# MarinaTimes



# Best new dining

The Tablehopper reports on two chic new restaurants opening in our backyard p. 12 Anna Mariani matches the perfect teas with delicious chocolates p.13



# May events

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#### MARINATIMES.COM : CELEBRATING OUR 34TH YEAR : VOLUME 34 : ISSUE 05 : MAY 2018 =



Left to right: René Magritte's Personal Values, 1952; and Son of Man, 1964. @CHARLY HERSCOVICI, BRUSSELS / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY, NY; COURTESY SFMOMA

# **René Magritte: The Fifth Season** comes to SFMOMA

BY SHARON ANDERSON

**T**HE LEGENDARY SURREALIST painter René Magritte will be the subject of a retrospective of his late work at SFMOMA. More than 20 artworks will be shown for the first time in a U.S. | as well as his rebellion against the

museum concentrating on the artist's sunlit surrealism period. In the 1940's, Magritte found himself transitioning from his established style. Part of this transformation was due to the instability in German-occupied Belgium

traditional rules of other surrealist painters. The Fifth Season begins in this time period when the artist began what became known as his "sunlit" period, which lasted until 1947. These paintings, in harder, duskier tones than his prior ART WORLD continued on 14

# **REYNOLDS RAP**

# **Consider the next** mayor a contract worker on probation

Winner who doesn't please constituents could lose job in 2019

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

lacksim an franciscans have a unique opportunity to change the course of history in a year and a half. UThat's how long the next mayor, who will be elected June 5 to fill the remainder of the late Ed Lee's tenure, has to show voters that they made the right decision. If not, residents can vote that mayor off the island in 2019, when another election takes place for a four-year term. Frankly, the turnaround between Lee's sudden passing and next month's election was so quick I can't imagine endorsing any of the current candidates - not because they don't all possess some good mayoral qualities, but because I don't feel I've heard enough about their real plans. Sure, I've heard sound bites at a few hastily thrown together debates. But there hasn't been enough time to go deep into how exactly they will lead what was once a worldclass city out of a pile of feces, needles, car break-ins, and homeless tent encampments.

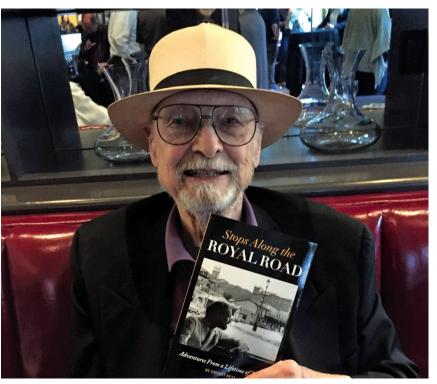
**REYNOLDS RAP, continued on 4** 

# **MARINATION**

# **Can District 2** forge a new political reputation?

It depends on not only whom

### **Remembering Ernie**



11, I'm celebrating my 90th birthday. I hope you'll agree I'm getting younger all the time. Remember the Bob Dylan line from 'My Back Pages'? Ah but I was much older then. I'm younger than that now.' That's me."

That was Ernie Beyl - friendly, funny, optimistic. So all of his friends — and there were hundreds were in shock when we heard Ernie had died the day after his big party. An apparent heart attack. There he was, at the top of his form, signing books, laughing, listening to people praise him and his work one day. Gone the next. That's life, he would say. But people are never really gone as long as they are remembered. Ernie was one to remember and to miss. I myself will miss the pleasure of his company. I am not sure how long I knew Ernie Beyl. A long time. A good time. I think I remember him first from the old Washington Square Bar and Grill, both in the days when Ed Moose and Sam Dietz ran it, and later. It was Ernie's kind of place, full of music, good drinks, good friends. He liked to walk down there from his Telegraph Hill apartment for ERNIE REMEMBERED, continued on 11

they vote for, but if they turn out to vote in the midterms

BY KEVIN FRAZIER

EPENDING ON WHOM YOU ASK, VOTING PREcinct 9206 holds an ignominious or impressive title: the San Francisco precinct that cast the most total votes -61 – for the Trump-Pence ticket in the 2016 election.

This sliver of the Marina, which roughly spans from Francisco to Beach between Baker and Scott, by and large went for Clinton (194 votes) and Sanders (105). Yet, those 61 Trump voters seem to define the area's political reputation. A look back at recent elections, however, shows a new reputation may be in order.

Precinct 9206's contribution to a Trump victory surprised few political commentators. After all, a Google search for where to find a bar to take your conservative friend in San Francisco will quickly send you to a MARINATION, continued on 6

Ernest Beyl celebrates his newest book. PHOTO: EARL ADKINS

# Ernie Beyl remembered

#### BY CARL NOLTE

N LAST MONTH'S MARINA TIMES, Ernest Beyl, who wrote beau-L tiful stuff for the paper, invit-

ed everyone to his 90th birthday party and the launch of his new book: Steps Along the Royal Road: Adventures from a Lifetime of Travel. He wrote: "This month, April

#### TOP 10 STEAKS IN AMERICA

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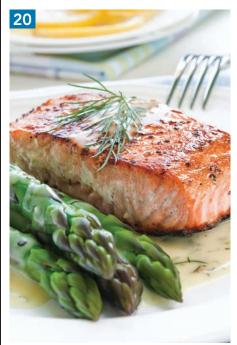






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You thought it was the enemy. You tried to avoid it. But you can't. Fat is a part of life, and Thalia Farshchian explains how to make peace with fat in your diet — and how to get the most out of it. 20

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Summer is coming up soon, and families are looking forward to or dreading summer camp. Liz Farrell shares her tips for picking the right camp for your children, as well as how to make sure your kids get the most out of their summer experience. **21** 

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### **News**

# **NEWS BRIEFS** Vehicular news **Trouble on wheels**

#### **TEAMWORK NABS AUTO** BURGLARS

As San Francisco celebrated a 17 percent drop in auto break-ins in the first few months of 2018, it still had to deal with the other 83 percent of the auto crimes that have bedeviled the city.

To keep reducing the break-ins, police have called for help from residents in reporting and tracking suspected auto criminals, a tactic highlighted in the recent capture of two suspects in the Marina. According to authorities, two individuals who were on an auto breakin spree were captured after police were called by residents. After following the suspects' vehicle, police ended the pursuit by using "spike strips" in the road. The suspects got out of their vehicleone tried to hide under a truck, and the other ran into a nearby backyard.

They might as well have stayed in the car. Two children noticed the suspect in the backyard and told their father, who told officers. They arrived and investigated, ending up on the home's roof, from which they spotted the suspect on a nearby roof using his cell phone to call the other suspect, who at that time was being pulled out from under the truck. When the suspect saw the police on the other roof, he smashed his phone in a possible attempt to destroy the evidence of his connection to the other suspect.

Both were taken into custody.

#### SCOOTERS SCATTERED

San Francisco sent cease-and-desist letters to three companies renting electric scooters the city complains have left sidewalks and transit stops blocked when users drop off the devices; the city also said the scooter riders rode the scooters on sidewalks and didn't have helmets or licenses. The three companies are Bird, LimeBike, and Spin.



San Francisco is getting fed up with scooters run amok. PHOTO: JASON LAROCHELLE

City Attorney Dennis Herrera tweeted that San Francisco "is not interested in banning an emerging industry. But companies have a responsibility to ensure that their products are used lawfully and do not create a public nuisance. It is about striking the right balance with safety."

In early March, District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin introduced legislation that would result in fines for rental scooters that did not use docks to park. The Examiner quoted Bird spokesman Kenneth Baer as saying that Bird had "no immediate plans to launch in San Francisco."

#### **FACTS & FIGURES**

10 millimeters: the amount San Francisco is sinking into the ground each year . . . 884,363: San Francisco population as of July 2017, according to latest Census Bureau estimates . . . 2,000: number of trees to be planted citywide in a new initiative from Mayor Farrell . . . **2:** number of kisses given by Elizabeth Taylor to Ernest Beyl on a trip to Mexico.

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

# IN MEMORIAM Ernest Beyl Leader of the cool kids' club

OR MANY YEARS, OUR EDITOR | Gal Pals lunch club, which consisted of either lunch at Capp's Corner (his preference) or Sotto Mare (mine). glasses of wine, seafood or pasta, and a trip to Mario's Cigar Bar for espresso to stay awake (or to keep drinking). Ernie would usually leave the two of us after Mario's for a jaunt to his beloved Little City Market where he would purchase meat for dinner and perhaps chat up the butcher about his latest book idea. Being around Ernie was like being around North Beach royalty, the cool kid's club - where all the bartenders, waiters, and regular clientele knew his name and often complimented his choice in female companions. With this, his face would beam and we would blush (it wasn't just the wine). These lunches seemed to transcend time and space, and we thought they would never end; "We'll always have our lunches with Ernie," we chimed. With the heartbreaking news that our beloved pal was gone, the party vanished in a cloud of cigar smoke over Washington Square, the three Musketeers now a not-so-distant memory in the cool

and sunny afternoons of North Beach. The reality of his departure may never settle in, may we choose to linger in the memory of his glow, the excitement in his voice, the twinkle in his eye, and All lunches included two-to-three bask in his fascinating tales of yore as we raise a toast to our forever friend, as he sometimes signed his e-mails to me, Tequila Ernesto.

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- Sara Brownell, Design Director

Sara's warm sentiment expresses how all of us at the Marina Times feel about Ernie. His energy, his optimism, and his dogged determination left an indelible imprint.

Ernie joined the Marina Times family in 2009 as a contributor to Northside San Francisco, writing mainly about food. When Northside was eventually combined into the Marina Times, his oeuvre expanded to include personality profiles, travelogues, and neighborhood musings about his beloved North Beach. A true professional, he never missed a deadline and willingly accepted additional writing assignments. Ernie was a significant cog in the Marina Times wheel. He will be sorely missed.

*— Lynette Majer, Managing Editor* 

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### **FROM THE COVER**

#### **Reynolds** Rap continued from cover

Ideally the next mayor would be a combination of the four main candidates and a dash of current mayor Mark Farrell. He or she would have the legislative experience and common-sense approach of Mark Leno; the equally formidable experience and fearless independence of Angela Alioto; the exuberant ability of Jane Kim to reach immigrant and other marginalized communities; London Breed's toughness and graceful willingness to reach across the aisle; and Mark Farrell's financial smarts and business acumen (perhaps the most important - and underrated - traits of all). But while each candidate has strengths, they also have weaknesses, and all have blundered along the short campaign trail.

#### MARK LENO

The Good: When I covered the Board of Supervisors for the New Fillmore newspaper, Mark Leno was often the only member who made sense. He went on to serve 14 years as a state assemblyman and a state senator, revered as one of California's most effective lawmakers, authoring over 160 bills. Early in his time in Sacramento, he called me out of the blue. "I'm in the city this week, and I'd love to meet for breakfast and hear what's on the minds of Marina residents," he said. We met on Chestnut Street, where Leno was engaged, poised, and sincere.

As a San Francisco supervisor Leno was ahead of his time, particularly when it came to housing. In 1999, he asked the city attorney to draft legislation to permit increased density along busy transit corridors and he wanted maximum building heights raised from 40 to 50 feet. However, Leno's record also reflects concern for renters: He amended the Ellis Act to remove SROs, protecting the most vulnerable low-income residents from eviction.

The Bad: As a supervisor representing the Castro District, Leno was one of the most vociferous opponents of formula retail, supporting Proposition L, the "slow growth" measure to protect small businesses from "big-box" stores. Anyone who's been to the Castro recently can see that legislation didn't work, with small businesses unable to pay exorbitant rents, while chains that can afford it are stifled. In fact, according to Hoodline, the Castro has a vacancy rate of nearly 13 percent, with over 50 empty retail spaces. Occu-









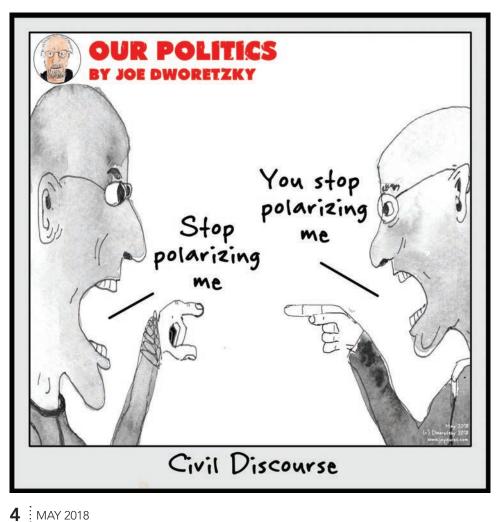
Clockwise from top left: Leading mayoral candidates include former State Senator Mark Leno, former Supervisor Angela Alioto, Board of Supervisors President London Breed, and Supervisor Jane Kim MARK LENO PHOTO: BROKENSPHERE

pancy is around 87 percent, compared to the rest of the city at 97 percent. Perhaps Leno should have sponsored retail rent control instead.

The Blunder: Earlier this year, Leno attended the grand reopening of Sweet Inspirations Bakery Café - a Castro eatery accused of flouting the very legislation Leno championed. When Ike Shehadeh of Ike's Place, a sandwich chain with 35 locations, took over the cafe from the previous proprietor, he began selling his sandwiches and branding the location with the Ike's trademark (menus, bags, uniforms, window façades). The Planning Commission hit Sweet Inspirations with two formula retail violations in two years, and with fines piling up, Shehadeh closed shop.

