



December food special

The Tablehopper welcomes a bevy of new restaurants. p. 10

Susan Dyer Reynolds on pecan pie and bourbon. p. 12

Lynette Majer highlights the best port wines. p. 13



Holiday events

From the sublime (gospel concerts) to the ridiculous (a Santa skivvies run), we've got the must-have things to do this month. p. 16



PHOTO: KEITH SUTTER

Holiday events to bedazzle you

THE SMUIN CONTEMPORARY Ballet's signature *The Christmas Ballet*, now in its 24th year and originally created by founder Michael Smuin, is a Bay Area tradition, with new works added each holiday season. Presented in two acts and featuring not just ballet, but also tap, swing, and jazz, the iconic "Santa

Baby" (pictured) is an audience favorite.

For additional holiday entertainment, San Francisco never disappoints — from traditional tree lightings (Presidio, Golden Gate Park, and the Marina's first) to the Victorian building lighting on Union Street, the Bill Graham Menorah lighting in Union Square, and

parol lanterns in Yerba Buena Gardens. There are *Nutcracker* productions, classical and contemporary music choices, and even a new opera based on Frank Capra's classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and opportunities to help the less fortunate. Don't miss our holiday calendar on page 16 for more details.

— L. Majer

POLITICS AS USUAL

The wicked year

Did that really just happen? A look at 2018 in the rearview mirror

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

AS WE WIND DOWN ONE YEAR AND PREPARE for the next, it's worth a look at the incredibly strange year that we just experienced.

"Fake news" has been much in discussion of late, and media organizations across the country are coming up with new initiatives to help reporters and the public discern the level of truth in news reports. The *Marina Times* is doing its part, too, so in each section of this article, there is one item of fake news. We will reveal the fake bit at the end of each item, thereby rendering snopes.com useless.

First, to understand much about American politics this past year, it helps to look at the German empire — the second reich, to be exact. Historians refer to 1888 as the Year of the Three Kaisers, because Kaiser Wilhelm I died and was succeeded by Kaiser Frederick III, who passed away after only 99 days and was succeeded by Kaiser Wilhelm II, who reigned long enough to run his country into the ground and abdicate. Here in San Francisco, we experienced the Year of the Three Mayors, when acting mayor London Breed was replaced by Mark

POLITICS AS USUAL, continued on 4

MARINATION

A policy wonk's holiday wish list

Six wishes for a better San Francisco

BY KEVIN FRAZIER

AROUND THE WORLD, CHILDREN SPEND THE holidays hurriedly writing out all of their wishes for the year ahead. There are no limits on what can be wished for; from ponies to PlayStations, everything makes the list. Putting pen to paper or, more likely, finger to iPad, kids make their desires explicit in the hopes that someone, somewhere will grant their wildest dreams.

San Franciscans should do the same for their elected officials. A policy wish list can similarly crystalize the big-ticket items that would radically change quality of life in the area. So here's my list of policies that would transform our hometown and assuredly make some holiday dreams come true.

WISH 1: LESS TRAFFIC AND MORE REVENUE VIA CONGESTION PRICING

The average San Francisco commuter spent 79 hours stuck in congestion in 2017; that's more than three days in traffic and sufficient for the city to be among the top

MARINATION, continued on 8

FEELING GOOD



Try a relaxing day at the Healing Arts Center & Spa. PHOTO: KODIAK GREENWOOD

Don't worry, be pampered: Treat yourself to a spa day

BY JULIE MITCHELL

WITH THE FRENZY OF THE elections in November, the state's tragic wildfires, and the undeniable chaos that can hit during the holiday season, many

of us are yearning for a break. But, if you can't head for that tropical island or remote cabin, there is a way to escape without traveling. You can spend a day or even just an hour or two pampering yourself at a nearby day spa. Massages of every

kind, facials, manicures, and pedicures for men and women and more are at your fingertips (pun intended), along with skincare and wellness treatments. Even lounging in a spa's steamy sauna or whirlpool or sipping tea in blessed solitude might just melt your stress away. Below is just a sampling of local spas.

A SAN FRANCISCO CLASSIC

The **Nob Hill Spa** in the Huntington Hotel has a view of the city's skyline, 10 treatment rooms, a whirlpool and sauna, an indoor infinity pool, and a fireplace lounge. Its boutique offers skincare, clothing, and gift products; also available is a spa cuisine menu from the hotel's Big Four restaurant that includes breakfast, lunch, wine, and dessert menus. A special feature is the spa's bamboo massage therapy. In Asian culture, stalks of bamboo symbolize energy, youth, prosperity, fertility, and strength. During a bamboo massage, therapists use bamboo tools combined with therapeutic massage to increase relaxation and to target trigger points in the muscles much in the way that deep-tissue work or acupuncture does. The massage is \$160 for 50 minutes and \$210 for 80 minutes.

FEELING GOOD, continued on 19

TOP 10 STEAKS IN AMERICA

Osso Steakhouse - San Francisco, CA

Bobo's - San Francisco, CA

Peter Luger Steakhouse - Brooklyn, NY

Bern's Steakhouse - Tampa, FL

CUT - Beverly Hills, CA

Emeril's Delmonico - Las Vegas, NV

Mario Batali's Carnevino - Las Vegas, NV

Chicago Cut - Chicago, IL

The Precinct - Cincinnati, OH

Elway's Cherry Creek - Denver, CO

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

The Bone-In Filet Mignon is their signature steak and has a flavor that is nothing short of a revelation.

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December events

We've got an extensive roundup of holiday goings-on for you and your family and friends this month — everything from tree and menorah lightings to toy programs, a bit of *Kung Pao Kosher Comedy*, celebrating Kwanzaa, a Merri-achi Christmas, gospel concerts, a Christmas fair, a 5K Santa run, and more. 16

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NEWS BRIEFS : Year-end reports

Decking the halls

TREE LIGHTING FESTIVAL AT MARINA GREEN

No need to travel downtown to see a festive holiday tree lighting ceremony. The Marina Community Association is presenting its inaugural Marina Holiday Tree Lighting Festival, which looks like it will be a family-friendly event with lots of activities.

It will take place Friday, Dec. 14, 3–8 p.m., near the Harbor Master's Office (3950 Scott Street) on the Marina Green. Besides the tree lighting, it will feature live music, face painters, carolers, food trucks, demonstrations by the Fire Department, free yoga (courtesy of CorePower Yoga), and a Santa Claus. And when you just get too tired of all of the holiday hoopla, that's what the beer and wine lounge is for.

Attendance is free, though MCA is welcoming donations for its holiday tree lighting. You can RSVP at sfmca.org.

TENT REDUCTION

The mayor's office reported that there has been a 34 percent reduction in tents on San Francisco's streets since July. That amounts to 193 fewer tents. As part of its efforts to get people off the streets, San Francisco has added about 140 shelter beds in Navigation Centers, 20 family shelter beds, 40 medical respite and sobering beds, and 54 new psychiatric beds.

PLANNING NIXES HOUSING-LITE WHOLE FOODS

The former location of Lombardi's sporting goods at Polk and Jackson Streets looks like it might never get a Whole Foods 365 store after a vote by the Planning Commission in early November. In a 5–1 preliminary vote, the commission rejected Village Properties' plan to use the existing building for a grocery store and eight residential units (a mix of studios, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom units). The commissioners said the site needed more housing, even if it required tearing down and replacing the building with a larger project, something that would require a zoning change.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* quoted Planning Commissioner Milicent Johnson saying, "I



The Marina gets its own tree lighting festivities this month. PHOTO: STOCKSNAP

could not in good conscience let this be a super-market for the next 25 years in a time of a housing crisis."

"Over the past three years, more and more housing has been built in the immediate neighborhood," Russian Hill Neighbors President Carol Ann Rogers told the *San Francisco Business Times*. "It isn't responsible or thoughtful to continue to build housing when there is no infrastructure the people in that housing need. Grocery is a pretty basic, reasonable service to expect to have nearby."

The commission was not expected to change its mind in its final vote on Nov. 29.

PESKIN TARGETS UBER AND LYFT TAX

District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin will place a ballot measure before voters in November 2019 that would raise \$30 million a year from a new tax on transportation network companies such as Lyft and Uber. The money would fund transportation infrastructure projects and public transit initiatives, such as the Embarcadero Enhancement Project. In a recent report to constituents, Peskin said, "By working with the companies to develop a mutually agreeable revenue source, we hope to fund improvements to bike and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as Muni, to get people out of private cars and keep S.F. moving."

E/F LINE EXTENSION TO FORT MASON AND AQUATIC PARK

The Marina Community Association is hosting a discussion about a possible extension of the E and F line all the way to Fort Mason. The meeting takes place Dec. 4, 6:30–8 p.m., at the SFMOMA Artists Gallery (2 Marina Blvd.). Jim Challel, chair of the Fort Mason Cen-

ter Board of Trustees, and Rick Laubscher, president of Market Street Railway, will be the guest speakers. Space is very limited; RSVP at sfmca.org.

MATCHING GRANT FOR FRANCISCO PARK

As we reported last month, the Francisco Park Conservancy is seeking to raise an additional \$4.5 million by the end of this month to meet a \$6 million matching gift challenge from a local San Francisco family. If the challenge is met, construction can begin in 2019. For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit franciscopark.org.

SHAKE SHACK

On Thursday, Dec. 6, the Planning Department will hold a hearing on the Shake Shack proposal to fill the old Real Food spot at 3060 Fillmore Street.

FACTS AND FIGURES

More than 4,000: number of turkeys given away by Mayor London Breed and various city government departments as part of the 12th annual Mayor's Turkey Giveaway shortly before Thanksgiving . . . **17,000:** predicted number of SantaCon revelers in Union Square on Dec. 8, according to a permit request to San Francisco; the city said no . . . **22 percent:** amount of China's urban housing stock that is unoccupied, according to new research; that amounts to more than 50 million empty homes . . . **69 percent:** amount increase in San Francisco's senior population between 2010 and 2030 . . . **80 percent:** amount of San Francisco homes valued at more than \$1 million . . . **3.6 percent:** amount of homes nationwide that are worth more than \$1 million.

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Politics as Usual
continued from cover

Farrell in January, who served until Breed reclaimed the office in the June election. Still with us? Then let's continue.

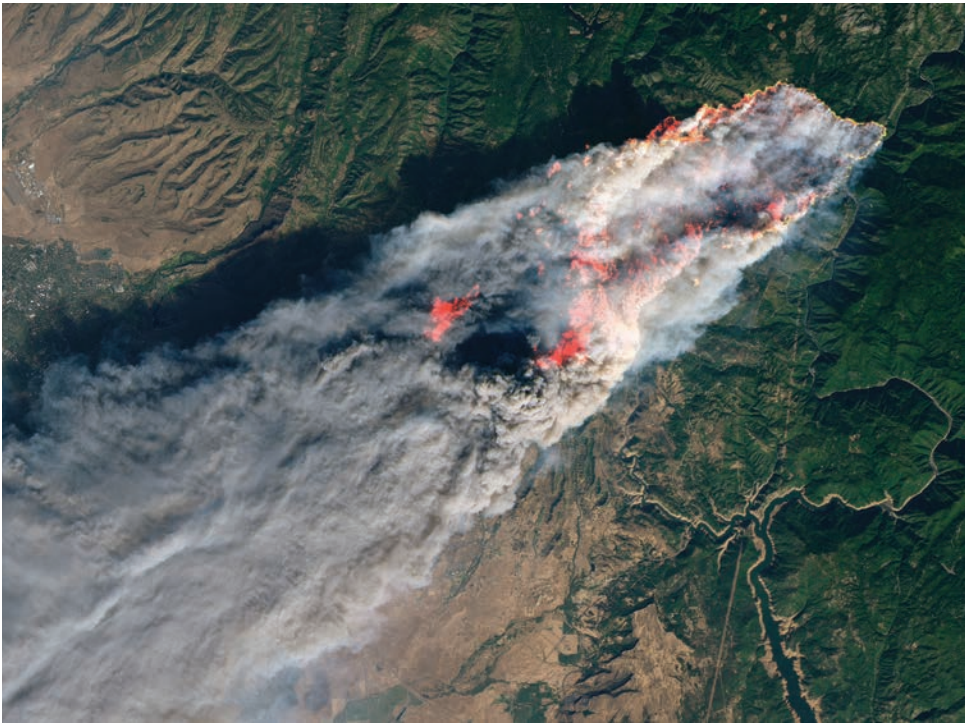
POLITICAL GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG

The president of the United States began the year by referring to Haiti and African nations as “s---hole countries” and lamenting the dearth of immigrants from Norway. Not surprisingly, in a fall interview with Fox News, President Donald Trump graded his performance so far and gave himself an A+. Voters disagreed, turning the U.S. House of Representatives over to the opposition Democrats for the first time in eight years, capturing numerous state houses and state legislative seats, and nearly flipping some GOP seats in the deep South. In California, blue became the new Orange, as famously conservative Orange County flipped, with all seven of its congressional seats now in the hands of Democrats.

One result is that San Francisco's Nancy Pelosi found herself in a position to be the first and the second female speaker of the House. At press time, she was fighting off a rebellion of a handful of moderates who opposed her, but indications are that she is likely to win.

We go back to a different German reich to rediscover the word *Lügenpresse* — “lying press,” a favorite accusation of the extreme Right about the media when the media has the temerity to report what's happening. President Trump got back at one of his chief antagonists when the White House banned CNN's Jim Acosta because of his aggressive behavior at a press conference. This behavior included hogging the lime-light and continuing to ask questions. This behavior did *not* include placing his hands on an intern who was trying to control the microphone, but that didn't stop Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders from releasing a doctored video that made it look as if Acosta had done just that. After a lawsuit, a judge's ruling, and support for CNN even from Fox News, the Trump administration backed down and restored Acosta's press pass. This led to the satirical *Onion* headline “Jim Acosta Immediately Decks White House Intern After Being Let Back Into Press Pool.” It is not yet known if Sanders will release that *Onion* article to back up her anti-Acosta crusade.

In other political news, President Trump finally fired Attorney General Jeff Sessions,



The devastating fires in Butte County darkened the mood and the skies in November. PHOTO: NASA LANDSAT 8

declared himself a nationalist, supported Saudi Arabia despite evidence its crown prince ordered the brutal murder of a journalist, and fired white nationalist aide Stephen Miller.

