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The year it changes  
Price drops? Trump effect?  
Special 2017 real estate preview



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New Year  
Get ready for a  
2017 full of exciting  
things to do



Martin Luther King Jr. at the Civil Rights March on Washington, D.C., 1963.  
PHOTO: ROWLAND SCHERMAN; COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION; WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day in S.F.

ALTHOUGH MARTIN LUTHER King Day was established in the 1980s, it wasn't until 1994 that it became known as a Day of Service, where we are encouraged to engage in service activities that bring us together as a community in ways that honor Dr. King's life and teachings, and in response

to his query: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"

There are many ways to commemorate MLK's birthday in San Francisco, most coordinated through NorcalMLK.org and scheduled throughout the month, with Yerba Buena Gardens as a hub: interfaith

lectures, a liberation film festival, children's programs, and more. There are also volunteer opportunities available in the Golden Gate National Parks and a celebration at SFJazz — check our calendar pages for some of the ways you can get out and make it "A Day On, Not a Day Off."

### REYNOLDS RAP

## The Trump effect

Voters sent a message to city leaders — but will they listen?

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

A LITTLE OVER 9 PERCENT OF SAN FRANCISCANS voted for Donald Trump. I wasn't one of them, but I understand why people did. It was their way of sending a message to Washington, loud and clear: Strip it down, smarten up, stop wasting our money, and get your priorities straight. Whether Trump is up for the challenge of changing Washington's ways is another story. Many campaign promises have seemingly fallen by the wayside: Locking up Hillary Clinton; building a wall on Mexico's dime; "forcing" companies to do all their manufacturing in America. His battle cry of "drain the swamp" also rings hollow as he fills his cabinet with former Goldman Sachs executives and smarmy career politicians. Perhaps he meant, "drain the swamp and rescue the swamp animals." He will be the first president without a dog in the White House, after all.

Still, voters sent a strong message to Washington by electing Trump, and it's the same message San Franciscans sent in the November 2016 election by turning down every measure that would have added more bureaucracy to a city already so bloated it's sinking faster than the Millennium Tower. The fact that voters rejected oversight for Mayor Ed Lee's administration was in no

REYNOLDS RAP, continued on 4

### BELLINGHAM BY THE BAY

## The last refuge of a scoundrel

BY BRUCE BELLINGHAM

ON THE 22 FILLMORE BUS THE OTHER DAY, A very nice lady sat next to me. Her name was Helen. Yes, just like Helen of Troy. Yes, she launched a thousand ships. What is that famous line? The face that launched a thousand ships.

I would not get on her bad side — even if it were on the port side, nor the starboard. Not the one on the bus, nor the one who was married to Agamemnon. You've got to love Greek mythology. They sure know how to harbor a grudge, I'm talking about Helen of Troy — gosh, she must have had a face that Coco Chanel would have envied.

Helen, who declined to give me her last name, wisely, I am sure, reminded me that Dr. Samuel Johnson said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

I got myself into trouble years ago. Nowhere to go. So I lived — quite illegally — on a sailboat in the Marina Yacht Harbor. The boat, a 29-foot skiff, was named Scoundrel. I stayed there for four months. Not as romantic as you may think. No wonder the sailors of ancient times were enticed by the Sirens, and crashed their boats on the rocks of the Aegean Sea. The howling winds through the Golden Gate produce their own music. Just as hypnotic as the days of yore.

A sweet sound. It has ageless grace.

BELLINGHAM, continued on 5

### THE HUNGRY PALATE



The Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill trio Betty Pesce, Hector Chaparro, and Louise Taylor. PHOTO: ERNEST BEYL

## Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill

BY ERNEST BEYL

BACK IN SEPTEMBER, I REPORTED that three comrades from the popular seafood restaurant Sotto Mare on Green Street in North Beach — Hector Chaparro, Betty Pesce, and Louise Taylor — were planning to open a restaurant just a few blocks away on Columbus Avenue. And now it's happened.

The eagerly awaited Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill opened late last year at the highly desirable intersection of Columbus and Grant Avenues in a prime space formerly occupied by Viva Pizza. Those sounds you may be hearing in the old neighborhood are shouts of rejoicing. News gets around fast in North Beach. And Betty Lou's has been a success from the minute it opened.

### SIGNIFICANT NEIGHBORHOOD ADDITION

Sisters Betty and Louise are third-generation Portuguese from Hawaii, and Hector is from Temascalcingo, Mexico. All three are well known and well liked. Hector was executive chef at Sotto Mare since it was opened in 2007 by master restaurateur Gigi Fiorucci and became an instant classic. Betty was the longtime principal server there. Louise managed it with a deft hand and a welcoming manner. Gigi Fiorucci is their brother-in-law. You learn something in a family like this where grandmothers spent a lot of time at the stove stirring sauces.

From my point of view this is the most significant North Beach restaurant opening since Original Joe's took over the corner of Union and Stockton Streets in 2012. When the Duggan family opened Original Joe's it was a game changer. The North Beach restaurant scene was getting a little scruffy around the edges. Instantly, Original Joe's breathed new life into the scene. Then about a year ago the U.S. Restaurant reopened and added not only panache to the neighborhood, but some great food as well.

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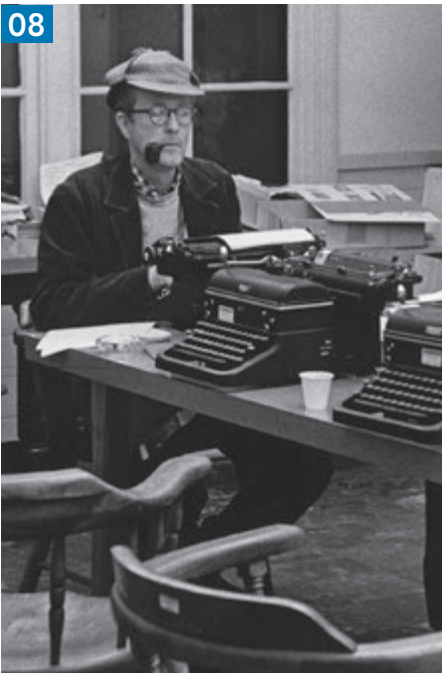
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News Briefs :: Northside updates

# Controversies new and old

## CITY LOOKS FOR \$60 MILLION IN ACADEMY OF ART SETTLEMENT

San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera announced in late December an agreement on a proposed settlement of the city's suit against Academy of Art University that would settle a raft of claims and complaints against the for-profit school and end a multiyear battle. Herrera values the impact of the settlement at \$60 million to the city in cash and benefits.

The deal includes \$20 million in cash, the largest monetary award the city has received in a code enforcement. The money includes penalties for multiple code violations at the school's many properties in the city, as well as a contribution to a city program for low-income tenants at risk of eviction. The Academy of Art would also be required to provide at least 160 units of affordable housing for 66 years at no cost to the city; that replaces the 160 units of affordable housing that Herrera's office says the Academy illegally converted into student housing.

"Academy of Art University and its real estate affiliates behaved for more than a decade like they were above the law," Herrera said. "We've ensured those days are over. After years of meeting our good faith with bad faith, the academy has finally agreed to do right by the people of San Francisco. I look forward to the academy taking this new path, one where they follow the rules and are a positive influence in their hometown. This day has been a long time in the making. Our work here sends a clear message: No matter how wealthy or politically connected you may be, the same rules apply to everyone."

The proposed settlement includes a number of other elements ranging from a mass transit program for the school's students to limiting the students' impact on local housing inventory.

## GGNRA READIES OFF-LEASH LIMITS FOR DOGS

In mid-December, the National Park Service (NPS) released its preferred plan for restricting off-leash areas for



The city celebrated reaching agreement to settle all outstanding real estate claims against Academy of Art University. PHOTO: CAROLINE CULLER

dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Once the plan is made official in January, the new rules will be rolled out for enforcement beginning in March 2017.

The NPS says that both off-leash and on-leash areas will exist at Crissy Field, for example, and Baker Beach will no longer allow off-leash walking for dogs.

The proposed restrictions on off-leash areas for dogs in the GGNRA touched off a storm of protest from local dog-owners ("New GGNRA rule could make most beaches off limits to all dogs," *Marina Times*, April 2016). Local citizens and community groups, such as the Marina Community Association, and the Board of Supervisors, opposed the rule.

For details on the GGNRA's plan and a link to maps showing the affected areas, visit [nps.gov/goga/getinvolved/dog-plan-feis.htm](http://nps.gov/goga/getinvolved/dog-plan-feis.htm).

## VAN NESS LANES REMOVE TREES, HURT UNION STREET SHOPPING

The construction on Van Ness Avenue intended to improve mass transit and safety has irked neighborhood businesses and residents.

Beginning on Dec. 19, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) began removing the overhead electric system for buses on Van Ness between Market and McAllister Streets. Through the end of the month, SFMTA closed off a lane in each direction between Jackson and Greenwich streets, began moving median trees, and working on different sections of the street.

Union Street merchants were upset at the closure of left-turn lanes from Van Ness onto

Union, occurring just a couple weeks before Christmas and right in the middle of holiday shopping. The Union Street Association complained that "Business traffic is down, and this is one of the main reasons why," and it urged merchants to contact city officials for help. Meanwhile, local residents expressed concern about the loss of the meridian trees on Van Ness.

Creating additional local construction hurdles has been SFMTA's commencement of work on Polk Street from Vallejo to Beach Streets, which is underway; the Polk Streetscape Project is planned to take place over a 24-month period of time.

## NEW POLICE CHIEF

San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee announced his selection of Bill Scott as the city's new police chief in December. Scott, previously the deputy chief of the Los Angeles police department, will take charge of the police force as it deals with a number of problems, including controversies over police shootings that helped drive out his predecessor, Greg Suhr.

"The appointment of Bill Scott as the new chief of SFPD is our city's next step on the continued path to reform," said Mayor Lee. "Bill knows first-hand what it takes to not only implement a series of reforms but also the effort it takes to transform a department, rebuild trust, and create a transparent and accountable department. He also brings a significant operational and administrative experience needed to keep our streets and neighborhoods safe each day."

News tips? E-mail: [john@marinatimes.com](mailto:john@marinatimes.com)



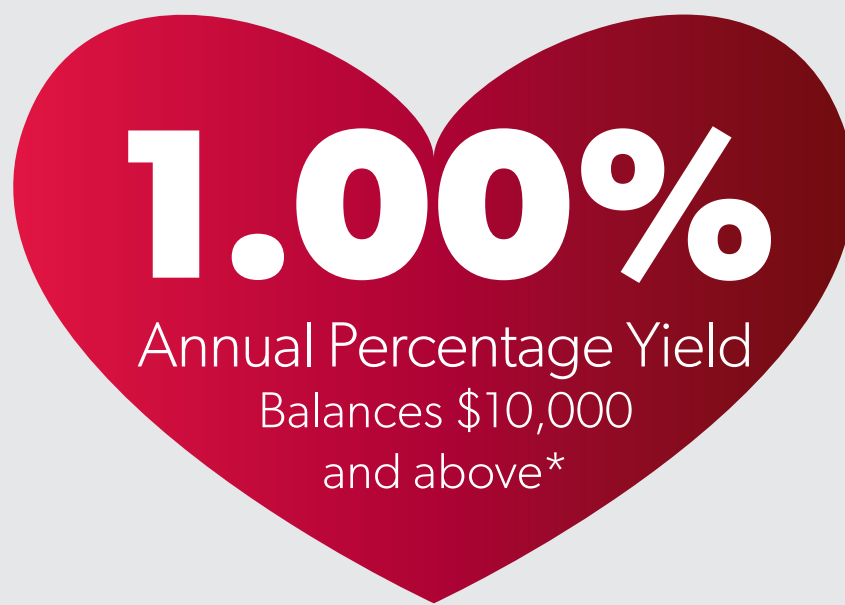
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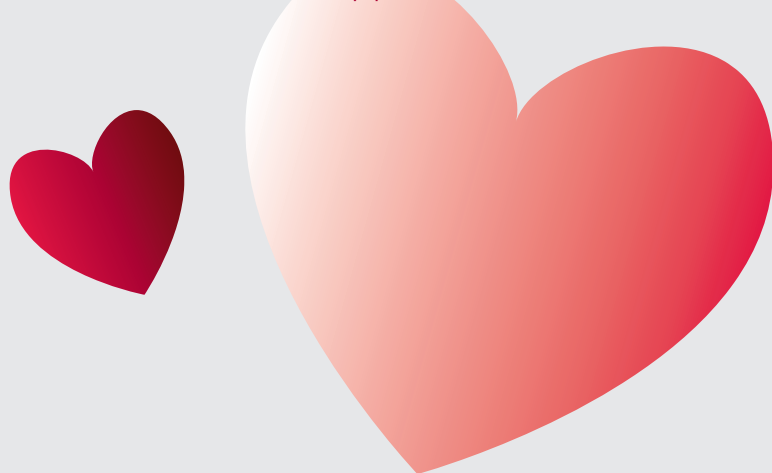


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## Reynolds Rap continued from page 1

way an endorsement of the job he's doing — Lee is arguably the least popular mayor in San Francisco's history — nor was it necessarily a rejection of the more progressive side of the Board of Supervisors. It was a collective message to everyone at City Hall: Strip it down, smarten up, stop wasting our money, and get your priorities straight.

A resounding 65 percent of San Franciscans said no to Measure K, which would have increased the city sales tax by 0.75 percent to raise \$50 million for homeless services and \$100 million for transportation annually. Evidently politicians thought the residents of an iconic city now almost as famous for homeless encampments as the Golden Gate Bridge wanted to throw more money at the problem. Ditto for the aging, notoriously unreliable transportation system. Boy, were the politicians off. What San Franciscans want is for city leaders to fix things with the money they have. Currently, that's a whopping \$9.6 billion, yet despite having a budget bigger than some small countries, San Francisco is expected to face a \$119 million deficit for fiscal 2017-18. In five years that will balloon to \$848 million, thanks to skyrocketing pension costs and several massive infrastructure projects.

The ever out of touch Mayor Lee actually counted on that sales tax hike passing — in fact, the \$9.6 billion budget passed in July assumed it would. The financial “shortfall” has caused Lee to scale back on some of his grand plans to tackle homelessness. Apparently the \$241 million we're spending now

is not enough (that's \$84 million more than when Lee took office in 2011). As for Muni, its budget will soon top \$1 billion. Those huge numbers make for a very angry constituency as they dodge “LeeVille” shantytowns and step over feces while dashing to catch an overcrowded bus that's inevitably broken down or running behind. No, San Franciscans aren't in any mood to give City Hall more money when the quality of life in San Francisco, one of the richest cities in the world, is frankly pretty dismal.

