission.com](#)

Alozono King Lines Ballet: Summer Program Showcase
Saturday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center
This program will feature student dancers in works by top choreographers. \$25, 415-863-3040, [linesballet.org](#)

S.F. Aerial Arts Festival
Fri.–Sun., Aug. 19–21
Fort Mason Center
This dynamic indoor/outdoor event brings together innovative spectacle, daring athleti-cism, aerial dance, and circus performances. \$25–\$50, [zaccho.org](#)

MUSIC: CLASSICAL

S.F. Choral Society: Verdi's Requiem
Fri.–Sat., Aug. 19–20, 8 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
The choir performs one of the favorites, inspired by the death of author Alessandro Manzoni and composer Gioacchino Rossini. \$29–\$35, 415-392-4400, [sfchoral.org](#)

Merola Opera: Grand Finale
Saturday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m.
War Memorial Opera House
Don't miss these future opera headliners in the final performance of the young artists' program. \$25–\$45, 415-565-6427, [merola.org](#)

Gaude
Sunday, Aug. 21, 4 p.m.
Old First Church (1751 Sacramento St.)
The a cappella octet presents a meditation on peace and salvation featuring Renaissance masterpieces. \$18, 415-474-1608, [oldfirstconcerts.org](#)

MUSIC: CONTEMPORARY

Snarky Puppy
Thu.–Sun., Aug. 4–7, 8 p.m.
Miner Auditorium, SFJazz
Don't miss one of the hottest jazz/R&B bands on the planet, fresh from their 2016 Grammy. \$30–\$70, 866-920-5299, [sfjazz.org](#)

Jeff Beck & Buddy Guy
Tuesday, Aug. 16, 8 p.m.
The Masonic (1111 California St.)
The rock/blues guitar legends make a stop in S.F. on the tail end of their summer tour. \$45–\$149.50, 415-776-7457, [sfmasonic.com](#)

Can't Stop the Train: A Tribute to Jerry Garcia
Wednesday, Aug. 17, 9 p.m.
The Fillmore
This benefit for the Rex Foundation and the Jake Peavy Foundation features the S.F. Giants pitch-er Peavy with his band, The Outsiders, among others. \$60, [thefillmore.com](#)

Willie Nelson & Family
Sat.–Tue., Aug. 20–23, 8 p.m.
The Fillmore
The musician, singer, songwriter, author, poet, actor, and activist performs with his band. \$75, [thefillmore.com](#)

NIGHTLIFE

NightLife Live
Thursday, Aug. 4, 6–10 p.m.
California Academy of Sciences
Music, art, and science take over with Outside Lands Music Festival presenting English singer, songwriter, and musician Låpsley. Ages 21 & up, \$12–\$15, 415-379-8000, [calacademy.org](#)



Tainted Love

Saturday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
Bimbo's 365 Club (1025 Columbus Ave.)
Tainted Love takes you in a time warp to a mid-1980s music party. \$25, 415-673-3000, [bimbos365club.com](#)
PHOTO: MARK ANDREW WILSON

The Headhunters
Fri.–Sat., Aug. 19–20, 9 p.m.
Boom Boom Room (1601 Fillmore St.)
Mike Clark, Donald Harrison, Bill Summers, and Wil Blades bring the funk. \$10, 415-673-3000, [boomboomtickets.com](#)

Rick Estrin and the Nightcats
Friday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m. & 10 p.m.
Biscuits & Blues (401 Mason St.)
Come out for some hipster harmonica happiness with the winner of the 2013 Blues Music Award for Best Instrumentalist-Harmonica. \$24, 415-292-2583, [biscuitsandblues.com](#)

SCIENCE & THE ENVIRONMENT

Marine Archaeology of the Atomic Age
Thursday, Aug. 18, 6–8 p.m.
Exploratorium (Pier 15)
The USS Independence was the unfortunate target for U.S. atomic weapons tests in 1946. Join Dr. James Delgado for a preview of an expedi-tion to revisit the wreck, as well as a discussion of the history and archaeology of America's early atomic weapons tests. *Free*, *RSVP required*, 415-528-5555, [exploratorium.edu](#)

UC's Role in Confronting Climate Change
Monday, Aug. 29, 6 p.m.
The Commonwealth Club (555 Post St.)
Three distinguished UC professors will discuss how the UC and California lead and plan to continue leading the world on a path to a sustainable environmental future. *Free*–\$20, 415-597-6705, [commonwealthclub.org](#)

Perseids Meteor Shower
Thu.–Sat., Aug. 11–13, night–dawn
Northern night sky
This meteor shower is considered one of the best and produces about 60 meteors per hour. Find a dark, secluded place and look toward the Perseus constellation. [earthsky.org](#)

FILMS & LECTURES

**The California Story:
The Legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers**
Saturday, Aug. 6, 1 p.m.
Meet: S.F. National Cemetery entrance gate (Lincoln Blvd. & Sheridan, the Presidio)
Commemorate the 150th anniversary of the African American Buffalo Soldiers and hear about their challenges and triumphs during a time of overt racism and prejudice. *Free, registration required, 415-561-4323, presidio.gov*



Film Night in the Park:
Lost in Translation

Saturday, Aug. 27, dusk
Washington Square Park
Bring a picnic, a blanket, and low chairs only to enjoy the romantic comedy-drama written and directed by Sofia Coppola about a lonely, aging movie star and a neglected newlywed as they cross paths in Tokyo. *Free, [sfntf.squarespace.com](#)*

Floating Film: Moby Dick
Thursday, Aug. 11, 7 p.m.
Balclutha, Hyde Street Pier
What a better way to enjoy John Houston’s 1956 classic about Capt. Ahab’s vendetta against the great white whale Moby Dick than on the deck of the square-rigged, three-masted 1886 ship. \$10, [eventbrite.com](#)

POTABLES & EDIBLES

Wine Spectator Award Celebration Party
Tuesday, Aug. 9, 4–10 p.m.
West Coast Wine + Cheese
(2165 Union St.)
Celebrate this prestigious award at Cow Hollow’s favorite wine bar with 20 percent savings on bottles from their over 250-selection wine list. *Free, 415-577-9357, [westcoastsf.com](#)*

Market to Table Demo with Jacques Pépin
Thursday, Aug. 11, noon–1 p.m.
North Plaza, Ferry Building
See one of the world’s most beloved cooking teachers/educators in this demo featuring the seasonal bounty from the Ferry Plaza Farmers Market. Book signing follows at Sur La Table. *Free, 415-291-3276, [cuesa.org](#)*