On the local level, London Breed might have been the sole survivor of the Year of the Three Mayors, but voters gave the progressive bloc a majority on the Board of Supervisors and rejected her opposition to a tax-the-rich proposition.

What was fake? Trump did not fire Stephen Miller. Now, that would have been an A+ move.

WILDFIRES

In the fall of 2017, the Wine Country fires devastated many lives and businesses and sent a suffocating cloud of smoke over the bay. Last month, the Butte County fire killed dozens of people, flattened the town of Paradise and blanketed the Bay Area with more heavy pollution. President Trump visited the devastation and warmly comforted locals who had lost everything in the disaster.

What was fake? What Trump actually did when he visited was serve up this word salad: “You've got to take care of the floors. You know, the floors of the forests; it's very important. . . . I was with the president of Finland, and he said, ‘We have much different — we're a forest nation,’ he called it a forest nation, and they spent a lot of time on raking and cleaning and doing

things, and they don't have any problem, and when it is, it's a very small problem” and “What we saw at Pleasure — what a name, right now — but what we just saw, we just left Pleasure — or, Paradise — and what we just saw at Paradise is just, uh, just not acceptable.”

BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

With all of the political shenanigans taking place, the business world decided it needed to be more interesting, so this year Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk smoked pot during an interview and got sued by the SEC over a bizarre yes-I-am-no-I'm-not series of comments about taking Tesla private. Facebook chiefs Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl Sandberg saw that and said, “Hold my beer; watch this” and were outed by *The New York Times* for incompetent and dishonest handling of Russian use of Facebook's platform to interfere with U.S. elections. Google employees staged a walkout over the company's incompetent and dishonest handling of sexual harassment, and Apple CEO Tim Cook alleged that a British cave diver who helped save some trapped soccer kids was a molester.

On the macroeconomic side, employment is very low and the stock market had a banner run until it dropped late in the year due to the self-inflicted wounds of the president's trade wars.

What was fake? Cook didn't make (and later retract) the baseless claim against the British diver — that was also Musk.

BECAUSE IT'S SCIENCE

The worlds of science had all sorts of news for us this year, some of it bad. For example, in January the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported that 2017 had been the costliest year on record for climate and weather-related disasters in the United States. In March, a woman in Arizona was killed by an Uber self-driving car. And even though Donna Strickland became the first woman in 55 years to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics, she was still not allowed to have a Twitter account.

But scientists also blew our minds and expanded our horizons this year. Astronomers took what they say is the first confirmed image of a newborn planet (it's called PDS 70b, if you're keeping track at home). Also in space but getting closer to us every minute is an interstellar object called Oumuamua, which is believed to have traveled for 600,000 years before reaching our star system. There was some

speculation — including from actual real, accredited scientists — that the object could have been created by actual real, nonaccredited space aliens from the star Vega, but that idea was shot down by other killjoy scientists.

What was fake? Strickland wasn't forbidden to use Twitter, but she was deemed unworthy of having a Wikipedia page about her. That has since been rectified.

#METOO, BRUTE?

In October 2017, the term #MeToo spread like magic on social media as women — and some men — shared stories of sexual assault and harassment, particularly in the workplace. In 2018, the movement truly went international, from China to Afghanistan and beyond. In the United States, the most significant #MeToo moment came when accusers succeeded in stopping the appointment of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court because of sexual assault allegations.

What was fake? Brett “Bart O’Kavanaugh” Kavanaugh was successfully appointed to the Supreme Court.

CELEBRITY DEATHS

Here at the *Marina Times*, we lost two legendary names: columnists Ernest Beyl and Bruce Bellingham. We still greatly miss them and their wit, erudition, and storytelling.

Bruce and Ernie joined a long list of notables who passed away in 2018, including country superstar Roy Clark, the queen of soul Aretha Franklin, Marvel Comics hero Stan Lee, Jefferson Airplane co-founder Marty Barlin (known as Martyn Jerel Buchwald when he attended high school in San Francisco), actor Burt Reynolds, Senator John McCain, playwright Neil Simon, writer Charles Krauthammer, chef Anthony Bourdain, designer Kate Spade, actor Margot Kidder, former First Lady Barbara Bush, physicist Stephen Hawking, evangelist Billy Graham, Grateful Dead

lyricist John Perry Barlow, San Francisco's “Tamale Lady” Virginia Ramos, Giants Hall of Famer Willie McCovey, Burning Man founder Larry Harvey, Dwight “The Catch” Clark, novelist Tom Wolfe,

and Tony Award-winner Barbara Harris.

What was fake? Only our belief that these people would never die.

SPORTLY SPORTINESS

This year, the Giants played baseball, perhaps because they had no choice. They finished their 60th year in San Francisco with a dismal 73–89 record, fourth place in the division. But the Golden State Warriors are following up their second championship season in first place in their division. And the San Francisco 49ers have so far lost eight games, which would be awesome if they were a basketball team. Alas, they keep playing football, perhaps because they have no choice.

What was fake? At press time, the 49ers have lost nine games.

ONWARD AND UPWARD

As we prepare for a fresh start in 2019, we are comforted by the knowledge that it could have been worse. After all, in the year A.D. 193, Rome had what was called The Year of the Five Emperors, due to a series of perfectly innocent deaths that saw the imperial title run through the improbably named Pertinax, Didius Julianus, Pescennius Niger, Clodius Albinus, and Septimius Severus. (True fact: “Kaiser” is the German word for “Caesar.”)

Carpe diem!

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Catching the Northside’s criminals

NORTHERN STATION REPORTS that in one recent week — Oct. 22–28 — there were 51 auto burglaries, bringing the year-to-date total to 4,317. That’s down from the year-to-date total of 5,526 for the same time last year.

That same week, there were seven burglaries in the Northern Station region, bringing the year-to-date total to 683, up from 586 for the same period in 2017. There were nine robberies, a category of crime that also increased to 302 so far this year, compared to 272 for the same period in 2017.

Auto burglaries have of course been one of the biggest pain points of residents and visitors to San Francisco for the past few years, and Northern Station Capt. Joseph Engler chalks up what he calls “an unprecedented reduction in auto burglaries) to good cooperation among police officers and residents, businesses, and other organizations invested in the quality of life on the Northside.

IT’S IN THE CAN

Oct. 10, 3:46 a.m.
800 block of Geary Street

In an area of the city that has been the scene of numerous citizen complaints regarding illicit drug sales, officers in an unmarked vehicle noticed a suspicious person concealing narcotics. Officers located a tin can used by the suspect to conceal narcotics for sales; the can contained methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine. The suspect was detained without incident.

ALTERED STATES

Oct. 13, 12:58 a.m.
1200 block of Fulton Street

Responding to a report of a burglary in progress, officers spotted the suspect walking away from the site of the crime. Attempts to detain the suspect peacefully were not successful, and after a violent struggle, officers were able to take the suspect to the hospital because of altered mental status. He later was moved to County Jail.

THE SOCK MARKET

Oct. 19, 3:45 p.m.
798 Eddy Street

Officers observed two suspects conduct multiple narcotics exchanges approximately 400 feet from the Tenderloin Community School, which was in session at the time of this incident. The suspects actively avoided the marked units before returning to the same places on the sidewalk. A suspect who is believed to have purchased narcotics from one of the dealers was later detained with narcotics believed to have been from the sale; he was later cited for being in possession. The suspects who had been observed making sales were then detained by officers, who confiscated a sock filled with multiple types of narcotics. The suspects were arrested.

BLOOD, ALCOHOL, GUN

Oct. 19, 8:31 p.m.
Location not disclosed

Officers responded to a report of someone possessing a firearm, and when they

arrived they observed a group of people surrounding a suspect who appeared to be inebriated due to alcohol. The suspect was also bleeding from the nose and unable to conduct an interview or comment on his condition. An officer found a loaded firearm under a nearby car; security video footage showed that the gun had been taken from the suspect by an unknown male. The suspect, who had prior convictions and had served time in state prison, was arrested and booked. The firearm had been reported stolen out of Sacramento.

A DISPOSITION FOR POSSESSION

Oct. 26, 11:45 p.m.
800 block of Ellis Street

Northern Station Street Crimes officers observed someone they recognized from earlier narcotics arrests. They surveilled the subject, who was seated in a parked car, and observed a possible narcotics transaction take place. After witnessing multiple traffic infractions, they called officers in marked police cars to conduct a traffic stop. In plain view, the subject was found to be in possession of methamphetamine for sale. But that wasn’t the subject’s only problem: Officers determined that the vehicle was stolen, and the subject was found to be in possession of identity theft materials of multiple victims.

SERIAL CRIMES

Oct. 28, 11:15 a.m.
Central District apartment complex

A burglary occurred on Oct. 17, and later a crime alert with video and photos

was issued. Following an arrest in a nearby apartment complex, two subjects were charged with multiple crimes.

TIGHT LIPS

Oct. 29, time not disclosed
Muni 38 bus

In the area of Geary and Laguna Streets, a violent strong-arm robbery took place on a Muni bus. Video surveillance showed the suspect nearly drag the victim off the bus as he struggled to take her phone. A crime alert was issued, and several officers helped identify the suspect and alerted investigators to the fact that he is known to frequent the mid-market corridor. On Nov. 3, officers located the suspect at Market and Fourth Streets as he waited to board a bus. He was informed of his Miranda rights, and he admitted it was he on the crime alert flyer. He refused to elaborate further.

VLAD THE IMPALA

Nov. 3, 5:27 p.m.
Fulton and Steiner Streets

Street Crimes officers observed an auto burglary occur, and noted the involvement of a black Chevrolet Impala with tinted windows. They had been investigating a series of auto burglaries in the district and had heard that this type of vehicle was involved with a known suspect. They contacted the sheriff who had access to the suspect’s ankle monitor, and Northern Station units tracked him to his home in the Bayview District. The suspect and the vehicle were both located and taken into custody without incident.

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Turning the tide on gun violence

BY CATHERINE STEFANI

ON JAN. 30, 2018, I WAS sworn in as supervisor. Fifteen days later, a gunman killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglass High School in Florida. Less than a month ago, I attended a vigil for 11 people killed while attending a Shabbat service at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. A few weeks ago, I memorialized 12 people murdered at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, Calif. As I write this, I just received a notification on my phone that a shooter killed three people at Mercy Hospital in Chicago.

A UNIQUELY AMERICAN CRISIS

The United States has a gun homicide rate 25 times higher than other developed nations. More than 96 Americans are shot dead in this country every day, and hundreds more are injured. American women are 16 times more likely to be killed with a gun than other women in high-income countries, and women are the vast majority of mass shooting victims, which more often than not involves domestic violence. Our children are hiding in closets in school lockdown drills prepar-

ing for the next mass shooter, and after the high school mass shooting in Parkland, they are marching through the streets holding signs that say “Am I next?”

I recently met one of the students from Parkland who helped start the March for Our Lives movement. When describing the emotions he went through while trying to hide in his classroom from the shooter, he said he felt terror, anger, panic — everything one would expect — but he stated the worst feeling that came over him was he understood what was happening. He understood he was part of yet another school shooting — that Columbine wasn’t an anomaly and that not enough has been done to prevent it from happening again. This is now common in America. No one is surprised. The effects of gun violence extend far beyond a numbers game — gun violence is shaping the lives of millions of Americans who witness it, know someone who has been shot, or live in fear of the next shooting.

FIGHTING FOR REFORMS

On Nov. 7, 2018, Tel Orfanos was one of the 96 Americans killed by gun violence. He was killed in the Borderline Bar & Grill shooting just a year after surviving the Las Vegas shooting,

where 58 people were gunned down at a concert. After the Borderline shooting, his mother Susan said, “My son was in Las Vegas with a lot of his friends and he came home. He didn’t come home last night, and I don’t want prayers. I don’t want thoughts. I want gun control, and I hope to God nobody else sends me any more prayers.”

After 20 years in the gun violence prevention movement, I take solace knowing there are now millions of people doing much more than just offering thoughts and prayers. Dec. 14, 2018 marks the six-year anniversary of the Sandy Hook tragedy, where 20 first graders and six educators were shot in their elementary school. That event shattered the hearts of millions, reigniting the gun violence prevention movement and prompting millions across America to join the fight to end gun violence. When Congress at the time would not even pass a bill requiring universal background checks on all gun sales (when 95 percent of Americans agree with universal background checks), the roadmap was set for advocates, and people across this country started successfully pushing for common-sense gun law reforms at the local, state, and national level. The hard work is

paying off, and in this last election cycle gun safety advocates helped gain control of the House and elect new gun-sense champions to statehouses across the country. Leader Nancy Pelosi has affirmed that common-sense gun law reform will be a priority for the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives.

LOCAL REFORMS

In California, we have one of these reforms called Gun Violence Restraining Orders; these restraining orders allow law enforcement and close family members to petition the court to take guns away from individuals who pose a significant danger to themselves or others. Unfortunately, this tool has been vastly underutilized in San Francisco, although our state legislature passed this law in 2014. I am currently working with our law enforcement officials and gun violence prevention advocates to ensure San Francisco has a process in place to effectively enforce these restraining orders and to educate the public about the process in an effort to save lives.

There is no single solution that will end this epidemic and as long as it continues, I will continue to push for policies that protect our communities. Earlier

this year I passed a concealed carry ban at First Amendment events in San Francisco, and I am currently working on legislation to protect San Franciscans against the threat of 3-D printed weapons.

Gun violence touches every town and city in America. We deserve to live in a society where we do not fear dropping our children off at school, going to a concert or the movies, attending a service at our place of worship, or just going about our daily lives. Together, millions of us are fighting for the changes we know will save lives.

MOURNING THOSE WE HAVE LOST

Every year since the Sandy Hook tragedy, vigils have been held across the country to shine a light on the devastating epidemic of gun violence and to mourn the lives of those we have lost. Since Sandy Hook, more than 600,000 Americans were killed or injured by guns. This year, there will be a vigil on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church. All are welcome, and all communities and gun violence prevention groups can come together to not only grieve but to provide hope that together we will make a difference.

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PROPERTY OWNERS: Turn In Your Required ABE Form TODAY!