On a recent visit to the Bryant Street U-Haul, I witnessed several homeless kids shooting up in broad daylight in front of tents that stretched as far as the eye could see. In my more than two decades living in San Francisco I've never seen such a mess, and I'm not alone. According to a report by the city controller's office, calls to 311 about used syringes discarded on the streets are up 41 percent since the last fiscal year. In District 2 they surged 73 percent and in District 3 they're up 33 percent. Reports of feces have increased citywide by 39 per-

## The loss of \$1 billion in federal funds could be catastrophic. Even in a liberal city like San Francisco, I can't be the only one who thinks this is nuts.

cent, with District 2 and District 3 seeing increases of 43 percent and 68 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, the Board of Supervisors seems more interested in making City College free to everyone and keeping San Francisco's sanctuary city status intact after president-elect Trump vowed to deport undocumented immigrants who have criminal records. Trump also promised to strip all federal funding from sanctuary cities, which



Homeless tents near the U-Haul storage facility. PHOTO: SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

could mean a loss of \$1 billion a year for San Francisco.

Termed-out supervisor David Campos, who came from Guatemala to the United States illegally with his parents as a child, wants \$5 million for legal representation of undocumented immigrants facing deportation — I assume that includes the ones with criminal records. Campos would like to hand \$2.6 million to the public defender's office to hire 10 attorneys, 5 paralegals, and 2 legal clerks. Another \$2 million would go to community legal groups for 13 attorneys and 6 education and outreach staff and to provide for office

space and “administration costs.” The remaining \$400,000 would pay for a hotline and provide emergency legal representation in cases resulting from immigration raids. But with the projected rising deficits and the failure of the tax increase ballot measure, the potential loss of \$1 billion in federal funds could be catastrophic.

Even in a liberal city like San Francisco, I can't be the only one who thinks this is nuts. As Cam-

pos left City Hall still passionately ranting about help for undocumented immigrants, it dawned on me that I've never heard him — or anyone else, for that matter — passionately ranting about help for homeless veterans. It seems to me that any spare millions should go to help those who fought for our country before those who broke the law to get here. Those who broke the law to get here and then committed violent crimes should be booted back to wherever they came from. But that's just me. Definitely not the mayor, who announced he would fund only half the new homeless services he budgeted for with those now nonexistent sales tax proceeds while granting Campos his wish of providing millions for the legal defense of undocumented immigrants.

Over the past few years, I've noticed the letters I get from readers taking a decidedly distressed and negative tone. They write about the homeless, about the neighborhoods they love being littered with needles, feces, and potholes; the crumbling public school system, the congestion from

traffic and construction, and the crime. Recently, a Marina resident detailed his frustration with the epidemic of vehicle break-ins. “Our cars have been broken into 23 times as a resident of SF,” he wrote, “17 of those 23 break-ins have occurred since July 2013 in a four-block radius of our home.” He addressed the letter to SFPD, Mayor Ed Lee, and the Board of Supervisors. Are you listening, civil servants? San Francisco's neighborhoods are falling apart at the seams. Time to strip it down, smarten up, stop wasting our money, and get your priorities straight. Number one should be cleaning up this city, and that means putting all your energy into dealing with the homeless crisis. And is it really worth losing \$1 billion in federal funding to make a point from your high horse? Just remember, he who gets on the high horse has a long way to fall.

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## Bellingham continued from page 1

When I hear the concert harp, I think of Clare. That is, **Clare Dye**. She lived here in Cow Hollow. She had a full concert harp. She studied with the San Francisco Symphony. Clare was staggeringly beautiful. Yes, all the blond hair cascading down her face, Yes, all the vulnerability. That was part of her magic. There was tenderness in her face. It haunts me. You'd want to hug her. But don't get me wrong: She was a strong lady. When the chips were there, she'd call your bluff.

I went to music school with her. Yes, Music and Arts Institute in Pacific Heights. I hired her to play harp on a record of one of my songs, “Darlin' Maggie.” Clare played it well — always resilient. Always up to the task. She was always looking for the next best thing, chords included.

I sure hope she found her happiness. Clare and I shared a secured sense of restlessness.

At the beginning of this year, I think of her. And her great friend, **Claudia Wu**. Claudia still lives here in the Marina. She loves dogs. We got along famously. Claudia has a spirit that most of us would envy. There's a warmth in her eyes, even on a bad day.

In this new year, let's not let the bad days outnumber the good ones. Let's let the good days splash over to the more tempestuous times. We are going to need all the charm we can get our arms around.

There is a paucity of grace in this city of ours. Not to worry: We can get it back. I really believe that. San Francisco is a treasure we can't afford to lose. Even if many of us can't afford to live here anymore. Yeah, stick around.

Funny thing. I once wrote that “If you stick around long enough, you'll disappoint everybody.” But I've changed my mind. Just for a moment. The only advance to that sort of comment is perhaps I will not disappoint everybody, and maybe I can impart something encouraging.

Just like Clare. She never disappointed me. She loved her dogs, too. She had two sheep dogs. One of them bit her in the face and scarred her. That wonderful face. Clare showed no bitterness about that hideous assault.

I was angrier than she.

I have a scar under my bearded face. Yes, from a dog bite. **Fats Domino** has a great song with the lyric, “Baby, don't let your dog bite me.”

My idea of a bad day is to see Fats Domino doing a commercial for Neutra-Systems. Then I will know it's time to give up the ghost.

But I like my ghosts.

They speak to me, mostly in encouraging ways. Sure, it is unnerving to get visited by things one would like to forget. But they are reassuring apparitions.

I am lucky enough to know people who spill their charms

and their talents in my direction. Somewhat like all those great songs I have come to love over the years. They give me solace in dark times — yes, the people, and the songs — and that has nothing to do with the weather

report. Did I ever tell you I used to be the voice of the National Weather Service? I don't think that improves the weather at all. Perhaps I should have taken requests. If I had, the weather may have improved. In the words of the great old song, “Don't Blame Me.”

The wonderful **Vilma Molina**, at the downtown Senior Center on O'Farrell Street, likes to correct me from time to time. Vilma loves music, and she loves people. She also loved the **Everly Brothers** — and understands why I am still heartbroken about the death of **Phil**

**Everly**. Don't blame any of us. I still feel guilty. Why am I guilty? Not sure. But I will think of something.

Do you recall the late, great pub on Nob Hill, John Barleycorn? The owner once castigated me for breaking the

jukebox. I kept playing the Everly Brothers. “On the Wings of a Nightingale.” Yes, written by **Paul McCartney**. The owner said I played the song over and over. I confess I did. He claimed I damaged the machine and he had to

throw the jukebox out. Gee, more junk to toss into the Pacific Ocean.

Sometimes it rains in Northern California. And I like the rain.

You want a weather report? Feel free to call me at home. If you don't like the weather, don't blame me.

## I like my ghosts. Sure, it is unnerving to get visited by things one would like to forget. But they are reassuring apparitions.

Bruce Bellingham is the author of *Bellingham By the Bay*. He will always be close to the water — regardless of the weather. Catch him at [bruce@marinatimes.com](mailto:bruce@marinatimes.com). Follow the Marina Times on Twitter @TheMarinaTimes and like us on Facebook @MarinaTimes.



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## Marina-Cow Hollow Insider :: On the street

# The shirt on your back

BY LYNETTE MAJER

### REST FOR THE WEARY

Union Street has become a little comfier: Thanks to the Union Street Association and Supervisor Mark Farrell, 21 green benches have been installed on Union Street to give you a place to rest, people watch, and check your e-mail in between shopping errands. Let's hope that's all that happens there, and we know you're thinking the same thing.

### GOT SHIRTS? UNION STREET DOES

We spied this store, **Untuckit** (1872 Union Street), on our way out of town recently, so imagine our surprise when we saw an advertisement in *USA Today* as well as a promotional piece in *American Way*, American Airlines' in-flight magazine. Imagine our pride when we saw San Francisco, and our own Union Street at that, as just one location of four across the country. For you guys who haven't yet discovered this new shirt style, it's specially designed to be worn, yep, you guessed it, untucked. The fit is slim and the hemline more contoured than a regular (boring) tuck-in shirt, and it's also shorter to allow access to your pants pockets. Sounds like a clever idea, and thanks for choosing Union Street!

Got plaid? The **Pladra** pop-up store (2030 Union Street) sure does through Jan. 15. These folks are serious about quality and design. The flannel comes from Portugal, and the design goes through multiple prototypes, so it's not just your run-of-the-mill flannel shirt: The heavy-weight style has faux suede elbow patches, the medium weight is pill-proof with a brushed interior, and the women's style is fitted — and all have a whimsical cuff lining of bears and fish and wilderness-y motifs, making these plaids special. Extra Brownie points because the shirts are constructed in South San Francisco, and for the friendly greeter, Brooke, the resident cocoa Lab. If you miss the pop-up (but don't, really, plaid is hot, and you want to be that, right?), catch them online at [pladra.com](http://pladra.com).

### MOSTLY GOOD RESTAURANT NEWS

We stopped by **Belga** (2000 Union Street) on



The beautiful wood-fired oven at Contrada.

PHOTO: FACEBOOK.COM/CONTRADASF

a recent chilly night to try out their Monday Lite menu of two items for \$15. There's a choice of seven dishes, and we chose the lentil soup with mirepoix, spinach, and crème fraîche (which was nicely divided into two cup-sized portions) and the grilled chicken pailard with warm potato and kale salad. We threw in a house-made curry-wurst sausage (\$5) served with whole-grain mustard and house-made ketchups because it happened to be happy hour (Monday–Friday 3:30–6:30 p.m.), and image our delight when the bill was \$20 for two. And if that weren't enough, part of the Monday Lite menu includes free corkage, so this really made our Monday. Make it yours, too — how long the menu continues will be based on its popularity.

The long-awaited **Contrada** (2136 Union Street) opened at the end of last year in the former beloved La Cucina space. The interior (designed by Marina architect Jim Maxwell) is woody, warm (wood-fired oven), and cozy, and we're eager to get our fix of rustic Italian comfort food.

We've always loved tucking into **Ristobar** (2300 Chestnut Avenue) for a glass of wine after a movie at the Presidio Theatre, where we would mull the movie surrounded by the beautiful murals and the Venetian glass chandelier. So of course we were disappointed by the note in the window citing their closure due to "staffing issues" as well as the "scheduled structural seismic upgrading." The note states the restaurant

will reopen in February after the upgrading is complete, and we sure hope they do.

In the meantime, we'll just head down to **The Dorian** (2001 Chestnut Street), which has launched Night Owl Thursdays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. with "old fashioned drinks at old fashioned prices." Apparently so: Five bucks will get you a martini, old fashioned, or Champagne cocktail. Cheers!

### ERRATA

Hawkeye *Marina Times* reader Donna Shea, who teaches Pilates at **Embrace Health** (2400 Greenwich Street) alerted us to our geographic misstatement of the "cursed corner" in our December column. We stated the location of that corner as Fillmore and Greenwich, when we meant Fillmore and Filbert, specifically, the northwest corner. Thanks to the Plumpjack folks (Balboa Cafe, Eastside West, and Plumpjack Wines), three quarters of Fillmore and *Greenwich* have been stable for many years, with Sabrosa rounding out the fourth corner for the last few.

Embrace Health, by the way, is the place to go for chiropractic care, acupuncture, massage, and Pilates and has been for some 20 years (previously as Body Kinetics). They have wonderful Internet reviews, and Donna is as nice as can be (however, your body may not like her after a Pilates class).

E-mail: [lynette@marinatimes.com](mailto:lynette@marinatimes.com). Follow the Marina Times on Twitter @TheMarinaTimes and like us on Facebook @MarinaTimes.



# Looking back on 2016 and what’s ahead for 2017

BY MARK FARRELL

AS WE HEAD INTO 2017, I want to take a moment to reflect on 2016 — to reflect on the work of our office with the community, our residents, and our businesses throughout the year. While 2016 was a difficult year for many, and presented new and unique challenges, I strongly believe that here in San Francisco we continue to move our city in the right direction.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMES**

I hear from constituents daily about crime and concerns regarding public safety. This is a real issue across the city, and rightfully a serious concern for many people within District 2. Especially as a parent of three young children, I get it. The five years before I came into office, City Hall did not fund a single SFPD Police Academy class, and combined with record retirements from our police department, we have been faced with record low staffing levels at SFPD. The good news is as chair of our Budget and Finance Committee, working with the mayor, we have now fully funded our Police Academy, and we expect to be back to mandated staffing levels toward the end of 2017.

That said, until our Police Department is at full staffing, we will have to continue to work together as a community, in partnership with our Police Department. Over the past two years, I’ve hosted five public safety town halls in District 2, and more recently have started meeting with neighbors in smaller groups. Please contact me or my office if you’d like to participate in these conversations.

Related to these public safety concerns is homelessness, which continues to be a personal top priority for me. One of the most visible symptoms of homelessness has been the tent encampments that are now spread throughout every neighborhood. While some of my colleagues preferred to institutionalize and encourage tent encampments on our neighborhood streets (seriously), I authored and placed Proposition Q — Housing Not Tents — on the November ballot, which passed with the support of more than 194,000 San Francisco residents. Proposition Q will help move homeless San Franciscans out of tent encampments and into supportive services, shelter, and housing. Now, Proposition Q will provide an additional tool for our city to address the proliferation of tent encampments.

The issue of homelessness does not stop there, and we cannot escape the fact that we have a large problem. I commissioned a first-of-its-kind report earlier in 2016 that laid out the economic case for the city to pay for housing to get individuals and families off the street; it is empirically less expensive, even in this housing market, to house the homeless than treat them on the streets, as the burden on our police and fire department, public health department, and ambulance services is overwhelming. It is why I was so disappointed in December when my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors and the mayor decided to divert funds from our homeless budget to fund free City College for everyone. I think that was a morally wrong decision.

Last, cost of living and housing affordability continued to dominate discussions inside and outside of City Hall. I firmly believe we need to build more housing at every income level to change the tide, and was happy that Supervisor Peskin and I were able to reach consensus on our landmark policy on city-wide construction of accessory dwelling units that paves the way for the creation of tens of thousands of permanently rent-controlled residential units.

**PARKS AND INTERNET ACCESS**

Parks and open spaces are our city’s great equalizer. Unfortunately, funding for our parks has not kept pace with our needs. For more than a year, I worked with neighborhood, park, and environmental advocates to author and pass Proposition B in June 2016 to provide just over \$1 billion in new funding over the next 30 years for our Recreation and Park Department — without raising taxes.

Furthermore, in our growing city, I actually believe it is critical to develop new open spaces. We have purchased the old Francisco Reservoir in Russian Hill, and in 2016 the Recreation and Park Commission, along with the Board of Supervisors, approved a major milestone in our Francisco Park Project by allowing our Recreation and Park Department to enter into an agreement with the neighborhood group the Francisco Park Conservancy. The Conservancy is leading the effort, along with my office, to fund the new Francisco Park Project, and I am thankful for their partnership and incredible efforts. Neighborhood outreach and community meetings have started, and you can get more involved with the project at franciscopark.org.