26th Annual Antipasti Dinner
Thursday, Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m.
Museo Italo Americano, Fort Mason Center
Enjoy hors d’oeuvres, antipasti, and dessert followed by a live auction and raffle to support Museo cultural and education programs. \$100, 415-673-2200, [museoitaloamericano.org](#)

5th Annual Bay Area Brew Fest
Saturday, Aug. 27, 1–4 p.m. & 5–8 p.m.
Pier 35
Sample dozens of international and domestic beers from dozens of breweries, dine on food-truck favorites (sold separately), dance to D.J. music, and more. Ages 21 & up. \$45–\$55, [bayareabrewfestival.com](#)

SPORTS & HEALTH

Nutrition & Healthy Choices
Monday, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
11 a.m.–noon
Main Floor Learning Studio, SFPL Main Branch
Topics include Where Our Food Comes From; Flavoring and Preserving Food; How We Choose What Food to Buy; and Diet and Exercise. *Free, 415-557-4388, [sfpl.org](#)*



Round the Rock Alcatraz Challenge

Saturday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.
S.F. Bay
This traditional Polynesian outrigger race will offer two exciting and competitive courses between the Golden Gate and Bay Bridges. All courses are designed to provide participant safety. \$20/[paddler, alcatrazchallenge.com](#)
PHOTO: KANAKA MENEHUN; [FLICKR.COM/KANAKA](#)

Coastal Trail Challenge 10K
Sunday, Aug. 14, 9–10:30 a.m.
Starts/Finishes: Little Marina Green (Yacht Rd. parking lot)
This trail run includes Baker Beach and the well-known Sand Ladder, 400 yards of a vertical climb. Headphones, strollers, and dogs strongly discouraged for safety reasons. \$3, 415-978-0837, [dserunners.com](#)

FAMILY FUN

7th Annual Picklewater Free Circus Festival
Sunday, Aug. 14, 21, & 28, 3:30 p.m.
Union Square
Featuring some of the best circus artists in the Bay Area, the festival will entertain and inspire families while celebrating the rich tradition of circus in the Bay Area. *Free, 415-477-2610, [unionsquarelive.org](#)*

Festival of the Sea
Saturday, Aug. 20, 9:30 a.m.– 5 p.m.
Hyde Street Pier
Celebrate the National Park Service’s 100th birthday, and the installation of three new masts on the 1895 schooner C.A. Thayer with traditional music, craft demonstrations, films, and fun for all ages. *Free, 415-447-5000, [nps.gov](#)*

Family Dance Class
Sunday, Aug. 28, 1–2 p.m.
ODC Dance Commons (351 Shotwell St.)
Shake up your Sunday and get moving at this fun-filled, family event. Ages 3 & up. \$5 (\$20/family maximum), 415-549-8519, [odcschool.org](#)

JUST FOR FUN

Origami-Palooza & Paper Airplane Contest
Sunday, Aug. 14, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
East Japan Center Mail
Learn from origami experts how to create amazing things with paper, then enter your best creation in the Origami Challenge to win incredible prizes. *Free, 415-440-1171, [japancentersf.org](#)*

E-mail: [calendar@marinatimes.com](#)

Calendar listings

Send your event listings to [calendar@marinatimes.com](#) with succinct specifics about your event, location, dates, times, prices, and contact information (telephone and Internet).

Visit [marinatimes.com](#) for additional calendar listings.



THE FUTURE OF THE PAST
MUMMIES AND MEDICINE

Ancient Egypt meets modern medicine in this exhibition that makes use of state-of-the-art scientific techniques to explore two of the Fine Arts Museums’ mummies. An interdisciplinary team of scientists, Egyptologists, physicians, and museum curators and conservators presents new information about how these embalmed individuals lived, died, and were prepared for eternity.

MAY 14, 2016—AUGUST 26, 2018

Legion of Honor
LINCOLN PARK

Image: Coffin of Irethorrou (detail), Egyptian, Akhmim, ca. 500 BC. Wood with polychrome. FAMSF, Gift of First Federal Trust Company (from the Estate of Jeremiah Lynch), 42895

TOBONI & CO.

SAN FRANCISCO

JUST SOLD

517 Central Ave



Seller Represented

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Urban Home and Garden :: Home security



Home security cameras can help thwart — and solve — break-ins and burglaries.

Home security: For vacation and year round

BY JULIA STRZESIESKI

SUMMERTIME, AND IN THE BAY AREA during our Indian summers in September and October, homeowners tend to keep windows and patio doors open, leaving homes ripe for burglaries. August is a particularly favorite month for families to get away, before school begins again in the fall.

In more than 40 percent of break-ins, thieves simply enter through an unlocked door or window. The odds of being burglarized a second time are higher because the thief will assume that what was stolen has been replaced. Also, the thief will likely remember those places that were easy targets to possibly hit again.

Burglars generally avoid dogs, noise, or other attention-getting risks. However, alarms are only one part of an effective home security plan since most alarms sound only after someone has entered the home. The following security measures can help your peace of mind while you are traveling to ensure that you enjoy your holiday.

Lighting: Properly illuminate porches, entrance areas, and both front and backyards. Motion-sensored lighting is ideal for areas that you do not want to light up for long periods, and it can also startle burglars when going on unexpectedly, which will hopefully scare them away. Battery-operated motion-sensitive lighting is prevalent in the marketplace these days, requiring no electrical outlet to install. Accent lighting can also make potential hiding spots in hidden or dark areas less appealing to burglars. Set timers to turn lights on and off at different times in various areas of the home when you travel.

Windows: Close and lock basement and main level windows and doors prior to retiring at night, and always when you are not at home. Place a metal bar or wooden rod in the track of sliding doors, and install a pin to prevent the door from being lifted off the track.

Doors: Install deadbolt locks on all doors. Make sure the lock has at least a one-inch draw into the door jamb. Keyless deadbolts are a great option for homeowners who are offering their homes through home-sharing sites like Airbnb. Entry codes can easily be changed and monitored, eliminating lost keys. Your dog walker, house cleaner, and any others who enter your home can have their own code. New home locks on the market even notify your smart phone every time someone enters your home.

Security cameras: Once reserved for mansions only, home security cam-

eras are now commonplace and can be purchased for under \$200. Live video streams right to a smartphone or computer, letting you stay connected to your home and to keep an eye on things no matter where you are physically. Imagine the number of wild teenage parties that could have been thwarted had these cameras been around sooner.