The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) is reminding property owners to comply with the Accessible Business Entrance (ABE) program, which requires existing buildings with a place of "public accommodation" to have all primary entrances from the public way accessible for people with disabilities. If you own commercial storefront(s), this applies to you.

TAKE THIS IMPORTANT STEP!

To comply by the first deadline of January 1, 2019, property owners are required to submit one of the following: Pre-Screening, Waiver or Category Checklist Compliance form to DBI.

To read about the Program's requirements and your next steps, visit sfdbi.org/businessentrance.

Tier	Category Description	Submit form or compliance checklist and specify compliance option
1	In Compliance	1/1/19
2	No Steps but barriers	1/1/19
3	One Step with other barriers	6/1/19
4	1+ Steps with other barriers	12/1/19

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Marination continued from cover

five most congested cities in the world. Accordingly, commuters should wish for the implementation of congestion pricing. This traffic regulation scheme would dynamically charge drivers for entering the city center based on the current congestion level. London, Stockholm, and Singapore have all successfully tried congestion pricing and recorded cuts in traffic; what's more, they did so in a cost-effective way. For example, London's system generated \$3.63 billion in revenue in a decade. So congestion pricing in San Francisco could feasibly be like a wish for more wishes: I'd recommend allocating the additional revenue to mental health services and homelessness assistance programs.

WISH 2: SAFER SIDEWALKS AND MORE EFFICIENT DELIVERIES THROUGH COMMON CARRIER LOCKERS

Cars bypass them, cyclists avert them, and dog walkers chase them — package delivery drivers clog streets and staircases in the pursuit of getting everyone their latest Amazon purchase in a timely fashion. Given that San Franciscans are unlikely to suddenly swear off e-commerce (how else would you get the latest gizmo in two to three business days?), policy makers must take steps to ameliorate the burden posed by an ever-expanding pool of package deliverers. Common carrier lockers — picture big mailboxes in front of buildings with five or more stories — expedite deliveries by allowing drivers to simply pull up to the curb, distribute the packages at street level, and then be on their merry way. An experiment of such lockers in Seattle reduced the total time spent delivering packages by 78 percent per building. Again, this wish seemingly would allow other wishes to be fulfilled. Shorter delivery times would clear roads, save companies money, and reduce the chance for cyclist collisions.

WISH 3: END THE SUMMER SLIDE WITH YEAR-ROUND SCHOOL

This is one wish that certainly won't make it on children's final drafts; yet, parents concerned about income inequality, labor force participation, and the achievement gap will find that year-round school is a great way to feed many birds with one scone. Despite receiving high-level support — President Obama and his Education Secretary Arne Duncan both made clear that the traditional school year is a vestige of a long-gone agrarian past — school districts have largely stuck with the seasonal approach to schooling.

The result is that U.S. students spend on average just 180 days in school; this is shockingly low in comparison to countries like Japan (243 days), South Korea (220), and England (192). The perpetuation of summer has facilitated persistent disparities: A Brookings report found that "on average, students' achievement scores declined over summer vacation by one month's worth of school-year learning." These losses — referred to as the Summer Slide — were larger among older students and most prevalent among lower-income students. San Francisco

can stem the slide and improve educational outcomes by ending summer. And, for those with vacation plans, year-round school still includes several breaks.

WISH 4: ADUS ASAP

With the big-ticket items already on the list, the final wishes mirror the fallback requests kids make, like asking for a pony — as well as a chance to visit the stable. One is much more feasible than the other.

In the same way, residents should wish for the Department of Building Inspection and the Planning Department to handle Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) applications in four months or less. This goal, set by Mayor Breed, would be a significant improvement

The final wishes are like fallback requests, like asking for a pony . . . and a visit to the stable.

on the previous average review time and at least marginally contribute to addressing the city's chronic lack of housing. To meet the demand for housing, San Francisco will have to build up, out, or creatively. ADUs certainly fall into the latter category and can only move the dial so far before residents will have to again weigh going up, out, or a combination of both.

WISH 5: ZERO-IN ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Reducing homelessness ranked as the top issue for many voters in the recent election. Winning and losing candidates put forth several plans to do just that, but there was no consensus on the appropriate first step.

That's why city officials and community advocates should rally around the specific goal of ending youth homelessness by 2028. Cities that have made significant progress against homelessness have often started by zeroing in on a specific subpopulation of the homeless community; in Phoenix, Ariz., the strategy helped eliminate homeless veterans in the span of a few years.

San Francisco should similarly apply the approach by concentrating on the more than 1,500 homeless youth currently on its streets. Doing so will not only reduce homelessness in the short run, but will also reduce its long-term prevalence by addressing the causes of chronic homelessness at an earlier age. A University of Minnesota report found that investment in youth experiencing homelessness pays for itself when just 6 percent of the the group reaches self-sufficiency. San Francisco can surely cross that threshold.

Even if Mayor Breed and proponents of the recently passed Proposition C succeed in realizing the measure's promised homeless funding, applying a specific filter to these funds may maximize their effectiveness.

WISH 6: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACCESSIBILITY

San Franciscans with long commutes, childcare woes, and inflexible work schedules should wish for a more itinerant Board of Supervisors. More specifically, they should push the board to hold their meetings in community centers in each district on a rotating basis. Democracy is a participatory sport, but as long as the arena is City Hall, only certain players will get to play the game.

I'd argue we've been pretty nice. Let's hope policy makers agree and make our wishes come true.

Email: kevintfrazier@gmail.com

8 DECEMBER 2018

MARINA TIMES MARINATIMES.COM

Hope for the homeless crisis and homes for the holidays

BY AARON PESKIN

DURING THE SUMMER LEGISLATIVE recess, I went on a road trip with my wife through the great American Northwest. It didn't matter whether we were in the sweeping rural vistas of Shasta County, or urban centers like Portland, Ore., and Seattle, Wash., the consistent observation was: the homeless crisis is a California emergency. We saw tents in places that had never experienced homelessness before, and we saw men and women visibly struggling with mental health and drug addiction alongside shoppers and baby strollers. It was a stark reminder that San Francisco is not alone in our struggle to combat homelessness after decades of state and federal disinvestment in our mental health and affordable housing infrastructures.

But we have always been the City That Knows How — and from neighborhood activists to social workers to city officials, we are continuing the battle for solutions. Here are some updates on new tools the city is using to address the entrenched issues on the ground:

Public safety/crisis intervention. In early October, I brought Chief Bill Scott and his command staff to North Beach to hear directly from families who have experienced an uptick in aggressive and physically threatening behavior on the street. Parents demanded increased foot patrols, especially around parks, which Chief Scott and Captain Yep agreed to. In addition,

the mayor has committed to a crisis-intervention team for North Beach, which are public health workers trained in intervening in instances of mental crisis. The community's direct feedback and advocacy to the mayor and police chief have been incredibly important — thank you.

SB 1045. Senate Bill 1045 was signed into law this year and creates a new five-year conservatorship pilot program for a few key counties, including San Francisco. The goal of the program, which is estimated to help roughly 100 of our most vulnerable residents who are chronically homeless, seriously mentally ill, and suffer from substance abuse, is providing supportive housing with intensive wrap-around services. These are residents who routinely end up in emergency rooms, psychiatric facilities, jail, or other police custody and for whom voluntary support services have repeatedly failed to have a positive long-term impact. Obviously, the program will fail if we do not have actual housing facilities to conserve these residents to, so securing funding for affordable and supportive housing will continue to be a top focus for my office.

Proposition C. As of this writing, Proposition C — “Our City, Our Home” — has secured 61.25 percent of the vote in San Francisco. If you were one of those votes: thank you. That means you recognize that out of the \$250 million our three-year old Department of Homelessness spent last year, two-thirds of the budget went to rental subsidies, eviction prevention and perma-

nent supportive housing to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place — or to house the formerly homeless. Only 17.6 percent (or \$57 million) was spent on street team outreach, temporary shelters, and health services for the visible homeless population on San Francisco streets. It is a point of fact that to tackle this homeless crisis head-on we need deep investments in a continuum of care, including housing. I have always been supportive of progressive taxation, but it took briefings with frontline experts to learn how Proposition C's plan could make change. The tax will generate \$300 million annually, 50 percent of which will go to building and rehabbing supportive housing, with another 25 percent going to intensive mental health and substance abuse facilities. The tax collector will start collecting these taxes in the new year — and I can think of several projects in District 3 that could desperately use this influx of funding.

Temporary District 3 Navigation Center. A year ago, I wrote a *Marina Times* column on the need for a District 3-specific Navigation Center. Since that time, I have been relentlessly surveying potential public sites, as well as entreating private property owners to consider one. It's been a tough row to hoe, but I haven't given up and have even received the support of the mayor to fund a site in District 3. The waterfront has presented itself as a reasonable locale based on many factors, including the number of public sites currently designated for light industrial or parking

uses. But I understand that education in the community is critical, and my office has undertaken a series of listening tours to various neighborhood associations, as well as conducting small tours of existing Navigation Centers. While we hone in on a location, I remain committed to continuing the work to solicit neighborhood stakeholders on what they would like to see. Let's tailor this to be the best temporary tool possible.

SB 1152. Senate Bill 1152 was signed into law this year and requires each hospital to create a written homeless patient discharge planning policy and process, and document clear transfer and posttreatment info before discharging a homeless patient. I began tracking this bill after a neighborhood meeting in lower Nob Hill, where neighborhood residents were frustrated with the current process for discharging homeless residents from St. Francis Medical Center. My office is working with the Department of Public Health and St. Francis to implement SB 1152.

As we all know, there is no silver bullet for addressing the homeless crisis, but there are things we can do together if we push hard enough. I always appreciate your support in continuing to dial 311 for quality of life issues so we have data to support our claims that the neighborhood needs more resources; there is a world of difference between one supervisor demanding good management and deployment of resources and an entire community. Your voices make a difference.



Weekend Warriors—
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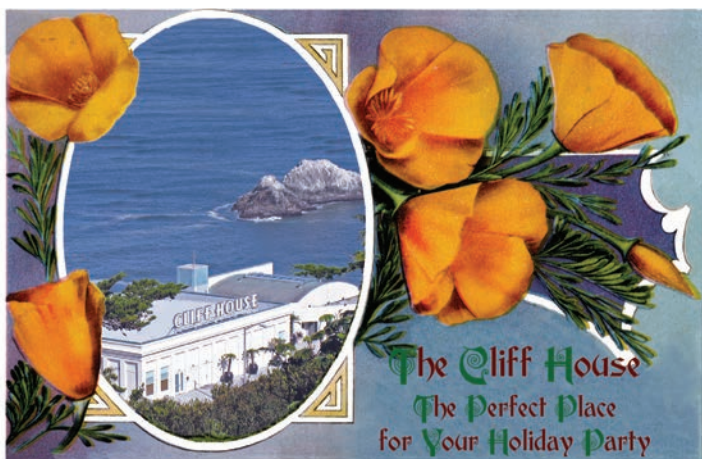
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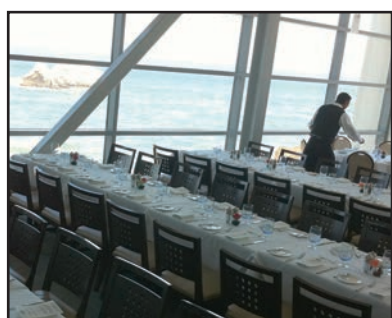
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Tablehopper :: Restaurant reporter

The triangle gets a new look and late-night dining with Cow Marlowe

COW HOLLOW

Now open from Anna Weinberg and James Nicholas of the Big Night Restaurant Group (Marlowe, Petit Marlowe, Leo's Oyster Bar, Park Tavern, The Cavalier, and Marianne's) is **Cow Marlowe** (3154 Fillmore Street, 415-508-5898) in Cow Hollow, in the former Eastside West.

Chef-partner Jennifer Puccio and chief pastry officer Emily Luchetti have put together an expanded menu, with new dishes like grilled furikake green beans with smoked egg yolk, caviar, and truffle aioli, and exclusively for the late-night menu is Cow Marlowe poutine, featuring Kennebec fries with braised beef short ribs, cracklings, Caesar aioli, and Parmesan cheese. There's an entire section dedicated to bar bites, including the trademark crispy Brussels sprout chips and their warm deviled egg made with aged provolone, pickled jalapeño, and bacon. Chef de cuisine Steve Dustin also has an entree of warm Brussels sprout and chicory Caesar with Spanish anchovies; and seafood-stuffed petrale sole with diver scallops and bay shrimp, celery root, spinach, smoked paprika, and sunchoke chips; and the favorite poulet vert. For dessert, Luchetti offers some playful spins on American classics like the orange creamsicle sundae with bourbon and caramel-soaked oranges, vanilla bean ice cream, orange sorbet, and candied almonds; and Key lime cheesecake with wild blueberry sauce.

The bar program features a new menu from Mike Anders of Marianne's and Leo's Oyster Bar, and expands on the classics from the original Marlowe. There are some fun new additions exclusive to the location, like the Lululemon Drop with Tito's vodka, Acqua di Cedro, lemon, and thyme; and Brad & Chad, made with Avion Reposado tequila, gin, and green Chartreuse.

Seems like a good idea to go have Jennifer Puccio's burger, and soak in the always-fun style from Ken Fulk. Ken Fulk Inc.'s senior designer, Tiffany Kramer, installed a bar and communal table made of Soda-lite blue granite in cobalt blue that looks a bit like a beautiful lapis. There are leather banquettes, vintage Thonet-style chairs, Carrara marble tiles, and of course some snazzy wallpaper.

Lunch and brunch begin Saturday, Dec. 1, as well as Sunday dinner service and an all-day menu. For now, hours are Monday–Wednesday 5:30–10 p.m. and Thursday–Saturday 5:30–11 p.m. The late-night menu is served 11 p.m.–1 a.m., and the bar is open Monday–Wednesday 4 p.m.–midnight, and Thursday–Saturday 4 p.m.–1:45 a.m.

Meanwhile, Hayes Valley's **Little Gem** will be opening a second location in the former Umami Burger (2184 Union Street). Co-founder Eric Lilavois and chef David Cruz will continue to offer their clean cooking, which is gluten-free, dairy-free, and refined sugar-free. The opening is slated for spring 2019.