Lastly, as we pride ourselves on being the “innovation capital of the world,” it blows my mind that more than 100,000 San Franciscans and 14 percent of our public school children still do not have Internet access at home. Internet access is a fundamental right and in my mind a utility on par with water and power. For more than a year, our office has been leading the effort to close the digital divide and bring fast and affordable Internet options to every resident and business in San Francisco. Among many things, we passed a first-in-the-country local law to guarantee tenants the right to choose their own Internet provider, and released a detailed report to provide pathways and cost estimates for providing fast and affordable Internet options to every resident and business. Much more to come in 2017.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017**

For 2017, I will stay focused on neighborhood issues within District 2, in particular public safety and homelessness, and will work on any and all issues that crop up.

There will be much more in 2017, but I am thankful for the progress we made in 2016, and look forward to continuing our work together in 2017.

## MUNI PRICE CHANGES JAN. 1, 2017

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(CASH AND LIMITED USE CARD)

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\$36.00



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Sketches from a North Beach Journal



Ralph J. Gleason in the press room at the Monterey Jazz Festival.  
PHOTO: MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL ARCHIVES / JERRY STOLL

Happy New Year: Resolutions and revelations

BY ERNEST BEYL

AS I WAS WRITING THIS NEW YEAR’S Sketches column, I realized I had written more than 50 of these columns since 2012. Who knew? I intend to write at least 50 more. Then I’ll probably clean out my locker, move to the top of Mount Tam to meditate and write rock lyrics. I assume you want it darker. Meanwhile, here are my New Year’s resolutions and revelations for 2017.

RESOLUTION NUMBER ONE

Dining habits: Eat more Philly cheesesteaks, burgers, and baccala. Refuse kale in any form. Stop taking shots at molecular gastronomy — unless absolutely necessary.

RESOLUTION NUMBER TWO

Write more about my passion for jazz. I’m one of those guys who went from Glenn Miller to Charlie Parker almost overnight. I had some help from the late, great *Chronicle* columnist Ralph J. Gleason. I soaked him up like a sponge. I wish he was still around writing — not for the *Chronicle*, but for the *Marina Times*.

RESOLUTION NUMBER THREE

Watch all the Woody Allen movies I can lay my hands on — especially *Midnight in Paris*. And listen to the entire Leonard Cohen canon. He’s my man.

RESOLUTION NUMBER FOUR

Stop taking potshots at the Telegraph Hill Dwellers Association even though the organization seems to be tone deaf and zone deaf about North Beach.

RESOLUTION NUMBER FIVE

Do everything I can to make Lawrence Ferlinghetti’s visionary concept, Piazza St. Francis, The Poets Plaza, a reality — in Lawrence’s lifetime and in my lifetime, too. This is one of the last opportunities in this boomtown city to beat the internal combustion engine and create a space for people. And while I am confessing to a desire to rid our streets of automobiles, let me also declaim about Segways. They’re all over North Beach these days. Many visitors to the old neighborhood are cruising up and down our streets looking at the pavement in front of them rather than enjoying the scenery. So this resolution includes — let’s perambulate aimlessly, not somnambulistically on Segways.

REVELATION NUMBER ONE

I am known around the neighborhood for creating the bloody Mary served in a wine glass — straight-up, shaken with ice, and then poured without ice into a wine glass. I hereby confess that I did not invent this. I got it from the late, great publican Ed Moose whose Washington Square Bar & Grill was my default hangout when I couldn’t think of any other place to hang out. I still miss the old WSB&G.

REVELATION NUMBER TWO

I don’t like fancy cocktails. When I hear the words “cocktail wizardry,” I shy away like a nervous quarterback. I enjoy almost anything on the rocks — except my Ed Moose bloody Mary. No rocks please.

REVELATION NUMBER THREE

I haven’t gone to see *Beach Blanket Babylon* in many years. Last time I went I thought it was silly and boring. Maybe I’m wrong. I’ll try it again.

REVELATION NUMBER FOUR

While I admire Tony Bennett and dig his song about the little cable cars that climb halfway to the stars, I have a master’s degree in Frank Sinatra from the University of Old Blue Eyes. Sinatra is still my kind of guy.

REVELATION NUMBER FIVE

As you may have heard, I have written another book. It’s called *San Francisco Appetites and Afterthoughts: In Search of the Good Life by the Golden Gate*. It’s my hedonistic view of what turns me on about this city — jazz, saloons, bartenders, poets and poetry, old restaurants like Sam’s Grill and Tadich Grill, Panama hats, photography and photographers, and other characters who inhabit this great city.

Original Joe’s in North Beach is throwing me a book launch party, Tuesday, Jan. 10, 5–7 p.m. A year ago when the Duggans, proprietors of Original Joe’s, hosted a party for my first book, it was a contact sport just to get in the door. This time we’re going for a larger room. The party is sponsored by Original Joe’s, the *Marina Times*, and Grizzly Peak Press. Hope to see you there.

E-mail: [ernest@marinatimes.com](mailto:ernest@marinatimes.com). Follow the Marina Times on Twitter @TheMarinaTimes and like us on Facebook @MarinaTimes.



# To a season of real sharing

BY AARON PESKIN

I HOPE YOU HAD A RESTFUL holiday with loved ones and you are ready to face the new year with a renewed sense of hope and purpose. We're going to need each other in the days ahead. I did my share of reflecting over the holidays, including thinking about the work of my office over the past year. The "Season of Giving" got me thinking about the gift of sharing — and about my take on how real sharing stands in stark contrast to the corporate rebranding of what sharing has come to mean these days.

As I said in the recently released documentary *Company Town*, my mother taught me that sharing was when the kid at school didn't have enough lunch money, and I gave him half my sandwich. I didn't charge him for the sandwich. The trope of the "sharing economy" is fundamentally nonsense, and it's time we called it what it has become: an economy where corporations generate bil-

lions of dollars in profit through financial transactions, be it from home sharing or car sharing.

We live in a capitalist world, and there's nothing wrong or illegal, per se, about making billions of dollars — if you're following the same rules that everyone else has to follow. Which brings me to the titans of the technology industry who have been wreaking havoc in our communities

enforcement of short-term rentals at the Board of Supervisors, Airbnb lashed back and sued its hometown for seeking to improve legislation Airbnb itself had a large hand in drafting back in 2014. We then passed sensible limits on the scope of the short-term rental business model after independent and city-sponsored studies revealed that San Francisco continues to hemorrhage housing units for tourists at the expense of existing residents. Mayor Ed Lee promptly vetoed the legislation. Airbnb, one of the largest campaign contributors in recent times, undoubtedly

ly counted its most-recent million-dollar-plus investment in local politics as a good one. A few setbacks notwithstanding, the good news is that the unprecedented and unlikely coalition of tenants and landlords, hotel managers and hotel workers, and public safety and neighborhood leaders remains committed to pushing for reforms. And we should all wonder how we are supposed to take Airbnb's offers of "working together" seri-

**There's nothing wrong or illegal about making billions of dollars — if you're following the same rules that everyone else has to follow.**

with the tacit and sometimes public approval of governments big and small (you may have seen them in the news lately, hobnobbing with President-elect Donald Trump). Taking on those who would privatize our public assets for corporate gain became a central part of my legislative agenda in 2016.

**AIRBNB**

After we unanimously passed amendments to strengthen



Uber's test of self-driving vehicles in San Francisco was cut short. PHOTO: DLLU

ously with their Hail Mary lawsuit still dangling over our heads.

**UBER, LYFT, AND THE TNC EMPIRE**

Traffic driving you crazy? How about an upsurge in asinine (and unsafe) driving behavior on our streets? Recent data provided by the San Francisco Treasurer revealed an estimated 45,000 Transportation Network Company vehicles are currently clogging up San Francisco roadways — and that's up from 37,000 last April. For comparison, there are around 1,800 taxicabs covering San Francisco.

To add insult to injury (literally), Uber decided to use our city as its corporate test lab for an unpermitted pilot program for self-driving vehicles, which promptly blazed through red

lights and cut off cyclists at intersections.

As the newly elected chair of the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, I've called on our state legislators to step up and protect the safety of San Franciscans. As District 3 supervisor, I'll be introducing a package of local enforcement legislation to appropriately rein in Uber because ... well, someone's gotta be at the wheel!

**NEW YEAR, NEW CHANCE TO DO RIGHT**

As we head into 2017, I have a message for these bad corporate citizens: Knock it off. You're not sharing. You're not innovating. You're just making a lot of people angry. And while San Francisco is well known for its hospitality and tolerance, I think you've just worn out your welcome.

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**Lunch in North Beach** Although open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, our lunch offers a unique opportunity to try some new dishes in a relaxed setting and at lower prices. Many offerings are unique to our restaurant and not available elsewhere.

Some suggestions: Calamari Vinaigrette, Farinata alla Lucchese, Farro, Cold Fresh Pickled Halibut with Onions, Burrata Pugliese, Osso Buco.



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## The Tablehopper :: New year, new eats



The French dip at Dip. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DIP

## It's a new year, new places

BY MARCIA GAGLIARDI

### MARINA

The popular Inner Sunset hot pot shop **Nabe** (2151 Lombard Street, 415-345-8344) has expanded — just in time for winter. It features the same menu (for now) from siblings and owners Hilwin and Hubert Wong, with a modern look by Alan Tse. *Dinner only, Sunday–Thursday 5–10:30 p.m.; Friday–Saturday 5–11 p.m.*

### COW HOLLOW

**The Epicurean Trader** is expanding from Bernal Heights to a second location (1909 Union Street) in late January/early February. The store will be slightly larger, with more focus on gourmet cheese and charcuterie. They will also be working to hold their title of Best Spirits Store in the Bay Area by having the largest range of craft spirits in the city, with a particular focus on allocated and hard-to-find craft whiskeys, Scotch, and mezcal.

Wine lovers will be happy they have teamed up with two sommeliers that currently run some of the top wine shops in Berkeley to lead their wine program, which will continue to focus on high-quality, small-production wines. Additional store items include small-batch coffee, hand-blended teas and spices, craft chocolates, oils and vinegars, and other artisanal pantry items. They will also offer delivery anywhere in the 7x7 area within an hour through Instacart.

### PRESIDIO

Traci Des Jardins, the Presidio Trust, and Bon Appétit Management Company have announced that Rogelio Garcia is now the executive chef at **The Commissary** (101 Montgomery Street). His background includes executive chef at Angèle, sous chef at Calistoga Ranch, and chef de partie at The French Laundry — his journey has been an inspiring one, starting as a dishwasher in high school in Yountville.

### FILLMORE

Newly open and adding a wonderful fresh-baked perfume to the neighborhood is **Jane the Bakery** (1881 Geary Street, 415-658-7971) in the former KFC/Taco Bell complex. Owner Amanda Michael's third location, it's more of a retail/production bakery than café — and you can watch head baker Jorgen Carlsen and team at work cranking out breads, pastries, and baked goods with some inventive touches, like mini cookies in peanut butter tahini or chocolate sourdough. Favorites include cookies, banana bread, cinnamon rolls, plus a full range of breads (walnut fig; olive, lemon, and thyme; ancient grains; baguettes) and braided challah on Fridays

only, plus vegan and gluten-free options. Savory items include a spicy sausage, red pepper, and provolone croissant, and a pesto-artichoke flatbread. You'll also find grab-and-go salads, soups, and sandwiches.

Full coffee service is available (espresso, pour-over, cold brew), from their house blend, "Bread and Butter," and there's a new line of house-made teas, house-pressed Juicy Jane Juices, hot chocolate, house-made chai, iced matcha, kombucha, and more. There is limited seating, but you may get lucky with a space in the parking lot out front (score). *Open daily 7 a.m.–6 p.m.*

**Hinodeya Ramen** (1737 Buchanan Street, 415-757-0552) is now open in Japantown, serving dashi broth-based ramen (think: umami-rich stock made from seaweed and seafood) from chef Masao Kuribara. Additional dishes will be added as they ramp up. *Open for dinner, 5–10 p.m., closed Tuesdays.*

### RUSSIAN HILL

The Mixt (formerly Mixt Greens) folks have opened a Split Bread in the former La Boulange on Polk Street, with the shortened name of **Split** (2300 Polk Street). The fast-casual menu highlights updated American classics. Breakfast has chorizo hash with kale and squash, while the egg sandwich has house-made sausage. Lunch has a range of burgers, salads (which you can design yourself), sandwiches, and more. Dinner adds mains like fried chicken, Mt. Lassen trout, and a pork chop. Sourcing is local and organic, with many house-made items. There's also Four Barrel coffee, wine on tap, craft beer, and mimosas at brunch. You can order online. *Open daily 8 a.m.–9 p.m.*

### NORTH BEACH

Now open is **Dip** (1318 Grant Avenue, 415-757-0775), the French dip-centered spot from Mahmoud "Mo" Khossoussi — owner of North Beach's Maykadeh and Mo's Grill, who is in his 70s and can't stop, won't stop — and his daughter, creative director Haleh Cunningham. The menu has a variety of French dip sandwiches, all served on Acme bread with house jus: organic roast beef, organic slow-roasted pork shoulder, organic porchetta alla Romana, leg of lamb, free-range roasted chicken, and a vegetarian version with oven-roasted tomato, fresh mozzarella, and arugula pesto (all \$11–\$13). A bistro delivery menu will begin Jan. 3, perfect for those nights when you don't want to cook. *Open daily 11:30 a.m.–10:30 p.m.*

Marcia Gagliardi writes a popular insider weekly e-column, *Tablehopper*, about the San Francisco dining and imbibing scene; get all the latest news at [tablehopper.com](http://tablehopper.com). Follow @tablehopper on Twitter and Instagram for more culinary finds.



And that's what I think is happening now with Betty Lou's. It's bringing some much-needed revitalization and excitement to Broadway — that southern boundary of North Beach now known more for its louche nightlife than for its fine dining.

EXPECT TO BE DAZZLED

But let's make this clear: I maintain there's plenty of business for good restaurants in North Beach — just as there is in the rest of the city. So there's every reason to believe Sotto Mare and Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill will coexist happily. Both add to the North Beach dining experience that locals and visitors expect. But at Betty Lou's expect to be dazzled.

Let's get to the business at hand and talk about the food at Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill. If you read the *Marina Times* regularly, you will recall it has a system of awarding diamonds in its restaurant reviews rather than stars. For this review I toyed with the idea of awarding Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill four diamonds — the top. I decided against this, and I'm awarding it three diamonds. I was afraid four diamonds would result in my never being able to get a table there.

CLASSIC CIOPPINO

Two signature dishes I believe are the key to Betty Lou's overwhelming success — classic cioppino (\$45) and Mike's wok crab (\$38). Both serve two diners easily. These are so deliciously dominant that I want to order one or the other every time I visit. But I don't, so I'm able to play around in other sections of the menu.

Cioppino — believed to have been created in early San Francisco by Italian-American fishermen from the ciuppin or buridda of their home country — is presented at Betty Lou's in a large bowl full of

thickened with potatoes, not flour. No bacon to subvert the clam flavor.