Shrubby and trees: Trim shrubbery that hides doors or windows to lower than eye level to eliminate hiding spaces. Thorny plants such as holly or roses can also provide a deterrent, and they provide curb appeal, too. Trim trees so there is a wide gap between tree branches and upper levels of your house. Gravel around plants underneath windows can also be an unwelcome noise to burglars. If you will be gone for an extended period of time, be sure to have someone water those plants that are visible from the street. Neglected plants shout, "No one is home!"

Ladders: This may seem like common sense, but don't leave a ladder in the yard that a burglar can use to enter an open second-story window. Also, look for furniture or other items that a thief could possibly use to scale a wall.

Garage doors: If you have electrically operated garage doors, either disconnect or bolt the doors before you leave for extended periods. Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.

Mail holds: Never leave clues, such as a pile of newspapers or accumulating mail, indicating that you are away on a trip. If you don't have a trusted friend or neighbor to bring these in daily, be sure to put a hold on deliveries.

House sitters: Consider having someone housesit for you so that there is visible activity in your home. If you have neighbors you are friends with, ask them to keep an eye on your home while you are gone.

Voice mail messages: Don't leave messages on an answering machine or voice stating you'll be away for a while and will return calls when you return.

Facebook: While posting pictures of our adventures and escapades in exotic locales around the world is fun, wait until you are back so that you aren't announcing that your home is empty and a potential target.

Protect your home and enjoy your summer holiday!

Julia Strzesieski is the marketing coordinator for Cole Hardware and can be reached at julia@colehardware.com.

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Real Estate Investor
continued from page 1

properties, and even there, it is reflected in longer times before properties are sold and some not-too-dramatic price decreases. But combined with some softness in the high-paying tech market — where hiring has taken a breather over the last year and some venture capitalists have become pickier about shoveling their millions at unprofitable startups — these developments could auger well both for people looking to buy a home here and for people fretting about the city’s continuing shortage of housing.

Local business headlines are starting to shift from stories about the latest eye-popping prices commanded by home sales to tales of a “condo glut, with massive supply and dwindling demand” and “market softening, but only for super rich.”

This past May, home prices in San Francisco were basically unchanged from the previous May, according to online real estate service Redfin. Sales volume dropped almost 9 percent, falling for the fifth month in a row. Redfin also reported that the supply of homes — the inventory of available properties for sale — increased by 50 percent, “reaching its highest level in more than three years, as more homeowners put properties [up for sale] in an effort to catch prices at a peak.”

In particular, the supply of condominium units for sale has

increased by 70 percent from May 2015, reaching its highest level in four and a half years. Not surprisingly, the prices for condos dropped 5.6 percent from May 2015 to May 2016, more than five times the price decline for single-family homes. Redfin agent Mark Colwell said that the increased inventory is due to the newly constructed condominiums coming online and from sellers wanting to sell while the selling is good. “The only significant slowdown is in luxury condominiums, where a fair number of homes have come online,” said Colwell. “It’s not a flood, especially not relative to the jobs being created, and we’re still seeing multiple offers on homes that are priced correctly.” He said that sellers with “unrealistic price expectations” are seeing their units sit on the market longer.

That’s a big switch from the go-go days of recent years past, when it was not unheard of (actually, it was heard quite often) that a home would sell within hours or days of being put on the market, and sometimes it would even be snatched up before being made publicly for sale. What we’ve seen so far this year is a move “toward market normalization,” notes real estate firm Pacific Union. It said that sales continued to be strong, albeit with longer on-sale times

“especially in the city’s northern neighborhoods and popular Noe Valley. One main reason for this is that many sellers entertained unrealistic expectations and, accordingly, overpriced their homes. Consequently, bidding wars occurred less frequently than in the second quarter of last year, and price reductions became more commonplace.”

Pacific Union’s market update reported a slower pace of sales in 2016’s second quarter than a year earlier, though not significantly: “At the high end of the market, many move-up buyers stayed put,

Second World War did spawn a building boom, but that steadily fell over ensuing decades until it lagged way behind population movement for much of the final few decades of the last century. “The current feverish boom in home construction has been quickly gathering steam only in the [past] couple years,” adds Paragon, “however, as increasing volumes of new-construction units come on market, it may significantly alter the supply and demand dynamic that has prevailed 2012-2015.... [S]ince the mid-1990s, the units being built are typically 1- or 2-bedroom condos or apartments, instead of 2- or 3-bedroom houses, [so] the new housing units being added accommodate fewer people per unit.”

Buyers looking for these types of properties will probably start paying more attention to home listings, looking for bargains. Redfin noted that the expanded inventory “means more choice and bargaining power for house hunters, but the supply of properties on the market still hasn’t caught up with the demand, especially from buyers who want single-family homes.”

Again, nothing dramatic has changed in the market, and homes that were selling for \$2.5 million last month won’t be selling for \$450,000 next month. Even with the cooling-off in the

tech sector, employment remains strong in the city, which is enjoying record-low unemployment. Interest rates remain low and the economy is still in recovery mode. So the changes we are seeing today in the high-end condo market is mostly due to old trusty supply and demand.

Pacific Union expects further “trending toward market normalization throughout the rest of the year, even when adjusted for the typical late-summer slowdown,” and it noted that that pace could be affected by international events, such as further effects from the Brexit vote or the performance of China.

Paragon calculates that the San Francisco real estate boom has a couple years to go before heading to an “adjustment” phase. It reports that two of the last three recoveries didn’t adjust until there had been 100 percent appreciation in prices among high-end homes; the current appreciation for such homes is between 65 and 75 percent since the nadir of prices in 2012. The previous recovery was cut short at only 59 percent appreciation by the start of the Great Recession. With no broad economic collapse on the immediate horizon, we might still have a way to go to ride out this boom.

John Zipperer is a former senior editor of Affordable Housing Finance and Apartment Finance Today. E-mail: john@marinatimes.com

Redfin noted that the expanded inventory ‘means more choice and bargaining power for house hunters.’

uncertain if their existing home would command enough to allow them to afford their target home. All in all, while the San Francisco market remains tilted in favor of sellers, it is slowly moving toward a more balanced state.”

In its own recent market report, Paragon Real Estate Group noted that new housing construction “has not been adequate to the city’s needs over the past 35 years.” It notes that nearly half — 49 percent — of the city’s housing was built before 1940; an increase in the city’s population during the

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The Marina Times Real Estate Market Report: May 2016

By Hill & Co.