The Marlowe burger at the new Cow Marlowe. PHOTO: COURTESY BIG NIGHT RESTAURANT GROUP

FILLMORE

Something to look forward to: Pim Techamuanvith (Kin Khao, Nahm in Bangkok) will be opening **Nari** in Japantown's Hotel Kabuki (1625 Post Street) in spring 2019. Look for a seafood focus (Kin Khao chef de cuisine Meghan Clark will be the lead), a larger space (95 seats), and it will be a bit more "grown up" than Kin Khao. The name, which means "women" in Thai, will pay homage to all the women who have taught Pim how to cook (and the cherished recipes from home).

NORTH BEACH

Wow, Italian stalwart **Il Fornaio** (1265 Battery Street) has closed its San Francisco location after 30 years at Levi's Plaza (citing a rent increase, an aging building, and slow business). The other locations in Burlingame, Palo Alto, and San Jose are still open.

FINANCIAL DISTRICT

Some fantastic news for my fellow **Alfred's Steakhouse** (659 Merchant Street, 415-781-7058) fans: After mysteriously closing over the summer, the 90-year-old steakhouse (San Francisco's oldest!) will be reopening Dec. 1, and former owner Al Petri and his family will be involved once again. Daniel Patterson took over the restaurant from the Petris three years ago; Al Petri is coming out of retirement and he will be the majority investor, but Patterson will remain an investor.

When Patterson took over the space, it got a light update, and with it came a menu upgrade with quality and seasonal products, grass-fed beef, à la carte menu options, and ... higher prices. The new format back under Al Petri will offer a fixed-price menu: Guests choose which cut of beef they want, and it will come with an appetizer platter for the table; a choice of a Caesar salad, heart of romaine salad, or prawn cocktail; and two sides (\$39–\$68).

Here's wishing everyone a very happy holiday season.

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



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La Vita Delizioso :: Recipe



Easy-to-make gourmet pecan pie for the holidays. PHOTO: LESYY

Tired of pumpkin pie? Change it up with this easy pecan pie with bourbon whipped cream

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

I LOVE PUMPKIN PIE, so that's what I make for Thanksgiving. By Christmas, I'm pumpkin pied out and so is everyone else. That's when I turn to my other holiday favorite, pecan pie.

Many people don't like pecan pie because the filling is too sweet, but there's an easy remedy: Cut the sugar with bourbon. Like any time you cook with alcohol, you want to use something you would drink. Good bourbon is pricy because the process is incredibly complex. Bourbon makers must adhere to strict laws developed over a long and storied southern history. It's a labor of love, passion, and respect, and once you have good bourbon — be it on the rocks or in this pie — you won't settle for less.

There are many myths about bourbon, but the most common is it must be produced in Kentucky. In fact, bourbon can be made anywhere in the United States. Only whiskey made in Kentucky, however, can be labeled Kentucky Straight Whiskey. For whiskey to be bourbon, the mash must contain at least 51 percent corn, while the "flavor grain" is malted barley, wheat, or rye. Like sourdough bread, it starts with a mother mash taken from a previous batch and set out to sour overnight. Bourbon must be aged for a minimum of two years (many premium bourbons are aged 5 to 12, and as long as 27). Every batch must be aged in a brand-new white oak barrel, which has been charred inside on a level from 1 to 4.

My favorite bourbon is made with rye, which adds a dry, spicy depth often not found in other bourbons. As for bourbon

brands, I like Bulleit, which has a great story behind its high quality. In 1987, Tom Bulleit left a successful law practice to revive the bourbon recipe created by his great-great-grandfather Augustus Bulleit, a Kentucky tavern keeper in the 1830s. He produced a high-rye whiskey between 1830 and 1860, which was the inspiration for Bulleit rye, a straight rye whiskey made from 95 percent rye and 5 percent malted barley. All of Bulleit's bourbons are made with limestone-filtered Kentucky water in charred oak barrels, but the high rye content is their trademark (its many awards include the San Francisco World Spirits Competition Double Gold Medal in 2011 and 2013, and Gold Medal in 2014 and 2015). Deep russet in color with a smoky aroma, Bulleit rye is spicy yet smooth, complex yet drinkable, with hints of vanilla and honey that complement the toasted pecans in the pie.

PECAN PIE
Serves 8–10

- 1 cup maple syrup
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon molasses
- 2 tablespoons Bulleit rye or other bourbon
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter (cut into ½ inch pieces)
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 6 large egg yolks, lightly beaten
- 1½ cups pecans, shelled, toasted, and chopped
- 1 9-inch unbaked pie shell, chilled in pie plate for 30 minutes

Adjust oven rack to lowest position and preheat oven to 450 degrees.

In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine syrup, sugar, cream, molas-

ses, and bourbon, stirring frequently, until sugar dissolves, about three minutes. Remove from heat and allow mixture to cool 5 minutes.

Whisk butter and salt into syrup mixture. Slowly drizzle in egg yolks, whisking constantly until thoroughly incorporated. (Mixture should be smooth and shiny.) Set aside.

In a medium sauté pan over medium-low heat, toast the pecans, stirring or tossing constantly, until oils are released and they are lightly toasted (about 1 minute).

Pour pecans in a single layer onto cutting board and, using a chef's knife, roughly chop them. Scatter pecan pieces into bottom of pie shell. Carefully pour filling over pecans. Place pie into 450-degree oven and immediately reduce temperature to 325 degrees. Bake until filling is set and center jiggles slightly when pie is gently shaken, 50 to 60 minutes. Cool pie on rack for 1 hour, then refrigerate until set, about three hours and up to one day. Bring to room temperature before serving.

BOURBON WHIPPED CREAM
Makes about 2 cups

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons Bulleit rye or other bourbon
- 1½ tablespoons light brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract

With hand mixer or stand mixer on medium speed, beat cream for 2 minutes. Add bourbon, sugar, and vanilla, and continue beating until stiff peaks form, about 2 minutes. Whipped cream can be refrigerated for four hours.

Email: recipes@marinatimes.com

When dessert is too much, try a port or dessert wine

BY LYNETTE MAJER

MY FIRST REAL INTRODUCTION to port was from my brother-in-law, the most erudite, bohemian, renaissance person I know. Formerly a wearer of three-piece suits on Wall Street, he now sports a long ponytail, jeans, and slip-on Merrells while gardening, renovating, and building things like a koi pond and a “moon” gate inspired by one in a Mill Valley redwood grove, on his Russian River property in Monte Rio. But before that, he would invite us to his Nob Hill apartment in a “muse,” as he charmingly referred to his alley off Sacramento Street, where he’d serve his signature Caesar salad with homemade croutons toasted in his home-blended herb-infused olive oil. We would then retire to the “parlor,” with the crackling fire and his hand-built harpsichord, and he’d bring out dessert: Stilton cheese, Carr’s Whole Wheat Crackers, and port.

And so began my adventure with this lovely alternative to traditional desserts.

PORT DEFINED

So just what is port? Technically, “real” port, like how Champagne can only be from France,

can only be from the Duoro Valley in Portugal. This is a fairly new requirement resulting from a trade agreement with the U.S. and the European Union, which is why you’ll still find some wines produced in the United States labeled as port. If producers were labeling their wines as port in 2006, they were allowed to continue with their labeling; other producers were required to label their wines as “port style” or some other designation, such as “dessert wine.”

Port is a fortified wine, which means it’s distilled with either a grape spirit or a neutral grain spirit to stop the fermentation before all the sugar is converted to alcohol. Port comes in a variety of styles from white to tawny to ruby, but I’ve just focused on a few ruby styles produced in the Sonoma Valley. All of these wines have a higher acidity, which results in a less syrupy, sweet, and cloying finish, and all would appropriately grace your holiday table.

Kunde “1904” Sonoma Valley Dessert Cuvee NV (\$40)

Named for the year the Kunde estate was purchased, this wine is a blend of fortified zinfandel and petite sirah, and fresh chardonnay and viognier to halt the

fermentation process. With lots of cherry and berry notes and medium body, it has an almost dry finish, and isn’t at all a “sweet” wine in the traditional sense.

Eric Ross Dry Creek Valley Old Vine Zinfandel Port 2011 (\$54)

Eric Ross Lodi “Struttin’ Red” Port 2012 (\$54)

Made from the grapes sourced from three different vineyard blocks from the same ranch in Dry Creek Valley, well known for its old vine zinfandel, this well-balanced port has hints of oak, a lovely full aroma, and jammy fruit and berry flavors.

Lighter than the OVZ port, “Struttin’ Red” gets its name from a rooster who was nearly run over by a grape-loaded forklift during harvest. This port is made from Portuguese varietals, which combine to add “floral depth,” fruit, tannins, color, acidity, and spice. It’s fortified with St. George Spirits brandy produced from old vine zinfandel from the artisanal distillery in Alameda for a “kiss of sweetness.”

Little Vineyards Sonoma Valley Port 2010 (\$35)

A gold medal winner at the 2013 Sonoma County Harvest

Fair, this port wine, is made entirely from estate-grown petite sirah.

Barrel aged for two years in 40 percent new Bordeaux oak, it has been fortified with brandy from the G3 Distillery. Its “vibrant fruit profile” with a fruity nose and rich berry flavors create an elegant, lingering finish.

B.R. Cohn Olive Hill Estate Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Port 2015 (\$40)

The Olive Hill Estate Vineyard is coveted for its cabernet, and this limited cabernet port is produced from a particular block of vines grown specifically for port, which are harvested late in the season and produce an intensely flavored grape. The port has berry aromas and a distinct flavor of chocolate and notes of oak.

Imagery Estate Winery Sonoma County Port NV (\$29)

Made with petite sirah and cabernet and fortified with brandy, this port was the winner of Best of Class at the 2014 Sonoma County Harvest Fair and has an abundance of cherry and chocolate notes. Referred to as “... a port for any day, at any time,” but it’s said founder




Try the Kunde “1904” Sonoma Valley Dessert Cuvee NV.
PHOTO: PINTEREST.COM/KUNDEWINERY



Joe Benziger calls it the “ultimate nightcap.”

Although all of these “ports” are best with strong-flavored cheeses (like Stilton), they are equally enjoyed with an intense dark chocolate. And even if you don’t have room for this after your holiday dinner, it’s a wonderful light brunch the next day.

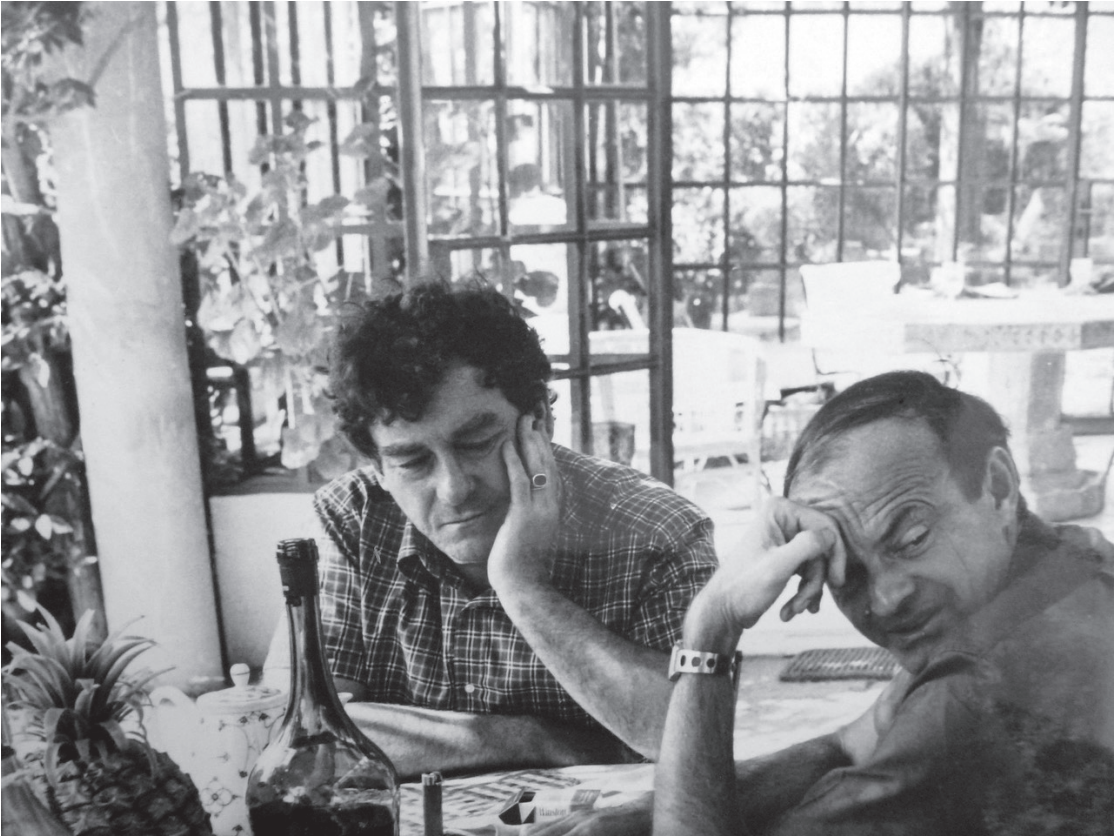
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Left to right: Cy and Giorgio; Cy and Tatia Val Gardena. PHOTOS: COURTESY JOSHUA RIVKIN

‘Chalk: The Art and Erasure of Cy Twombly,’ by Joshua Rivkin

BY SHARON ANDERSON

AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS PAINTING career, Cy Twombly deviated from the brand of abstraction dominating painting in the 1950s to form his remarkably distinctive calligraphic markings that became his trademark style. Room-sized canvases in tan, gray, and off-white with this distinctive gestural abstraction, scribbles, words, and omissions depicting a kind of chaos and order, fascinated writer Joshua Rivkin. After years of archival research and interviews, Rivkin has published the first book to explore the life and work of Cy Twombly.