MIKE'S WOK CRAB

Mike's wok crab (\$38) — Betty Pesce's husband, Mike, who has a fine palate, developed this extraordinary dish. Fresh Dungeness crab cooked in a Chinese wok, with red pepper, scallions, onions, ginger, hot peppers, a bit of soy sauce, the crab "butter," and a lot of love. It reminds me of the incredible chili crab served in Singapore food stalls. But this is better because it's made with the freshest of fresh local Dungeness crab.

OYSTERS, CLAMS, AND BACCALA

A fine way to get you going at Betty Lou's is to order a few oysters or clams on the half shell. West Coast oysters (\$1.75), East Coast oysters (\$2.75), Little Neck clams (\$1.75). When it's available, an

order of baccala (\$9) makes a good starter, too. It's not on the menu and Hector doesn't make it every day. Baccala is salted cod that's been reconstituted by rinsing it over three or four days. Hector cuts it into chunks and cooks it in olive oil with tomatoes, onions, green peppers, and capers. Smear it on crusty Italian bread and you're set for what comes next.

OTHER NOTABLE CHOICES

Calamari fritti (\$18) — lightly breaded and crisp, not a trace of greasiness. Served, of course, with tartar sauce and red cocktail sauce.

Mini crab cakes (\$18) — with a mustard sauce, and served with a lemony arugula salad.

Sand dabs (\$24) — small and boneless, crisp on the outside, tender and mellow on the inside.

Bone-in, rib eye steak (\$30) — This is one of two nonseafood entries; the other is a Parmesan or piccata chicken dish. The admirable steak is a big one (16 ounces), marinated in olive oil and various spices. Easily serves two. When rare, the way I like it, it's beefy and full of flavor.

There are also various seafood cocktails, salads, pastas, and risottos — all commendable.

Betty Lou's serves wine, beer, and soft drinks. The wine list is modestly priced: house red and white wine by the glass (\$6), red wines by the bottle (\$35), and white wines by the bottle (\$32–\$35). (If you want something a bit more authoritative to launch you before your lunch or dinner, you can pop up a few doors along Upper Grant and rediscover the pleasures of the Saloon, established in 1861, making it the oldest bar in San Francisco at its original location.)

**Betty Lou's Seafood & Grill:**  
318 Columbus Avenue, daily 11 a.m.–10 p.m., 415-757-0569, bettylousf.com.

◆◆◆

AMBIENCE

Warm and welcoming. In the evening, the pale salmon-colored lighting is low, just the way you probably like it in your own place. There are two adjoining levels of seating for 49. The lower level overlooks Hector working in his open kitchen, and that's a level of theater cuisine I enjoy.

SOUND LEVEL

Moderate. No problem in talking to your buddies. You don't have to shout.

NOT-TO-MISS DISHES

Cioppino, Mike's wok crab, sand dabs, bone-in rib eye steak, crab Louie, and clam chowder.

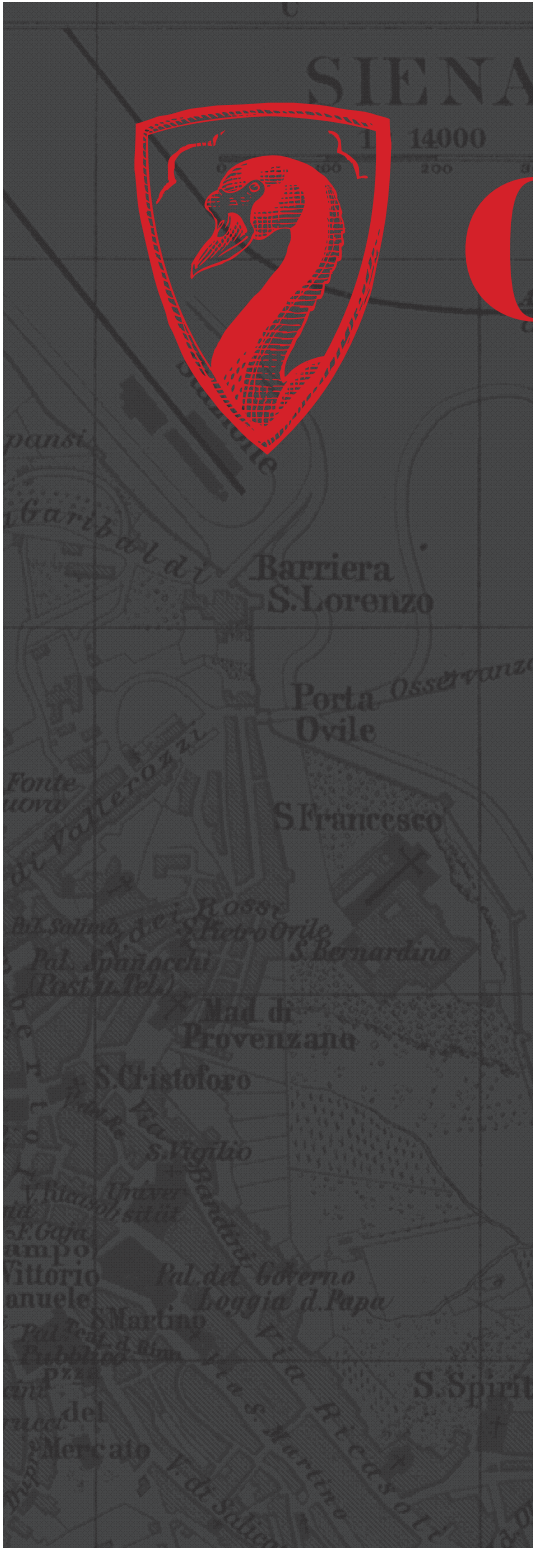
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Ratings range from zero to four diamonds and reflect food, atmosphere, and service, taking price range and type of restaurant into consideration.

OUR REVIEW POLICY

We conduct multiple visits anonymously and pay our own tab. (In this case, your reviewer is known to the restaurant's proprietors, and I don't know any way to avoid that. But I always pay my own tab.)

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Sun, Mon, Wed, Thu | 5pm-10pm  
Fri-Sat | 5pm-1am  
WEEKEND BRUNCH  
10am – 2:30pm  
closed tuesdays



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Children’s Theatre of San Francisco Presents

Aladdin  
and His Wonderful, Magical Lamp

SATURDAYS  
January 28, February 25, March 11  
10:30 am and 1pm

Musical theatre for children  
Presented at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre  
3301 Lyon St., San Francisco

Tickets \$15  
(service charge included)  
For tickets and information  
visit [www.ctasf.org](http://www.ctasf.org)  
or call (415) 248-2677  
or Facebook.com/CTASF



Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc. Englewood, Colorado  
Book by Tim Kelly. Music and Lyrics by Pam Hughes. Adaptation by Adelaide Hornberger 2016.

The Art World

The Rodin centenary at the Legion of Honor

BY SHARON ANDERSON

I FIRST VISITED SAN Francisco at the age of 18 as a college student in Michigan pursuing an art degree. I yearned to visit the typical tourist destinations, but one location was at the top of my list. My first stop in the city was at the Legion of Honor to visit their famed Rodin sculpture collection.

This year marks the centenary of Auguste Rodin’s death in 1917, and the Legion of Honor is presenting a new installation of its exceptional collection of this French artist who paved the way for modernist sculpture. Born in 1840 in Paris, Rodin abandoned traditional, stylized, mythological themes and instead pursued realism of the human form, sometimes combined with tumultuous abstractions that embraced the fragment as motif. Approximately 50 objects in bronze, marble, and plaster — all part of the museum’s permanent collection — will be reexamined in the context of the artist’s life and artistic development.

Alma and Adolph Spreckels, founders of the Legion of Honor, began to assemble in 1915 one of the most impressive Rodin collections in the world. “Although significant collections of Rodin sculptures exist in museums across America and internationally, the collection held at the Legion of Honor is exceptional because of how and when the works were acquired,” said Martin Chapman,



Auguste Rodin, *Victor Hugo*, 1883. Bronze with Marble Base, 15-7/8 x 10-7/16 x 9-3/8 in. Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, gift of Alma de Bretteville Spreckels, 1942.37 PHOTO: FAMSF

curator in charge of European Decorative arts and Sculpture for the Museum. “The Spreckels purchased works directly from Rodin’s studio, many of which are the original plaster models, or are works that were cast or carved with the direct supervision of Rodin himself — a distinction not found in many American Rodin collections.”

The exhibition will include pieces relating to Rodin’s most ambitious commissions, *The Burghers of Calais*, *The Gates of Hell*, and his most famous sculpture and iconic emblem of the Legion of Honor, *The Thinker*.

The museum will publish a catalogue, *The Sculpture of Auguste Rodin at the Legion of Honor*, which will feature highlights of the collections to accompany the rotations in 2017. It will include an introductory essay by Martin Chapman and brief texts on the major themes of Rodin’s work as revealed in the museums’ holdings

alongside new photography specially commissioned for the project.

Rodin, a colossal figure in the history of modern sculpture, was a great choice for my first museum stop in San Francisco, although the van with the stick shift that I drove there was not. Art lovers from near and far will find surprising new revelations in the museum’s installations that explore dimensions of Rodin’s work that often remain underappreciated: apocalyptic visions in *Dante’s Inferno*, the mortality portrayed in his historical figures, and the sensuality of *Christ and the Magdalene*. The exhibition will bring a contemporary perspective to Rodin’s art and legacy.

**Rodin Centenary:**  
Tue.–Sun. 9:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m., Jan. 28–Dec. 31; \$22; Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 100 34th Avenue; 415-750-3600, [famsf.org](http://famsf.org)

Sharon Anderson is an artist and writer in Southern California. She can be reached at [mindtheimage.com](mailto:mindtheimage.com)

The Best of Books :: What flew off the shelves

Books Inc. Marina 2016 best sellers

COMPILED BY BRIAN PETTUS

1. **City of Thieves: A Novel**, by David Benioff (paperback)
2. **111 Places in San Francisco That You Must Not Miss**, by Floriana Peterson (paperback)
3. **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child**, by J.K. Rowling (hardcover)
4. **The Tender Bar**, by J.R. Moehringer (paperback)
5. **Sense of an Ending**, by Julian Barnes (paperback)
6. **Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life**, by William Finnegan (paperback)
7. **The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics**, by Daniel Brown (paperback)
8. **The Sympathizer**, by Viet Nguyen (paperback)
9. **Red Notice**, by Bill Browder (paperback)
10. **The Narrow Corner**, by W. Somerset Maugham (paperback)
11. **When Breath Becomes Air**, by Paul Kalanithi (hardcover)
12. **Girl on the Train**, by Paula Hawkins (paperback)
13. **This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration**, by Jacqueline Woodson (hardcover)
14. **My Brilliant Friend**, by Elena Ferrante (paperback)
15. **Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up**, by Marie Kondo (hardcover)

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



# Big-screen hits and shouldn't-misses of 2016

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

RATHER THAN SERVE UP MY annual carafe of whine about the burden of compiling yet another best-movies-of-the-year list, I've accepted that it's in-line with my responsibility as a popular culture critic to provide a consumers' guide to quality cinema. It can be a struggle to objectively assess quality when you factor in the subjective nature of personal taste, so I decided I could just note those films that I was certain would get Oscar nods. (No, that catalog wouldn't include Marvel's slammin' superhero tri-fecta of *Captain America: Civil War*, *Deadpool*, and *Dr. Strange*, as much as I enjoyed them.) Then, I had another thought: What about great movies that somehow fell through the cracks or were released too early in the year to get the love many months later? I covered some of them in earlier columns: *Don't Think Twice*, *Eye in the Sky*, *Kicks*, *Maggie's Plan*, *The Wave (Bolgen)*, and others. There were at least a dozen more movies released in 2016 that might or might not get awards recognition, but were among the finest I saw over the past 12 months. I'm spotlighting two of them, with more listed online. If you're inspired to seek out any of these selections, I will consider my work here to be done — until next January.

'A BIGGER SPLASH'

At the start of *A Bigger Splash*, a famous singer-songwriter and a film-

maker are vacationing on Pantelleria, an island off the coast of Sicily. But the surprise arrival of an old friend triggers mystery and drama in this beautiful, often thrilling movie that calls to mind the sun-kissed Mediterranean film noir of features based on the novels of Patricia Highsmith, such as *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and the more recent adaptation, *The Two Faces of January*. Marianne Lane, played by Tilda Swinton, is one of the biggest rock stars in the world — an androgynous amalgam of Bowie, Mick Jagger, and Chrissie Hynde. She's escaping the limelight and healing her vocal chords on Pantelleria in the company of her boyfriend Paul (Matthias Schoenaerts). But hotshot, arrogant record producer Harry (Ralph Fiennes), Marianne's former lover, unexpectedly shows up with his nubile daughter Penelope in tow, and chaos ensues. This exotic getaway — the sort that one would expect from a rocker and her consort in hardly-roughing-it mode — becomes a quiet battleground as sex, jealousy, manipulation, and the incipient threat of violence undermine the peace and tranquility Marianne and Paul had sought.

Director Luca Guadagnino previously guided Swinton through his lush, sexy European drama *I Am Love*, but their reunion on *A Bigger Splash* is even better. Swinton, ever the quirky iconoclast, is ideally suited to play the mercurial Marianne, and Matthias Schoe-

naerts makes for a fine partner and foil as Paul. *A Bigger Splash* also gives Ralph Fiennes the meatiest role he's had in a decade, and he responds with his most memorable performance in ages. Even Dakota Johnson, primarily known as the actress who landed the female lead in the uninspiring movie version of the erotic best seller *Fifty Shades of Grey*, brings a sense of seductive danger to Penelope. To put it mildly, this is one project that should have made a bigger splash when it was released.