SINGLE FAMILY HOME SALES

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	3009 Webster Street	3BD/2.5BA	\$3,125,000	Below	43
Lake (no sales)					
Laurel Heights	106 Collins Street	3BD/2BA	\$2,495,000	At	27
Lone Mountain	100 Stanyan Street	7BD/5BA	\$2,800,000	Above	36
Marina	761 Marina Boulevard	6BD/5.5BA	\$7,400,000	Below	111
Nob Hill (no sales)					
North Beach (no sales)					
Pacific Heights	2815 Pacific Avenue	5BD/5.5BA	\$8,295,000	At	0
	2635 Broadway	4BD/4.5BA	\$7,900,000	Below	107
	3196 Pacific Avenue	6BD/4.5BA	\$6,750,000	Below	28
	2755 Scott Street	5BD/3.5BA	\$6,175,000	Above	1
	224 Presidio Avenue	5BD/4.5BA	\$5,300,000	Below	53
	2710 California Street	5BD/4BA	\$4,700,000	Below	56
	2265 California Street	4BD/4BA	\$4,325,000	Below	25
Presidio Heights	101 Maple Street	5BD/5BA	\$9,998,000	Below	54
	115 Cherry Street	4BD/3.5BA	\$6,750,000	Below	10
	3953 Sacramento Street	4BD/4.5BA	\$4,500,000	Below	78
Russian Hill	2500 Leavenworth Street	4BD/3BA	\$2,950,000	Below	53
	2925 Larkin Street	4BD/3.5BA	\$2,625,000	Above	67
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill	414-416 Vallejo Street	5BD/5BA	\$3,170,000	Below	32

CONDOS

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2485 Union Street #5	1BD/1BA	\$2,050,000	Above	12
	2912 Fillmore Street	3BD/2BA	\$1,550,000	Below	33
	2701 Van Ness Avenue #403	0BD/1BA	\$575,000	Below	52
	2415 Van Ness Ave. #105	1BD/1BA	\$551,000	Above	26
Lake	4339 California St. #3	4BD/2BA	\$1,600,000	Above	6
	176 20th Avenue	2BD/1.5BA	\$1,505,000	Above	1
	948-A Lake Street	3BD/1BA	\$1,360,000	Above	38
	261 26th Avenue #2	3BD/3BA	\$1,350,000	Below	70
	146 2nd Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$1,200,000	Above	62
	286 24th Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$900,000	Below	51
Laurel Heights	8 Jordan Avenue #10	2BD/1BA	\$937,000	Below	25
	40 Heather Avenue	1BD/1BA	\$865,000	Above	25
Lone Mountain (no sales)					
Marina	1243 Francisco Street	3BD/1.5BA	\$1,500,000	Above	15
	3824 Scott Street #1	1BD/1BA	\$975,000	Above	14
	3675 Fillmore Street #201	1BD/1BA	\$898,000	At	39
Nob Hill	1333 Jones Street #905	2BD/2BA	\$3,300,000	Above	0
	1333 Jones Street #705	2BD/2BA	\$3,200,000	At	38
	1200 California Street #12D	2BD/2BA	\$3,050,000	Above	62
	1625 Hyde Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,600,000	Below	65
	1304 Pacific Avenue	2BD/2BA	\$1,360,000	Above	20
	1776 Sacramento Street #606	2BD/2BA	\$1,260,000	Above	21
	1635 California Street #74	2BD/2BA	\$1,000,000	Above	48
	1788 Clay Street #205	1BD/1BA	\$912,000	Above	13
	1177 California Street #622	0BD/1BA	\$614,250	Below	69
North Beach	650 Chestnut Street #306	3BD/2BA	\$1,450,000	Above	34
	650 Chestnut Street #108	2BD/2BA	\$925,000	Below	49
Pacific Heights	2457 Buchanan Street	3BD/2BA	\$2,820,000	Above	18
	1650 Broadway Street	3BD/2.5BA	\$2,600,000	At	0
	1880 Jackson Street #403	3BD/3BA	\$2,527,000	Above	12
	1650 Broadway Street #301	3BD/2.5BA	\$2,395,000	At	0
	1755 Jackson Street #406	3BD/3BA	\$2,110,000	Above	11
	2169 Green Street #1	2BD/2BA	\$1,900,000	Above	12
	1760 Pacific Avenue #9	2BD/2BA	\$1,860,000	Above	6
	1835 Franklin #1401	2BD/2BA	\$1,850,000	Above	44
	2627 Clay Street	3BD/2BA	\$1,800,000	At	19
	2943 Washington Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,780,000	Below	55
	1650 Broadway #604	2BD/2BA	\$1,610,000	At	0
	3079 California Street #3079	3BD/2BA	\$1,575,000	Above	22
	1650 Broadway #304	2BD/2BA	\$1,460,000	At	126
	1650 Broadway #204	2BD/2BA	\$1,410,000	At	87
	2200 Sacramento #1502	2BD/2BA	\$1,280,000	At	1
	1965 Clay Street	1BD/1BA	\$1,280,000	Above	13
	1650 Broadway #205	1BD/1.5BA	\$1,150,000	At	68
	3045 Jackson Street #501	1BD/1BA	\$1,121,670	Above	6
	1818 Broadway #306	1BD/1BA	\$1,050,000	Above	39
	2295 Vallejo Street #502	1BD/1BA	\$929,000	Above	44
	2345 Jackson Street #4	1BD/1BA	\$855,000	Above	98
Presidio Heights	146 Locust Street #6	4BD/2.5BA	\$3,175,000	Above	17
Russian Hill	1050 Green Street #4	2BD/2BA	\$4,550,000	Below	8
	1257 Vallejo Street #A	3BD/2BA	\$2,475,000	Below	14
	969 Bay Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,275,000	Below	73
	815 Union Street	2BD/1.25BA	\$1,225,000	Above	21
	1338 Union Street #A	1BD/1BA	\$1,180,000	At	0
	1097 Green Street #5	2BD/1BA	\$1,150,000	Above	8
	1450 Greenwich Street #102	1BD/1BA	\$1,075,000	Above	12
	1340 Union Street #A	1BD/1BA	\$640,000	Below	0
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill	475 Lombard Street #6	3BD/2BA	\$2,500,000	At	0

The data presented in this report is based on the San Francisco Multiple Listing Service and is accurate to the best of our knowledge, but cannot be guaranteed as such. For additional information, contact Hill & Co., 1880 Lombard Street (at Buchanan), 415-321-4362, hill-co.com.