In *Chalk: The Art and Erasure of Cy Twombly*, the painter emerges as a character as mysterious as his paintings. The investigation and excavation of Twombly’s history and stories — the process of the book taking shape — becomes a part of the

adventure. The book becomes a metanarrative when the author must, out of necessity, merge with the painter’s story. Twombly served in the army as a cryptologist, a clear influence on his development as a painter. Text, sometimes scratched out, and sometimes readable are rendered with the same obscure mystery as the author’s parallel explorations of the life of a very private man who had his share of secrets. Twombly’s posthumous “outing” is a part of this story. While married to his wife, Tatiana, he took up with a much younger man, Nicola Del Roscio, who remained his companion until the end of the artist’s life. Rivkin explains, “Twombly’s sexuality, in and of itself, isn’t

interesting. What’s remarkable is how even after his death, it is still ignored or resisted or denied. Choose your euphemism. Choose your implication.”

The paradox of absent presence and near-misses plays out in a story about Twombly’s rescue of his friend and lover Robert Rauschenberg from drowning in the icy, black waters of a lake. The almost-drowning story only exists in letters between writers Robert Creeley and Charles Olson. So many events, if not captured, can evaporate from our collective remembrance. “One is reminded of the crapshoot of memory and history, the endless list of accidents avoided — fires that didn’t start, cleaning

crews that missed a box, moths that bit their tongues, wars that stayed home — that allowed these letters, *any* letters, to come down to us in the present, those stray and few gems of Sapphic verse or shards of papyrus that say *this happened*.”

Chalk includes previously unpublished photographs and an in-depth exploration of a character that, until now, has existed on the periphery of the history of modern art.

Chalk: The Art and Erasure of Cy Twombly: 464 pages, Melville House, October 2018, \$32.

Joshua Rivkin will discuss his book with R.O. Kwon on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m., Green Apple Books, 1231 Ninth Avenue, 415-742-5833, greenapplebooks.com.

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

‘Chalk’ explores a character on the periphery of the history of modern art.

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

The Marina Books Inc. best-seller list

COMPILED BY BRIAN PETTUS

1. **Becoming**, by Michelle Obama (hardcover)
2. **The Proposal**, by Jasmine Guillory (paperback)
3. **Diary of a Wimpy Kid #13-The Meltdown** (hardcover)
4. **The Sense of an Ending**, by Julian Barnes (paperback)
5. **Bullet Journal Method**, by Ryder Carroll (hardcover)
6. **Sapiens**, by Yuval Harari (paperback)
7. **Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in Silicon Valley**, by John Carreyrou (hardcover)
8. **Tattooist of Auschwitz**, by Heather Morris (paperback)
9. **On Desperate Ground**, by Hampton Sides (hardcover)
10. **Less**, by Andrew Sean Greer (paperback)

BIG BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

Kitchen Confidential Deluxe Edition, by Anthony Bourdain

A new, deluxe edition of *Kitchen Confidential* to celebrate the life of Anthony Bourdain. The book features a brand-new introduction, and a Q. & A. with Ecco publisher and Bourdain’s longtime editor, Daniel Halpern. Interior pages are hand-annotated by Bourdain himself. The interior also features a new drawing by Ralph Steadman.

Harry Potter: A History of Magic, by the British Library

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* in the United States, readers everywhere are invited to explore the extraordinary subjects of the Hogwarts curriculum — Potions & Alchemy, Divination, Care of Magical Creatures, and more — and examine incredible

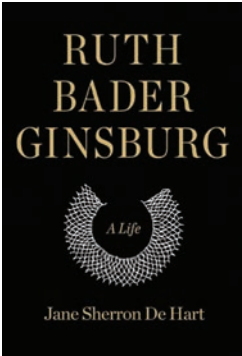
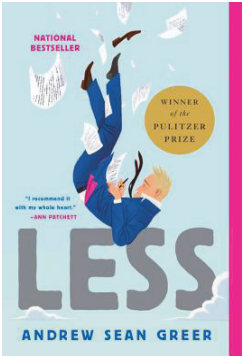
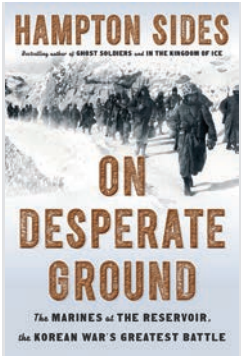
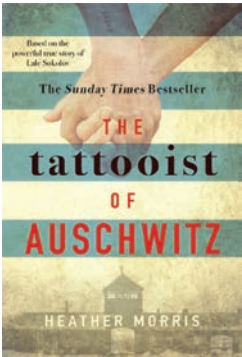
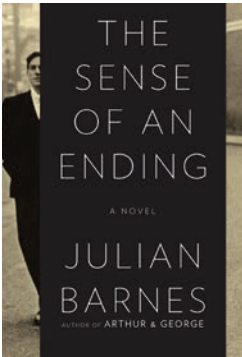
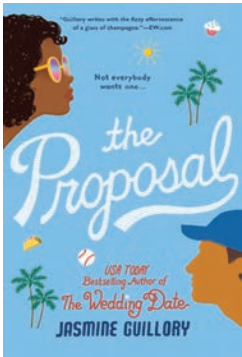
historic artifacts, items from J.K. Rowling’s personal archive, and stunning original artwork from Harry Potter series artists Mary GrandPré, Jim Kay, and Brian Selznick.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Life, by Jane de Hart

In this large, comprehensive, revelatory biography, Jane De Hart explores the central experiences that crucially shaped Ginsburg’s passion for justice, her advocacy for gender equality, and her meticulous jurisprudence — her desire to make We the People more united and our union more perfect.

Fire and Blood, by George R.R. Martin

The thrilling history of the Targaryens comes to life in this masterly work by the author of *A Song of Ice and Fire*, the inspiration for HBO’s *Game of Thrones*. Centuries



before the events of *A Game of Thrones*, House Targaryen — the only family of dragon lords to survive the Doom of Valyria — took up residence on Dragonstone. *Fire and Blood* begins their tale with the legendary Aegon the Conqueror, creator of the Iron Throne, and goes on to recount the generations

of Targaryens who fought to hold that iconic seat, all the way up to the civil war that nearly tore their dynasty apart.

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

Binge-worthy television for wintertime

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

EVEN SUNNY CALIFORNIA suffers inclement winter weather, inspiring us to spend more evenings in cozy surroundings — like in front of our video screens, rather than venturing out to movies or concerts for cultural diversion. It's the optimum time to binge on TV shows, courtesy of Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, and newer players in the realm of streaming services.

So what's binge-worthy? That could depend on your taste or your mood, but some shows, especially those that trade in long-form storytelling rather than stand-alone episodes, lend themselves to marathon viewing. Plenty of classic programs are now available for streaming and serve as audiovisual comfort food. Better yet, here are some recent vintage high-quality shows available for streaming hour after hour, until you finish a season . . . or pass out on your couch.

ESPIONAGE ACTION

If you loved the lush, exciting television adaptation of John le Carré's *The Night Manager* and

generally embrace espionage action with an international flavor, check out the six-episode miniseries of his best-seller *The Little Drummer Girl*. Set in Greece during the 1970s, it addresses the strife that continues to rage between Israelis and Palestinians. It stars Michael Shannon, Alexander Skarsgård, and an impressive young actress named Florence Pugh, and is directed by Korean master of tension Park Chanwook.

CRIMINALLY ENTERTAINING

The Bureau is a French production, like the addictive multi-season police procedural *Spiral*. Don't let the subtitles put you off — *The Bureau* is one of the most compelling spy thrillers on television: a topical, realistic look at the trials faced by intelligence officers trying to balance their private lives while pursuing a treacherous profession. There have been four 10-episode seasons, with the last one currently being broadcast in France.

Killing Eve is a treat, featuring Sandra Oh as a British MI5 desk jockey who tries to find and outwit a wily female assassin over the course of eight episodes, even as the two women become

increasingly consumed with one another.

Jed Mercurio — creator and head writer of *Line of Duty*, a must-see four-season look at a U.K. police anticorruption team in action — is back with a new six-part project titled *Bodyguard*. Keeley Hawes and Richard Madden portray England's Home Secretary and the ex-military PTSD-plagued police sergeant assigned to protect her despite their political differences.

For sophisticated neo-noir fun set in modern-day Los Angeles, *Bosch* — based on author Michael Connelly's novels about a wry, rebellious, driven LAPD detective — is a blast. Titus Welliver is right in the pocket as Harry Bosch, whose snark is equal to his devotion to doing the right thing despite the consequences. The series has already notched four 10-episode seasons with a fifth due next year.

PERIOD PIECES

Mixing crime, romance, music, politics, and history, the two seasons of *Babylon Berlin* evoke Germany's Weimar Era in magnificent, darkly elegant fashion. The series, renewed for

a third run in the near future, is based on the novels of Volker Kutscher and revolves around a police inspector working on a case in the turbulent, anything-goes 1929 Berlin before the Nazis' rise to power.

William Makepeace Thackeray's 1848 novel *Vanity Fair* has been interpreted yet again with a well-executed seven-installment run, which premiered earlier this year. Its heroine, Becky Sharpe (Olivia Cooke), is a social climber of questionable scruples, but that shouldn't lessen the pleasures the series offers for anyone seeking an elegant, short-term period drama to fill the gap left by the end of *Downton Abbey*. Plus, *Monty Python* comedy stalwart Michael Palin is on board as Thackeray himself.

Turning to full-on comedy in period clothing, *Upstart Crow* is the hilarious and erudite invention of Ben Elton, who co-created the era-jumping historical farce *Black Adder* (also worth a binge). If you're intrigued by the idea of a sitcom about the Bard himself, *Upstart Crow* follows Will Shakespeare (*Peep Show*'s hapless David Mitchell) over three six-episode seasons and a Christmas special as he trav-

els from his home in Stratford, where his family torments him, to his job as a London playwright, where smug aristocrats, balking actors, and his own valet torment him.

If big-screen blockbusters aren't enough to sate your passion for superheroes, there are two fresh options for home viewing: the debut of *Titans*, an R-rated take on DC's younger generation of champions who are led by an embittered Dick "Robin" Grayson, sans Batman; and the third 13-chapter series of Marvel's urban crime drama *Daredevil*, with Charlie Cox as the blind New York City vigilante and Vincent D'Onofrio, who is spectacular as the title character's arch enemy. Warning: This current *Daredevil* run should only be watched if you've seen the first two seasons, so binge the whole thing. It's worth it.

Michael Snyder is a print and broadcast journalist who covers 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

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HOLIDAY COCKTAIL MENU

OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT
TO THE VICTIMS OF WILDFIRES
IN CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER EVENTS

NOT TO MISS THIS MONTH

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS:

LIGHTINGS AND MORE



32nd Annual Macy's Holiday Windows

Daily through Jan. 1 (except Dec. 25)
Macy's Union Square
The SF/SPCA's magical Holiday Windows adoption outreach program returns to find homes for kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs while raising funds for the shelter's programs. SPCA volunteers will be on hand to introduce the animals and the adoption process. *Free viewing, 415-554-3000, sfsPCA.org*
PHOTO: CHRIS W. / YELP.COM

28th Annual Union Street Fantasy of Lights
Saturday, Dec. 1, 3–7 p.m.
Union Street (btw. Van Ness & Steiner)
Fillmore Street (btw. Union & Lombard)
Thousands of holiday lights set off the Victorian buildings, transforming Union Street into a magical backdrop for Santa and a team of elves, who will be at 2040 Union Street from 5:30–7 p.m. Celebrate with jugglers, pony rides, face painters, balloon artists, costumed characters, singers, horse-drawn carriage rides (3–5:30 p.m.), and more. Bring toys to donate to the S.F. Firefighter's Toy Program. Visit website for schedule and details. *Free, sresproductions.com, 800-310-6563*

Bill Graham Menorah Lighting
Daily, Dec. 2–9
Union Square
Activities on Bill Graham Memorial Day (Sunday, Dec. 2) include kids' activities (2 p.m.), music, and the lighting (4:30 p.m.) Grand Finale (Sunday, Dec. 9). Visit website for details and additional lighting times. *Free, billgrahammenorah.org*

Home for the Holidays at Carolwood
Wed.–Mon. through Jan. 7, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Walt Disney Family Museum (104 Montgomery St., the Presidio)
View the intricate scale model of Disney's Holmby Hills home and miniature version of his personal steam locomotive that traveled the property. Decorated with seasonal lights and greenery, the model will be ceremoniously illuminated on Disney's birthday, Wednesday, Dec. 5. Exhibition includes family and company Christmas cards, including those designed by animators featured in the current exhibition, Nine Old Men. *Free, and free museum admission Dec. 5. 415-345-6800, waltdisney.org*

Winter Lights in Golden Gate Park
Thursday, Dec. 6, 4–6 p.m.
McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park (501 Stanyan St.)
Don't miss the 89th annual Golden Gate park holiday tree lighting, including carnival rides, a snow play area, toboggan rides, cookie decorating, Santa visits, and a light show at the Conservatory of Flowers. *Free, sfrecpark.org*

Presidio Holiday Lights & Forest Walk
Friday, Dec. 7, 5:30–7 p.m.
Lincoln Blvd. (at Funston Ave.)
Join this decades-old Presidio tradition featuring the Golden Gate Carolers. Light refreshments and kids' activities will follow at the Presidio Community YMCA (63 Funston Ave.). Don't miss the lantern-lit 20-minute forest walk (6 p.m.). Bring a flashlight and meet in the YMCA gym. RSVP requested. *Free, 415-561-4323, presidio.gov*

Parol Lantern Festival & Parade
Saturday, Dec. 8, 5–9 p.m.
Yerba Buena Gardens, Jessie Square, & St. Patrick's Church
The Bay Area's Filipino community gathers for a festive celebration of holiday spirit, hope, unity, and pride to the glow of hundreds of lights from colorful handcrafted parol lanterns. Enjoy holiday treats, live music, a parol lantern exhibition, and more. *415-239-0249, parollanternfestival.com*

Glowing Hanukkah Party
Sunday, Dec. 9, 3–6 p.m.
Ghirardelli Square
Celebrate the last night of Hanukkah and dress up in your favorite light-up, glitter, and glowing clothes to enjoy crafts, donuts, making hygiene kits for the homeless, the candle lighting, songs, a LED piano concert, and special Hanukkah activities. *Free, 415-292-1200, jccsf.org*