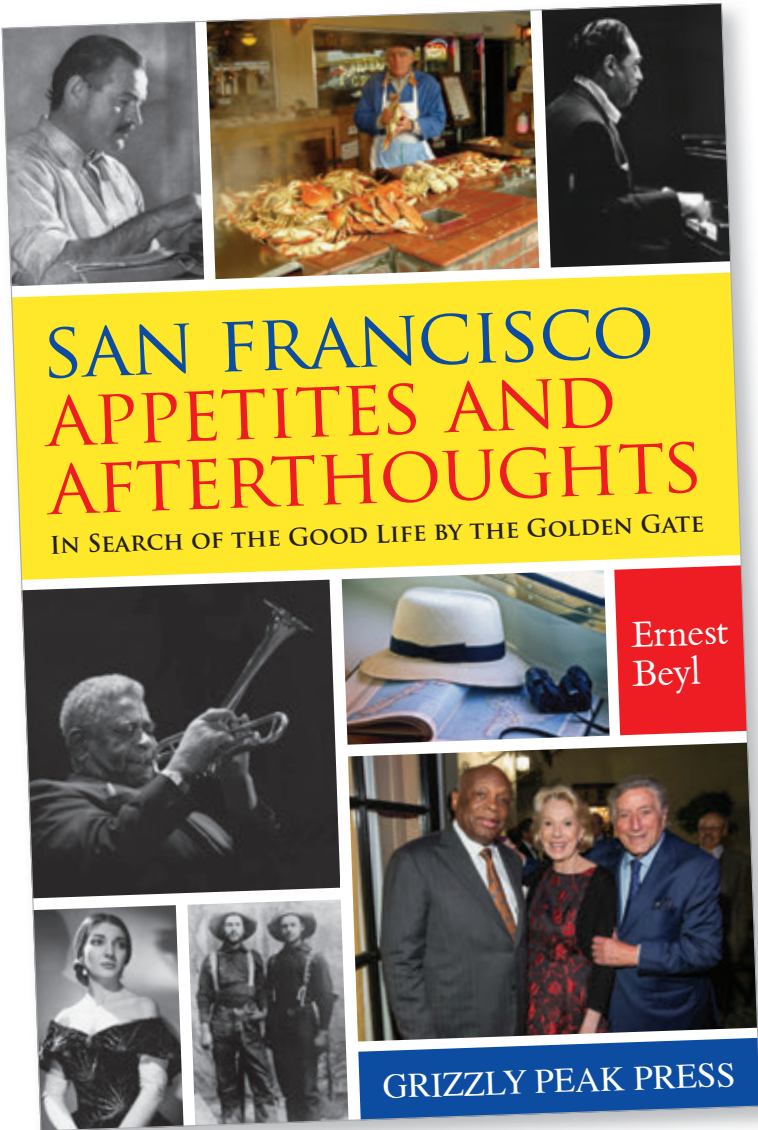
'EVERYBODY WANTS SOME!!'

Writer-director Richard Linklater is one of my favorite filmmakers, and his latest effort, *Everybody Wants Some!!*, just enhances his status with me. It's sweet, honest, thoughtful, and naturalistic in its depiction of the weekend before fall semester classes begin at a Texas college in 1980. *Everybody Wants Some!!*, which gets its title from a Van Halen song of the day, follows Jake (a bright, genial freshman slated to pitch on the varsity baseball team) as he gets acclimated to college life and moves into one of the two houses designated for the ballplayers. In lively fashion, he meets his teammates, jokes, bickers, and parties with his new comrades at a succession of local clubs — disco, country, and punk-rock — and a big freaky party thrown by the school's art students. We even see the athletes practice once before the end of the weekend,

and the interaction of all these distinct personalities is fun and fascinating. It's sort of like the measured, nonburlesque flip side of *Animal House*.

Much like Linklater's first triumph, *Dazed & Confused*, of which this is a "spiritual sequel," and his recent Oscar-winner *Boyhood*, *Everybody Wants Some!!* displays the filmmaker's capacity to see the beauty, depth, and human comedy in the ordinary occurrences of life and the exuberance, promise, and uncertainties of youth. Linklater and his young, on-the-rise ensemble cast make it so vivid and real. Special mention should go to the immensely likeable Blake Jenner as Jake, Glen Powell as the dryly witty, philosophical scholar-athlete Finnegan who takes Jake under his wing, and Zoey Deutch as the adorable theater major who gives Jake his first taste of college romance. As for the costume and hair people, they nail those occasionally odd and goofy fashions of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Plus you get nostalgia-fueling hits of the day. As the credits rolled, I already wanted more of *Everybody Wants Some!!*

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



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Tuesday, January 10, 2017  
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*San Francisco Appetites and Afterthoughts* is an opinionated book by an opinionated guy—a hedonist's look at his City. It features Ernie's passions—his appetites for fascinating characters—from poets to bartenders, from saloons to girlie shows, from jazz to opera. It's the author's life in the provocative city by the Golden Gate where he searches for the good life—and finds it.

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# JANUARY EVENTS

## WHAT NOT TO MISS THIS MONTH

### MAJOR EVENTS

**Shen Yun Performing Arts**  
**Wed.–Mon. through Jan. 8**  
**War Memorial Opera House**  
Don't miss this spectacular, colorful, and exhilarating performance of classical Chinese dance and music. \$70–\$300, 888-974-3698, shenyun.com

**FOG Design+Art Fair**  
**Preview Gala: Wednesday, Jan. 11**  
**Fair: Fri.–Sun., Jan. 13–15, 11 a.m.**  
**Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center**  
This fair celebrates innovation and features exhibits, installations, and discussions with top global artists, architects, designers, and style makers. Experience special pop-up shops by designer Stanlee Gatti and restaurants Jane and A16, and more. Preview the show at the gala and enjoy live entertainment, fine food, and cocktails. Proceeds benefit SFMOMA. \$20–\$25 (fair), \$175 & up (gala); 415-551-5190, fogfair.com

**16th Annual S.F. Sketchfest**  
**Tue.–Sun., Jan. 12–29**  
**Various S.F. venues**  
This nationally recognized comedy festival mixes over 700 national headliners, local favorites, and the best up-and-coming groups from throughout North America for sketch, improv, stand-up, and alternative comedy in over 230 shows. Visit website for schedule/tickets. sfsketchfest.com

**S.F. Jazz Season 5 Celebration**  
**Daily, Jan. 18–22 & Jan. 26–29**  
**S.F. Jazz (201 Franklin St.)**  
Celebrate five seasons of jazz at the gala (Jan. 18) featuring Zakir Hussain; additional performers throughout the celebration include Kronos Quartet, Joshua Redman, Bobby Hutcherson, and more. Visit website for schedule and pricing, 866-920-5299, sfjazz.org



SF Restaurant Week

**Daily, Jan. 18–29**  
**Various S.F. restaurants**  
Dine at over 125 of your favorite restaurants offering two-course lunches for \$15 and \$25, three-course dinners for \$40 and \$65. Visit website for participating restaurants. 415-781-5348, sfrestaurantweek.com

**S.F. Ballet 2017 Opening Night Gala: Ever Magical**  
**Thursday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m.**  
**City Hall & War Memorial Opera House**  
Start with an elegant cocktail reception and dinner at City Hall, then head to the Opera House for free prosecco followed by the performance, then head back to City Hall for an after party and mingle with ballet dancers while enjoying live music, dancing, complimentary cocktails, refreshments, and desserts. \$1,250 & up, 415-865-2000, sfballet.org

**17th Annual Edwardian Ball**  
**Fri.–Sat., Jan. 20–21**  
**Regency Ballroom**  
This description-defying, high camp, whimsical, and surrealistic two-day festival is a living interpretation and celebration of the stories of the late macabre cult author, comic artist, illustrator, and cartoonist Edward Gorey. \$85–\$250, edwardianball.com

**Fun Home**  
**Tue.–Sun., Jan. 25–Feb 19**  
**Curran Theater**  
Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel, this bold new Tony Award-winning Best Musical as the cartoonist relives her unique childhood at the Bechdel Funeral Home, her growing understanding of her own sexuality, and the looming, unanswerable questions about her father's hidden desires and sudden death. \$49–\$185, 415-358-1220, sfcurran.com

### LAST CHANCE

**Wish Upon a Star: The Art of Pinocchio**  
**Wed.–Mon. through Jan. 9, 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m.**  
**Walt Disney Family Museum (140 Montgomery St., the Presidio)**  
This exhibition provides a behind-the-scenes peek at how this beloved and influential animated masterpiece was created in 1940, and will feature more than 300 unique and rare objects from original artwork to three-dimensional objects used by the animators. \$12–\$20, 415-345-6800, waltdisney.org

**S.F. Playhouse: She Loves Me**  
**Tue.–Sun. through Jan. 14**  
**450 Post St. (in the Kensington Park Hotel)**  
This multiple Tony Award-nominated show follows Amalia and Georg, two sparring perfume shop clerks who can't find common ground until they respond to a "lonely hearts" advertisement and start falling for their anonymous pen pals. \$30–\$125, 415-677-9596, sfplayhouse.org

**The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe**  
**Tue.–Sun. through Jan. 15, 10 a.m.**  
**Asian Art Museum (200 Larkin St.)**  
Explore this 2,500-year-old literature classic about a prince and demonic king, romance, battles, and establishing world order through an international survey of 135 artworks. \$20, 415-581-3500, asianart.org

**Bruce Conner: It's All True**  
**Thu.–Tue. through Jan. 22, 10 a.m.**  
**SFMOMA**  
View experimental film, collage, photography, conceptual works, and paintings works from the artist's five-decade career encompassing realist, surrealist, hippie, punk styles. \$25, 415-357-4000, sfmoma.org

**Cirque de Soleil: Luzia**  
**Tue.–Sun. through Jan. 29**  
**The Grand Chapiteau / AT&T Park**  
"A Waking Dream of Mexico" transports you to an imaginary Mexico to explore your senses enveloped in light and nurtured by rain. \$39–\$295, cirquedesoliel.com

**The Brothers Le Nain: Painters of 17th-Century France**  
**Tue.–Sun. through Jan. 29, 9:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m.**  
**Legion of Honor**  
This exhibition features more than 40 examples of the brothers' works, highlighting their sympathetic and affecting depictions of the poor, for which they are best known. \$22, 415-750-3600, famsf.org

### COMMUNITY CORNER



MLK Day March/Parade

**Monday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m.**  
**Caltrain to Yerba Buena Gardens**  
The 1.5-mile journey will stop at Willie Mays Plaza at AT&T Park to commemorate the crossing of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, a symbol of violence and victory in the civil rights movement. At the conclusion, faith leaders will honor Dr. King's vision and lead participants in a spiritual reflection of his message. Free, sfmlkday.org

**MLK Day Celebration**  
**Monday, Jan. 16,**  
**Yerba Buena Center for the Arts & Garden**  
Attend a panel discussion featuring a leading activist, actor, athlete, academic, and artist in conversation with two-time Peabody Award-winning investigative journalist and performer Al Letson (1 p.m., YBCA Theater); enjoy an afternoon of live music and poetry; and attend the Health and Wellness Festival. Free, sfmlkday.org

**S.F. Jazz Center Anniversary Celebration Free MLK Day Open House**  
**Monday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m., 2 & 5 p.m.**  
**S.F. Jazz Center (201 Franklin St.)**  
Families are invited to explore the jazz center; listen to exciting live music; and learn about America's art form, jazz, in a musical day of fun, children's activities, a digital music sandbox, instrument petting zoo, and a giant birthday card to MLK. Free, reservations required, 866-920-5299, sfjazz.org

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service**  
**Monday, Jan. 16**  
**Golden Gate National Park locations**  
Commemorate MLK day in family-friendly events to help grow and restore cherished natural parklands. Registration required; visit website to sign up for project details as they become available. Free, 415-561-3077, volunteer@parksconservancy.org, parksconservancy.org

**Free Community Day**  
**Sunday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**  
**The Exploratorium (Pier 15)**  
Forget the entrance fee for this day, when the hands-on museum opens its doors to the public at no charge. Free, exploratorium.edu

### MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

**Diane Arbus: In the Beginning**  
**Thu.–Tue., Jan. 21–April 30, 10 a.m.**  
**SFMOMA**  
Organized by MOMA, this exhibition covers the first seven years of the photographer's career, from 1956 to 1962, and brings together over 100 photographs, many on display for the first time offering fresh insights into the distinctive vision of this iconic American photographer. \$25, 415-357-4000, sfmoma.org

**PhotoFairs**  
**Fri.–Sun., Jan. 27–29**  
**Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center**  
Experience fresh, cutting-edge, contemporary photography at this boutique fair that has collaborated with prominent galleries worldwide to present artworks by emerging and internationally recognized artists. \$12–\$15, 415-579-0488, photofairs.org



ART EXHIBIT: Beyond the Horizon

**January 27 – April 30, 2017**  
**Museo Italo Americano**  
**Fort Mason Center, Building C**  
A thought-provoking and whimsical display of paintings and drawings by California artists, Jennifer Celio and Martin Machado will be on exhibit beginning January 27th at the Museo Italo Americano. Admission Free. Hours: Tuesday through Sunday | Noon – 4PM | 415.673.2200 | www.sfmuseo.org

PHOTO: A MURRAY CANOE INVESTIGATES, MARTIN MACHADO, INK ON PAPER, 2013

**The Lost Exhibit**  
**Sat.–Sun., Jan. 28–March 4**  
**Embark Gallery, Bldg. B., Fort Mason Center**  
View contemporary art that explores queer identity politics by artists from the S.F. Art Institute and California College of the Arts. Free, embarkgallery.com

### THEATER

**Finding Neverland**  
**Most days, Jan. 18–22**  
**Orpheum Theatre**  
Don't miss the story of playwright J. M. Barrie and his relationship with a family who inspired him to create Peter Pan. \$55–\$225, 888-746-1799, shnsf.com

**S.F. Playhouse: The Christians**  
**Tue.–Sun., Jan. 24–March 11**  
**Kensington Park Hotel (450 Post St.)**  
After growing his ministry into a megachurch, Pastor Paul is moved to preach a sermon that shakes the foundation of his congregation in this play backed by a live choir about the power of faith to unite or divide. \$20–\$100, 415-677-9596, sfplayhouse.com

**2nd Annual Fog City Magic Fest**  
**Thu.–Sat., Jan. 26–28**  
**Exit Theatre (156 Eddy St.)**  
Don't miss nine shows and events by some of the Bay Area's best and most acclaimed magicians. \$25/show, 415-931-1094, theexit.org

### DANCE

**Dance Brigade: Gracias a la Vida — Love in a Bitter Time**  
**Fri.–Sat, Jan. 13–14**  
**YBCA Theater (700 Howard Street)**  
The company will celebrate its 40th anniversary of fusing art, politics, dance, and music, giving thanks to the collective and its local and international collaborators. Proceeds benefit Dance Mission's building. \$5–\$40, 415-826-4441, dancemission.com

**Gregory Dawson/Dawsondancesf: Les Vêrités**  
**Fri.–Sat., Jan. 27–28**  
**YBCA Theater (700 Howard Street)**  
The company aims to break down the barriers placed on classical ballet, bringing to light the strength and beauty that artists possess within themselves. Les Vêrités includes live music by Richard Howell, the Classical Revolution, and Ron Kurti, as well as visual media by John Ramirez. \$20–\$35, 415-978-2700

### MUSIC

**Wesla Whitfield: The Best is Yet to Come**  
**Fri.–Sat., Jan. 13–14, 8 p.m.**  
**Hotel Rex (562 Sutter St.)**  
Accompanied by Mike Greensill on piano, hear new songs and beloved tunes from the American songbook performed with the extraordinary talent, humor and jazz touch only Greensill and Whitfield can deliver. \$50, societycabaret.com

**Itzhak Perlman at Davies**  
**Monday, Jan. 16, 8 p.m.**  
**Davies Symphony Hall**  
One of the greatest violinist virtuosos of our time performs a program of classical works. \$79–\$205, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.org

**The Bad Plus**  
**Saturday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Herbst Theater**  
Encompassing jazz, pop, blues, folk, and classics, this group bridges genres and techniques to create "intelligent music for the masses." \$30–\$60, 415-392-2545, sfperformances.org