Real Estate Roundup : Cost and policy

Progress made on housing

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

INTEREST RATES

Whether driven by public policy in Washington or by uncontrollable foreign actions (see “Quote Unquote” below), interest rates have been falling steadily for decades, and they have defied expectations of imminent increases.

Just from 2007 to July 7, 2016, average annual interest rates on 30-year conforming loans have dropped 44 percent, reports Paragon Real Estate Group. They currently hover slightly above 3 percent. Compare that to rates that were well above 15 percent in 1981; rates have fallen steadily (albeit with occasional blips upward) ever since.

VOTERS AS URBAN PLANNERS, REDUX

City voters will face on their November ballot a question about allowing an exemption to a longtime restriction on office space in the city, one that has helped push up office rental rates and push out nonprofits and other renters unable to afford the high rates being charged in the current economic boom.

The Jobs, Housing and Parks Now initiative would remove the Candlestick Point and Hunters Point Shipyard from the office space cap imposed by Proposition M. In mid-July, the *San Francisco Business Times* reported that the measure had submitted more than 17,000 signatures to get it on the ballot. Sophie Maxwell, a supporter of the initiative, told the *Times*, “We have made progress in creating local jobs, open space, and affordable homes. This measure is essential to ensuring that this progress continues — and moves faster — at a time when we need it most.”

HOUSING NOT TENTS ON THE BALLOT

Supervisor Mark Farrell, supported by colleagues Scott Wiener, Katy Tang, and Malia Cohen, submitted an initiative which, if approved by voters in November, would mandate that shelter or housing be offered to people living in homeless encampments before those encampments were dismantled. (The homeless individuals could also choose to receive paid transportation to a destination outside of the city.) The city would also have to provide 24-hour notice of a tent encampment’s removal, and it would store homeless individuals’ belongings for up to 90 days after it was removed from an encampment.

Saying that “the answer to homelessness is housing, not tents,” Farrell said, “Encampments simply prolong homelessness, but ‘Housing Not Tents’ actually provides a solution.”

A YEN FOR S.F. COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

China ranks third among foreign buyers of U.S. commercial real estate over the past six years, and San Francisco has been a favorite target of

those Chinese buyers, according to a new report.

Jones Lang LaSalle reports that new and old Chinese-owned commercial projects (such as the First and Mission tower and 755 Sansome Street, respectively) are examples of high-profile investments from China.

SECOND NAVIGATION CENTER OPENS

The long-expected opening of a second Navigation Center took place at the end of June, when Mayor Ed Lee announced its opening at the Civic Center Hotel on 12th Street. The new location has 93 beds and is owned by the UA Local 38 Plumbers Union Pension Trust Fund. It will eventually be expanded to include 550 homes with 110 permanently affordable units for formerly homeless people.

The first Navigation Center on Mission Street has served 550 people in about a year, and the mayor’s office says 80 percent of them who have left the Navigation Center have gone on to stable supportive housing or

have reunited with friends and family. The Navigation Center concept has been a rare bright spot in the city’s well-publicized battle with the homelessness problem, and it has gained a lot of support since it opened with the help of private funds. Navigation centers offer more support to

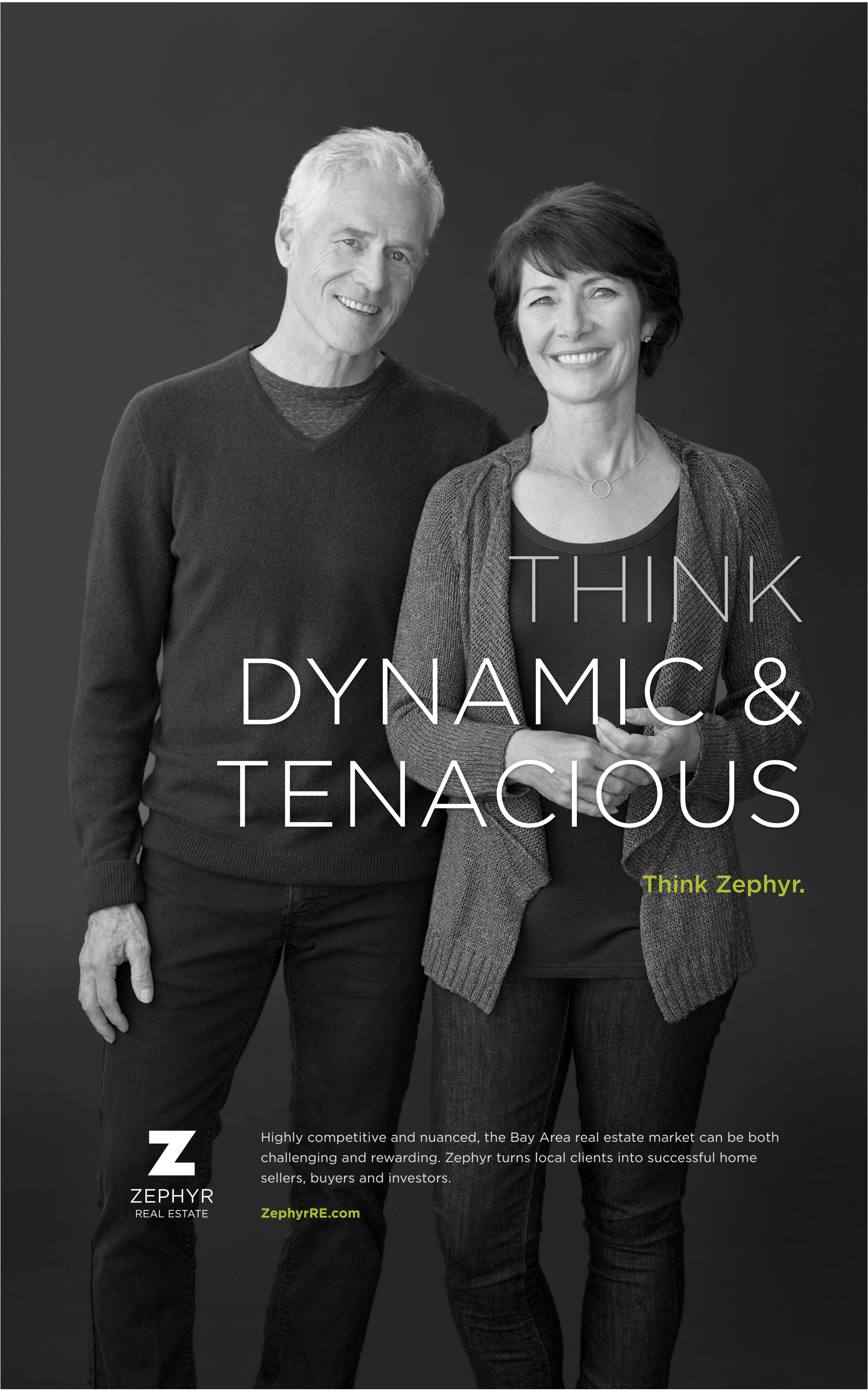
residents than do traditional shelters, which don’t provide support for partners, pets, and belongings.