#### ANGELA ALIOTO

The Good: While her name is familiar to us old-timers, Angela Alioto has some



catching up to do with millennial voters, some who probably have no idea her father was the late Mayor Joseph Alioto. Fiercely independent and tough as nails, Alioto served on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors from 1988 to 1997 and was board president from 1993 to 1995. As I wrote here last October ("Angela Alioto on the 25th anniversary of the smoking ban"), she took on the gargantuan tobacco industry and won, leading to smoking bans all over the world. Her promise to oust the directors of the city's most troubled and bloated departments - Mohammed Nuru of Public Works, Ed Reiskin of Municipal Transportation Agency, and Phil Ginsburg of Recreation and Park — is almost reason enough to elect her in my book. Add to that the fact she owes former mayor Willie Brown nothing (and actually has a contentious history with him), and she's that much more appealing.

The Bad: Alioto has promised to clean up homeless tent encampments in 100 days, but that's a pipedream, just like her longing for San Francisco to return to its golden era. That time has passed, perhaps a metaphor for Alioto's unsuccessful bids to follow in her father's footsteps, losing mayoral races in 1991, 1995, and 2003.

Giants to increase the number of affordable units at the Mission Rock development from 33 to 40 percent. She also authored Proposition W, which passed in 2016, raising taxes on real estate deals over \$5 million to make tuition free at City College of San Francisco. Senator Bernie Sanders praised the program as "a model for the whole country."

The Bad: Despite her reputation for underdog advocacy, in 2011 Kim sponsored the infamous "Twitter tax break," giving the multibillion-dollar social media firm a six-year payroll tax exemption for moving to crime- and drug-infested mid-Market. Seven years later, mid-Market is worse than ever and Twitter is richer than ever, having done little to help the community while reaping the tax windfall.

The Blunder: Kim blasted fellow candidate London Breed for taking support from Super PACs ("independent expenditure committees" that can raise unlimited funds while candidates are limited to \$500 per individual), yet the Service Employees International Union Local 1021 Candidate PAC has spent \$185,000 on Kim's campaign. Her outcry was all for show, because candidates have no control over how Super PACs spend their money.

#### LONDON BREED

The Good: London Breed not only has the best name in the race, she has the best story. Raised by her grandmother in the Western Addition's public projects, Breed grew up in the midst of violence and poverty, seeing her first homicide when she was just 12 years old. Her younger sister died of a drug overdose and her older brother is in prison. Demonstrating the same tenacity she is known for today, the middle Breed child graduated from UC Davis, got an internship in Mayor Willie Brown's Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services, and worked her way up to executive director of the African American Art & Culture Complex in her old neighborhood, which she is credited with revitalizing. She went on to receive a master's degree in public administration from the University of San Francisco. In 2012, Breed upset Mayor Lee-appointed District 5 incumbent Christine Olague as a moderate in a sea of progressive candidates. Reelected in 2016, Breed was also selected twice by her peers to serve as president of the Board of Supervisors, a job she still holds. Perhaps Breed's most compelling asset is her ability to work with moderates and progressives alike. She's pro-housing, at all levels, and knows the city can't legislate its way out of this shortage. Breed also recognizes that we can't solve the homeless crisis without addressing mental illness and drug addiction, and she supports giving judges more leeway in conservatorship for severe cases. The Bad: It's well known that tech tycoon Ron Conway endorsed Breed when she became acting mayor after Lee's death (at Lee's funeral, no less), which means he thinks she is the most likely candidate to continue doing business as usual. Breed has lent some credence to that theory by stating she wants to "continue Ed Lee's work and legacy." Unfortunately, Lee's work and legacy left the city in shambles. The Blunder: Around 70 campaign ads for Breed were briefly plastered in Muni shelters, violating a policy that bans any material promoting a political candidate. Breed laughed it off, saying, "I guess I just can't get comfortable anywhere without someone trying to throw me out." That, of course, was a not-so-thinly veiled jab at her progressive colleagues, who replaced her as acting mayor with Mark Farrell.

The Blunder: Last January, Alioto proposed renaming Kearny Street after Ed Lee, just one day after then-acting Mayor London Breed suggested doing the same with Portsmouth Square. The choice of Kearny, which covers a large swath of Chinatown, seemed an obvious ploy to win the Chinese American vote, yet Alioto accused Breed, telling the San Francisco Chronicle: "Of course the reason she's doing this right now is because she's a candidate. I believe that it's an attempt to bond with Chinese voters."

#### JANE KIM

The Good: A civil rights attorney with degrees from both Stanford and UC Berkeley and a former president of the San Francisco Board of Education, Jane Kim was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2011, the first Korean-American supervisor in the nation. Representing District 6, perhaps her most-lauded achievement was negotiating with the San Francisco

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#### Marination

continued from cover

Marina establishment. And, more broadly, District 2 has long been known as one of the more politically moderate districts in San Francisco.

From partisan outlets to nonprofits, the consensus appears to be that the Marina is well-suited for moderate minds. A political crash course on San Francisco provided by the left-leaning Daily Kos labels the Marina as a "bastion of old-time San Francisco" that is "one of the most conservative [districts] in the city."

SPUR — the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association — went as far as to include the Marina in San Francisco's "Conservative C" spanning the area from Telegraph Hill to District 2 before curving through the Richmond, West Portal, and Ingleside and ending in Bayview Hunters Point.

Party registration data reinforces the claims by Daily Kos and SPUR. Based on the most recent tally of registered voters, 14.3 percent of District 2 voters identify as Republicans; citywide, the percentage of Republicans falls to less than half the District 2 total: 7.1. On the other side of the partisan coin, a small majority — just 51.9 percent — of District 2 residents registered as Democrats.

#### NO PARTY PREFERENCE

There's another side to this political coin, though. Beyond the binary Ds and Rs, San Francisco politics includes NPPs: voters with no party preference. Approximately 30 percent of all District 2 voters selected NPP when registering to vote; the rate is even higher — 31.4 percent — for the entire city.

Behind the headlines focused on how a few hundred District 2 residents supported Trump and the outsized attention paid to party registration rates, voting records indicate that District 2 and the Marina deserve a different reputation: home to some of the city's most dependable voters and, in particular, Democrats and NPP voters.

When it comes to general elections, District 2 voters regularly outvote their neighbors in a significant way. Regardless of party affiliation (or lack thereof), District 2 voters surpassed their citywide counterparts in mailing in their ballots in both the 2012 and 2016 elections.

As you can see in the table below, which displays the percentage of voters that received a ballot in the mail and mailed it back in, Democratic and NPP voters in District 2 bested the San Francisco average by at least 4 percentage points in the previous two general elections.

What's more, in 2012, both groups



There's a good chance these will be popular stickers in June and November in the Marina. PHOTO: ZAC BOWLING

lesser extent, also outdo their San Francisco. colleagues in general elections. District 2 Republicans bypassed this city's Republican mail-in rates by 1.27 percentage points in 2016 and by 4.98 points in 2012.

But there's a discrepancy in the otherwise participatory habits of District 2 voters. The 2014 midterm dents the district's potential claim for a political reputation based on participation rather than partisan preferences.

Of the Democrats, NPPs, and Republicans in District 2, only the Democrats eclipsed the San Francisco average for their party in the most recent midterm. NPP and Republican members in District 2 fell dramatically off the remainder of the city's pace for their group (3.48 and 1.27 percentage points behind, respectively).

#### WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO DO . . .

The impending 2018 midterm presents District 2 voters with the chance to establish their civic identity. Voters can channel the democratic spirit that compels them to action in general elections or opt for their modus operandi in midterms: letting the rest of the city determine the best candidates and measures. Let's hope it's the former and that the district earns a reputation for civic participation.

I'm guessing District 2 voters will make the most of election day. Voters should be well aware of all that's at stake in the impending 2018 primary and general elections. And if Democrats and NPP members want to escape yet another year of hearing about the district's conservative leanings, they ought to put pen to paper and stamp to ballot.

Turning out in 2018 will turn around a tired headline about 61 voters and replace it with an empowering example of a community celebrating the opportunity to vote.

Kevin Frazier, a Portland, Ore., native, previously served as Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's executive assistant and president of the College Democrats of Oregon. He now works at Google and lives with his partner, Dalton, and pup, Ty, in a studio in the Marina.

3111 Fillmore St. San Francisco 94123 415-567-5589 • CometclubSF.com were above their respective group's citywide average by more than 5.50 points. Republicans in District 2, though to a

#### Percentage of Voters Who Received/Returned Ballot

PARTY AFFILIATION & ELECTION YEAR	DISTRICT 2	S.F. AVERAGE	DIFFERENCE (D2-SF)
Democratic (2016)	82.26	78.24	4.02
NPP (2016)	76.88	72.31	4.57
Republican (2016)	78.28	77.01	1.27
Democratic (2014)	59.01	58.96	0.05
NPP (2014)	48.77	52.25	-3.48
Republican (2014)	60.57	61.84	-1.27
Democratic (2012)	81.19	75.43	5.76
NPP (2012)	75.77	70.27	5.50
Republican (2012)	81.26	76.28	4.98





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San Francisco Youth Commission Application for 2018-2019 Term

Do you have an opinion about how your City makes decisions that affect you and your friends? Do you want to be involved with youth representation at City Hall? Join the San Francisco Youth Commission! Due Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> by 6pm (if submitting in person) Or Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> (if submitting by email, fax, google form) You can access the application on the Youth Commission website: https://tinyurl.com/YCapp2018pdf You can also complete the application via google form: https://tinyurl.com/YCapp2018 Please refer questions to:

#### Phone: 415.554.6446 | Email: youthcom@sfgov.org

#### Poll Workers Needed

The Department of Elections seeks volunteer poll workers for the June 5 election. On Election Day, poll workers assist voters at each of San Francisco's 583 polling places.

Poll workers must be California residents, U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and at least 18 years old. To assist San Francisco's diverse electorate, people fluent in Chinese, Spanish, Filipino, Vietnamese, or Korean in addition to English are encouraged to apply.

# From the District 2 Supervisor

# **Ensuring thriving merchant corridors across District 2**

BY CATHERINE STEFANI

E ARE INCREDIBLY LUCKY TO have some of the best merchant corridors in District 2 — including Chestnut, Union, Fillmore, and Sacramento Streets, and Laurel Village. Unique businesses from all sizes and kinds contribute to our city's economy and define our community's character.

I am looking forward to celebrating our merchant corridors during San Francisco's Small Business Week from May 14–19. We're blessed to have dedicated neighborhood and merchant leaders and associations that work tirelessly together to support our small businessas and merchant

es and merchant corridors. In March, I had the pleasure of meeting with District 2 merchant leaders and Capt. Joe Engler of Northern Station to discuss how we can work together to

empower our merchants, to ensure our commercial corridors are prosperous, and to bring special events to our neighborhood commercial districts.

My office continues to collaborate with the San Francisco Council of District Merchants on the same goal. I look forward to continuing to work with more local businesses and making sure our beloved neighborhood businesses continue to grow and flourish in our changing economy.

It is important to me as your District 2 supervisor to support our merchant corridors and to help ensure they are thriving for our neighborhoods. In a busy and congested city, it is more important than ever that we can walk to a neighborhood grocery store, a local coffee shop, gift store, or other important neighborhood-serving businesses. Not only is it convenient, but it helps to build a strong sense of community. I've heard so many stories over the years of the special

relationships and bonds that are formed between our neighbors and merchants, and when we lose a business that has been serving our neighborhood for decades, it has devastating effects amount set to deter complacency and bad behavior.

The intention of this law is to prompt owners to improve abandoned buildings, restore them to proper code, and have them returned to community use. It is vital to understand the causes for vacancies, but also to take advantage of the tools available to bring new businesses to life. I will not just sit idly by while storefronts remain vacant and add blight to our neighborhoods.

I also hear from constituents about concerns with public safety and street cleanliness in our merchant corridors. I recently brought together a group of our District 2 merchants with Captain

Engler to connect and collaborate on ways to partner to keep our corridors clean and safe.

As a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, I will fight for more resources

to keep our merchant corridors clean and to provide additional public safety improvements. We need to attract more residents and visitors to our local small businesses and to do that, we need to ensure our corridors are bright, fresh, and protected.

I am also championing programs that celebrate and protect our historic small businesses through the Legacy Business Program. The Legacy Business Registry works to save longstanding, community-serving businesses that have operated in San Francisco for more than 30 years. Legacy businesses, which are nominated by a member of the Board of Supervisors or the mayor and accepted into the program by the Small Business Commission, receive marketing assistance, business services assistance, and legacy grants. So far, I have nominated California Wine Merchant, Marina Super, and Fireside Camera - all businesses that contribute to the neighborhood's identity and character on

> Chestnut Street, and I'm working my way through all our merchant corridors. I look forward to nominating more businesses, including

# Special relationships and bonds are formed between our neighbors and merchants.

**The Legacy Business** 

**Program is another** 

For their day of service, all poll workers receive training, a stipend up to \$195, and a commemorative pin. Apply in person at City Hall, Room 48, Monday–Friday, 10 am–4 pm. Visit sfelections.org/pollworker or call (415) 554-4395.

#### SF High School Students Can Be Poll Workers

San Francisco high school students over 16 can join the High School Poll Worker program. Students call (415) 554-4395 for a special application and do not need to apply in person.