**Lucinda Williams with Aaron Lee Tasjan**  
**Fri.–Sat., Jan. 20–21, 7 p.m.**  
**The Fillmore**  
Williams gives listeners a vivid look at how Interstate 20, a 1500-mile swath from South Carolina to Texas, has been a literal and figurative backdrop throughout her life in her 14-song collection, which may be the most deeply felt and affecting work of her 35-year career. \$40, 800-745-3000, thefillmore.com

### NIGHTLIFE

**Andrew Jr. Boy Jones**  
**Friday, Jan. 6, 7:30 & 10 p.m.**  
**Biscuits & Blues (401 Mason St.)**  
From out of Dallas comes Andres "Jr. Boy" Jones, the son of a big-band singer with 50 years of blues experience he'll bring to the stage. \$24, 415-292-2583, biscuitsandblues.com

**Fresh Voices of Stand-up**  
**Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Doc's Lab (124 Columbus Ave.)**  
The folks at Audible have pulled together a lineup of up-and-comers who are making waves on the stand-up scene. \$15, sfsketchfest.com

**Kathy Griffin**  
**Saturday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m.**  
**Masonic (1111 California St.)**  
The no-holds-barred comedian returns to San Francisco for a night of sharp-edged comedy just one day after the new president is inaugurated. Think she'll have something to say about that? \$49.50–\$79.50, 415-776-7457, sfmasonic.com



FILMS & LECTURES

Carole Bayer Sager: A Star-Studded Musical Journey

Thursday, Jan. 19, 6:30–7:45 p.m.  
The Commonwealth Club (555 Post St.)  
The Grammy- and Oscar-winning songwriter whose hits include “Nobody Does It Better,” “Don’t Cry Out Loud,” the theme from Arthur, and more, talks with Presidio Trust producer Brad Rosenstein about her life in music. \$7–\$55, 415-597-6705, commonwealthclub.org

Noir City

Daily, Jan. 20–29  
Castro Theatre (429 Castro St.)  
The moody, thrilling film festival devoted to film noir returns with 24 films ranging from the mid-20th century to new movies drawn from all around the globe. \$120 (all-access passport), \$12 (individual shows), noircity.com

Saturday Cinema: Kino Kinetics

Saturday, Jan. 21, 1, 2 & 3 p.m.  
The Exploratorium (Pier 15)  
In conjunction with the temporary exhibition Curious Contraptions, this whimsical program of expressive short films explores both kinetic and cinematic realms of tinkering. Included with museum admission (\$29.95), 415-528-4444, exploratorium.edu

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

Earth in Human Hands: A Cosmic View of Our Planet’s Past, Present and Future

Monday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
California Academy of Sciences  
The Planetary Science Institute’s David Grinspoon looks at this odd time in Earth’s life, when humans have become a major agent of global change, and geological and human history are becoming irreversibly conjoined. \$12–\$15, 877-227-1831, calacademy.org

Doubt, Deny or Defend: Republicans on Climate Change

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 6:30–8 p.m.  
The Commonwealth Club (555 Post St.)  
Former U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis and former Shell Oil President John Hofmeister discuss the tensions and challenges between climate science, America’s energy needs, and the Republican Party in coming years. \$7–\$20, 415-597-6705, commonwealthclub.org

POTABLES & EDIBLES

Celebrating Chinese New Year Cooking Class

Saturday, Jan. 28, 4 & 8 p.m.  
Sur la Table (2224 Union St.)  
Celebrate the Year of the Rooster in delicious style with this hands-on class, where you will learn to create an authentic Chinese New Year feast with dishes that represent luck, happiness, and fortune. \$79, 800-243-0852, surlatable.com

Good Food Mercantile & Marketplace

Mercantile: Saturday, Jan. 21, 2–5 p.m.  
Marketplace: Sunday, Jan. 22, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center  
Taste and buy items from more than 80 Good Food Award winners from across the country in 14 culinary categories and enjoy being part of a culinary community. \$35 (Mercantile), \$5–\$20 (Marketplace), goodfoodawards.org

CHILD’S PLAY

Creative Family Fun: Ice Age Animal Masks

Sat.–Sun., Jan. 14– 15, 11 a.m.  
Presidio Officers’ Club (50 Moraga Ave.)  
Before humans came to the Presidio, large mammals like saber-tooth cats, Columbian mammoths, and dire wolves lived there. Drop in and make your own Ice Age animal mask. Free, registration preferred. Free, 415-561-5300, presidioofficersclub.org

Raffi: 40 Years of Singable Songs

Sunday, Jan. 29, 1 & 4 p.m.  
Palace of Fine Arts Theatre  
The singer, songwriter, producer, author, lecturer, and tireless advocate for children is best known for his work as a children’s entertainer whose string of gold and platinum-selling recordings in North America includes his classic song, “Baby Beluga.” \$30–\$65, palaceoffinearts.org

MLK Day Children’s Programs

Sun.–Mon., Jan. 15–16  
Yerba Buena Gardens  
Young celebrants can participate in a fun and engaging quests about Dr. King throughout Yerba Buena. Interactive events at the Black Comix Arts Festival will give kids the opportunity to engage in comic and animation activities. In addition, many of the museums have MLK activities. Free, sfmilkday.org

Sponsored



Aladdin and His Wonderful, Magical Lamp

January 28th 10:30AM and 1:00PM  
Palace of Fine Arts Theatre  
A fun musical about a young boy, Aladdin, and his monkey, who outsmart a powerful magician to win the hand of Princess Jasmine. Hop aboard a magic carpet and join us in ancient Arabia as Aladdin meets Genies and a Dragon on his magical journey! Great for children of all ages. \$15 Ticket, www.ctasf.org or www.Facebook.com/ctasf

SPORTS & HEALTH

The Path to Peace: Manage Stress & Cultivate Resilience

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 6:30–7:30 p.m.  
Cavallo Point Healing Arts Center & Spa (601 Murray Circle, Fort Baker)  
Learn how to identify and maintain the optimal level of stress to live your best with practical techniques to practice at home that alter your brain waves, nervous system, hormones, and biochemistry to lower stress levels, cultivate resilience, and improve your attitude. Free, RSVP at 415-339-2692, cavallopoint.com



Yoga Journal Live

Thu–Mon, Jan. 13–16  
Hyatt Regency (5 Embarcadero Cntr.)  
If yoga’s your thing, this is the place to be with nearly 40 master yoga teachers and presenters who will help you flow your way into the new year. Choose from all-day yoga intensives, a free marketplace, and more. \$50–\$925, 800-561-9398, yjevents.com

Nutrition and Healthy Choices

Monday, Jan. 23 & 30, 11 a.m.–noon  
S.F. Main Library  
Topics: Where our food comes from, organic versus factory farmed (Jan. 23); and flavoring and preserving food, plus hand-washing, safe handling of raw meats, and food safety (Jan. 30). Free, 415-557-4400, sfpl.org

JUST FOR FUN

27th Anniversary of the Sea Lions’ Arrival

Daily, Jan. 20–22, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Pier 39  
Watch these playful pinnipeds as they lounge on K-Dock, where naturalists from Aquarium of the Bay will also be, weather permitting. Check out the sea lion center and take a seal lion encounter walking tour. Free, 415-262-4734, sealioncenter.org, pier39.com

Alfred Hitchcock’s S.F. Walking Tour

Sunday, Jan. 8, 11 a.m.  
Meet: Huntington Park Fountain (California & Taylor Sts.)  
See some of the hotels, clubs, retail stores and other locations featured in Vertigo and other Hitchcock classics and learn why Hitchcock chose them and how he filmed them as well as their history, architecture, and the stories they tell about the San Francisco of fifty years ago and today. Free (donations welcome), 415-557-4266, sfcityguides.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. For sponsored listings, call 415-815-8081.



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70 Fourth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
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415/200-3444

345 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(near Folsom Street)  
415/321-8653

627 Vallejo Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
(at Columbus Avenue)  
415/200-2215

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Urban Home and Garden ∴ Cold-weather perils

# Warm up winter safely

BY JULIA STRZESIESKI

WHEN NIGHT-time temperatures start to dip, San Franciscans need to remember that turning up the heat should be done with safety in mind. While you may welcome the toasty temperatures that fires, furnaces, and space heaters bring to your home, it is important to remember that these heating measures might also be sources of deadly carbon monoxide (CO) if not used properly.

CO poisoning affects thousands of people annually, with most incidents occurring during the winter months. Alarmingly, an annual national average of more than 50 deaths and more than 2,100 non-fatal exposures occur each December, followed by an average of 69 deaths and more than 2,500 nonfatal exposures in January, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The CDC also notes that deaths from unintentional vehicle-related carbon monoxide poisonings are higher during this time frame.

CO is colorless and odorless, making it impossible for humans to detect. For that reason, the California legislature enacted the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act, requiring all existing single-family dwellings containing a fossil fuel source or attached garage to be equipped with CO alarm devices for added protection from CO poisoning. Complying with laws such as this and taking other safety precautions can help prevent unfortunate accidents and save lives.

The CDC and the National Fire Protection Agency both recommend installing CO detectors on every floor of a home and near every sleeping area to ensure the best possible protection. First Alert, a leading producer of home-safety products, offers some additional suggestions for staying safe this winter when heating up every room of your home.

**Kitchen:** Bountiful, home-cooked meals with family and friends are fun, but stoves and ovens can pose potential danger if not properly used and maintained. A malfunctioning range or using foil on the bottom of a gas oven can lead to serious CO exposure in the kitchen. And when operating a stove and oven simulta-



Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are both necessary in a modern home — and you can even get combination smoke and CO detectors.

PHOTO: HIGHWAYSTARZ-PHOTOGRAPHY; ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

neously, it's a good idea to crack a window until all cooking equipment is no longer in use.

**Living room:** Though a warm fire might feel cozy, fireplaces are potential danger zones. Without proper cleaning and maintenance, soot and debris can build up in the chimney and lead to dangerous CO exposure. To keep the home fires burning safely, have fireplaces professionally cleaned annually — ideally, just prior to seasonal use.

**Bedrooms/home office:** Fuel-burning space heaters often are used during winter to provide a little extra heat to colder areas of the home, such as bedrooms and home offices. While effective, these devices can be sources of CO if vents become loose or detached. Before turning on a space heater, check to see that all parts are intact and secure. And always make sure to turn off or unplug space heaters, heating pads, and other electrical heating devices before sleeping. Additionally, there are many energy-efficient space heaters on the market that do not require any type of fuel, and are probably a better choice for in the home.

**Garage:** Another common but dangerous practice during winter is “warming up” a vehicle before leaving the house. Exhaust from automobiles contains significant amounts of carbon monoxide that can wreak havoc when it is contained in an enclosed space or leaks into the main living areas of a home. If you are fortunate enough to have a garage, to ensure your family's safety, never leave a car or other motorized vehicle running in a garage.

**Fireplaces:** Proper care and maintenance will allow you to enjoy the benefits of using your fireplace, not only safe-

ly, but also economically. More than one-third of Americans use fireplaces, wood stoves, and other fuel-fired appliances as primary heat sources in their homes. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the fire risks when heating with wood and solid fuels. Often home fires from a fireplace are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently. Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist. Each time a wood fire is burned, tar and creosote are formed. Creosote is unburned wood particles and condensed flue gases. With each fire these highly flammable substances build up on the inside of the chimney and must be removed to prevent a fire. The Creosote Sweeping Log is widely available and contains a mixture of minerals that are dispersed during burning to coat and adhere to the creosote. Over the next 14 days, the creosote becomes brittle and breaks away. This patented chimney sweep log is an alternative to mechanical cleaning and is one of the fastest, easiest, and most cost-efficient ways to clean your chimney. However, regular inspections of your chimney by a professional are still recommended.

Knowing how CO can enter your home is an important first step in avoiding problems, but no one is truly safe from harm without carbon monoxide alarms. Be sure to have these installed throughout your home, along with fire alarms, or combination CO/fire alarms.

Julia Strzesieski is the marketing coordinator for Cole Hardware and can be reached at [julia@colehardware.com](mailto:julia@colehardware.com).



# Up or down?

## Real estate in the age of Trump

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

WILL SAN FRANCISCO REAL ESTATE continue on its Sonderweg, its “special path” driven by its peculiar local factors? We checked with several local experts to get their views on the year ahead in real estate. Stephanie Saunders Ahlberg is an agent with Hill & Co.; Paul Barbagelata is the broker and owner of Barbagelata Real Estate; and Carole Isaacs is an agent with McGuire Real Estate.

### WHAT IMPACT DO YOU THINK THE ELECTION OF DONALD TRUMP WILL HAVE ON LOCAL REAL ESTATE?

**CAROLE ISAACS:** I don't expect Trump becoming president will have any effect in San Francisco real estate. Our economy is driven by technology, and this is where young people want to live as well as retiring Baby Boomers moving from the suburbs.

**STEPHANIE SAUNDERS AHLBERG:** It might be hard to say with regard to local real estate specifically, but in general, Donald Trump is real-estate-friendly. We know he considers himself a developer and, therefore, likes real estate. It was predicted, even before the election, that interest rates were due to start rising somewhat, but I suspect he will do what he can to keep them as low as possible. I also have heard that he is inclined to keep the real estate tax write-offs, including the mortgage interest write-off, so that should

have a positive effect on the real estate market overall.

I think we are all waiting to see. One local impact may be how foreign buyers are treated. We have many buyers here from Asia, and if that is discouraged it could have a negative impact locally.

**PAUL BARBAGELATA:** I could see many buyers apprehensive on jumping into the real estate pool if there is economic uncertainty. Interest rate hikes could also have an effect on the first-time buyer segment as well. The flip side is a productive stock market that rallies with some continuity may boost consumer confidence. A strong stock market goes hand-in-hand with a strong real estate market.

### REGARDING HOUSE PRICES IN SAN FRANCISCO, HOW DO YOU THINK 2017 WILL DIFFER FROM 2016?

**AHLBERG:** I expect housing prices will continue to go up in 2017, but not at the level we have seen for the past couple of years. The higher-end market is seeing more of a slowdown, but entry-level and up to about \$5 million remains strong.

**ISAACS:** At one point I said: “Keep your mouth permanently open as far as the rise in home prices goes.” For single-family homes, this still may be the case as prices keep inching up. Condo prices are looking more stable with all of the new construction inventory. At the same time, developers are not social workers. They are in the business



From left to right: Carole Isaacs, Stephanie Saunders Ahlberg, and Paul Barbagelata. PHOTOS LEFT TO RIGHT: COURTESY CAROLE ISAACS; HILL & CO. REAL ESTATE; PAUL BARBAGELATA

of making money and will do their best to keep new condo prices up.

**BARBAGELATA:** In 2016 we already experienced a correction of values for certain segments of the market. In my opinion, many neighborhoods known for their luxury price points have plateaued. The west side of the city is still posting record numbers for the first time, therefore there is additional room to grow.