QUOTE UNQUOTE

“Britain’s historic decision [to leave the European Union] triggered negative economic ripples throughout the entire world, and the United States was not an exception. Domestically, stock markets showed a negative performance the day after the Brexit announcement. Generally, such economic news leads to uncertainty, directly impacting the real estate market. The performance of this segment slows down with declining sales. Brexit news, however, does have a positive outlook for the Bay Area real estate market. Soon after the votes were counted in Britain, the mortgage rates were driven down from an already impressively low point, creating an even more favorable environment for local home buyers. At the same time, international investors are becoming increasingly interested in the Bay Area job sector and its real estate market, which offers a sustainable environment and a strong projected growth. As always, time will show the true effect of Brexit on Bay Area real estate, which historically has shown constant appreciation in the long run.”

—Alek Keytiyev,
Vanguard Properties
Quoted in SFGate.com

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The Coastal Commuter :: Scrote

Working from post to post on the coast

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

JUST TO BE CLEAR, I MAY BE THE COASTAL commuter, but I am hardly the only coastal commuter — at least when it comes to the San Francisco-Los Angeles circuit. I have at least three friends who regularly make the trek up and down the state for business with pleasure, and generally, by car. It's a schlep, but it's worth it to all of us.

There's Heather, a professional organizer who moves, stores, recycles, and winnows down her clients' possessions, and oversees relocations by packing up and cleaning houses for sale and

setting up new dwellings. She has so much work offered to her in Los Angeles, a town that invites well-to-do transience, that she regularly leaves her Marin digs, trundles down Interstate 5, and sets up shop at one of a number of friends' homes for a week or two at a time.

My pal Barry is an entertainment industry lawyer and artists' manager. As a result, he needs to be in L.A. frequently, whether it's to scout talent, sign artists, take meetings at music labels, or shepherd a band on a tour stop at a SoCal club or concert hall. So he locks up his Mission district house, hops in his 4x4, and heads for Hollywood.

Then there's the querulously named Scrote — a longtime buddy who is one of those hyphenates: guitarist-keyboardist-singer-songwriter-producer-bandleader. I met him when he moved to San Francisco around 1990, right after attending an arts college where he studied music. Although he worked as a sales assistant at a radio station, he spent half his time auditioning for gigs as a guitar player and leading various bands, starting with You and What Army. His most successful original venture during that period was the avant garde rock band Baby Snufkin, which toured the United States and Europe with modest results. It was enough that he was encouraged to move into music full-time.

A CAREER IN PROGRESS

In San Francisco, he founded Casino Royale, an ensemble of local musicians and singers dedicated to performing the '60s and '70s chart-toppers of Burt Bacharach. Casino Royale regularly packed 'em in at Bimbo's in North Beach, and the group quickly expanded its repertoire to a hit parade of '60s pop rock and soul. Scrote simultaneously was fronting the Jimmy Bond Orchestra, a Casino Royale offshoot that played nothing but themes from the James Bond movies, and Herb, covering the Herb Alpert songbook.

Scrote, the self-proclaimed nomad who never lived more than three-and-a-half years in one place, had found a home, and stayed in San Francisco for 13 years. But he eventually decided to

move to Los Angeles, where he had traveled for shows and sessions. "Musicians were flocking to L.A. and New York," he said. Maybe it was the rising costs of the dot-com era. It felt like a mass exodus, and it wasn't very fun without a lot of my friends and colleagues."

Los Angeles provided Scrote with a vibrant music community that was exponentially larger and more professional than that of San Francisco. He has thrived down south with studio work, concerts, and record releases as a performer, while also composing and producing instrumental music for other artists. Although

he maintained residences in both locations for about four years, and drove back and forth depending on the jobs at hand, he eventually gave up his Bay Area place.

HOME IS CONNECTION

Scrote has now lived in Los Angeles for over 13 years, but still plays shows and sessions in San Francisco and spends time with what's left of his old crew. Yet his most significant endeavors are now in Los Angeles. He has formed a band called The Euphorians with the rising singer-songwriter-guitarist Joe Sumner and drummer Blair Sinta. Their debut recording should be released early next year. And Scrote just played ukulele on a track that also featured one of his idols on piano: Burt Bacharach.

"As a musician, you're much more likely to meet and work with your heroes in L.A.," Scrote said. As if to prove that point, he was asked to assemble and lead a group to play a posthumous tribute to David Bowie in early February. That collection of talent included the renowned singer Seal, Fish-

bone front man Angelo Moore, and Bowie's longtime keyboardist Mike Garson, and actors Ewan McGregor and Gary Oldman on vocals. The concert, a benefit at the Roxy on the Sunset Strip, was a sold-out triumph. By the next morning, Scrote had fielded

numerous proposals to take the show to other cities. He turned them all down, except for one.

A month later, he gathered up some of the gang and traveled north to do a Bowie celebration. "An encore in San Francisco was irresistible to me," said Scrote, after a rousing Regency Ballroom show that added the Talking Heads' Jerry Harrison to the line-up. "I have a history there and still know the players and people in charge."

"As long as I still have those connections, San Francisco will be a home to me — where I'm happy to return time and again."

Michael Snyder is a print and broadcast journalist who covers pop culture on KPFK/Pacifica Radio's David Feldman Show and on Michael Snyder's Culture Blast, via GABnet.net, Roku, and YouTube. You can follow Michael on Twitter: @cultureblaster

L.A. provided Scrote with a music community exponentially larger and more professional than that of San Francisco.

'As long as I still have those connections, San Francisco will be a home to me — where I'm happy to return time and again.

Fitness First :: Take a hike

Urban hiking: A new way to explore the city

BY JULIE MITCHELL

Hiking is often associated with a trip to the mountains, but you don't need to leave the city to find challenging trails that will add steps to your fitness tracker and reveal hidden staircases, plentiful views and vistas, woodsy greenery, open park space, and of course, beaches galore.