#### **Count on WIC for Healthy Families**

WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children. You may qualify if you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or just had a baby; or have a child under age 5; and have a low to medium income; and live in California. Newly pregnant women, migrant workers, and working families are encouraged to apply.
 WIC provides Nutrition Education and Health information, breastfeeding support, checks for healthy foods (like fruits and vegetables), and referrals to medical providers and community services.

You may qualify for WIC if you receive Medi-Cal, CalFresh (Food Stamps), or Cal-WORKS (TANF) benefits. A family of four can earn up to \$3,793 before tax per month and qualify.

Enroll early! Call today to see if you qualify and to make an appointment. Call City and County of San Francisco WIC Program at 415-575-5788. This institution is an equal opportunity provider

The City and County of San Francisco encourage public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

CNSB #3121936

#### for many.

The vibrancy of our city is dependent on the strength of our small businesses. I am concerned just like many others I've heard from about how they are going to survive in a competitive market. With the onset of online retail, we have to continue to think of creative ways to ensure our small businesses adapt and thrive.

I am especially concerned about vacant storefronts on our commercial corridors throughout District 2. I am working with our Office of Economic and Workforce Development on legislation that will require property owners responsible with vacant properties to register them with the Department of Building Inspection so we can better track vacant storefronts. If they fail to register, then they will be fined at an

and Karaoke Bar on Lombard Street. The Legacy Business Program is another tool to help promote our local businesses. If you have a legacy business you think should be nominated, please let my office know at stefanistaff@sfgov.org.

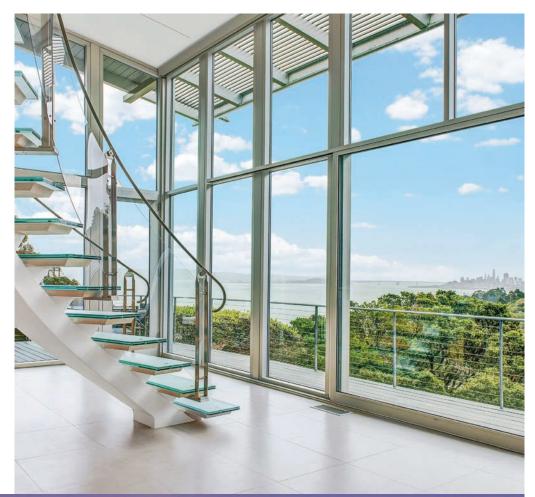
As your supervisor, I will continue to promote and take advantage of opportunities to collaborate with our small business merchants. For example, the recent Easter and Spring Parade hosted by our Union Street Association was an incredible success. Every year, it is a unique chance for businesses to come together and promote their goods and services, while bringing our families and residents together from across the city. I look forward to working with our merchant associations to bring more community events to District 2 and ensure our merchants thrive.



# 501 Sausalito Boulevard 3 BED | 4 BATH | 2,525 sqft

#### Offered at \$2,495,000 | www.501Sausalito.com

This modern view home is a contemporary masterpiece and a tribute to fine taste: porcelain tile floors, Caesarstone counters, tempered glass floating stairs curve to the 2nd floor, exotic maple cabinets in chef's kitchen, radiant heating, recessed Tech lighting, Viking Pro Series appliances, 64' sliding glass wall, 14' tinted windows reveal San Francisco & Bay views, A/C & backup generator- make this home ideal for the VIP on the go.

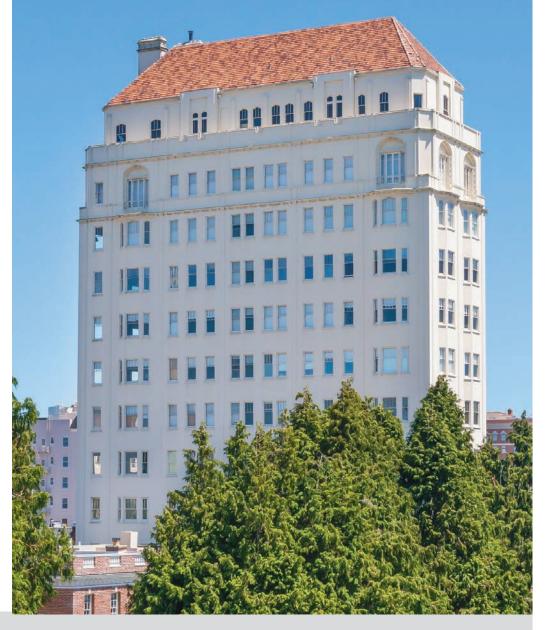




# 2500 Steiner Street Apartment #3 5 BED | 4 BATH | 3,500sqft

Offered at \$7,800,000 | www.2500SteinerResidenceNo3.com

2500 Steiner No. 3 offers a rare opportunity to own a one-ofa-kind apartment in one of the most coveted buildings in San Francisco. Perfectly situated in the heart of Pacific Heights, this prominent full floor residence offers dramatic views of the Golden Gate Bridge, Alta Plaza Park, the bay and beyond. The architectural appeal of this home is complemented by stunning original details and distinctive finishes and fixtures, resulting in



a unique residence that sets the precedent in luxurious living in San Francisco.

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# Northside

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# SF BUSINESS VOTES JUNE 2018 VOTING GUIDE

Vote to finance traffic relief, support safer policing, and oppose raising office rents for small businesses



**YES on RM 3 / Bay Area Traffic Relief** Reduces area traffic congestion by financing urgently needed highway and public transit improvements



YES on PROP B / Appointees Running for Office Require appointees on San Francisco boards and commissions to give up their seats when running in state or local elections



YES on PROP H / Safer Policing Initiative Authorizes SFPD to train and deploy officers to use Tasers as a non-lethal alternative to firearms



**NO on PROP A / Power Facilities Revenue Bonds** Could be used to bypass existing voter approval requirements in order to construct competing power systems



NO on PROP C / Tax Increase for Childcare

Largest tax increase in city history, a 3.5% surcharge on the city's commercial rent tax significantly raising office rents for businesses of all sizes



**10** MAY 2018

**NO on PROP F / Legal Representation for Evicted Tenants** Creates a program that would be best addressed legislatively rather than by the ballot

Paid for by San Francisco Forward, sponsored by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Financial disclosures are available at sfethics.org.

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AlertSF is a service managed by the City and County of San Francisco Department of Emergency Management.

# From the District 3 Supervisor A once-in-a-lifetime election: June 5 special

BY AARON PESKIN

Some BRIEF THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS election, for those tired of the status quo at City Hall and who believe San Francisco is still a city worth fighting for. One thing we can all agree on: This will be a historic election, no matter what.

#### THE MAYOR'S RACE

I served on the Board of Supervisors with Mark Leno and have always been impressed with his diplomacy, experience, and knowledge of the issues. In 2016, when Governor Brown tried to ram through the horrible one-size-fitsall "Development By Right" bill, Mark calmly helped us to negotiate a process to vet and ultimately defeat the bill. As a fiscal conservative, I also welcome Mark's budget prowess in reigning in our \$10 billion spending budget. Finally, Mark is a dear friend I have always admired for his integrity and decency. Mark would not only be our first openly gay mayor, but he would be the first independent voice we've had in Room 200 in a quarter of a century.

I have truly enjoyed working with Jane Kim since being back on the board. She is an intelligent and analytical legislator, who has made a name for herself as the board's de-facto affordable housing negotiator and "big idea" pusher. We have tag-teamed on a number of progressive issues, including 2016's Inclusionary Affordable Housing for All legislation, as well as legislation to stop fraudulent owner move-in evictions and reform campaign finance laws. Jane shares many of my general policy positions, including voting against regressive taxation and for corporate accountability. She would not only be the first Asian-American woman to be elected mayor, but she would be a pragmatic progressive voice in Room 200.

I have dual-endorsed them but encourage you to rank these two fine individuals as your heart compels you.

#### PROPOSITIONS A & B: COMMON SENSE CHARTER AMENDMENTS

I have two charter amendments on the ballot I hope you will support. I introduced Proposition A (the "Clean and Affordable Energy" measure) with fellow environmentalist Supervisor Katy Tang. It would expand the S.F. Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) existing bonding authority to raise money for clean energy infrastructure, like they already do for water and sewer projects. SFPUC has an excellent track record on both safety and project delivery, and this measure will not impact taxpayers. I introduced Proposition B (the "Commissioners Without Conflicts" good-government measure) to create a bright line between our electoral and local governance processes. This charter amendment would require candidates for local elected office to step down from boards and commissions established by the city charter and to which members are appointed versus elected. Public servants appointed to these high-profile bodies should not be in a position to compromise their public duty by raising money or attempting to earn endorsements from the individuals and entities that appear before them for major approvals and contracts. That's why it's been the unspoken rule for decades for appointed public servants to relinquish their positions of power when they decide to run for office — let's codify that rule.

#### PROPOSITION C: CHILDCARE VS. PROPOSITION D: HOUSING, HOMELESS

My office co-chaired the Transportation Task Force 2045 with the mayor's office for six months last year, which culminated in my December introduction of a thoroughly vetted proposal for a commercial rent tax that would generate \$100 million annually for transportation operations and infrastructure.

Subsequently, I had two groups of colleagues who decided to use the same revenue source for their own expenditure ideas. In the interest of letting this policy debate play out and not having a passel of competing measures on the ballot, I withdrew my measure. Two competing tax measures remain.

Proposition C's commercial tax raises \$140 million annually for quality affordable childcare for all families in San Francisco, with a little extra money intended to fund a minimum compensation wage increase for nonprofit workers. Proposition C was put onto the ballot via a voter signature drive led by early childcare advocates.

Proposition D's commercial tax raises \$64 million annually, with some funds going to the Department of Homelessness and some going to the Mayor's Office of Housing. Proposition D was put directly onto the ballot with no community or legislative process via four supervisors.

As a general rule, I believe if you're going to levy a special tax to address two fairly intractable policy issues, you should go through a real vetting process. "Inclusionary Affordable Housing For All" measure in 2016 was informed by months of input from city and community experts, ultimately enabling us to pass the highest affordable housing requirements in the country. Unfortunately, Proposition D skipped this critical collaborative step. I'm also frankly disturbed that Proposition D employs a "poison pill" to try to kill off Proposition C's childcare.

Ultimately, San Francisco still needs to figure out how we're going to pay for the transportation infrastructure we so desperately need, and I reserve the right to try my commercial tax again in November should both Proposition C and Proposition D fail. That said, as the son of a social worker, I'm more inclined to support Proposition C's big idea to provide affordable childcare to low- and middle-income families and pay our childcare workers a living wage, but vote as you will.



# PROPOSITION H: POA ABUSE OF POWER

The Police Officers Association put Proposition H on the ballot to make a scene and provide a distraction from their horrible behavior over the last two years of federal investigations, racist scandals, and top brass turnover. The Police Commission voted to arm the SFPD with tasers last year, with the caveat that the commission would craft a taser oversight and use policy using Justice Department reforms. Proposition H strips the ability of the community, Police Commission, and chief of police to set common-sense taser policy and is an abuse of power, which is why several supervisors and the chief of police have opposed it.

#### Ernie Remembered continued from cover

lunch. He liked to talk to his old pal, Stanton Delaplane, at Delaplane's table right by a front window. Delaplane and Beyl loved North Beach, especially at lunch, when the days were full of sunshine, a line from Delaplane's last column. Ernie liked to quote that line. It was his idea of North Beach.

He made his home there; and wrote about it in his first book, Sketches from a North Beach Jour-

nal. Marina Times readers will remember those tales; he often tried out his book ideas in the paper.

But while North Beach was his last stop, the world was Ernie's oyster. In his

last years, he was a walker, but earlier he was a world traveler.

His Royal Road is sort of a memoir. Though Ernie was a San Francisco guy, he was born in Fresno and grew up in Oakland. Right out of high school he joined the Marines. It was just after the end of World War II and he wanted to see the world. The first stop after boot camp was a troop ship that took him across the Pacific to Shanghai. You can only imagine what that amazing, exotic, dirty, exciting city looked like to a 19-year-old Marine from the Bay Area.

Later, of course, Ernie went to Stanford, worked for the San Francisco Chronicle – a job he loved — for Colliers magaizne, and then as a press agent. Those were the days of the Brown Derby in Hollywood and movie stars like Eddie Fisher and Danny Kaye. Ernie also hooked on as a public relations consultant for Cathay Pacific Airways, as a press officer on ship, a P.R. man in Sun Valley, and a dozen other

> adventures. To other people this sounded like work. Not to Ernie.

On one job, he flew to Fiji to meet a ship, but first he met a man he described as "a portly Brit who looked

like actor Sidney Greenstreet who wore a stained and rumpled white linen suit." The man "took me to his club, a one-story tin-roofed shed. We sat on the verandah and sipped pink gin. At four o'clock the rains came as they always do in the tropics."

He made you see that rainy afternoon in Fiji. He made you want to be there with him.