Marina Holiday Tree Lighting Festival
Friday, Dec. 14, 3–8 p.m.
Marina Green (near Harbor Master's Office)
Enjoy a multitude of attractions including food trucks, Christmas carolers, live music, a beer and wine lounge, face painters, demonstrations by SFFD, Santa Claus, and the lighting (7 p.m.) of the Marina holiday tree. Visit website for details on customized ornaments. *Free (donations welcome), sfmca.org*

Lighted Boat Parade
Friday, Dec. 14, 6–8 p.m.
Pier 39 to Crissy Field & return
The oldest and largest lighted boat holiday parade returns and features more than 60 boats festooned with lights and holiday decorations. *Free, 415-673-3530, visitfishermanswharf.com*



33rd Annual Japanese New Year Bell-Ringing Ceremony
Sunday, Dec. 30, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum
Participate in the striking of the 16th-century bronze bell to leave behind any negative experiences, wrong deeds, and ill luck of 2018. First come, first served; pick up tickets at admission desk. *Free with museum admission (\$15), 415-581-3500, asianart.org*
PHOTO: J. YIN / FLICKR.COM/ASIANARTMUSEUM

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS

A Baroque New Year's Eve at the Opera
Monday, Dec. 31, 4 p.m.
Herbst Theatre (401 Van Ness Ave.)
American Bach Soloists will feature countertenor Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen, former Merola Opera participant, S.F. Opera Adler Fellow, ABS Academy alumnus, and winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Young Artists Award in arias by Handel and Gluck. *\$25–\$125, 415-392-4400, cityboxoffice.com*

New Year's Eve Carnaval
Mon.–Tue., Dec. 31–Jan. 1, 6:45 p.m.–1 a.m.
Peña Pachamama (1630 Powell St.)
Enjoy a magical evening with two-time Latin Grammy nominee Eddy Navia and the Pachamama Band with Latin musicians and Carnaval dancers with three-course-buffet dinner of organic food in upstairs speakeasy. Includes complimentary champagne toast. Advance prepaid tickets only. *\$130–\$160, 415-694-0845, eventbrite.com*

New Year's Eve Meditation Party
Mon., Dec. 31–Tue., Jan. 1, 8:30 p.m.–12:15 a.m.
Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center (401 Baker St.)
Ring out the old and ring in the new with meditation, live music, words of wisdom, "letting go of the old," alcohol-free refreshments, and a contemplative fire ceremony. *Free, eventbrite.com*

COMMUNITY CORNER

S.F. Firefighters Toy Program
Daily
Any S.F. firehouse
In its 69th year of helping children, the S.F. Firefighters Toy Program is the largest in the U.S. and is looking for donations of unwrapped toys for distribution to underprivileged children ages infant–12, with the biggest need for girls ages 8–12. *Alternatively, donate monetarily at sffirefighterstoys.org. 415-777-0440*



Christmas Outreach
Pre-Christmas Outreach: Saturday, Dec. 15, 8:30–2 p.m.
Salvation Army Krock Center (240 Turk St.)
Christmas Day Outreach: Tuesday, Dec. 25, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
S.F. City Impact (136 Taylor St.)
The Pre-Christmas event features a Youth Outreach and Kids' Christmas Party, building parties, and meal deliveries in over 40 buildings. Join hundreds of volunteers for a street closure for the Christmas event with a sit-down meal, a street cafe for community residents, building parties, and meal deliveries in over 35 buildings. *All ages welcome. \$25, 415-292-1770, sfcityimpact.com*
PHOTO: FACEBOOK.COM/SFCITYIMPACT

City-Wide Kwanzaa Celebration Kick-Off
Wednesday, Dec. 26, noon–4 p.m.
City Hall (1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Way)
Museum of African Diaspora (685 Mission St.)
African American Arts & Culture Complex (762 Fulton St.)
Opening day begins at City Hall (noon–1 p.m.), continues at MOAD (1–4 p.m.) with live music and dancing, and more, and concludes at the AAACC (7 p.m.), where the first candle of the Kinara will be lit for Umoja (unity). The celebration continues through Jan. 1 with 15 free celebrations in eight neighborhoods. Visit website for schedule. *Free, kwanzaasanfrancisco.com*

GALAS & BENEFITS

Holiday Heroes
Tuesday, Dec. 4, 5:30–8:30 p.m.
AT&T Park
Raise funds and awareness for Bay Area at-risk children and enjoy arts and crafts activities, video games, photo opportunities, food and beverages, s'mores on the field, holiday cookie decorating, a silent auction, access to the Giants batting tunnels and dugout, and more. *\$200 & up, 650-321-4142, wenderweis.org*

Help is on the Way for the Holidays XVII
Monday, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Marines' Memorial Theater (609 Sutter St.)
Benefiting Project Open Hand and the Positive Resource Center, this gala and concert includes entertainment by the cast of Gershwin's Crazy for You, with special guests Constantine Maroulis, Maureen McGovern, Shawn Ryan, Paula West, and others. *\$60 & up, 415-273-1620, reaf-sf.org*

THEATER

BATS Improv: Songs for A Sixpence
Saturdays, Dec. 1–29, 8 p.m.
Bayfront Theatre, Fort Mason Center
In the spirit of Oliver and A Christmas Carol, performers create improvised songs, music, dances, and more. Experience joy and laughter at original improvised performances in honor of Charles Dickens and his lovable characters and novels. *\$17, 415-474-6776, improv.org*

ACT: A Christmas Carol
Most days, Dec. 6–29
Geary Theater (405 Geary St.)
Featuring a lively cast of dozens, gorgeous costumes, and those deliciously spooky ghosts, the Bay Area's favorite holiday tradition returns with a sparkling, music-infused production of this timeless classic. *\$20–\$200, 415-749-2228, act-sf.org*

Brian Copeland: The Music Box
Fri.–Sat., Dec. 8–23 (except Dec. 16)
The Marsh (1062 Valencia St.)
In his one-man show, Copeland returns to his childhood in Oakland one Christmas, when he searched town for the perfect present for his mom and then set out to earn the money to buy it. *\$20–\$100, 415-282-3055, themarsh.org*

26th Annual Kung Pao Kosher Comedy
Sun.–Tue., Dec. 23–25, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m.
New Asia Restaurant (772 Pacific Ave.)
Enjoy this uniquely Bay Area holiday tradition of Jewish comedy and delicious Chinese cuisine. Visit website for guest lineup. A portion of proceeds benefit Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay Refugee & Immigrant Services and Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice. *\$52 & \$72, 925-743-1292, koshercomedy.com*

MUSIC

S.F. Opera: It's a Wonderful Life
Select days through Dec. 9
War Memorial Opera House
You know the story about George Bailey on the snowy bridge contemplating his end in Frank Capra's classic film. Now see the West Coast premiere co-commissioned by the S.F. Opera with music by Jake Heggie. *\$26–\$398, 415-864-3330, sfopera.com*

Michael Feinstein: A Holly Jolly Holiday
Thu.–Sun., Dec. 6–9
Feinstein's at the Nikko (222 Mason St.)
The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook preforms his holiday show at his eponymous club. *\$68–\$110, 866-663-1063, feinsteinsatthenikko.com*

Holiday Soul with Vanessa Williams
Fri.–Sat., Dec. 7–8, 7:30 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir joins the acclaimed entertainer for soul, jazz, and Christmas classics, with plenty of vocal fireworks and foot-stomping energy. *\$25–\$110, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.org*

Very She & Him Christmas Party
Saturday, Dec. 8, 8 p.m.
S.F. Masonic
The beloved duo of singer Zoëy Deschanel and guitarist M. Ward make their first live appearance since 2013 performing a "relaxing and enchanting" mix of holiday favorites. One dollar from every ticket sold will benefit local food banks. *\$40–\$139, 800-653-8000*



A Merri-achi Christmas
Sunday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
Experience a truly international celebration in this musical tribute to Mexico's Christmas traditions, with the ensemble singing and playing holiday favorites from both Mexico and America in a vibrant performance that will have the whole family dancing in the aisles. *\$29–\$100, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.org*
PHOTO: SOLDEMEXICOMUSIC.COM

American Bach Soloists: Handel's Messiah
Wed.–Fri., Dec. 12–14, 7:30 p.m.
Grace Cathedral
American Bach Soloists present their celebrated annual performance of Handel's masterpiece. \$20–\$125, 415-621-7900, americanbach.org

Soulful Christmas Gospel Holiday Concert
Thu.–Fri., Dec. 13–14
Sunday, Dec. 16
Thu.–Sun., Dec. 20–23
Buriel Clay Theater (762 Fulton St.)
Performed by the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, enjoy inspirational holiday music both old and new, sacred and secular in a show guaranteed to be a roof-raising, hand-clapping, joyful good time for all ages. \$15–\$35, 415-474-8800, evensi.us



Golden Bough: Celtic Yuletide Celebration
Friday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
Old First Presbyterian Church (1751 Sacramento St.)
Share the laughter, song, and joy as Golden Bough performs rare versions of Celtic songs of Winter, as well as their unique take on better known Christmas carols. \$25, 415-474-1608, oldfirstconcerts.org

A Chanticleer Christmas
Saturday, Dec. 15, 8–10 p.m.
St. Ignatius Church (650 Parker St.)
The program includes candle-lit Gregorian chant, traditional carols, gospel, and spirituals in this popular Christmas program. \$35–\$75, 415-252-8589, chanticleer.org

S.F. Girls Chorus: Holidays at Davies
Monday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
This popular holiday season concert extravaganza returns featuring special guests Kronos Quartet. The 300 choristers of all seven SFGC Choruses will delight audiences with music that celebrates cultures and holidays from all over the world from Nigeria to Spain, China to Korea, Philippines to India and beyond. \$30–\$62, 415-863-1752, sfgirlschorus.org

Kitka: Wintersongs
Friday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m.
Old First Presbyterian Church (1751 Sacramento St.)
This critically acclaimed and wildly popular winter holiday program highlights seasonal music from a wide variety of Eastern European ethnic and spiritual traditions. \$25–\$40, 415-474-1608, oldfirstconcerts.org

Join the Audience-Chorus for the S.F. Symphony Christmas Concert
Sunday, Dec. 23
Workshop: 4–5 p.m.
Concert: 7:30 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
Participate in a warm-up/rehearsal with choral director Ragnar Bohlin, then take your seat in the audience to add your voice to an evening of splendid choral music. \$25 workshop, \$25–\$95 concert; eventbrite.com, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.org

Jason Brock's 6th Annual Holiday Show
Sunday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m.
Martuni's Piano Bar (4 Valencia St.)
The X-Factor finalist and four-time BESTIE-winner for “Best Male Cabaret Singer in San Francisco,” performs your favorite holiday songs and new off-beat selections accompanied by a three-piece band led by acclaimed pianist Dr. Dee Spencer (founder of the S.F. State University Jazz Studies Department). \$25–\$50, 415-241-0205, jasonbrockvocals.com

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir
Monday, Dec. 24, 6 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Slim's (333 11th St.)
This multiracial and multicultural choir promotes a message of faith, hope, love, and joy in a rollicking, feel-good, energy-packed show that's the best way yet to spend a Christmas Eve. Ages 6 & up. \$17 & \$20, 415-255-0333, slims-sf.com

DANCE
City Ballet: The Nutcracker
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 1–2
Palace of Fine Arts Theatre
Enjoy the beautiful dancers of the internationally renowned City Ballet and experience the magic of this timeless holiday classic. *All ages.* \$40, palaceoffinearts.org

33rd Annual Dance-Along Nutcracker
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 8–9
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
This year's show, Clara Potter and the Elder Baton, takes the audience on a magical journey to Fogwarts School for the Magically Oriented and features musical numbers from Moana, Hairspray, West Side Story, and more blended with Tchaikovsky's classic fairytale. *All ages.* \$20–\$45, 415-978-2787, dancealongnutcracker.org



S.F. Ballet: The Nutcracker
Wed.–Sun., Dec. 12–16
Tue.–Mon., Dec. 18–24
Wed.–Sat., Dec. 26–29
War Memorial Opera House
A tradition since 1944, this annual production is set in early 20th-century San Francisco. Join the adventures of the Nutcracker, the Mouse King, and Clara. *Ages 5 & up.* \$29–\$429, 415-865-2000, sfballet.org
PHOTO: SFBALLET.ORG

Smuin Ballet: The Christmas Ballet
Thu.–Sun., Dec. 13–16
Wed.–Sun., Dec. 19–23
Monday, Dec. 24
YBCA Theater (700 Howard St.)
This enormously popular holiday celebration returns with equal parts sugar and spice, and something for both the naughty and nice, from ballet, tap, and swing in two acts: Classical Christmas and Cool Christmas, which includes the iconic “Santa Baby.” \$34–\$91, 415-912-1899, smuinballet.org

POTABLES & EDIBLES
Holiday Tamalada Class
Saturday, Dec. 1, 10 a.m. & noon
La Cocina (2948 Folsom St.)
This tamale assembly class includes a short walk-through of the recipe, procedures, and a demo of tamale assembly. Then get your manos in the masa and start building as many tamales as you can while you get your mingle game on. Take your tamales home and steam them to be ready to eat just in time for the holiday season. Limited availability. \$35, eventbrite.com



Holiday Cookie Workshop
Holiday Cookie Workshop
Sat.–Sun, Dec. 8–9
Sur La Table (2224 Union St.)
Join James Beard award-winning cookbook author Dorie Greenspan on Saturday; on Sunday, master the simple techniques for transforming royal icing and sugar cookies into edible art. \$65–\$75, 800-243-0852, surlatable.com
PHOTO: RICKWALLER

Anti-Santacon Wine Crawl
Saturday, Dec. 8, noon–5 p.m.
Winemaker Studios (448 Clipper Cove Way, Treasure Island)
Say goodbye to the (worldwide pub crawl) SantaCon crowds and wine crawl your way through four tasting rooms. Bring (or wear if you dare) your ugliest Christmas sweater for the Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest (3 p.m.). \$15, RSVP for discounts/perks, eventbrite.com

Feast of the Seven Fishes
Monday, Dec. 24, 4:30, 5, 7, & 7:30 p.m.
Locanda Osteria & Bar (557 Valencia St.)
Enjoy a four course, family-style menu with more than seven types of fish, optional wine pairings, plus other surprises from the kitchen. \$150, eventbrite.com