Welcome to urban hiking. According to Urban Hiker San Francisco (urbanhikersf.com), this entails "Exploring the stairways, hills, and hiking trails of the city." What's the different between a hike and a city walk? A hike involves a longer distance, generally more than three miles, and some serious climbing, which in our hilly hometown is easy — San Francisco boasts over 40 hills, over 630 public stairways, and 70-plus miles of hiking trails.

MAKE LIKE A BOY SCOUT, AND BE PREPARED

As with any hiking adventure, it pays to be prepared. While you can buy snacks and water almost anywhere, it's less expensive and easier to bring your own. Invest

in a lightweight backpack to stash food, water, your phone/camera, sunscreen, and most important in our city of microclimates, at least one extra layer — it's possible to hike for an hour and experience a 15-degree temperature change. And while your smartphone can probably point you in the right direction for city hikes, it doesn't hurt to bring along a map, too.

PLAY IT SAFE

While hiking boots aren't necessary for urban hiking, sturdy shoes with decent support are, as are comfortable socks (and maybe a second pair in your backpack). And because you're in a city with traffic of all kinds, and seemingly endless construction sites and vehicles, be safe. Cross in the crosswalks, and look both ways. If you are hiking early in the morning, in the evening, or on a foggy day, wear something bright.

Last, sometimes the call of nature is easier to address in nature than in the city. Public parks, playgrounds, and beaches often have free, accessible restrooms; some open spaces and parks do not. Some chain coffee

shops are fairly liberal with their restrooms, and you can download apps to your smartphone to help you find locations as well.

WHERE TO?

A great place to start is "Best Hikes in San Francisco," by Peter Hockaday (updated in 2015, sfgate.com). It includes a map, photos, and a brief description of more than 20 amazing urban hikes. Urban Hiker also lists city hikes. Here are a few favorites:

Lands End: This is probably the most popular city hike offering the right amount of stairs, scenery, and most important, views — the Golden Gate Bridge, bay, ocean, and the ruins of the historic Sutro Baths. You can park near the Palace of the Legion of Honor and complete this dirt trail in about an hour, and there's a cafe with food and restrooms at the end. The Cliff House and Ocean Beach are just a short walk.

Batteries to Bluffs: A Presidio trail with an excellent view of the bridge, Marin, and the ocean is the trail above Baker Beach. There are multiple sets of steep stairs that wind up and down above the beach. The trail continues all the



The view of the ocean near the Lands End Lookout above Sutro Baths. PHOTO: JULIE MITCHELL

way down to Crissy Field.

Twin Peaks/Mount Davidson: There are many places to begin this moderately steep, hour-long trail; many people begin at Portola Drive and Twin Peaks Boulevard, and I have started in the Mission. The hike involves city streets and hidden stairways, and you are rewarded by reaching the city's highest natural point with a 360-degree view.

Mount Sutro Open Space: Park on the street and look for the wooden marker at the trailhead in the hills above UCSF. Beware of poison oak on this woodsy, winding trail highlighted by pine groves and eucalyptus trees. It's a well-maintained, 40-minute loop.

Glen Canyon Park: Just beyond the park's recreation center is an open space home to a wide dirt

trail along Islais Creek, one of the city's few free-flowing creeks, and up a staircase into a canyon of wildflowers, red-tailed hawks, and rock formations. There are many trails to explore within the canyon. It's about an hour-long hike with a loop that starts and ends on Bosworth Street. Hikers with dogs take note: Throughout the city's parks, and especially in Glen Canyon, there have been many coyote sightings, so it's best to keep your pups leashed.

Take advantage of the longer summer days by exploring nature in some areas you may not have visited before while also getting a good workout.

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MomSense :: Healthy heads

Tips for dealing with a summer lice outbreak

BY LIZ FARRELL

SUMMER MEANS LETTING your hair down, extra sleepovers, and summer camps. But recently I was reminded of the unfortunate reality that those wonderful pastimes are prime breeding for the dreaded lice bug. My children had all enjoyed a week of camp with their cousins in the East Bay with sleepovers every night. The day after we returned home, I got the alarming text from my sister that she had found bugs in three of her four kids' hair. I will spare you the details, but let's just say love and good cheer weren't the only things spread during that week of camp.

Monday morning, I found myself back in the chair at Hair Fairies on Fillmore Street getting myself and all three kids checked. Just the thought of it makes me start to itch. This wasn't my first time at this rodeo, so I knew what to expect and what to do. If your family has had lice before then you will understand every sentiment in this article. If your family has so far been spared, then put this advice in a safe place until the day comes when you need it; trust me, that day *will* come. Here are some simple tips that come in handy year round:

STAY CALM

This is much easier said than done. The first thing I suggest is screaming into a pillow all the expletives that are going through your head. You will feel angry, annoyed, maybe a bit embarrassed — these are all natural reactions but none that you want your child to see you have. The most important thing is to remain calm and for your children not to feel like this is their fault or they did something to cause it. If we could figure out where this treacherous bug comes from and how to stop it for good, this world would be a better place.

The terms to become familiar with are "lice," which are the actual bugs and "nits," which are the lice eggs. A quick Internet search of what these look like will make you an expert in no time. The facts to remember are the bugs cannot jump, fly, or swim but rather are passed by head-to-head contact. This is *not* a hygiene issue — the bugs actually prefer clean and healthy hair because it



Kyle Vuong from Hair Fairies doing a lice check.

PHOTO: LIZ FARRELL

makes it easier for them to attach and move around.

TAKE ACTION

I always tell people it never hurts to have a nit-free comb on hand. This is now a staple in our bathroom along with Trader Joe's Tea Tree Tingle shampoo and conditioner. These are both good preventative measures. I still regularly comb my daughter's hair with the nit-free comb just to be safe.

If you do have an outbreak in your house, the worst part, besides the hours of endless hair combing, is the laundry. The good news is lice cannot lay eggs on couches or carpet; they need the warmth of the scalp to survive. The bad news is there may have been bugs that fell off her head onto pillows, towels, clothes, etc. So just to be safe, put all the towels, sheets, comforters, and clothes used in the past few days in large garbage bags and head to the nearest Laundromat with commercial-sized washers and dryers. The last step is to vacuum everything — floors, cushions, couches and just generally do a deep clean. This measure is purely for my own mental peace of mind.

GET PROFESSIONAL HELP

One of the worst mistakes parents can make is thinking they can handle this on their own. These bugs and nits are so small, they are easy to miss, and all it takes is one egg to hatch and the cycle keeps repeating itself, leaving you feeling like there is no end in sight. Luckily, there are two great local options. Martina Mitchell from Lice Patrol (liceapatriol.org)

will come to your home and the company uses only natural, nontoxic treatments. Mitchell does a very thorough combing and will make follow-up visits until you are all clear. This is a very convenient option.