That was Ernie. Every trip was an adventure, every encounter a story. Best of all, was he would

# Trout Fishing in North Beach

by ERNEST BEYL introduction by LYNETTE M

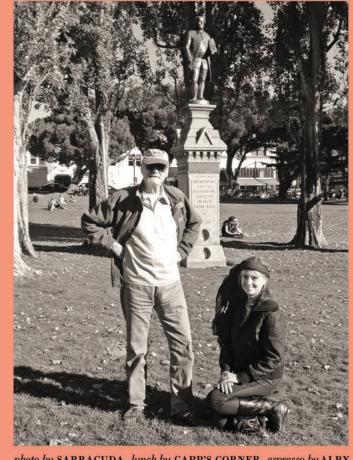


photo by SARRACUDA lunch by CAPP'S CORNER espresso by ALBY

Ernie Beyl and Lynette Majer posing as Richard Brautigan and Michaela Le Grand, whom he referred to as his muse, in a mock-Up of Brautigan's Trout Fishing in America. PHOTO: SARA BROWNELL

tell you these tall tales over lunch, or over a drink at a bar. He was a great one for talking. And for listening. He'd tell you | rare quality.

a story, and then listen to your own tale. When he walked in, people were glad to see him. A

Ernie loved bars and he loved food. Marina Times readers will remember his reviews. He was honest; he didn't like everything. But he gave out awards he called "Ernesto's." He like the old staple North Beach classics for sure, tried-and-true places. But he also liked newer places, particularly Betty Lou's Seafood, which he said was a new classic.

He was open to change and new ideas. For a while he was critical of Supervisor Aaron Peskin, and had some harsh words to say. But he changed his mind; they became pals, and Peskin wrote a blurb for Ernie's new book. On his birthday, Peskin invited Ernie and his wife, Joan, to city hall, where he was presented with a certificate of honor from the supervisors. It meant the world to Ernie.

When the word of his death circulated in North Beach, we couldn't believe it. There must be some mistake. Not Ernie, not now. But Rick Carroll, another old friend from Hawaii, The Chronicle and Zamboanga, wrote some advance praise for the dust jacket of The Royal Road: "No one tells 'get lost' tales better than life long nomad Ernie Beyl. Read his book. Follow his trail. Go now, before it's gone."

And now it is gone. But I hope you will remember Ernie Beyl. I know I will.

*E-mail: cnolte@sfchronicle.com* 

# JUST TOOK YOURSELF OFF-MARKET IN THE MARINA CHECKLIST



Finally bought a ring, after months of being tagged in IG ring photos.

Popped the question on a hike in Tennessee Valley.

Married on a vineyard in Napa, on top of a ridge, at sunset.

Best man only humiliated himself at the after party at Jaxson (where we met).

That was Ernie. Every trip was an adventure, and every encounter a story.

A place to call "ours" and so we can finally get a doodle.



Let me help you complete your checklist because I get the 94123. I live, work and play here...®

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# FOOD & WINE

# Spring at the Cliff House

Warm & Cozy Inside – Amazing Views Outside

Join us for these Cliff House Weekly Favorites

- Wine Lovers' Tuesday Half Priced Bottled Wines\*
- Bistro Wednesday Nights \$35 Three-Course Prix Fixe
- Friday Night Jazz in the Balcony Lounge
- Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet in the Terrace Room



Valet parking every night after 5:00 pm. Promotions are not valid on holidays, some restrictions apply.\*

# The Brazen Head





# The Tablehopper Brand-new Two chic new restaurant

#### **BY MARCIA GAGLIARDI**

openings

#### SORREL

Just opened in Laurel Heights (3228 Sacramento Street), and what a beaut Sorrel is. Anyone mourning the loss/move of Nico from Sacramento Street to North Beach will be happy to see such a stylish and considered (and utterly San Franciscan) restaurant taking its place. Co-founder and chef Alex Hong and co-founder and director of operations Colby Heiman have done a bang-up job of designing the restaurant themselves, and it's a perfect fit for the charming neighborhood.

Sorrel started as a popup and now chef Hong (Jean Georges, Quince) gets to craft an entire dining experience in a dedicated space. You'll note some Italian influences in his elegant Northern Californian/New American dishes, which all reflect the height of seasonality and quality local ingredients (including those from their roof garden).

Starters on the à la carte menu include oysters (\$4.50 each), with sorrel, oro blanco grapefruit, and Asian pear, and warm sourdough focaccia (\$6), which comes with the option of a green garlic bagna cauda dipping sauce or cultured butter (each \$3). Vegetables and light fish dishes round out the starters, plus a spring lamb tartare (\$16). Everything comes on ceramics from Mary Mar Keenan, and the focaccia's clay pot dish was custom made.

Pasta lovers will be thrilled with the entire column of house-made pastas, from tortellini in brodo (stuffed with smoked duck) to the cappellacci in whey, with English peas, mint, green garlic, and sheep's milk ricotta (both \$17). Mains include striped bass (\$34) with wild ramps, roasted artichokes, cauliflower, and the perfume of saffron and a dry-aged duck for two (\$85), brightened with accents of fennel pollen and kumquat. Desserts continue to hit the seasonal notes, like a bright strawberry number with elderflower, black pepper, and white chocolate. You're in great hands with wine pairings from beverage director Sam-Sake, Les Clos). uel Bogue (wine director for the Ne Timeas Restaurant Group), from crowd-pleasers to some



The light-filled and natural-chic dining room at Sorrel. PHOTO: ©TABLEHOPPER.COM

more esoteric selections. You'll also find some low-ABV/aperitif-style cocktails — perfect to enjoy at the bar along with some bites.

The space is welcoming and chic, from the eightseat marble bar with ribbons of green, to the bluegray palette and skylights. Down the center of the room are two walnut slab tables (by Ben O'Hearn at Modern Millwork), with large suspended planter boxes and teardrop globe lights hand-blown by Guido Gerlitz at Effetto Glassworks. Small tables run along the blue-gray banquette (there are 50 seats in all). I loved the stylish, comfortable chairs, and the table setting is ele-

gant and well chosen. There is an exposed kitchen in the back, and the private dining room has space for 16, with bold artwork, more globe lights, and a record player, so make yourself at home. The music is a bit upbeat, and the service style is professional but relaxed you're supposed to enjoy yourself. And you will. Dinner Tuesday–Saturday 5–10 p.m.

#### AVERY

Another brand-new

7-9 courses with optional supplements; Shades of Spring (\$189), a seasonally changing 10- to 15-course menu (the name will also change with the seasons); and Avery's Room (\$289), in Avery's private dining room (with room for six to eight guests), and showcasing a special menu from the kitchen. The modern American cuisine will feature top seasonal ingredients, with East Asian influences.

The artistic names are in reference to artist and modern American painter Milton Avery's oeuvre and as you are now figuring out, the restaurant was named after him as well.

Mixed beverage pairings, with a special focus on Champagnes, beers, and sakes (including sake-only menu pairings), featuring a range of artisanal sakes. The list will have an emphasis on junmai, nama (unpasteurized), and aged options.

The space was designed in collaboration with Noz Nozawa of Noz Design. It will now feature some deeper colors inspired by the Earth and sea (like charcoal, hunter green, and deep teal), plus materials like dense felts, mohair accents, and brushed brass, along with Italian-designed white Calligaris chairs. There are also custom Venetian plaster wall treatments from local artist Victor Reyes. Some elements will change in the room based on the season; for example, winter will bring tablecloths, while the summer may feature exposed wooden tabletops. Dinner Wednesday-Sunday 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Named one of "The 38 Essential San Francisco Restaurants, Spring 2017" - Eater San Francisco



Bar opens at 4pm | Dinner nightly 5pm-1am 3166 Buchanan Street at Greenwich (415) 921-7600

## www.brazenheadsf.com

opening is Avery (1552 Fillmore Street, 415-817-1187), marking the transition from Rodney Wages's RTB, in the former Mosu space on Fillmore for the past year. This new incarnation has Wages continuing to partner with Matthew Mako (G.M.) - they were both previously at Atelier Crenn and Saison and are no strangers to luxury ingredients and Zalto glassware. New team members include chef de cuisine Kristina Compton (Plum, Atelier Crenn) and sommelier Daniel Bromberg (True Sake, Dassai

The nightly tasting menu options include the Cello Player (\$89), for more culinary finds!

Marcia Gagliardi writes a popular insider weekly e-column, Tablehopper, about the S.F. dining and imbibing scene; get all the latest news at tablehopper. com. Follow @tablehopper on Twitter and Instagram

# **Tea Squirrel** Delicious pairings **Tea and chocolate: Something new on the palate**

#### BY ANNA MARIANI

The A IS AN INCREDIBLY VERSATILE beverage. Have you ever tried sipping tea while savoring high-quality chocolate? If the answer is no, you're missing out on a unique sensory experience. Tasting tea and chocolate together can help amp up both of their delightful nuances. And because we all secretly need an excuse to eat more chocolate, this looks like a perfectly acceptable one, and it's virtually guilt-free, because, after all, it's also a tea tasting.

Here are some introductory tips and tricks. Give them a try, and once you feel confident enough, experiment with your own combinations. First, match intensity of flavor - a bold chocolate with an equally robust tea and vice versa. Then, identify aroma and flavor notes by smelling and tasting tea and chocolate separately. Those aroma and flavor notes can successfully enhance each other by similarity or by contrast, but they shouldn't clash or be overpowering. Ideally, in a successful pairing, the combined flavors keep developing into a harmonious result that will have you go back for more.

Tea is brewed hot, which will help the chocolate melt faster in your mouth and release its aromatic compounds. Try taking a sip of tea right before eating a small piece of chocolate and follow with another sip of tea. There are two ways

of brewing hot tea, Eastern style (a large amount of loose-leaf tea is steeped in a small amount of water and the same leaves yield multiple short steeps) and Western style (a small amount of looseleaf tea is steeped in a large amount of water for one single, long steep). Depending on the type of tea, brewing will require a different style and a different water temperature. Ask your tea purveyors for their recommended brewing method and temperature.

#### CHARLES CHOCOLATES SALTY-SWEET HAZELNUT

This rich, bittersweet chocolate bar with whole hazelnuts and fleur de sel goes well with Song Tea Nantou Dark, a Taiwanese green oolong roasted multiple times to deepen its aroma and flavor palette. It is roasty and slightly smoky on the nose, and has comforting, sweet notes of caramel and buttered toast, which pair beautifully with the chocolate's roasty, nutty and caramel notes. For a different yet equally delicious result, try Silk Road Teas Golden Monkey (Jin Hou) from Fujian Province, China. This black tea has golden buds and intense notes of chocolate and apricots, almost reminiscent of an Austrian Sacher torte. It really plays up the chocolate salty, sweet and nutty flavors, while the pairing enhances its natural sweetness and fruity notes.

#### DANDELION CHOCOLATE KOKOA KAMILI

Dark chocolate lovers, this one is for you. This single-origin (Tanzania) chocolate bar will surprise you with berry notes and a rich finish. Try it with Blue Willow Tea Heaven Needle (Smoked Tian Jian, also known as "Heavenly Tips"). It is a variation of a type of dark tea from Hunan Province, China. Its tender tips are gently smoked over pine wood and then lightly fermented, for an unusual flavor profile that is sweet, with maple syrup and roasted chestnut notes and a hint of smoke. Surprisingly, it mellows out the chocolate tartness, while making it extremely velvety. Bonus point: delicious notes of sweet almond paste linger in the aftertaste. For a more adventurous option, try Tap Twice Tea Sun Moon Lake -raspberries, wildflower honey and mead on the nose, mead and berry preserve on the palate with a hint of menthol in the aftertaste. The berry notes in both the chocolate and the tea enhance each other for a bright, tart finish.

#### MAST MILK CHOCOLATE

Decadent but not overly so, this velvety milk chocolate is made with buttermilk and flavored with vanilla. Pair it with **The Phoenix Collection Yao Qing Hua Xiang**, a black tea that is unlike anything you've had before. It's reminiscent of red berries, cacao, and coconut, and it definitely displays some gardenia and orchid notes, which the chocolate pleasantly amplifies for a luscious mouthfeel.

#### **COMPARTES MATCHA**

Compartes chocolate confections are well known for their unique flavor combinations, including avocado. Pairing this matcha-flavored white chocolate bar with a bowl of frothy **matcha Japanese green tea** is a no-brainer, and it works. Use the traditional bamboo whisk or a milk frother to prepare the tea and make sure your water is not too hot (170– 176 degrees Fahrenheit is ideal). Expect a sweet and buttery chocolate with a grassy, vegetal aftertaste. This pairing elegantly balances the chocolate sweetness, while delivering an extra smooth mouthfeel.

Whether for a dinner party or an indulgent pick-me-up, pairing tea with chocolate can be as fancy or as unpretentious as you like. Regardless of the occasion, it is definitely worth experimenting with.

Note: All the chocolate confections mentioned above can be found at The Epicurean Trader (1909 Union Street).

Anna Mariani is dedicated to transforming tea into a captivating experience for individuals keen on exploring exciting culinary and social settings from around the world. Visit her blog The Tea Squirrel (teasquirrel.com).





The jarring tension

and contrast taps into

the unease still felt in

postwar Europe.

Left to right: René Magritte Seasickness, 1948; Forethought, 1943 IMAGES: @CHARLY HERSCOVICI, BRUSSELS / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY, NY; COURTESY SFMOMA

#### Art World

#### continued from cover

work, appeared shocking with references to 19th-century masters such as Pierre-Auguste Renoir verses the popular harder-edged surrealism of painters like Giorgio de Chirico. The "vache" paintings were a shorter-lived series during which Magritte explored colors and aesthetics that bore an affinity to Fauvism and Expressionism.

The exhibition is sorted room-byroom by theme. The Human Condition, paintings conspicuously about paintings, presents five artworks that exemplify Magritte's approach to painting as problem solving. In paintings like Where Euclid Walked (1955), Magritte paints scenes where the background merges with the foreground to create astonishing illusions that question our understanding of inside and outside, real and unreal, the natural and artificial. In the 1950's, Magritte's Hypertrophy series played with the exaggerated scale of everyday items.