SPORTS
Great Santa Run 5K
Sunday, Dec. 9, 8:30 a.m.
Starts/Ends: Crissy Field (across from Sports Basement)
This 3.09-mile figure-eight course around Crissy Field is flat, fast, and scenic; the Rudolph one-miler along the dirt trail starts at 9 a.m. Santa suits provided in race packet. \$20–\$45, titanium-racing.com

Santa Skivvies Run
Sunday, Dec. 9, 9:30 a.m.
Check in: The LookOut (3600 16th St.)
Don your favorite festive costume, or strip down to your undies to raise awareness and fight HIV/AIDS and benefit the S.F. AIDS Foundation in this approximately one-mile run through the Castro. \$45, 415-487-3114, santaskivviesrun.org

Miracle Mile/5K Holiday Classic
Sunday, Dec. 16, 8:15 & 9 a.m.
Starts: Peacock Meadow, Golden Gate Park
Run in either race or both to benefit the UCSF Diabetes Center. All ages. \$40–\$60. 415-760-9000, miraclemile.ucsf.edu

CHILD'S PLAY
ODC: The Velveteen Rabbit
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 1–2
Thu.–Sun., Dec. 6–9
YBCA Theater (700 Howard St.)
Celebrate this Bay Area holiday tradition though music, dance, and a powerful narrative, in a story that celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love. \$20–\$70, 415-978-2700, ybca.org
PHOTO: YBCA.ORG

Teddy Bear Tea
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 1–16, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Thu.–Sun., Dec. 20–23, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.
Ritz-Carlton
Children are invited to the festively decorated Terrace Room to enjoy hot chocolate, teddy bear sweet treats, and assorted sandwiches in addition to a holiday show starring and a giant teddy bear. Each child will receive a teddy bear gift and photo with the giant teddy bear to take home. Two dollars per ticket sold will benefit Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area. \$130, eventbrite.com

Beyond the Land of Sweets
Sunday, Dec. 2, 3 p.m.
Herbst Theatre (401 Van Ness Ave.)
Performed by the Presidio Dance Theatre, in this lively spinoff of the Nutcracker, Clara travels around the globe, celebrating holiday traditions across cultures. \$40, 415-392-4400, cityboxoffice.com

Opera Parallèle: The Little Prince
Friday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.
Marines' Memorial Theatre (609 Sutter St.)
In collaboration with the S.F. Girls Chorus, Academy Award-winning English composer Rachel Portman's magical opera is based on Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's beloved story of a charming prince who falls from space into the Sahara Desert, but with a twist: The principal characters are played by women and girls. \$55–\$75, 415-392-4400, cityboxoffice.com

Mark Foehringer's Nutcracker Sweets
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 8–23
Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center
This unique magical, zany, and fun 50-minute production of the classic holiday ballet is designed for families with young children. \$21–\$43, 628-400-1348, nutcrackersweets.org

S.F. Symphony Youth Orchestra: Peter and the Wolf
Sunday, December 9, 2 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall
Hear Prokofiev's timeless musical fable of a boy and his animal friends narrated by Richard Dreyfuss and accompanied by the symphony's youth orchestra. \$12.50–\$115, 415-864-6000, sfsymphony.org

Mittens & Mistletoe: A Winter Circus Cabaret
Daily, Dec. 26–30
Dance Mission Theater (3316 24th St.)
This charming, light-hearted, all-ages variety program features innovative clowning, spectacular circus feats, and interactive madcappery performed by talented Bay Area and international theatrical circus artists. \$18–\$65, 415-225-7281, sweetcanproductions.com

JUST FOR FUN
The Great Dickens Christmas Fair & Victorian Holiday Party
Sat.–Sun. through Dec. 23, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Cow Palace
Take an enchanting journey through a merrier era — the streets of Victorian London circa Christmas 1860. Visitors will explore twilight-lit streets with shops, pubs, stages, and dance halls filled with more than 800 Victorian characters and the aromas of roasted chestnuts and hearty fare. *Select-day tickets* \$30, dickensfair.com

Sponsored

Mercatino di Natale: Italian Christmas Market
Sat.–Sun., Dec. 1–2, 10 a.m.–6:30 p.m.
Museo Italo Americano, Bldg. C Fort Mason Center
The sixth edition of the Mercatino di Natale will feature artisanal Italian food and wine, unique handmade jewelry, Italian fashion and accessories, art objects, and several unique craft items. Inspired by the famous Christmas markets in Northern Italy and throughout most of Europe, this event will exude the warm atmosphere of Christmas. Food demonstrations and book presentations will be offered both days. *Free*, 415-673-2200, sfmuseo.org

Modern Winter Wreath-Making
Thursday, Dec. 6, 6–7:30 p.m.
Rendezvous North Beach (1817 Powell St.)
Enjoy an evening of winter crafts, drinks, and snacks while acquiring a new set of arranging skills and a handmade winter wreath to take home. \$60, eventbrite.com

SFMade Holiday Gift Fair
Sunday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
Calif. College of the Arts (111 8th St.)
Discover locally made gift items including jewelry, gourmet gifts, coffee, chocolate, wine, home items, bags, body products, men's and women's apparel, children's wear, pet gear, and stationery from over 50 vendors. *Free*, RSVP at Eventbrite & Facebook, 415-408-5605, sfmade.org

Email: 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).

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December Outreach 2018

Share Your Experiences and Priorities for Early Care and Education in San Francisco

On June 5, 2018 San Francisco voters passed Proposition C – Early Care and Education for All that could increase resources for local funding of early care and education services. As the Office of Early Care and Education works to develop a spending plan for these resources, we want to hear from you! Join us on Saturday December 8, 2018 at the San Francisco Public Library to tell us your experiences and priorities around early care and education in San Francisco.

Where: San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin Street, Latino/Hispanic Community Room, located on the lower level
When: Saturday Dec. 8, 2018 10am-12pm
What: Early Care and Education Town Hall Meeting
Register now! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/early-care-and-education-for-all-initiative-town-hall-meeting-tickets-52158359056>
A light breakfast will be served.

COMPLAINT ABOUT A SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER OR POLICE PRACTICE?

¿TIENE UNA QUEJA SOBRE ALGÚN MIEMBRO DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE POLICÍA DE SAN FRANCISCO O SOBRE EL ACCIONAR POLICIAL?

MAY REKLAMO BA KAYO TUNGKOL SA PULISYA NG SAN FRANCISCO O GAWAIN NG PULISYA?

有關三藩市警察局警員或警方常規的投訴？

ЖАЛОБА НА СОТРУДНИКА УПРАВЛЕНИЯ ПОЛИЦИИ САН-ФРАНСИСКО ИЛИ НА ПОЛИЦЕЙСКУЮ ПРАКТИКУ?

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SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY | 25 Van Ness Ave., Ste. 700 San Francisco, CA 94102 | Phone: (415) 241-7711 | TTY: (415) 241-7770 | Website: sfgov.org/dpa

ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS:

60-DAY COURTESY NOTICE

The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) is reminding property owners to comply with the Accessible Business Entrance (ABE) program, which requires buildings with a place of "public accommodation" to have all primary entrances from the public way accessible for people with disabilities. The ABE helps owners comply with existing Federal and State disability access laws. If you have property that houses a commercial storefront, your property may fall under the ABE program and may be required to submit documentation to DBI. To comply, you are required to submit one of the following: a Pre-Screening, Waiver or Category Checklist Compliance form by January 1, 2019. To read about the Program's requirements and your next steps, visit sfdbi.org/businessentrance.

TURN IN YOUR REQUIRED FORM TO:

DBI - Accessible Business Entrance Program
1660 Mission Street, First Floor (Window #8)
San Francisco, CA 94103
Call: (415) 558-6128
Email: dbi.businessentrance@sfgov.org

Come see your local government at work!

The Board of Supervisors hold weekly meetings most Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. in Rm. 250 of San Francisco City Hall.

Share Your Best Thinking

Attend public comment during the full Board of Supervisors meetings, or a Committee meeting held weekly in the Legislative Chamber or the Committee Room (Rm. 263 of San Francisco City Hall)

Use Your Subject Matter Expertise

Apply to serve on an Advisory Body. Before long you will be advising the Board and the Mayor on City policy!
Visit our Vacancy page: sfbos.org/vacancy-boards-commissions-task-forces

CNSB #33195943

Coastal Commuter :: California gems



Tomales Bay is a nearby escape that feels light years away from the big city.

PHOTO: DERWIKI

Getaways for a great escape

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

THE FIRES OF NOVEMBER HAVE been so devastating in both the northern and southern parts of the state — with the unprecedented death and destruction of the Camp Fire also resulting in downright apocalyptic atmospheric conditions in the Bay Area — that the urge to get out of town has been more than compelling. It might be essential to your health. You can shut yourself in — or you can get away. To that point, I've got a few favorite Cali destinations that invariably recharge my batteries, and there might be no better time to take advantage of them than now.

Some places are so close to the urban sprawl but seem so far away when you finally get there. I'm thinking about the beaches and bays of Marin where, on certain autumn nights, you can experience the glorious beauty of bioluminescent plankton in the waters, especially at Tomales Bay. I still harbor dreamlike, shiver-inducing memories of standing on the shore of Stinson Beach at midnight and seeing the crests of incoming waves that shimmered with an otherworldly glow from those microscopic wonders. It might be too late in the year for phosphorescent tides, but it's still lovely on Tomales and Bodega bays, at Stinson and Muir beaches, and Point Reyes, and anywhere in Bolinas and Inverness. And moving inland, you can find yourself a nice eucalyptus grove and bide a wee in the aromatic bosom of nature.

GOOD AS GOLD OR BETTER

Venturing further afield, I do love Gold Country with its historic spots like Nevada City to get in touch with the state's rough-and-tumble past. One B&B where I stayed with my sweetheart of the time actually had a bed that was hung from the ceiling with chains and rocked back and forth in a gentle motion when we turned in for the night. But that region's proximity to the recent conflagration might be tough to process for anyone seeking comfort and solace right now. By comparison, a trip up or down the coast would be a tonic.

You could head north to Mendocino — onetime hippie haven where I once wandered through a genuine dwarf-tree forest — or south to Santa Cruz with its boardwalk and easy charm, or to Monterey with its tony brew pubs, seafood grottos, and that spectacular aquarium by the fresh and salty Pacific. And if you're southward bound, Big Sur remains the most magnificent and mys-

tical locale on the craggy central coastline. Plus, there's all that Beat Generation cachet in the nearby woods, where poets and philosophers would Zen out in relative peace, and where anyone can do the same. Or you could enjoy the spectacular views at a renowned hangout and creative cauldron for artists, Bohemians, and spiritualists since the 1950s: the Nepenthe restaurant situated on a peak overlooking the ocean.

SPIRITS AND THE SPIRIT

Certainly the northerly vineyards of Napa and Sonoma counties and the southerly ones in the Santa Ynez and Temecula valleys have their lure, but I'm not much of a wine drinker, and the charms of world-class restaurants such as the French Laundry are a little out of my price range. Thrift-shopping in Ventura and hiking around the rolling hills of the Ojai art colony are more my speed. Or let me have a couple romantic nights in one of the wild, themed suites at San Luis Obispo's legendary lovers' escape, the Madonna Inn. And a trip to Yosemite, whether you stay at a fancy lodge, a mid-range cabin, or a modest motel, remains one of the joys of living in the Golden State.

Believe it or not, tripping through a few of California's various well-preserved missions (such as the notable one in Santa Barbara) — where men of the cloth lived and worshipped in centuries past — can actually be uplifting, regardless of your religious beliefs or lack of them.

And lest I forget, there's the spiritually gratifying feeling one gets in the Mojave Desert — especially Joshua Tree National Park, home to so many Joshua trees with their cactus-needed limbs raised to the sky, seemingly in prayer. If you go in the late winter and early spring, you can experience the fleeting beauty of a desert in bloom. And if that desolate splendor starts to get to you, just hightail it to nearby Pioneertown, where Pappy & Harriet's — the friendliest bar, restaurant, and honky-tonk for many miles — presents the finest Americana performers playing the Southern California circuit. Sometimes, you have to take a break from getting away and just get it on.

Michael Snyder is a print and broadcast journalist who covers 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](https://twitter.com/cultureblaster)

Feeling Good
continued from cover

After your treatment, you can relax in the Nob Hill Spa's Zen Room with luxurious lounge chairs, pillows, and blankets. 1075 California Street, 415-345-2888, nobhillspa.com

STOP SHOPPING AND SNEAK INTO THE SPA

If you're downtown shopping, and you need a breather, **Burke Williams Day Spa** is located right within the Westfield Center. This chain, with 10 locations across California, offers memberships that let guests enjoy massage, facials, and spa treatments on a monthly basis, but non-members can make appointments as well. An essential membership at Burke Williams in San Francisco is \$95 a month and offers guests one 50-minute pure relaxation massage or spa facial each month; a deluxe membership is \$135 a month and offers one 80-minute massage or facial a month. All memberships include special members-only pricing for additional treatments. Burke Williams also offers its own H2V skincare line that's used during facials at the spa.

Throughout the holidays, Burke Williams is offering special, customized spa packages that include a variety of services such as massages, facials, mani-pedis, and special treatments like hot stones and aromatherapy. A "Mind-Plus Body Holiday" for \$250 (usually priced at \$350) offers a massage and spa facial plus enhancement, and "Ultimate Comfort & Joy" includes an 80-minute massage, radiance facial plus enhancement, and use of the spa's new aromatherapy wet room with specially designed showerheads is priced at \$400



The bathhouse at Onsen San Francisco. PHOTO:FACEBOOK.COM/ONSEN.SF

(usually \$555). Burke Williams holiday packages and gift certificates make perfect presents to those who are perpetually under pressure. 845 Market Street, Ste. 510, 888-239-6635, burkewilliamsspa.com

JUST A QUICK JAUNT ACROSS THE GOLDEN GATE

For a true escape, make the short trip across the Golden Gate Bridge to Cavallo Point, a luxury inn and spa located at Fort Baker, a former U.S. Army post. The Healing Arts Center & Spa at Cavallo Point offers the usual array of relaxing massages and facials but also has a distinct focus on body treatments and wellness, including aromatherapy, holistic medicine, and water therapy. The spa also features a heated outdoor meditation pool beneath the pines.