The other local option is Hair Fairies (hairfairies.com). They offer similar services, but you need to go into the salon, and trying to coordinate your family's schedules can be tough. Hair Fairies' products are also nontoxic. Neither option is inexpensive — you should expect to spend several hundred dollars depending on the severity of the outbreak.

Unfortunately, there is no definitive answer about why this happens or why it appears to be so common. Resistance to many modern shampoos and long hair seem to be contributing factors. Preventative combing after a sleepover, week at camp, or long airplane rides is always a good idea, especially during the summer months.

Also, keeping your son's hair short helps — you may even be tempted to buzz it all off. For girls, the key is making sure their hair is pulled back in a bun or braid. The best advice I can offer is you will survive — although it will seem like a very long and taxing week and hardly the way you want to spend your summer, but remember if treated properly, the outbreak won't last forever.

Liz Farrell is the mother of three young children. She was formerly a television producer in Washington, D.C. and in San Francisco. E-mail: liz@marinatimes.com

Political Animal :: Rescue the rescuer



Minimoo, one of the many cats saved by Give Me Shelter, San Francisco's largest independent cat rescue. PHOTO: GIVE ME SHELTER

Give Me Shelter Cat Rescue needs your help

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

I WAS THRILLED TO HEAR THAT THE Nine Lives Foundation, which I featured on the Pet Page recently ("Nine Lives Foundation loses lease," May 2016), will be able to stay in their home on Rolison Road in Redwood City after the landlords had a change of heart (originally, they wanted to boot the no-kill cat shelter to seek higher paying tech tenants). That's the good news. The bad news is that, as part of their new agreement, Nine Lives will be required to do more than half a million dollars in upgrades to the interior, which hasn't been touched in half a century. If you'd like to make a donation, visit bit.ly/9LivesFunds. For more information on the Nine Lives Foundation, e-mail ninelivesfoundation@gmail.com, call 650-368-1365, or visit ninelivesfoundation.org ...

Now another one of my favorite non-profits, Give Me Shelter (GMS), is in dire straits. Founded in 2003 by Lana Bajsel, GMS has stepped up time and time again as the largest cat rescue in San Francisco. With a small band of devoted volunteers, GMS pulls cats from death row, provides behavioral intervention, and offers medical care along with a safe haven while cats await their forever homes. When our friend Mary lost her senior cat, she was devastated, but like me with my beloved pit bull Jazzy, she realized that letting another animal die in a shelter wasn't going to honor her beloved companion or bring him back, so she decided to adopt again right away. Mary's last cat was a "tuxedo" (black and white with a white chest bib), so that was on her wish list. She also needed a mellow cat that would be happy living indoors at the senior care home where she now resides. I called GMS and within days, Mary had the perfect kitty — a petite, formerly stray tuxedo girl who greets caretakers in the hallway and spends hours purring in Mary's lap. Without GMS, this little love bug and others like her would have likely been euthanized due to middle age and the lack of space at perpetually overcrowded shelters. In 2015, GMS nearly doubled their adoption rates.

Besides finding homes for cats, GMS focuses on spaying and neutering (the only real way to end the nearly four million deaths in American shelters each year). Because of the cost of those surgeries and the large medical bills for older and special needs cats, the group's expenses have skyrocketed. Right now, Give Me Shelter is trying to raise \$20,000 through crowd sourcing. If you're a cat lover and you can help (no amount is too small), please visit

youcaring.com/give-me-shelter-cat-rescue-578392 to make a donation online. You can also make a donation on the Give Me Shelter website at givemesheltersf.org, or mail donations to: Give Me Shelter Cat Rescue, P.O. Box 411013, San Francisco, CA 94141.

It upsets me to no end that animal rescue organizations in the nation's wealthiest city are struggling to stay afloat. We also have one of the richest privately funded SPCAs on the planet, which doesn't do nearly enough. In 2009, I wrote a cover story for *Northside San Francisco* magazine called "How the San Francisco SPCA let us down." I focused on the fact that the city's grassroots rescue groups save many more animals than the SFSPCA does, and yet the SFSPCA, with its powerful P.R. machine, receives millions in donations while nickeling and diming the rescue groups. After my article, the president and vice president stepped down and things at the SFSPCA got better, but there are still major problems.

One of the biggest issues for me is why the SFSPCA doesn't deeply discount veterinary care for the independent rescues, without whom their precious "live release rates" (which they tout to get those donations) would be much lower. Better yet, the SFSPCA's state-of-the-art, multimillion-dollar veterinary hospital contributes big bucks to their bottom line, so why not treat the rescues as partners instead of clients and offer free medical care? Further, why doesn't the SFSPCA set aside some of their millions and offer grants to local rescues? It would be pocket change for the SFSPCA, but it would make a world of difference to the grassroots organizations and the animals they work so hard to save.

According to Charity Navigator, in 2014 (the most recent report available) the SFSPCA had total revenue of nearly \$30 million and an after-expenses excess of \$1,576,230. Co-presidents Jason Walthall and Jennifer Scarlett (why do they need two presidents?) made a combined salary of \$430,856. The organization also had net assets of nearly \$92 million. If you're planning to donate to the SFSPCA, please consider instead helping one of the hardworking independent rescue groups like Give Me Shelter, or San Francisco's struggling city shelter ACC via its nonprofit arm, Friends of SFACC (friendsofsfacc.org). You'll make a far bigger and more direct impact on the homeless animals of San Francisco — and you'll save a lot more lives.

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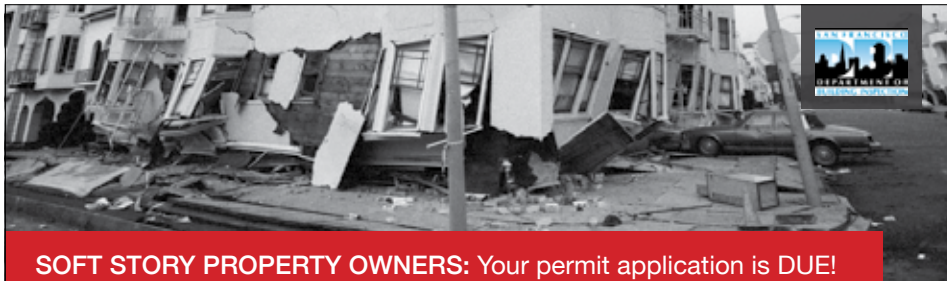
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