Personal Values (1952), a bedroom with cloud-covered walls depicts bedroom furniture that appears diminutive compared to a giant comb and shaving brush eclipsing the rest of the room. The perplexing,

even jarring tension and contrast, taps into feelings of unease and alienation still felt in postwar Europe.

Some of Magritte's best-known later works are the Bowler-Hatted Men, variations on a recurring motif he painted

from 1926 to 1966. The exhibition has numerous examples, including The Son of Man (1964), where a green apple impossibly levitates over a man's face,

and The Happy Donor (1966), a ghostly outline of a night scene in the shape of a man who stands in front of a wall and flattened background.

Another unique attraction in this exhibition is four of the eight rarely seen

canvases from The Enchanted Domain (1953), Magritte's epic 360-degree panorama and his largest work. This mural measures 236 feet in circumference and was commissioned for a circular room in the Grand Casino in Knokke, Belgium. SFMOMA's presentation marks the first time in 40 years this many painting panels that comprise The Enchanted Domain have been seen together in a museum.

The final gallery explores themes of gravity and light in paintings that render gigantic floating boulders and flying birds framing the sky. As an examination of our basic assumptions of perception and existence, René Magritte: The Fifth Season marks the 50th anniversary of Magritte's death and will be shown exclusively at SFMOMA.

René Magritte: The Fifth Season: Fri.-Tue. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. & Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., May 19-Oct. 28, \$33, SFMOMA, 151 Third St., 415-357-4000, sfmoma.org

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

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

# The Marina Books Inc. best-seller list

COMPILED BY BRIAN PETTUS

1. A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, and Leadership, by

**NEW RELEASES IN MAY** 

How to Change Your Mind, by Michael Pollan (May 11) When Michael Pollan set out to research how LSD and psilocybin (the active ingredient in magic mushrooms) are being used to provide relief to people suffering from difficult-to-treat conditions such as depression, addiction and anxiety, he did not intend to write what is undoubtedly his most personal book. But upon discovering how these remarkable substances are improving the lives not only of the mentally ill but also of healthy people coming to grips with everyday life challenges, he decided to explore the landscape of the mind in

the first person as well as the

third. Thus began a singular

adventure into the experience

of various altered states of con-

sciousness, along with a dive

deep into both the latest brain

science and the thriving underground community of psychedelic therapists. Pollan sifts the historical record to separate



- James Comey
- A Day in the Life of Marlon 2. Bundo, by Marlon Bundo with Jill Twiss
- 3. Female Persuasion: A Novel, by Meg Wolitzer
- 4. Little Fires Everywhere, by Celeste Ng
- 5. Fascism: A Warning, by Madeleine Albright
- 6. Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI, by David Grann
- 7. Soul of an Octopus: A **Surprising Exploration** into the Wonder of Consciousness, by Sy Montgomery
- 8. Lincoln in the Bardo: A Novel, by George Saunders
- **9. Pachinko**, by Min Jin Lee
- 10. Norse Mythology, by Neil Gaiman

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the truth about these mysterious drugs from the myths that have surrounded them since the 1960s, when a handful of psychedelic evangelists catalyzed a powerful backlash against what was then a promising field of research. A unique and elegant blend of science, memoir, travel writing, history, and medicine, How to Change Your Mind is a triumph of participatory journalism.

#### The Outsider, by Stephen King (May 22)

An 11-year-old boy's violated corpse is found in a town park. Eyewitnesses and fingerprints point unmistakably to one of Flint City's most popular citizens, Terry Maitland, Little League coach, English teacher, husband, and father of two girls. Detective Ralph Anderson, whose son Maitland once coached, orders a quick and very public arrest. Maitland has an alibi, but Anderson and the district attorney soon add DNA evidence to go with the fingerprints and witnesses. Their case seems ironclad. As the investigation expands and horrifying answers begin to emerge, King's propulsive story kicks into high gear, generating strong tension and almost unbearable suspense. Terry Maitland seems like a nice guy, but is he wearing another face? When the answer comes, it will shock you as only Stephen King can.

Brian Pettus is the manager of Books Inc. in the Marina (2251 Chestnut Street, 415-931-3633, *booksinc.net/sfmarina*).







# crab house & prime rib

# 1200 bridgeway sausalito 415.331.3226 salitoscrabhouse.com

## **Arts & Entertainment**



#### We have poor, mentally unstable, addicted human beings living on our streets, it costs our city hundreds of millions a year, and we are still failing to fix the problem. All of us have had enough.

Homelessness is the biggest concern in this upcoming Mayoral election, and it should be. The homeless crisis diverts money and resources away from their primary purposes, while shifting spending and staffing priorities from where they should be.

Police Officers spend their day acting as social workers, when they should be policing. Department of Public Works serves as a disposal company, when its employees should spend their days beautifying the City and maintaining it.

I fixed homelessness before and I will do it again as your next Mayor, because we need to end this crisis now. As Heather Knight's recent *SF Chronicle* article explained— My Ten-Year Plan moved 11,362 homeless adults into permanent supportive housing.

# San Francisco Chronicle

"...the city's "Ten Year Plan to Abolish Chronic Homelessness," an initiative begun by then-Mayor Gavin Newsom in 2004 and crafted by a council headed by Alioto.

"By 2014, the city had moved 11,362 homeless single adults into permanent supportive housing. Another 8,806 were given bus tickets home to receptive family members or friends through the city's Homeward Bound program.

(Hey, any real politician would have taken credit for those, too. Come on, Angela!)

"Obviously, all that effort was great, but it made little dent in the city's stubborn, increasingly in-your-face homeless population. Alioto says that's exactly why she wants voters to send her to Room 200 in June.

"She thinks the city's much-hyped Navigation Centers — more relaxed, service -rich homeless shelters — are OK, but the city needs to focus far more on permanent housing solutions so people don't wind up back on the streets.

"Or you might as well just throw the money away," Alioto said, adding she would focus her first 100 days as mayor on cleaning the streets and moving those in tents inside.

"It would be me actually doing the hard work, and it is hard work," she said. "Now that would make a good billboard."

—SF Chronicle, Heather Knight, March 19, 2018

Angela's experience, drive, and passion to improve the lives of all San Franciscans is unmatched in



# Michael Snyder on ... Pop Culture Saoirse Ronan, Billy Howle shine in 'On Chesil Beach' and 'The Seagull'; SNL's Hader stars in HBO's 'Barry'

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

AOIRSE RONAN'S ACADEMY AWARDnominated supporting performance as a precocious but troubled 13-yearold in *Atonement* — a 2007 British period drama — provided clear evidence the Bronx-born, Irish-raised actress has some significant acting skills. That's been borne out by her subsequent work as the lead in such movies as 2015's *Brooklyn* and especially 2017's *Lady Bird*, which brought her another Oscar nomination. Billy Howle doesn't have that sort of vaunted profile yet, but he more than holds his own opposite Ronan in two current movies.

Due to a quirk of scheduling, a new big-screen version of Anton Chekhov's renowned play The Seagull, featuring Ronan and Howle as would-be actress Nina and her suitor Konstantin, is being released in the United States this month, as is On Chesil Beach, starring Ronan and Howle as Florence and Edward, a young English couple facing unexpected problems on their honeymoon in 1962. Although both movies are deserving of attention, On Chesil Beach is the better showcase for this talented pair, insofar as one, the other, or both are on screen for virtually the entire running time. And they make the most of it.

#### 'ON CHESIL BEACH'

Set before the barrier-busting social upheaval of the late 1960s, On Chesil Beach is a tender drama directed by Dominic Cooke and based on the eponymous book by the movie's co-screenwriter, Ian McEwan. The plot finds Florence and Edward wrestling with roadblocks erected by the hoary British class system - specifically, her uptight, well-to-do parents objecting to her involvement with a boy from a working-class, somewhat Bohemian family, which happens to be suffused with love and support. Despite their attraction to one another, they are exceedingly different beyond their economic status: He's a smart, headstrong, and passionate graduate student in history, and she's an accomplished and refined violinist who fronts a rising string quartet.

Together, alone, and with others (including Emily Watson and Samuel West as Florence's curt mother and domineering father, and Adrian Scarborough and Anne-Marie Duff as Edward's patient dad and sweet but infirm mom), Ronan and Howle give layered performances that nail the various shades of youthful love. There's the initial thrill, the growing warmth, the doubt, the hope, and the joy, as well as the frustration, disbelief, anger, and sadness that can arise when romance doesn't turn out as perfect in real life as it does in a storybook. On Chesil Beach is a thoughtful look at how society and upbringing can affect intimacy. And it serves as an impressive showcase for its lead actors' fully realized portrayals and empathic interplay. On Chesil Beach opens in limited release on May 18.

at a retreat in the Russian countryside. A group of fine actors also get considerable screen time here — Annette Bening, Elisabeth Moss, Corey Stoll, Brian Dennehy, Mare Winningham, and Jon Tenney among them — and supply their share of memorable moments.

A variety of romantic misfires occur when Irina (Bening), an aging, self-centered actress, is accompanied by her new boyfriend Boris Trigorin (Stoll), a successful writer, on her usual summertime getaway to see her son Konstantin, an aspiring playwright, and her brother Sorin (Dennehy) at a rural estate. Local girl Nina, object of Konstantin's affections and eager for a career in the theater, becomes besotted with Trigorin, and a love quadrangle threatens to derail the getaway. Certain aspects of the play are tweaked a bit by director Michael Mayer and screenwriter Stephen Karam with added settings and location shooting, which open up the story and afford more sylvan cinematography, but it addresses the same relationships and issues as Chekhov's classic.

Ronan, in particular, brings depth to Nina's various peccadilloes and to the impact of her choices. But Howle does fine as the striving, emotionally fraught Konstantin. Ronan is already an ascending star, and Howle proves to be a match for her ... twice.

*The Seagull* opens in San Francisco on May 18.

#### **'BARRY**'

There have been many alumni of the sketch-comedy TV show *Saturday Night Live* since its mid-1970s debut on NBC, and quite a few of them have gone to continued and, in some cases, greater success on film and television: Bill Murray, John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Will Ferrell, Kristen Wiig, Mike Myers, and more. Now, we can add Bill Hader to the list. *Barry*, his new series on HBO, is an occasionally shocking and often hilarious revelation.

Hader's comedic talents were already evident on SNL, where he plied his scathingly good impressions (Vincent Price, Alan Alda, Al Pacino, and others) and recurring characters (Stefon the club kid, in particular). His subsequent dramatic work in The Skeleton Twins, opposite his ex-SNL comrade Wiig, was laudable. Barry allows Hader to exercise his funny side and his serious side in the title role a cold, calculating assassin who comes to yearn for something more: a career as an actor and a woman to love him. To achieve those ends, Barry will have to get out of a dirty business that, to reference The Godfather, keeps pulling him back in. Co-created by Hader and Alec Berg (Silicon Valley), Barry is the definition of edgy comedy. Its bursts of violence are light years from slapstick, yet organic to the series, as Barry's struggle to escape the life of a killer sets up the humor and occasional pathos Hader and his co-stars generate.

this race. She will rise above the petty, divisive politics in City Hall and find solutions to the issues that affect all of us.

www.aliotoformayor.com/

16 MAY 2018



Paid for by Angela Alioto for Mayor 2018 Financial disclosures available at sfethics.org

#### 'THE SEAGULL'

With less of a focus on them, Ronan and Howle still do fine work as Nina and Konstantin in *The Seagull*, a solid adaptation of Chekhov's prickly, darkly comic examination of love, ambition, and betrayal through the machinations of family, friends, lovers, rivals, and servants *Barry* continues its eight-episode run Sundays at 10:30 p.m. on HBO.

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

# Vote NO on E

## San Francisco has <u>REAL</u> problems.

If the Board of Supervisors would spend less time trying to give the appearance of progress and focus more time on actually governing, San Francisco could once again become a city that is welcoming to all—regardless of income, race, or origin.

## All tobacco products are already banned for anyone under 21.

California voters recently passed a 200% increase in the tax on tobacco. These taxes—which generate over \$1 billion per year—are supposed to be going to education, healthcare, and enforcement. Government leaders should give these new laws a chance to work and actually enforce the existing laws that are intended to keep tobacco products out of the hands of minors. Education and enforcement are the real solutions and California laws already provide tens-of-millions of dollars for both.

### This ban appears to be paternalism, or more, at its worst.

Who would think that San Francisco, of all places, would intentionally target and ban the tobacco products most preferred by communities of color, while the most popular tobacco products will remain legal in the City? That's what this ban does, it targets the choices of adult menthol and shisha tobacco consumers.

# The Marina says NO on Prop E! NoPropE.com



# CALENDAR =

# MAY EVENTS

# NOT TO MISS THIS MONTH

#### **MAJOR EVENTS**



#### 41st Annual S.F. Decorator Showcase

#### Tue.–Sun. through May 27 & Monday, May 28 465 Marina Blvd. (btw. Scott & Avila Sts.)

This year's home to be transformed by a team of designers is a 1930 Spanish Revival built by George McCrea. Proceeds benefit S.F. University High School's financial aid program. \$40, 415-447-5830, decoratorshowcase.org

# 105th Annual Bay to Breakers 12K & Expo

Expo: Fri.-Sat., May 18–19, Pier 35 Race: Sunday, May 20, 8 a.m. Starts: Main & Howard Streets

The city's best-known spectacle returns with world-class runners leading a pack of jogging centipedes, jiggling Elvises (and other body parts) over the treacherous Hayes Street hill to the finish at Ocean Beach. *Free (expo),* \$70–\$140 (race; discounts for children and groups), 415-864-3432, baytobreakers.com

#### S.F. International Arts Festival Thu.–Sun., May 24–27 Wed.–Sun., May 30–June 3 Fort Mason Center

This festival features 100 performances in theater, dance, music, and more from 40 ensembles. This year commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King and celebrates women's leadership. *Visit website for calendar and pricing*, 415-399-9554, sfiaf.org

#### 40th Annual Carnaval San Francisco

#### Festival: Sat.–Sun., May 26–27, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Harrison St. (btw. 16th & 24th Sts.) Parade: Sunday, May 27, 9:30 a.m. Starts: 24th & Bryant Sts.