### REGARDING HOUSING INVENTORY IN SAN FRANCISCO, HOW DO YOU THINK 2017 WILL DIFFER?

**BARBAGELATA:** I think inventory will rise in the condominium segment mostly in the newly constructed buildings within the last 10 years. That particular demographic is ripe for transition (socially and economically) into single-family homes in the Bay Area. I do not see a vast change with the single-family homes relating to inventory.

**AHLBERG:** The prediction is that inventory will remain low in 2017. The catch-22 is that with low inventory, people thinking of selling hold off because they cannot find something they would like to buy.

**ISAACS:** The single-family market will remain tight. Older people are not retiring and moving elsewhere. In general, home-

owners are staying put unless there is a major change in their lives.

### WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE MOST POPULAR IN SAN FRANCISCO IN 2017?

**AHLBERG:** The more traditional buyer still gravitates to the more traditionally established neighborhoods of Pacific Heights, Marina, Cow Hollow, Presidio Heights, and Russian Hill. But younger buyers like the more southern-side neighborhoods because many of them commute to the peninsula. We have seen a real boom from Hayes Valley through Bernal Heights and neighborhoods in between.

**ISAACS:** The Mission is hot for new arrivals and people under 30. Young families looking for single-family homes are flocking to the Richmond and Sunset. Buyers with more money still want Noe Valley.

**BARBAGELATA:** The majority of San Francisco neighborhoods are very popular, however, I think the Dogpatch area has so much to offer with the redevelopment of old industrial space, the Warriors arena coming in, great food scene with a mix of restaurants, microbreweries and wine bars, and overall a great merchant community.

## These Are Just Some of the Homes Sold by Hill & Co. Agents in 2016...



**SOLD** Represented the seller  
**Russian Hill**  
Sold by Annie Williams  
Listed at \$8,900,000



**SOLD** Represented the seller  
**Cow Hollow**  
Sold by Annie Williams  
Listed at \$7,500,000



**SOLD** Represented the seller  
**Nob Hill**  
Sold by Joan Gordon & David Cohen  
Listed at \$7,200,000



**SOLD** Represented the seller  
**Mission Dolores**  
Sold by John Woodruff & Marcus Miller  
Listed at \$6,490,000



**SOLD** Represented the buyer  
**Presidio Heights**  
Sold by Joan Gordon & David Cohen  
Listed at \$5,800,000



**SOLD** Represented the buyer  
**Pacific Heights**  
Sold by Marilyn Hayes  
Listed at \$4,995,000



**SOLD** Represented the buyer  
**Lake Street**  
Sold by Stephanie Ahlberg  
Listed at \$4,750,000



**SOLD** Represented the buyer  
**Pacific Heights**  
Sold by Donna Cooper  
Listed at \$4,700,000

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All of us at Hill & Co. Real Estate want to wish you

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**





# The Marina Times Real Estate Market Report: November 2016

By Hill & Co. Real Estate

## SINGLE FAMILY HOME SALES

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2674 Greenwich Street	4BD/4.5BA	\$7,525,000	Below	30
Lake	110 15th Avenue	3BD/2BA	\$1,875,060	Above	84
	141 2nd Avenue	3BD/3.5BA	\$2,725,000	Below	52
	147 Lake Street	4BD/3BA	\$2,725,000	Below	27
Laurel Heights (no sales)					
Lone Mountain	252 Ewing Terrace	3BD/2BA	\$1,300,000	Below	13
Marina	25 Rico Way	3BD/3.5BA	\$4,998,000	At	43
Nob Hill (no sales)					
North Beach (no sales)					
Pacific Heights	2640 Steiner Street	4BD/3.5BA	\$4,150,000	Below	26
	1917 Vallejo Street	6BD/4.5BA	\$5,400,000	Below	33
	2255 Octavia Street	4BD/4.5BA	\$7,200,000	Above	9
	2500 Green Street	6BD/5.5BA	\$7,300,000	Below	70
Presidio Heights (no sales)					
Russian Hill	10-12 Aladdin Terrace	4BD/3BA	\$2,200,000	Above	35
	864 Francisco Street	5BD/4.5BA	\$7,000,000	Below	199
	1209 Filbert Street	4BD/5.5BA	\$8,288,000	Below	189
Sea Cliff	164 Sea Cliff Avenue	6BD/6BA	\$17,800,000	Below	50
Telegraph Hill (no sales)					

## CONDOS

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2775 Greenwich Street	2BD/1BA	\$1,150,000	Above	12
	2326 Union Street	3BD/1.5BA	\$2,495,000	At	0
	2717 Union Street	2BD/2BA	\$2,500,000	Above	12
Lake	160 19th Avenue	1BD/1BA	\$540,000	Below	52
	162 19th Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$701,000	Above	52
	237 Arguello Boulevard #4	2BD/1BA	\$786,000	Above	95
	164 19th Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$1,126,000	Above	52
	137 7th Avenue	3BD/2BA	\$1,520,000	Above	7
	97 6th Avenue	3BD/2BA	\$1,575,000	Below	42
	64 7th Avenue	3BD/2.5BA	\$1,830,000	Below	77
Laurel Heights (no sales)					
Lone Mountain	2480 Fulton Street #1	1BD/1BA	\$685,000	Above	9
	763 Spruce Street #2	4BD/2BA	\$1,125,000	Above	33
Marina	1734 Bay Street #302	1BD/1BA	\$790,000	Above	15
	3324 Octavia Street #1	1BD/1BA	\$850,000	Above	0
	3235 Gough Street #206	2BD/1BA	\$878,000	Below	69
	1656 Beach Street	1BD/1BA	\$905,000	Above	39
	3350 Laguna Street #201	3BD/2BA	\$1,650,000	Above	15
	3333 Divisadero Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,725,000	Above	116
	2046 Jefferson Street	3BD/3BA	\$1,995,000	At	40
	49 Capra Way	3BD/3BA	\$2,600,000	Above	18
Nob Hill	1260 Clay Street #205	1BD/1BA	\$775,000	Above	26
	1153 Leavenworth Street	2BD/1BA	\$876,000	Above	41
	1776 Sacramento Street #401	1BD/1BA	\$920,000	Below	46
	1441 Jones Street #404	2BD/1.5BA	\$1,300,000	Below	137
	850 Powell Street #106	3BD/3BA	\$1,635,000	Below	48
North Beach	444 Francisco Street #105	1BD/1BA	\$790,000	Above	13
	520 Chestnut Street #104	1BD/1BA	\$830,000	Above	34
Pacific Heights	1817 California Street #3M	1BD/1BA	\$649,000	Above	40
	1998 Broadway St. #1402	1BD/1BA	\$825,000	Below	81
	1855 Sacramento Street #5	1BD/1BA	\$900,000	Above	45
	1650 Broadway St. #105	1BD/1.5BA	\$1,095,000	At	0
	1800 Washington St. #211	2BD/2BA	\$1,177,000	Below	25
	1701 Jackson Street #408	2BD/2BA	\$1,200,000	Above	52
	1835 Franklin Street #602	2BD/2BA	\$1,200,000	Above	14
	1650 Broadway Street #405	1BD/1.5BA	\$1,350,000	At	0
	2030 Green Street	3BD/2BA	\$1,370,000	Above	19
	2876 Jackson Street	3BD/1BA	\$1,410,000	Above	10
	2400 Steiner Street #2	1BD/1.5BA	\$1,560,000	Above	9
	1869 California Street #5	3BD/2BA	\$1,640,000	Above	31
	2851 Clay Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,700,000	Above	10
	1943 Lyon Street	3BD/2BA	\$1,900,000	Above	12
	1979 Broadway Street	3BD/3BA	\$2,250,000	Above	0
	2001 Sacramento Street #7	3BD/3BA	\$2,400,000	Above	10
	1960 Vallejo Street #2	3BD/3BA	\$2,800,000	Below	62
Presidio Heights	112 Arguello Boulevard #6	2BD/1BA	\$939,000	Above	26
	3581 Sacramento Street	3BD/2BA	\$2,050,000	Above	0
Russian Hill	1000 North Point St. #305	0BD/1BA	\$560,625	Above	34
	1281 Vallejo Street #2	1BD/BA	\$860,000	Above	28
	710 Bay Street	2BD/1BA	\$1,150,000	At	40
	2507-A Polk Street	2BD/2BA	\$1,180,000	Above	18
	1836 Mason Street	2BD/1.5BA	\$1,275,000	Above	29
	1136 Green Street	2BD/1.5BA	\$1,600,000	Above	36
	1100 Union Street #500	2BD/2.5BA	\$3,685,000	Below	53
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill	454 Lombard Street #4	1BD/1BA	\$720,000	Above	4
	426 Vallejo Street	1BD/1BA	\$870,000	Above	44
	2017 Grant Avenue #1	2BD/1BA	\$910,000	Above	15
	265 Filbert Street	1BD/1BA	\$951,000	Above	32

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 : Property news

# New efforts for homelessness, affordability in the Bay Area

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

## \$30 MILLION MORE FOR RENT SUBSIDIES FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

Hamilton Families, a local nonprofit provider of housing for homeless families, has partnered with the city and other private organizations in the Heading Home Campaign, a new \$30 million program designed to decrease the amount of time families experience homelessness before finding housing.

“In our city where so many have done so well, it’s unacceptable that 1,800 students attending San Francisco’s public schools are homeless,” said Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff, who was a major contributor to the public-private partnership, along with the San Francisco Giants, Google.org, Congregation Emanu-El, and others. “I hope that other companies and individuals will join us as we take these initial steps in helping all the homeless children in our city find permanent housing.” Currently it takes up to 414 days for homeless families to find housing; the Heading Home Campaign has a goal of reducing that to a maximum of 90 days.

## FACEBOOK FRIENDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Silicon Valley communities have faced some of the same problems with housing during the current tech boom that San Francisco has faced: a shortage of housing at all levels. Even as tech companies have expanded and new ones have spawned, many communities have made it difficult to create new housing on the peninsula. Facebook will help undo a little of that with its new deal to commit \$20 million for affordable housing and job training in the valley, in a deal worked out with a group of East Palo Alto community groups.

“Our organizations have been working for decades to ensure that the Bay Area remains a place where people of all races and incomes can find healthy homes and good jobs, so we approached Facebook to work on these issues with us,” Tameeka Bennett, a representative of Youth United for Community Action, was quoted as saying in the *San Francisco Business Times*. “This exciting partnership shows what can happen when the people who are most affected by the housing crisis are engaged in a serious collaboration with other stakeholders to craft creative solutions.”

## PROP W UPS LUXURY TRANSFER TAX

With the passage in November of Proposition W by San Francisco voters, real estate sales above the \$5 million level will be more costly. Specifically, transfer tax rates for sales of residential and commercial properties priced between \$5–\$10 million will increase from 2 to 2.25 percent; from \$10–\$25 million the increase will be from 2.5 to 2.75 percent; and for more than \$25 million the increase will be from 2.5 to 3 percent.

## INTERNET ACCESS CHOICE

The Board of Supervisors approved a law that would guarantee tenants of multiunit residential and commercial buildings the right to select their own Internet service provider, while also providing some protections for landlords.



Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff, a prominent tech leader and philanthropist, is also playing a role in a new effort to assist homeless families. PHOTO: CELLANR

District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell, who sponsored the legislation, said that increased choice and competition among ISPs is an important factor to ensuring affordable and higher-quality Internet service. Though federal law already bans property owners and managers from having exclusive agreements with ISPs, Farrell’s office said that there are an estimated 50,000 local units that have limitations that effectively deny certain ISPs from providing service. In particular, ISPs often cannot gain access to the building to respond to customer requests.

The new law establishes a protocol for qualified ISPs to notify property owners, and provide rent and indemnification to the owners for use of any space and protection from damages. The law is due to take effect in early January.

## GREENER THAN THOU

Board of Supervisors President London Breed and Mayor Ed Lee have proposed new legislation that would update green building codes for city-owned properties and would provide for studying how to achieve “zero net energy” in new municipal construction by the year 2030.

“San Francisco has been a leader in ... green building [for] more than 23 years,” said Rick Fedrizzi, CEO of the U.S. Green Building Council, an independent organization that verifies and promotes environmentally sustainable building. He said that with every new building that meets LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) standards, “the green building movement is proactively responding to the most important challenges of our time, including global climate change, dependence on non-sustainable and expensive sources of energy, and threats to human health. With leadership at the city level, as demonstrated by the extraordinary commitment of San Francisco, we are getting one step closer to achieving a sustainable global built environment within a generation.”

## QUOTE UNQUOTE

“Would this have sold for more two years ago? It’s possible.”

—Broker Gregg Lynn, Sotheby’s International Realty, discussing the \$13 million sale of a condo in the sinking Millennium Tower, *San Francisco Business Times*

Real estate news tips?

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- |                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| • January 9 (Inaugural Ceremony) | • January 10  |
| • January 31                     | • February 7  |
| • February 14                    | • February 28 |
| • March 7                        | • March 14    |
| • March 21                       |               |

There will be no scheduled meetings on January 3 and 17, February 21 and March 28.

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Real Estate Today :: Plotting your future

Community gardens:  
A bit of heaven on Earth

BY CAROLE ISAACS

WE ALL KNOW location, location, location is the most important factor to consider in buying a home. Finding the best location is not as easy as one may think in San Francisco. Here there are ever-changing micro-neighborhoods, microclimates ranging from fog to sunshine, Muni, BART, corporate bus stops, construction, and serious traffic. Add this to what has been skyrocketing home prices, and every nuance of a location is important to consider.

Being near a park is always a plus, and a well-known park like Dolores Park has become a destination similar to the Haight Ashbury in the 1960s. Some outdoor spaces that you may not know about are the more than 100 community gardens throughout the city. Some are private and others are public community gardens; 38 gardens are on park property (one of these is on Russian Hill), many others are on San Francisco Unified School District property, two on Treasure Island, five at the Presidio, and one at Fort Mason on the hill behind the administration building. Some gardens are part of senior centers and other gardens serve specific communities. The day-to-day workings of the gardens are run by volunteers.

When I moved to the north side of town, I immediately signed up for the wait list at the Fort Mason Community Garden. Talking to a gardener, I found it would take years for me to rise to the top of the list. I figured time would pass no matter what, and someday I would get a plot. It took seven years and eight months before my number came up. Yes, that is a long time, but the wait was worth it!

Once I was assigned my plot, I felt a combination of excitement, joy, and disbelief. I had always had a garden before moving to Green Street and had not realized how important gardening and being close to the earth was to me. A few months ago, I would not have imagined I would be growing kale to add to my morning protein drink. I am happy to have the opportunity to share my newfound hobby with you.

Community gardens are not just for the gardeners. The Fort Mason Com-

munity Garden is especially interesting because it attracts many species of local and migrating birds. The Audubon Society occasionally hosts bird-watching mornings both in the garden and around Fort Mason. Regularly, I see individual bird watchers with cameras and binoculars pointed to the trees. Young families are a part of the greater garden community. I often see parents with young children walking through the garden, talking about how the food we eat grows.