Experience the best of Latin American and Caribbean cultures with food, music, dance, arts, crafts, and more. This year's theme is Roots of Carnaval/Raíces del Carnaval, paying homage to ancestors who helped created the Bay Area's multicultural community. *Free, 415-206-0577, carnavalsanfrancisco.com* 

# LAST CHANCE

Casanova: The Seduction of Europe Tue.–Sun. through May 28, 9:30 a.m.– 5:15 p.m.

Legion of Honor (100 34th Ave.)

This sumptuous exhibition explores 18th-century Europe through the eyes of one of its most colorful characters, Giacomo Casanova, and includes paintings, sculpture, works on paper, furnishings, porcelain, silver, and period costume. \$28, 415-760-3600, famsf.org

## JUST FOR MOM

#### Mother's Day 5K & Kids' Run Sunday, May 13 5K: 9–9:45 a.m. ½ mile kids' run: 9:45 a.m. Little Marina Green, Yacht Harbor Parking Lot Start Mother's Day with this flat-course run that circles the Marina Green and Crissy Field/ Golden Gate Promenade. Free-\$5, 415- 978-0837, dserunners.com

#### Mother's Day Macarons

Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-noon Sur la Table (2224 Union St.)

Treat Mom to macarons featuring strawberries and Champagne flavors. Learn all the steps, from mixing and baking to infusing cream with basil and preparing ganache and buttercream fillings. \$75, 800-243-0852, surlatable.com

# Mother's Day Champagne Brunch Cruise

Sunday, May 13, 11 a.m.

Hornblower Yacht & S.F. Belle (Pier 3) Give Mom a special day she won't forget with a brunch cruise around the bay. Buffet brunch includes free-flowing champagne, live jazz, and more. \$92 & \$127, 888-467-6256, hornblower.com

#### 77th Annual Mother's Day Rose Show Sunday, May 13, 12:30–4 p.m. County Fair Bldg., Golden Gate Park (1199 9th Ave.)

Bring your moms, cameras, questions, and love of beautiful flowers to see a variety of miniatures, grandiflora, floribunda, and hybrid tea roses. *Free*, 415-656-4356, sfrosesociety.org

### COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Cow Hollow Assoc. Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.

Starting Line Room, St. Francis Yacht Club Meeting includes board elections a District 2 supervisor candidates' forum, and an overview of major issues and developments in Cow Hollow. Complimentary appetizers, wine, beer, and soft drinks. \$35 (includes yearly membership), 415-749-1841, cowhollowassociation.org

#### Sunday Streets: Tenderloin Sunday, May 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Larkin, Ellis, & Jones Sts.; Turk & Fulton Sts; & Golden Gate Ave

#### Presidio Memorial Day Commemoration

Monday, May 28, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Officers' Club (50 Moraga Ave. & S.F. National Cemetery (1 Lincoln Blvd.)

Join veterans, families, and your community for a parade and program to honor those who died in service of the United States. Community picnic follows with food for purchase. Visit website for schedule. *Free*, 415-561-4323, presidio.gov/events/150th-anniversary-memorialday-commemoration

### **GALAS & BENEFITS**

#### **31st Annual Star Chefs** & Vintners Gala Sunday, May 20, 4–11 p.m.

Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center This epicurean extravaganza benefiting Meals

on Wheels features over 100 chefs, vintners, bartenders, and beverage purveyors; an hors d'oeuvre and wine reception; a sit-down, three-course dinner; a lavish dessert reception; and live and silent auctions. \$1,500/couple, 415-343-1283, mowsf.org

### **ARTS & CULTURE**



#### Cinco de Mayo Festival

#### Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Valencia St. (btw. 21st & 24th Sts.) The celebration will showcase the best of Mexican and Latin American cultures with a diverse array of Mexican and Latino foods, music, dance, and artistry for the entire family. *Free*, *415-206-7752*, *mncsf.org* PHOTO: MARK, FLICKR.COM/34186459@N00

#### Asian Heritage Street Celebration Sunday, May 6 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Civic Center

A showcase of all Asian and Pacific Islander cultures, this celebration is the largest gathering of Asians in the country and features music, arts, crafts, food, a kids' area, and more. Cultural attire welcomed. *Free, asianfairsf.com* 

### MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

#### SFAI Master of Fine Arts Exhibition Daily, May 10–17, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. SFAI Campus, Pier 2, Fort Mason Center

Over 60 graduating artists will activate San Francisco Art Institute's space with contemporary installations, painting, sound, video, sculpture, photography, printmaking, performance, and more. Free. sfai.edu

#### Walt Disney's Nine Old Men: Masters of Animation

Wed.-Mon., May 17-Jan. 9, 2019, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

#### Walt Disney Family Museum

This exhibition will feature a collection of artwork and family mementos from the nine animators that helped establish the legacy of Disney Studios. *\$25, 415-345-6800, wdfmuseum.org* 

### THEATER

#### The Color Purple Tue.–Sun., May 1–27

SHN Golden Gate Theatre (1 Taylor St.)

Don't miss this stunning re-imagining of an epic story about a young woman's journey to love and triumph in the American South, with a soul-raising score of jazz, gospel, ragtime and blues. \$55–\$246, 888-746-1799, shnsf.com

#### 42nd St. Moon: Me and My Girl Wed.–Sun., May 2–20

Gateway Theatre (215 Jackson St.)

This fish-out-of-water comedy is the story of a roustabout Cockney lad who learns he's actually an earl and must try to adjust to his new upperclass life. \$25–\$75, 415-255-8207, 42ndstmoon.org

# S.F. Playhouse: An Entomologist's Love Story

Tue.–Sun., May 8–June 23 450 Post St. (in the Kensington Park Hotel)

As entomologists Betty and Jeff research the mating rituals of bugs, they find their own complicated relationships increasingly under the microscope in this hilarious, edgy, and explicit look at love in our times. \$20-\$100, 415-677-9596, sfplayhouse.org

### DANCE

#### Axis Dance Company: The Radical Impact Tour

Fri.–Sun., May 4–6

**Z Space (450 Florida St.)** This contemporary dance company, which

develops choreography that integrates dancers with and without disabilities, performs a triple bill by choreographers Marc Brew and JooWan Kim, Amy Sewiert, and Nadia Adame. \$30, 800-838-3006, zspace.org

#### Ruth Aswana S.F. School for the Arts Annual Dance Concert Fri.–Sun., May 18–20

**Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center** The program, Turbulent, features original works by students and artists-in-residence. \$15–\$25, 415-695-5700, sfsota.org

## MUSIC: CLASSICAL

### Yula Wang

Sunday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. Davies Symphony Hall

The international superstar pianist performs a program of Chopin, Scriabin, Legeti, and Prokofiev. \$105–\$145, 415-864-4000, sfsymphony.org

# Chamber Music S.F.: Brandenburg Concertos

Sunday, May 13, 3 p.m.

Herbst Theatre (401 Van Ness Ave.) Few musical works are as beloved as Bach's six concertos, which became the benchmark of Baroque music and still have the power to move people almost three centuries later. \$30–\$48, 415-392-4400, chambermusicsf.org

#### 20th Annual Bay Area Dance Week Daily through May 6 Various S.F. venues

Discover over 400 free performances, classes, and workshops featuring over 700 groups, artists, and organizations celebrating over 100 dance styles, including Argentine tango, classical Indian, jazz, hip hop, ballet, traditional hula, and more. *Free*, 415-920-9181, bayareadance.org

#### Magic Theatre: The Gangster of Love Tue.–Sun. through May 6

#### Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center

**18** MAY 2018

Raquel "Rocky" Rivera and her eccentric family settle in the Haight during the 1970s, a dynamic period of conflict, social change, and artistic flourishing; this play features live music, poetry reading, and the music video as key narrative forms. \$20-\$65, 415-441-8822, magictheatre.org

#### ACT: Father Comes Home from the Wars Tue.–Sun. through May 20 405 Geary St.

Don't miss this explosively powerful and "extraordinary" (New York Times) new play inspired by Homer's Odyssey and set amid the American Civil War. \$15–\$110, 415-749-2228, act-sf.org

Come bike, ride, walk, skate, or skateboard on car-free streets designed to get you out, active, and exploring in the city's diverse neighborhoods. Visit website for map. Free, sundaystreetssf.com

#### 24th Annual Bike to Work Day Thursday, May 10 Citywide

May is National Bike Month, so leave your car at home and join thousands of others in this premier event. Stop by an Energizer Station, and enjoy free beverages/snacks and receive a free canvas tote bag and biking information. Visit website for locations and other events. Free, youcanbikethere.com, sfbike.org/bike-to-work-day/

#### Veterans Memorial Cruise Saturday, May 19, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien (Pier 45)

This annual tradition commemorates the gallantry of all veterans who have served in defense of America's freedom. Live entertainment, complimentary beverages and food. Free (World War II and Korean War veterans)–\$135 (special pricing for children and groups), 415-544-0100, ssjeremiahobrien.org



Colori tra Cielo e Terra: Colors Between Heaven and Earth — The 'Four Seasons' & Other Vivaldian Inspirations

Tue.–Sun., May 10–Sept. 2, noon–4 p.m. Opening reception: May 10, 5:30 p.m. Museo Italo Americano, Fort Mason Center The Museo Italo Americano is proud to present works by Piemontese artist Angela Sepe Novara inspired by Antonio Vivaldi's Four Seasons. Free, RSVP required for reception, 415-673- 2200, info@sfmuseo.org, sfmuseo.org IMAGE: CONCERTO IN MI MAGGIORE, DISSOLVENZE – ESTRO ARMONICO, ANGELA SEPE NOVARA, 2013

#### Debussy Centennial Festival Friday, May 18, 8 p.m. Old First Church (1751 Sacramento St.)

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the composer's death, enjoy a concert Debussy's Pour le piano, Images Books I & II, Suite bergamasque, Salut printemps, and more, performed by the Bay Area's most celebrated pianists, vocalists, and instrumentalists. *\$23, 415-474-1608, oldfirstconcerts.org* 

#### MUSIC: CONTEMPORARY

#### 5th Annual Acoustic-4-A-Cure Tuesday, May 15, 8 p.m. The Fillmore

Bay area music legends Sammy Hagar and Bob Weir will join forces for this benefit concert for the Pediatric Cancer Program at UCSF's Benioff Children's Hospital, which will be a birthday celebration for blues icon Taj Mahal with artists including Joe Satriani, Chad Smith, Michael Anthony, Kevin Cronin, Eddie Money, and Vic Johnson. \$150, 866-448-7849, ticketmaster.com

#### Petty Theft Friday, May 18, 9 p.m. Slim's (333 11th St.)

slimspresents.com

Fans of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers won't want to miss this popular Bay Area tribute band to one of the most endearing rock 'n' roll legends. \$19.50–\$44.45, 415-225-0333,



Tom Jones

Tuesday, May 29, 8 p.m. The Masonic The legendary pop singer has been performing for over 60 years and makes a stop in San Francisco on his current tour. \$85– \$333, 866-448-7849, ticketmaster.com

#### NIGHTLIFE

#### MUTEK.SF Experience

#### Sunday, May 6, 1 p.m.

The Midway (900 Marin St.)

This day-into-night extravaganza features two stages of music and interactive artworks. *\$20, themidwaysf.com* 

#### Earl Thomas

## Friday, May 11, 7:30 and 10 p.m. Biscuits & Blues

Earl Thomas sings "like a man who's seen everything, rasping out songs in a well-trained voice of grit and flint." Hear a 21st century bluesman. \$30, 415-292-2583, biscuitsandblues.com

#### Love, Lust & Laughter Thursday, May 31

Feinstein's at the Nikko (222 Mason St.) Top-drawer Bay Area performers Carol Peters

and Benn Bacot combine their talents, backed by their all-star band The Retrofits, to take you on a journey through love, lust, and laughter. \$25-\$45, 866-663-1063, feinsteinsatthenikko.com

### **FILMS & LECTURES**

#### CAAMFest 36 May 1–24

#### Various S.F. & Oakland venues

Now in its 36th year, CAAMFest features more than 120 works showcasing new Asian-American and Asian film, food, and music programs. \$12-\$14 (individual), \$75 (6-pack), \$450-\$500 all-access pass

#### Marcia Gay Harden, Academy Award-Winning Actress Monday, May 7, 12 p.m.

The Commonwealth Club (110 The Embarcadero) Ordinary was never in the cards for this awardwinning actress. Join Harden for a loving conversation about the intersection of art, remembrance, and the unique love that exists between mother and daughter. \$30–\$45, 415-597-6705, commonwealthclub.org

# POTABLES & EDIBLES

#### North Beach Spring Wine Walk

Friday, May 4, 4–8 p.m. Grant & Columbus Aves. & Vallejo & Green Sts. Stroll through the neighborhood sampling wine and visiting merchants (some may also provide snacks). Visit website for details. \$25 (advance)–\$30 (day of). 800-310-6563, resproductions.com

#### 2nd Annual Spring Wine Pour Friday, May 18 (4–8 p.m.

**Pier 39 (The Embarcadero at Beach St.)** Grab your friends for an evening of wine tastings, exclusive discounts, and entertainment. A portion of proceeds benefit Aquarium by the Bay. \$25 (advance) \$30 (day of); includes commemorative wine glass), 800-310-6563, sresproductions.com

#### Fish Faire

Saturday, May 19, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. The Cannery Courtyard (650 Beach St.) Purchase fresh fish from the wharf fishermen, get tips on fish preparation and recipes from local chefs. *Free, cannerycourtyard.com* 

#### All Day I Rosé

#### Saturday, May 19, 1–6 p.m. Great Meadow, Fort Mason

Savor rosé from around the world, enjoy tropical fare by Palm House, indulge in The Dorian's famous frosé, participate in lawn games, and dance to silent disco Pink and white clothing encouraged. \$20–\$50, eventbrite.com

### **SPORTS & HEALTH**

#### Know the 10 Signs: Early Detection Matters Friday, May 18, 1–2 p.m.

#### JCCSF (3200 California St.)

This workshop covers the 10 warning signs of Alzheimer's disease. Learn how to recognize the signs, the benefits of early detection, what is involved in getting a diagnosis, and the risks associated with Alzheimer's. *Free*, 415-292-1200, *jccsf.org* 

#### S.F. Giants vs. Colorado Rockies Sunday, May 20, 1:05 p.m. AT&T Park

Celebrate the Giants' 60th anniversary. The first 20,000 fans will receive an expandable logo backpack. *\$27–\$359, 415-972-2298, sfgiants.com* 

### FAMILY FUN

#### DancEsteem 21st Annual Performance Sat.–Sun., May 5–6

**Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center** "Dance of the World" celebrates the talents of sixth-grade students and older and showcases the dance styles of different countries, featuring a special guest dance group from Japan, the Sanae Hara Modern Dance Academy. \$10-\$15, 415-602-8557, mobudancestudio.com, fortmason.org

#### Peter Pan

Sat.–Sun., May 6–13 Young Performers Theatre, Fort Mason Center Enjoy the adventures of Peter Pan, Tinkerbell, and the Darling children on their adventures in

# Honor & Support



### WORLD WAR ONE

100th 1918-2018 Armistice Centennial Commemoration Committee alwmcsf@gmail.com



### USS SAN FRANCISCO CEREMONY

Sunday, May 27 11:30a.m. Lands End USS San Francisco Memorial Foundation awcurtis@comcast.net

### **MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY**

Monday, May 28 11a.m. **Presidio National Cemetery** presidio@presidiotrust.gov

### **KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL**

Monday, May 28 12:30p.m. Korean War Memorial Foundation info@kwmf.org • www.kwmf.org

# How would *you* balance the state budget?

**Assemblymember Phil Ting,** Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, invites you to an

# INTERACTIVE BUDGET TOWN HALL



#### SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

#### Chasing New Horizons: Inside the Epic First Mission to Pluto

#### Monday, May 14, 7:30 p.m. California Academy of Sciences

Mission leader Dr. Alan Stern and Dr. David Grinspoon share the ultimate insider's look at this amazing 2015 mission when the spacecraft New Horizons screamed past Pluto focusing its instruments on the planet's mysterious icy worlds, and then, just as quickly, continued on its journey into the beyond. \$15, 877-227-1831, calacademy.org

#### Mark Kurlansky and Anna Lappe: Plate to Planet

#### Wednesday, May 16, 6:30 p.m. The Commonwealth Club (110 The Embarcadero)

The authors are two of the country's most prolific and influential writing about feeding a crowded planet with a destabilized climate. They will share stories about the love of food, the fascinating people who produce it for us, and how climate change is impacting virtually every corner of the global food system. *\$20, 415-597-6705, commonwealthclub.org*  Neverland with the evil pirate Captain Hook. \$12, ypt.org, 415-346-5550

#### Music for Families: The Bold and the Brave Sunday, May 19, 2 p.m. Davies Symphony Hall This concert explores how these brave artists

and even invites the audience to help the orchestra create a brand-new musical spectacle together. Come early for lobby activities. Ages 5 & up. \$13.50-\$64, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.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. Participants will complete an interactive exercise created by **Next 10**, a local non-profit organization, to decide spending on schools, transportation, the environment and other services as well as revenue options to fund their priorities. This will show the challenges we face in Sacramento when juggling a range of priorities and deciding how to spend the funds available to us.

#### Saturday, May 12, 2018 10 - 11:30 a.m. Richmond Recreation Center 251 18th Ave., San Francisco

For more information or to RSVP, visit our website at **asmdc.org/ting** or call **(415) 557-2312.** 





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# The Healthful Life An unlikely friend Making peace with fat

Changing American minds about their diets

BY THALIA FARSHCHIAN

MERICANS HAVE SHUNNED FAT in their diet, blaming it as the culprit for our obesity and heart disease. Unfortunately, these epidemics are still poorly managed, and research shows that the linear thinking of "fat makes you fat" is incomplete. In fact, the average person is 20 pounds heavier today than he or she was in 1990. Rather than focusing on avoiding fat, we need to focus on minimizing unhealthful fat sources while maximizing the healthful sources.

#### FAT KEEPS YOU SATIATED

A diet with adequate amounts of fat leaves you satiated. For example, compare eating an eight-ounce serving of fatfree yogurt versus eight ounces of full-fat yogurt. I guarantee you will feel fuller after eating the full-fat yogurt and probably would not be able to finish the entire eight-ounce serving. Often in fat-free varieties, the fat is replaced with sugar and carbohydrates, which burn quicker and leave you feeling hungrier sooner.

This is important and bears repeating: *Fat is not the bad guy*. It's all about the kinds of fat we are consuming. Our modern diet is far too heavy in omega-6 fatty acids (commonly found in vegetable oils, commercial meat and processed foods), which leads to an imbalance that causes inflammation. Omega-3 fatty acids (found in fish) are the kinds of fats we need to consume for their anti-inflammatory effects.

# WHY WE NEED OMEGA-3 FATTY ACIDS

Current research shows that inflammation caused by omega-6 fatty acids is at the root of many of our modern-day health concerns including heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and obesity. Our diets have evolved to having a higher ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 fatty acids (approximately 15:1) whereas our diets once had a ratio of 1:1.

Our bodies are unable to make omega-3 fatty acids, so they must come from our diets. Due to increased food processing and moving farther away from natural agricultural practices, omega-3 food sources have become depleted. For example, omega-3s have been stripped from whole grains to extend shelf life, and livestock in the United States are mostly fed grains instead of omega-3 rich grass. Omega-3 fatty acids contain docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), which is anti-inflammatory, promotes brain health, and actually aids in maintaining lean body composition in both men and women. We are healthier when maintaining the 1:1 ratio of omega-3 fat to omega-6 fat, but recent evolutionary studies show that women may need fat more than men.



Fat has long been seen as an enemy of health and weight control, but food science increasingly understands its important role in our health. PHOTO: RAFAL STACHURA

more efficient and leaner. When we are depleted, we need more low-DHA fat cells to maintain the DHA that our bodies need.

#### HOW TO EAT MORE HEALTHFULLY

Here are some general guidelines for curtailing unhealthful omega 6 fats:

- Avoid anything out of a box
- Avoid anything white (white flour, white salt, sugar)
- Shop the perimeter of the grocery store (where all the fresh foods are)
- Fill most of your plate with vegetables

Add to these to your grocery list:

- Coconut oil for cooking
- Collard greens
- Flax seeds (grind before using)
- Grass-fed beefHalibut
- HallbutWalnuts
- wainuts
- Wild salmon
- SardinesAsparagus
- Avoid these on your grocery list:
- Cereal grains including whole
- wheat breadGrain-fed meats
- Margarine
- Mayonnaise (most use cottonseed oil)

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#### FAT FEEDS YOUR BRAIN

Women hold one-third of their body weight in their hips, which are essentially DHA piggy banks. During pregnancy, the fat cells break down to feed a growing fetus' brain (primarily made of fat). If you have ever followed a low-fat diet and felt brain fog, this is why. Our bodies need a certain amount of fat to build healthy cells and neurons, feed the brain, make hormones, and more. When we have adequate DHA, we are • Potato chips

- Prepared tomato sauces (many use cottonseed oil)
- Vegetable oils
- Canola oil
- Corn oil
- Cottonseed oil
- Grapeseed oil
- Safflower oil
- Soybean oil (in many fast foods and processed foods)

I hope you are now ready to consider giving fat another chance. As with everything, balance is essential.

Thalia Farshchian is a naturopathic doctor at Discover Health in San Francisco. Her background includes both conventional and alternative modalities, and her practice is primarily focused on weight management, hormone imbalances and gastrointestinal conditions. E-mail: Drthalia@discoverhealthmd.com

### FAMILY

# MomSense : Outdoor adventures

# Summer camp tips

**BY LIZ FARRELL** 

T MAY ONLY BE MAY, BUT IT already feels as if summer is L right around the corner. Planning summer camps for our kids can feel like a full-time job — navigating the best ones, finding ones our children would be interested in and then tackling the registration process. Part of the reason it can feel so overwhelming (besides the cost) is there are so many options. From outdoor adventure to coding and technology to every sport you can imagine, you are sure to find something for even your pickiest camper. Many camps begin registration in March but for those last-minute "bookers" like me, there are plenty of amazing options still available. If you haven't yet made your summer plans, here are three things to keep in mind:

#### COST

Decide on a summer camp budget and stick to it. I was blown away at some of the prices, and after a few weeks it can start to add up quickly. Make sure to talk to your child before booking a camp; there is nothing worse than trying to get your nonrefundable deposit back when your child doesn't like the camp. In addition, don't be afraid to ask for a sibling discount — the camp can always say no but you might find many camps are accommodating.

The cost of the camp is usually based on the camper-to-counselor ratio. The smaller the ratio, usually the more expensive it is. This doesn't always mean it is the best. Some of our best camp experiences have been through San Francisco's Recreation and Park Department and the YMCA. They are relatively inexpensive, and they have some great options for children of all school ages and interests.

#### CONVENIENCE

When deciding on camps, keep in mind the location and times, especially if you have more than one child or younger ones at home with a nap schedule. I also try to find camps they can attend together. This is easier with outdoor adventure or tech camps and harder for sports camps. Depending on your family situation, it may be best to find something relatively close to home, or if you work outside of the home, make sure the camp has an all-day program or extended care.

For younger children, don't overdo it. A half-day program is more than enough, and will still give them some time to rest in the afternoon. For young ones, it is all about keeping them in their comfort zone, so look for camps their preschool offers or where they take a class or lesson. Between the Presidio and the parks, there are many great options around us, so it shouldn't be too difficult to find something that works for the whole family.

#### COORDINATION

This is a big one for my children. One of their top priorities for attending a camp is that they are able to do it with a friend. Summer camps can be new and exciting, but they can also be a little scary for kids - new environment, new teachers, and new friends. Depending on your child, it might help to coordinate with a friend, so they at least know one person. Your kids want to continue to see their friends over summer, and what better way than to share a cool new experience together? It also can be a great help with carpooling.

Two great resources for finding summer camps and then sharing schedules with



Proper planning will help your children enjoy their summer camp experience. PHOTO: YOBRO10

friends are activityhero.com and mysummercamps.com. They are both free and provide easy ways to search camps by location, date, age, and interests. You can also share schedules with friends. Mysummercamps.com is particularly helpful for older children because you can search overnight camps, teen tours, and travel.

Overnight camps are not a topic we have broached as a family, but this might be the summer we explore that option. I am a firm believer in not pushing our children into this but waiting until they ask to do it and feel ready. The best part is most of these camps ask participants to leave their phones and devices at home, forcing them to actually interact with each other face to face.

All that said, I firmly believe the most valuable experience we can give our children over the summer is the gift of downtime. Plan time for day trips, playdates, and an occasional run through the sprinklers (or fog). Remember summer is supposed to be a break from the hustle and bustle of the school year and a time to enjoy a more relaxed schedule. This goes as much for our children as it does for us. So instead of spending your summer shuttling from one camp to another, take some time to enjoy those simple joys that make summer so special. Happy camping!