The Fort Mason garden is surprisingly warm and sunny. There are many regular garden visitors who stop for lunch or to sit and enjoy the garden and view. One man told me he had been coming to the gardens for over 20 years. I asked him why he didn't sign up on the wait list to become a member. He laughed and said he loved relaxing in the garden and watching other people work. He had no interest in gardening himself. There are enjoyable experiences to be had for everyone in a community garden.

One of the first questions people ask when they see a garden is how they can get a plot. For many community gardens, it is possible to sign up for the wait list online. Fortunately, the Recreation and Park Department has a free mobile Urban Agriculture Center that meets in a different city garden each month. As of the writing of this article, the 2017 schedule is not yet available. Please check the Urban Agriculture website for information: [sfrecpark.org/park-improvements/urban-agriculture-program-citywide/urban-agriculture-resource-centers](http://sfrecpark.org/park-improvements/urban-agriculture-program-citywide/urban-agriculture-resource-centers). You can find out everything you need to know about community gardens at a monthly mobile center.

Materials on-site are available to any gardener in San Francisco to help green and beautify the city. The resource center serves all levels of urban agriculture (backyard gardener, community gardener, or urban farmer). There is information available on educational opportunities and how to take advantage of existing informal and formal garden programs.

The next question I am asked is the cost to be a member of a community garden. Some gardens are free to members, other

have small monthly or yearly fees, and many gardens have members who make financial donations to cover the cost of operating the garden. Joey Kahn, the public relations person for Rec and Park, told me "The budget for community gardens and Urban Ag Program is about \$350,000, but can fluctuate from year to year. The money goes toward staff, repair, and maintenance of community gardens within the Community Gardens Program." Joey also said "Just last year, our Urban Agriculture Program donated over 11,000 plants to gardeners in every zip code in San Francisco. As a department, we are continuing to provide the infrastructure, resources, and support for the public to steward and activate our open spaces with urban agriculture."

In my short time as a community garden member, I have learned the success of a garden is based on the willingness of its members to both open their pocketbooks with financial contributions and to give their time to work on community garden areas and maintenance projects. A gardener's work is never done and is always more pleasurable with like-minded friends.

Returning to the idea of choosing the best possible location to buy a home, I strongly recommend if you have any interest in gardening, when you investigate a neighborhood, look for a community garden in the area. Even if the wait list is long, you can volunteer to work on community projects and get to know the members. Many of these people have been gardening for years and will be a valuable resource in your future.

Fort Mason Community Garden makes plots available to local community groups and schools. If your group is interested in having a plot, please contact FMCG via the "Contact Us" page at [fortmasoncommunitygarden.org](http://fortmasoncommunitygarden.org). If you have other questions about the FMCG or other community gardens, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting other enthusiastic gardeners.

*Carole Isaacs is a Realtor with McGuire Real Estate, where she is a Top Producer. Follow her on Twitter @CaroleIsaacs, visit her online at [caroleisaacs.com](http://caroleisaacs.com) or call 415-608-1267.*



Fitness First ∴ Resolutions worth keeping

# A new year, a new workout

BY JULIE MITCHELL

FOR MANY, JANUARY SIGNALS A renewed commitment to working out or changing up an existing exercise routine. The American College of Sports Medicine has released its annual fitness trend forecast for 2017, compiling results from more than 1,800 health and fitness professionals worldwide from a list of 42 potential trends. The ACSM ranks the top 20; the top 10 were published in the November/December issue of ACSM's *Health & Fitness Journal*. So if you're curious about what's hot at the gym and beyond, here are the top 10 fitness trends for 2017.

## 1. WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY

Wearable technology like Fitbit trackers, smart watches like the Apple watch, heart-rate monitors, and other devices that can track your steps, calories burned, and heart rate, top the list as they did in 2016. Walter R. Thompson, Ph.D. and the lead author of the survey, says, "Technology is now a must-have in our daily lives. ... The health data collected by wearable technology helps inform the user about his or her current fitness level and to make healthful lifestyle choices."

If you don't want to spend the money on a dedicated wearable fitness device, most smart phones come with built-in apps that track stairs climbed, steps taken, and other data.

## 2. BODY WEIGHT TRAINING

Unlike weight lifting, and also on the list for the second year, body weight training uses minimal-to-no equipment and focuses on using one's own body to get in shape — think push-ups and planks, sit-ups, and squats. Combined with a quickly paced walk or run, body weight training can increase your lean muscle mass and build overall strength.

## 3. HIGH-INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING (HIIT)

Most of us are short on time yet want to squeeze in a quick, efficient workout whenever we can. HIIT is perfect because it combines short bursts of activity that raise the heartrate quickly with periods of rest or recovery, all in 20–30 minutes. Many Bay Area gyms offer HIIT workouts, including the YMCA, Barry's Bootcamp, and OrangeTheory Fitness.

## 4. FITNESS PROFESSIONALS

If you're looking for a trainer, either one-on-one or at the gym, it's important to seek out someone who is well trained and experienced and who understands your fitness goals. Look for health and fitness professionals certified through programs that are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, like those offered by ASCM.

## 5. STRENGTH TRAINING

Weight training whether using free

weights or machines is a key part of a well-rounded workout and necessary for all physical activity levels and genders. Especially as we age, it's critical to incorporate strength training into our routines to help preserve muscle mass.

## 6. GROUP TRAINING

Many of us need a pro to tell us to lift those dumbbells and do those planks. That's where group exercise classes come in. If I didn't go to my favorite strength and conditioning classes at the Presidio Y, my abs would never get a workout. Group exercise classes taught at gyms from the Y and Crunch to the JCC and Equinox are designed to be motivational and effective for people of all ages and fitness levels. A great instructor can make all the difference.

## 7. EXERCISE IS MEDICINE

A global initiative developed by the American Medical Association and the American College of Sports Medicine, EIM focuses on encouraging primary care physicians and other health care providers to assess patients' levels of physical activity at every visit and to provide them with counseling to help meet U.S. National Physical Activity Guidelines. Physical inactivity is a leading cause of death and a major risk factor for heart disease, diabetes, and several types of cancer.

## 8. YOGA

Stretching, breathing, and mind-body awareness are just as important to fit-

ness as cardio and strength workouts. Yoga is popular worldwide but especially in the Bay Area. Most health clubs offer yoga classes, and there are dedicated yoga studios citywide. Karma Yoga on Union Street opened last fall and offers a variety of yoga and Pilates classes for all levels.

## 9. PERSONAL TRAINING CAREERS

There are increasing numbers of people, especially recent college grads, who are studying sports medicine and/or kinesiology to prepare themselves for careers in health-and-fitness-related fields such as physical therapy or personal training.

## 10. EXERCISE AND WEIGHT LOSS

While nutrition and calorie restriction are key components to any weight-loss program, fitness plays a big role, too. Health and fitness professionals are incorporating advice that includes regular exercise into prescriptions for both weight loss and weight maintenance programs.

Finding a workout you love and look forward to will be the most successful way to stay active this year and beyond.

For complete information on the ACSM survey visit <http://journals.lww.com/acsm-healthfitness/pages/default.aspx>.

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## MomSense :: Back to work



Networking helps provide an important support system. PHOTO: RAWPIXEL; ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

## New year ... new adventures

BY LIZ FARRELL

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE year when we start thinking about what we want to change or improve. The most common New Year's resolutions usually involve eating better or exercising more, but mine has nothing to do with health or appearance.

After more than 11 years at home with my children, I am considering reentering the workforce. These past 11 years have been a gift I will always treasure, but now as my children head toward school age, this seems to be a good time for me — and for them — to explore new adventures.

I was a news producer at Fox Channel 2 for many years but left shortly after my oldest was born. I loved the job, especially the adrenaline rush of breaking news, but didn't like the overnight shifts or working holidays. I won't return to this career because I am 41 and trying to figure out what I want to be when I grow up. Scary, right? It has been, but it has also been exciting and eye-opening to hear from many other women in the same situation. So how do we do it? Where do we start? If you are one of those women, here are some suggestions to help you take that first step.

### BE BRAVE

I always tell my children when they are faced with something new and a bit scary to "be brave — you can do it." When I began this process, I had to start taking my own advice, so I wrote it on a Post-it note and put it in my bathroom drawer. Every morning I see it, and it is a nice reminder.

It can be scary to reenter the workforce, and

even taking those first few steps toward figuring it out requires courage. As with anything, when you haven't done something in a while, your skills can get a little rusty, so you need to rebuild your confidence and just put yourself out there.

### MAKE A PLAN

Sometimes determining where or how to start is the hardest. As with any big obstacle, it always helps me to write out a plan. The first two items were to update my resume and my LinkedIn account. These may sound like easy tasks, but when you have been out of the workforce, trying to put daily life into "actionable" skills can require some thought.

**After more than  
11 years at home with  
my children, I am  
considering reentering  
the workforce.**

Never underestimate this can be done: packing lunches, driving carpools, and setting up playdates can be translated into skills like organized, follows through, and ability to multitask — necessary skills for any job.

The next step is to decide what kind of work you would like to do — what jobs are interesting and would be conducive to a work-life balance? It may be something with flexibility or a job that allows you to work from home. The final step is to start networking. Let people know you are looking for a job and what type. Talk to people in that field or those who know someone who is. Sometimes the best jobs come from connections or our network, not from an Internet job listing.

### HAVE A SUPPORT SYSTEM

Having a support system during this process is key — people (friends or former co-workers) you can bounce ideas off, cheer you on, and even point out things about your personality you didn't realize. For me, this has been a small group of women in similar situations who are considering returning to work. We have met once a month for the last year. This group has been instrumental in many ways, including it has forced me to think and plan, and it has been great for sharing ideas. It also has been a fun process to go through with these talented women, whom I am sure will soon be taking the workforce by storm.

Support at home is also important because this will be a big change for your family. I am fortunate to have a husband who fully supports me returning to work and what that would mean for our family. Having

two parents who work requires a lot of communication and compromise, and that everyone, including the kids, step up a little more and help with household chores.

There is a real need for more women in the workforce. Per a recent study, nearly a third of women in the workforce take a pause in their career to take care of family, but fewer than half of those women return to full-time jobs. The road to returning to work is not easy — overcoming the fear, anxiety, and self-doubt have been difficult, but now I am focused on the excitement of doing something new.

*Liz Farrell is the mother of three young children. She was formerly a news producer in Washington D.C. and in San Francisco. E-mail: [liz@marinatimes.com](mailto:liz@marinatimes.com)*



# New shelter for SFACC; dog grooming lawsuit; GGNRA dog management plan

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

THE CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP to provide animal care and control services between San Francisco and the San Francisco SPCA ended in 1989, when San Francisco Animal Care and Control was then created. With no time or money to build a new facility, ACC moved into an old warehouse and cobbled together a shelter. On the first day, they transferred around 400 animals from the SFSPCA and have continued to take any and every animal in the city since.

The private SFSPCA is now one of the wealthiest animal “nonprofits” in the country and a veritable P.R. machine, filling Macy’s windows with adorable, adoptable puppies and kittens at Christmas, choosing the animals they want to bring into their state-of-the-art multimillion-dollar facility, and never dealing with cases of abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

During her six years as ACC’s executive director, Rebecca Katz was a tireless advocate for getting a new shelter built. If you’ve been to ACC, you know it’s a stark, depressing place not conducive to treating animals and not up to seismic standards, which is reason alone to build a new shelter — after the next major earthquake, this is where animals left homeless will go for temporary care.

When Katz began advocating for a new shelter, she put herself in political peril.

Mayor Ed Lee, her boss when she worked as a city attorney, was none too pleased that Katz was pushing for money and making his administration look bad. Undeterred, Katz turned to then-District 8 Supervisor Scott Weiner, who took up the cause at City Hall. Despite attempts by the SFSPCA to dissuade the city from building a new shelter for ACC and to take over ACC’s adoption services (they went so far as to hire renowned lobbyist Alex Clemens), the city approved the additional funds.

Rather than commend Katz for her hard work, in 2014, with ACC at its most critical moment, city administrator Naomi Kelly abruptly fired her. Sadly, the mayor let her go. San Francisco’s loss was Oakland’s gain — Katz is now the executive director of animal care and control there, where she reduced euthanasia rates by an astounding 85 percent in her first year on the job.

Kelly may have fired Katz, but Katz got the last laugh: On Nov. 29, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a plan to fund ACC’s new shelter at 1419 Bryant Street, scheduled to open in 2020. None of this would have happened without Katz, Weiner, and District 4 Supervisor Katy Tang, who kept the project on track when it was removed from a bond earlier in 2016. With Weiner now representing District 11 in the California State Senate, it’s good to know that we still have animal lover Tang (who hosts adoptable cats from ACC at City Hall with the “12 Days

of Kittens” during the holidays) to speak for the voiceless. ...

With Weiner, we now have an animal lover in Sacramento as well. I’m hoping he will join us in reviving Lucy’s Law (Senate Bill 969), which would have required vocational licenses for California pet groomers but was struck down in 2012. Since then, thousands of dogs have been injured or killed during routine grooming sessions, mostly at behemoth pet chains like Petco and PetSmart. In June 2016, I wrote about the case of Juan Zarate, a groomer at a PetSmart in San Mateo who is accused of killing Henry, a 1-year-old Dachshund. A necropsy showed Henry was strangled and suffered two broken ribs and a punctured lung. San Mateo County prosecutors say Zarate became frustrated with Henry when he was uncooperative during the service. Henry’s owners, Stefan Zire and Terrie Peacock, are suing PetSmart and want to hold the company accountable for previously ignoring hundreds of pet injuries and deaths.

I hope lawmakers will add protection for future clients by resurrecting and enacting Lucy’s Law. ...

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area, which includes nearly all beaches and coastal land in Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties, is pushing to finalize their unpopular “dog management plan” this month. Currently, dogs are allowed on just 1 percent of GGNRA land, which will



Skylar takes to the beach at Nick’s Cove in Marshall. PHOTO: SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

be reduced by 90 percent. The San Francisco Dog Owners Group has lined up pro bono legal representation with attorney Christopher J. Carr, a partner at Morrison and Foerster who is preparing a lawsuit to block the plan. ...

Congratulations to Muttville Senior Dog Rescue for being a top 10 finalist for 2016 CNN Hero of the Year. Even though they didn’t win the big prize, they brought tons of awareness to their amazing organization and introduced millions of people to the joys of adopting senior pets. For more information on volunteering, donating, or adopting, visit muttville.org.

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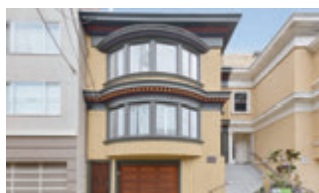
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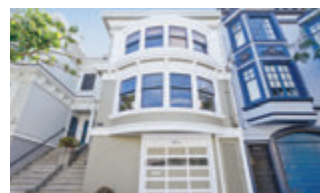
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