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

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### **REAL ESTATE**

# The Marina Times Real Estate Market Report: March 2018 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	2285 Greenwich Street 2829-31 Baker Street	3BD/2+BA 5BD/4+BA	\$2,150,000 \$6,850,000	Below Below	14 52
Lake	425 Lake Street	4BD/4BA	\$4,095,000	At	24
Laurel Heights (no sales)					
Lone Mountain	222 Ewing Terrace	4BD/3+BA	\$2,210,000	Above	0
Marina	115 Magnolia Street 130 Alhambra Street 120 Alhambra Street 2727 Bay Street	3BR/2BA 3BR/2BA 3BR/2BA 4BR/3BA	\$2,000,000 \$2,450,000 \$3,150,000 \$5,500,000	Above Above Above At	14 29 15 0
Nob Hill (no sales)					
North Beach	30 Winter Place	3BR/2+BA	\$2,450,000	Above	4
Pacific Heights	1809 Lyon Street 2506 Washington Street	3BR/3+BA 4BR/2+BA	\$4,010,000 \$4,300,000	Above Above	5 4
Presidio Heights	3962 Clay Street 3325 Jackson Street	5BR/5+BA 4BR/4+BA	\$4,990,000 \$5,493,000	At Above	44 11
Russian Hill	44 Montclair Terrace	3BD/3.5BA	\$3,480,000	Below	69
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill (no sales)					

#### CONDOS

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2701 Van Ness Avenue #403	Studio/1BA	\$630.000	At	7
	1501 Filbert Street #TH1A	3BD/3+BA	\$2,700,000	Above	49
Lake	185 16th Avenue	2BD/1BA	\$1,085,000	Above	8
	1807 Lake Street	3BD/1BA	\$1,555,000	Above	8
	155 24 <sup>th</sup> Avenue #5	3BD/2BA	\$2,100,000	Above	15
Laurel Heights	189 Commonwealth Ave. #6	3BD/1+BA	\$1,640,000	At	0
	189 Commonwealth Ave. #5	3BD/2+BA	\$1,760,000	Above	5
Lone Mountain (no sales)					
Marina	2101 Beach Street #304 1734 Bay Street #104 3315 Fillmore Street #401 3824 Scott Street #3 1251 Francisco Street 1257 Francisco Street 2249 Bay Street 1735 Lombard Street	Studio/1BA 1BR/1BA 1BR/1BA 1BR/1BA 2BR/1+BA 3BR/1+BA 2BR/2BA 3BR/3BA	\$645,000 \$950,000 \$1,100,000 \$1,250,000 \$1,417,000 \$1,520,000 \$2,221,250 \$2,314,423	Above Above Above Above Below At At	28 8 23 10 39 90 0 0
Nob Hill	1720 Clay Street #10	1BR/1BA	\$810,000	At	39
	1440 Broadway #101	1BR/1BA	\$820,000	At	10
	1333 Jones Street #1502	1BR/1BA	\$1,010,000	Below	59
	1250 Washington Street	3BR/2BA	\$1,425,000	Above	5
	1566 Jones Street	3BR/2BA	\$1,600,000	Below	5
	1244 Washington Street	2BR/2BA	\$1,730,000	Below	130
North Beach	520 Chestnut Street #304	1BR/1BA	\$965,520	Above	13
	2031-1/2 Powell Street	2BR/1BA	\$1,050,000	Above	17
	530 Chestnut Street #c209	2BR/2BA	\$1,200,000	Above	0
	411 Francisco Street #309	2BR/2BA	\$1,265,000	Above	7
Pacific Heights	2999 California Street #503 2040 Franklin Street #1206 1865 California Street #2 2945 Pacific Avenue #6 1840 Washington St. #603 2171 Sacramento Street #2 1800 Washington St. #511 1800 Washington St. #513 2835 Sacramento Street 1769 Broadway #8 2155 Buchanan Street #6 2833 Sacramento Street 1998 Broadway #1206 2046 Divisadero Street 2238 Divisadero Street 2409 Scott Street 2190 Broadway #9E 2062 Jackson Street	Studio/1BA Studio/1BA 1BR/1BA 1BR/1BA 2BR/1BA 2BR/2BA 2BR/2BA 2BR/2BA 2BR/2BA 2BR/1BA 3BR/2BA 2BR/2BA 3BR/2BA 3BR/2BA 3BR/2BA 3BR/2+BA 3BR/2+BA	\$649,500 \$650,000 \$855,000 \$1,100,000 \$1,221,000 \$1,240,000 \$1,320,000 \$1,380,000 \$1,380,000 \$1,480,000 \$1,480,000 \$1,925,000 \$2,131,000 \$3,100,000 \$4,400,000	Below Above Above Below At Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above Above	25 56 22 69 7 10 18 36 29 13 14 26 5 8 11 8 0 24
Presidio Heights	3720 Sacramento Street #	Studio/1BA	\$560,000	Above	45
	3876 Sacramento Street	2BR/1BA	\$1,105,000	Above	1
	3555 Jackson Street #3	3BR/2BA	\$2,200,000	Below	41
	3927 Clay Street	2BR/2BA	\$2,400,000	Above	38
	3354 Clay Street	3BR/2BA	\$2,600,000	Above	0
	3326 California Street	4BR/3BA	\$2,850,000	Above	2
Russian Hill	2 Fallon Place #5 1335 Filbert Street #303 1101 Green Street #303 1904 Leavenworth Street 2121 Taylor Street #4 999 Green Street #1403 899 North Point Street #8 1934 Leavenworth Street 1141 Chestnut Street 947 Green Street #2 1035 Vallejo Street	Studio/1BA 1Br/1BA 2BR/1BA 2BR/1+BA 2BR/2BA 1BR/1BA 2BR/2BA 2BR/2+BA 3BR/3BA 2BR/2+BA 3BR/2+BA	\$699,000 \$700,000 \$945,000 \$1,311,000 \$1,520,000 \$1,568,000 \$1,605,000 \$2,200,000 \$2,200,000 \$3,600,000	At Above Below Above Below Above Above Above Below Below	22 3 74 25 40 32 0 17 14 11 28 68
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill	439 Greenwich Street #17	Studio/1BA	\$720,000	Above	7
	25 Medau Place	1BR/1BA	\$738,000	Below	31
	401 Union Street #203	1BR/1BA	\$865,000	Above	12
	37 Midway Street #5	2BR/2+BA	\$1,720,000	Above	12
	1440 Montgomery St.#41	3BR/4BA	\$5,141,000	Above	13

# Real Estate Reporter Someone to watch over me

# A toast to agents?

**BY JOHN ZIPPERER** 

#### AWAY WITH THE AGENTS?

When I was a young editor working for a commercial real estate affiliate of the National Association of Realtors in the 1990s, I remember hearing that NAR bigwigs were expecting their organization's huge membership to drop considerably due to the advent of the Internet. At the time, NAR's membership was in the neighborhood of 750,000; its members — you know them as Realtors — didn't just show houses; they had access to a multiple listing service that let them know what houses were on the market. With the growth of the Internet, where anyone could find houses on their own without the need for an MLS or - horrors - Realtors, surely the days of the agent were numbered.

A funny thing happened on the way to realizing that future: It didn't happen. NAR's membership didn't shrink; it grew dramatically, reaching more than 1.3 million in 2006. Naturally, it declined with the real estate-driven Great Recession, reaching a low of

999,824 in 2012, but then it began climbing again and in 2017 it was once again more than 1.3 million.

Part of that initial growth in the late 1990s was due to the real estate bubble. But when

that bubble burst and millions of people suffered loss of their own homes or steeply declined home values, the membership of NAR was still quite a bit above what it was in the 1990s. I think the reason for that has to do with the fact that real estate agents do more than simply show you available houses. They guide you through the process, the negotiations, they hook you up with insurance, mortgages, appraisers, and more. And in the end, whether your agent brings a home to your attention or you find it online and bring it to his or her attention, that doesn't matter because that's not the value-add. Don't worry; this isn't an ad for Realtors or NAR. I haven't worked at NAR in two decades. But I am reminded of these numbers when I received a note from REX Real Estate, "the digital alternative to the residential real estate agent." REX is a brokerage that touts its ability to eliminate "use of the Multiple Listing



The Billy Goat Tavern connection to real estate explained at last. PHOTO: LEONARD J. DEFRANCISCI

Service." How very 2001. One advantage of REX that might capture buyer's attention is it charges only 2 percent as a fee, well below the traditional fee charged by traditional brokers. And when you're buying a \$1.3 million fixer-upper in Glen Park, those extra few percentage points can be quite a bit.

#### **FUN FACT**

The NAR building in Chicago is located at 430 North Michigan Avenue. That is the address of the psychiatric office of Bob Newhart in the original Bob Newhart Show in the 1970s; in the show's open-

### There were no fries, only chips. We left wondering how the place stayed in business.

ing credits, he is scene exiting the modern glass and steel building.

When I received a call from the human resources manager about my application to work there, she gave me directions to come in for an interview. She described the rather boring modern facade of the NAR building - situated across the street from the dramatic neo-Gothic Tribune Tower and right next to the terra-cotta-covered Wrigley Building — by saying "Yes, I know; we're the National Association of Realtors and we have the ugliest building on North Michigan Avenue."

Oregon. (Indiana is first, but then you'd have to live in Indiana.)

When it got down to the metro markets with the lowest levels of affordability, it's all California: In worst place was Los Angeles-Long Beach, followed by San Diego-Carlsbad, San Jose-Sunnyvale, Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, and then San Francisco-Oakland.

#### YOU'RE TOAST

Amy Graff, writing in SF Gate, notes: "The median sale price of a single-family home in [San Francisco] soared to \$1.6 million in the first quarter, nearly a

24 percent jump from a year ago, according to the latest report from Paragon Real Estate Group. That's a \$110,000 gain in the past three months running January through March. Those who can't

get their minds around (or hands on) \$1.6 million might like how real estate reporter Mike Rosenberg at the Seattle Times expressed the increase in home prices, saying they've gone up \$1,200 per day over the last quarter. 'That's a mere 135 avocado toasts a day, Rosenberg writes."

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 Jay Costello, President, Hill & Co. Real Estate, 1880 Lombard Street, 415.321.4274, jcostello@hill-co.com, www.hill-co.com.

#### AFFORDABILITY AND HOUSING SUPPLY

Speaking of NAR: The real estate association reports San Francisco is not alone in its housing dilemma. Housing affordability has declined in the past year across the country, and the three states ranking the lowest were Hawaii, California, and

#### **FINAL FUN FACT**

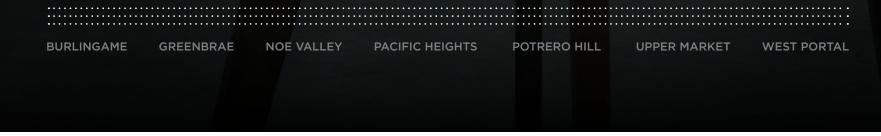
In the basement of the NAR building in Chicago is the Billy Goat Tavern, which was made famous by a Saturday Night Live skit ("No Pepsi - Coke!" and "No fries - CHEEPS!"). I visited it only once, when a college friend was in town. The food was . . . nothing to call home about. There were indeed no fries, only chips. We left wondering how the place stayed in business until we realized why as we passed a steady stream of tourists coming into the dive to experience the SNL skit in person.

*Real estate news tips? E-mail:* john@marinatimes.com

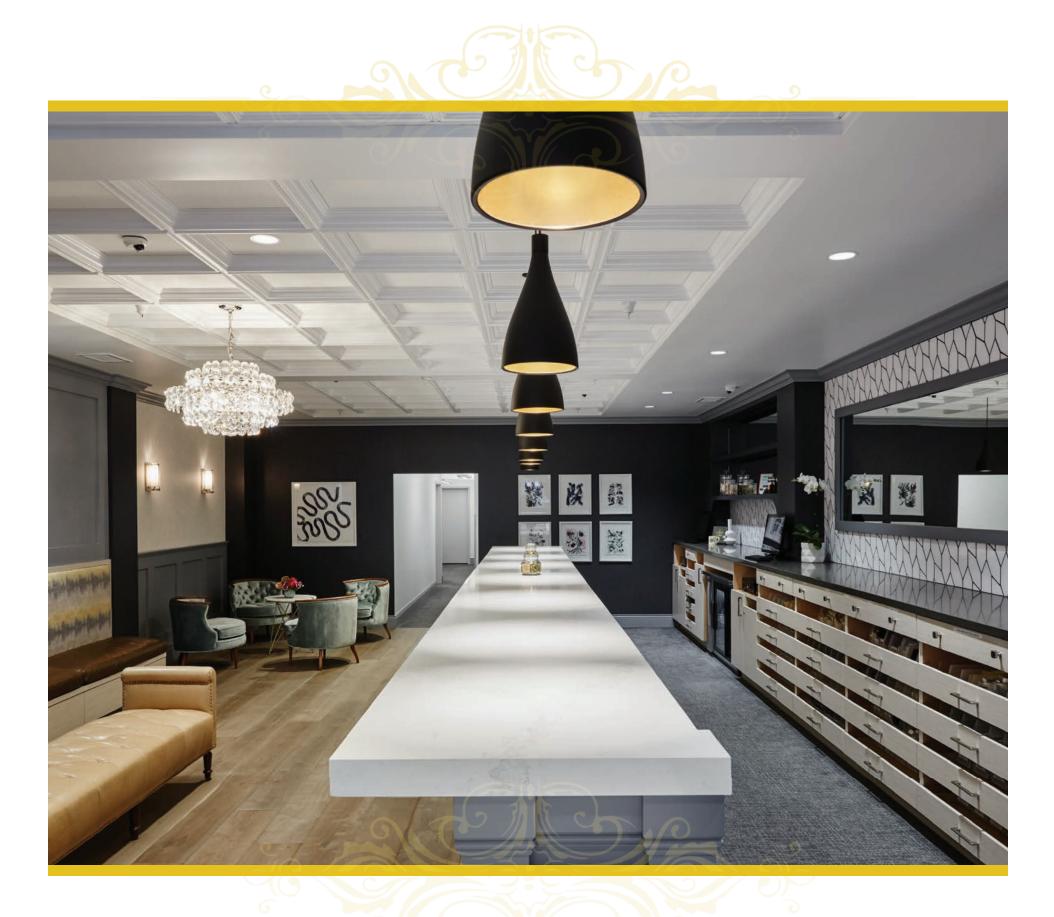


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