Cavallo Point's spa offers a multitude of massages from deep tissue to Himalayan

salt stone to Thai. A signature Cavallo Point massage is \$185 for 50 minutes; the spa charges \$10 more for treatment on weekends. Massages can be augmented with salt scrubs, clay wraps, and other types of bodywork, including chakra energy balancing. Post treatment, guests can relax at the spa's tea bar or meditation garden.

More targeted integrative health programs at Cavallo Point include acupuncture, nutritional consulting, fitness and body awareness programs, including yoga and martial arts practices, and mind-body relaxation techniques. 601 Murray Point, Sausalito, 415-389-4700, cavallopoint.com

SOAK JAPANESE STYLE

For relaxation and a taste of Japanese culture, try Onsen in San Francisco's

Japantown. Inspired by Japanese bath rituals, this urban bathhouse offers the chance to soak in hot water in a communal setting. Coed and men's and women's soaks are available every day except Tuesdays. Swimsuits are required for coed bathing; they are optional for men and women's soaks. Onsen offers a 104-degree communal tub, a redwood sauna, steam room, an overhead cold plunge, and Western-style showers. Complimentary bath products and hot tea are included as are lockers, towels, and robes. The spa also offers a range of massages, facials, and acupuncture. Soaks range from \$35 for a communal bath and \$25 for single-sex soaks, and range in duration from one hour to one hour and 40 minutes.

Onsen boasts a rustic full-service Japanese restaurant that serves small plates for dinner that can be enjoyed with or without a reservation to the bathhouse. Savory dishes include house-made pickles and preserves (\$7); charred Brussels sprouts (\$11); and trout sashimi with cucumber, cherry tomatoes and wasabi (\$14). There are skewers (\$12-\$15) such as citrus prawns, togarashi spices and horseradish; chicken meatball; hanger steak with miso, black pepper and chili; and more. Dessert is chocolate cake with peanut, caramel, and black sesame (\$11). Onsen offers a variety of tisanes and teas as well as a selection of sake and sake on tap from local brewer Sequoia Sake. 466 Eddy Street, 415-442-4987, onsensf.com

Whether it's just a massage or a whole day of indulgence, a spa visit will soothe your stress away.

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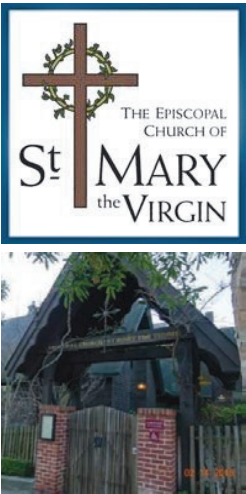
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“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” -Luke 2:11

We Welcome You to Join Us for Our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Religious Services!

- Christmas Eve: Monday, Dec. 24**
- 2:00 p.m. Christmas Petting Zoo
 - 3:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant: Family Nativity & Parade of Animals
 - 5:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist for Christmas Eve
 - 10:00 p.m. Pre-Service Carols & Anthems
 - 10:30 p.m. Festival Choral Eucharist
- Christmas Day: Tuesday, Dec. 25**
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Carols

The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin
2325 Union Street, San Francisco CA 94123
www.smvsf.org (415) 921-3665

December 2018 Outreach

Sign up AlertSF in your neighborhood. Simply text your zip code to 888-777. AlertSF sends text alerts following a natural disaster, major police, fire, or health emergencies, or significant transportation disruptions. AlertSF is provided by the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management. Visit www.alertsf.org for more information.

GET FREE, TRUSTED HELP WITH YOUR CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION!

The San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship Initiative provides free legal help from community immigration service providers at our free workshops. Resources for the citizenship application fee are available onsite. Volunteers needed!

Learn more at sfcitizenship.org

When: Saturday, December 15, 2018. Registration is open from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. No appointment needed!

Where: 1 South Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94103

Park Smart This Holiday Season

The San Francisco Police Department wishes you a safe and happy holiday season and reminds you to Park Smart to help prevent auto burglaries:

- Keep valuables with you, not in your vehicle.
- Shopping? Hold onto your purchases until you leave. Thieves often watch parking lots to spot shoppers dropping bags off in their car.
- Visiting? Check luggage at your hotel- don't leave it in your auto.

If your car has been burglarized, here's what to do:

- **Is the break-in happening right now?**
Call 9-1-1 with your location and a suspect description.
- **Did the break-in already happen?**
Report the crime on the non-emergency line at 1-415-553-0123. You may request that an officer come to the scene.
You can also call 3-1-1 and file a police report online at <https://sanfranciscopolice.org/reports>. Visit any San Francisco Police station to have your vehicle fingerprinted.

Happy Holidays! On behalf of the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, we want to remind consumers to beware of commonly used scam techniques during the holiday season. Whether you're shopping for gifts or planning holiday travel, the following fraud prevention tips can help you avoid becoming a victim of fraud:

- **Be wary of travel deals from unaccredited individuals or websites that claim to have heavily discounted holiday travel fares.**
- **Beware of fraudulent loan opportunities that target people seeking extra money during the holiday season.**
- **Pay with a credit card as opposed to a debit card when making purchases online. Using a payment method with purchase protection can be a safeguard in the event of fraud.**

For more information visit our website <http://sfdistrictattorney.org/consumer-fraud> or call our Consumer Mediation Unit at (415) 551-9595.

NEW ONE-DAY \$5 MUNI PASS

Want unlimited rides on Muni trains, buses and streetcars? Get the new one-day \$5 Muni pass on MuniMobile (®).

It's the new way to ride Muni as many times as you like in a single day, for one low price! (valid through 11:59 p.m.)

Muni's \$5 Day Pass can be purchased through the MuniMobile app, available on iOS and Android. The MuniMobile app can be added to smartphones free of cost and allows customers to purchase single tickets on the spot without the hassle of waiting in line. *Learn how to download, buy and store your Muni tickets at SFMTA.com/MuniMobile*

CNS-3195869#

Political Animal :: Holiday help

How to help animals affected by the devastating Camp Fire

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

NEARLY 10,000 HOMES AROUND Paradise, Calif. have been destroyed since the Camp Fire started its hellish rampage on Nov. 8. It spread quickly, and many people weren't able to save their pets. First responders and animal rescue groups have discovered thousands of them dead or injured and pulled them from the ashes. Many were found sitting in the smoldering embers of their former homes.

As displaced pets are brought to local shelters, those shelters are filling up — meaning animals already there have nowhere to go. Rescue groups like Rocket Dog are taking as many as they can, but foster homes (even temporary) and adopters are badly needed. Funds are also desperately needed to pay for the massive medical bills. As the holidays approach and we are safe in our homes with our lucky pets, please consider the following ways you can make a difference for the voiceless victims of the Camp Fire.

Caring Choices has volunteers caring for displaced animals and offering medical care. caring-choices.org/home.html

Butte Humane Society is accepting wet and dry pet food, litter boxes, kennels, crates, leashes, toys and more at 2580 Fair Street in Chico or through an Amazon wish list (set Butte Humane as your charity of choice on Smile.Amazon.com and Amazon will make a donation for every purchase, increasing your impact). The food and supply pantry is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily for Camp Fire evacuees. 530-343-7917, buttehumane.org/donate

North Valley Animal Disaster Group is providing emergency animal sheltering and evacuating animals from fire areas, when safe to do so. 530-895-0000, nvadg.org/about/donate/

VCA Animal Hospitals is offering free boarding for displaced pets, as availability permits. vcahospitals.com/

Golden Gate Veterinary Compound-ing Pharmacy is offering a 30-day supply of free pet medication for those affected by the wildfires. 888-855-6337

Oroville Hope Center is collecting pet food and litter for victims of the fire at 1950 Kitrick Avenue A in Oroville. 530-538-8398, orovillehopecenter.org/services/camp-fire-donations

Rocket Dog Rescue is making trips to the area, bringing supplies and bringing back animals from local shelters. If you want to donate, foster, or adopt, text is the best way to reach founder Pali Boucher: 415-756-8188. You can also email foster@rocketdogrescue.org or info@rocketdogrescue.org

OTHER ANIMAL ORGANIZATIONS

Northwest SPCA: 530-533-7636, nwspca.org/index.php/donate

Chico Cat Coalition: 530-894-1365, chicocatcoalition.org/donation

Wags & Whiskers Pet Rescue: 530-895-8888, wagsandwhiskerspetrescue.com/donate.html

Horse Plus Humane Society: 888-474-7077, 530-282-5565, horseplushumanesociety.org/donate

Maddie's Fund has a central message board where rescue groups and others can connect regarding the Camp Fire: maddiespetforum.org

Tony La Russa's ARF Disaster Relief: 925-256-1273, arflife.org/disaster-relief

HAVE A PLAN

Here are some animal disaster preparedness tips from the Humane Society of the United States.

For horses and other large animals: If you have a horse or large animal at a boarding facility or barn, ensure the locks to the barn doors are operational and easily able to be opened in the event of an emergency.

- Have trailers lined up and ensure that you have enough vehicles to move the number of horses at your barn/facility.

- In extreme danger with limited time, let your horse or large animal into a larger enclosed area that has been tamped down and is out of the line of fire. Ensure the safety of first response personnel by not allowing the horses to run free.

- If you are evacuating, let your large animals out into a paddock or corral, cut off their access to return to a

barn or stall (as they will naturally retreat back to where they are fed or cared for, even if the structure is on fire), and make sure the animal is easily identifiable; consider using nontoxic spray

As shelters fill up with displaced pets, animals already there have nowhere to go.

paint to spray paint your phone number on their body for easy reunification purposes.

For small wild animals: Do everything you can to allow fleeing animals to pass through, and if you are not in a line of fire, provide access to fresh water. The assistance/guidance of a professional wildlife rehabilitator is likely required if the animal requires medical attention or intervention.

Disaster kit: Have a disaster kit ready in your home at all times. Include these items:

- Food and water for at least five days for each pet. Bring bowls and a manual can opener if you are packing canned pet food.
- Medications for at least five days and all medical records, including vaccination history. Keep these stored in a waterproof container. You may also consider storing them digitally on a flash drive or online.
- Make sure your pet is wearing a collar with tags for identification. Microchipping your pet is essential as collars can be easily removed.
- Pack a pet first aid kit.
- Litterbox with extra litter and a scoop.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and carriers to transport pets safely.
- Current photos of you with your pets and descriptions of your animals.
- Comfort items, which may include a pet bed or a special toy to reduce stress.
- Written information about your pets' feeding schedules, medical conditions, and behavior issues along with the name and number of your veterinarian. This information can also be kept digitally.

Email: susan@marinatimes.com

Surviving the holidays

BY LIZ FARRELL

THE HOLIDAYS SEEM TO start earlier and earlier each year. We barely got through Halloween and already there were signs of Christmas. This time of year can be filled with so much joy and excitement, but it also can be hectic and stressful. Between sending holiday cards, buying gifts, and attending holiday parties, we can easily run ourselves down. In the midst of taking care of everyone else, we can easily forget it is equally important that as parents we remember to take care of ourselves, physically and emotionally. With a little thought, planning, and these tips, you can ensure yourself this truly is the most wonderful time of the year.

MAKE TIME FOR EXERCISE

When life gets hectic and busy usually the first thing to go is my exercise routine, even though it is the one thing I do for myself that makes me feel good. Not only does exercise reduce stress and improve your mood, it also gives you more energy to get through that long to-do list. With all the eating and drinking of the holidays, it can be easy to put on some unwanted weight

and then not feel good about how your clothes fit. Make sure to carve out time to exercise, make it a priority, and schedule it just like you would any other event. Even if you don't have time for a full workout, go for a 10-minute walk to do some stretching, rather than skipping your workout altogether.

Sleep is also an important part of self-care and exercise can play a big role in how well you sleep. I always find I sleep better after a good workout. Getting enough sleep is also key. Several late nights can catch up with you quickly and have a big impact, and not in a positive way, on your energy and your mood.

TAKE A TIME OUT

Sometimes the best thing we can do when we start to feel overwhelmed is to take a time-out. As parents, we know how effective it is when we put our kids in a time-out — they are able to cool off, regroup, and refocus. We need to give ourselves permission to do the same thing. What does that look like? It can be anything from treating yourself to a massage or facial, taking a yoga class, or just sitting in a quiet room by

yourself with no devices for a few minutes.

I recently tried Modern Acupuncture on Fillmore Street in Cow Hollow. I had never tried acupuncture before but was intrigued by the science of how it can restore balance and reduce stress and anxiety. It was pure relaxation despite the fact you have needles sticking out of you. The whole experience was 30 minutes, which was enough to feel completely relaxed and refreshed but didn't take up a huge part of my day.

JUST SAY NO

Part of the stress of the season is feeling like we have to do everything. From the hosting, to the baking, to the shopping, we put a lot of pressure on ourselves. I challenge you this season to try saying no to one thing. Skip a party, or ask someone else to host or help with the cooking. You may feel selfish, you may feel guilty, you may even feel like a slacker, but just try it. At first it may be hard, but you may also find it gets easier and it can be very freeing.

Ask yourself what is important and what do you value most during the holidays? Then, pick the traditions that mean the most



Don't let holiday stress wear you down. PHOTO: EVGENYATAMANENKO

to you and your family and just do those. Planning those out on a calendar can help reduce stress so you aren't trying to cram everything in at the end. Don't be afraid to keep things simple — buy fewer gifts and spend more time enjoying the company of your family and friends. Enjoy the moments and be present for them. Sometimes we get so caught up in what didn't go right or what didn't get done that we miss the opportunity to feel grateful for all that we have and the joy for those around us.

The holidays are a time for giving to others and to ourselves, so don't forget to give yourself the gift of time to take

care of you. If we love and take care of ourselves, we are better equipped to love and take care of others. This can be tough to remember as a parent especially around the holidays, and it is not always easy to do. However, it is probably one of the most important lessons I have learned as a parent. Have a wonderful and peace-filled holiday season.

Liz Farrell is the mother of three young children and the founder of TechTalks, a consulting group to help schools and families have productive and healthy conversations around social media and technology. Email: liz@marinatimes.com

GROWING MARINA FAMILY CHECKLIST:

- ☒ Two Bedroom Condo Where You Share A Wall With Your Kids' Bunk Bed
- ☒ Both Kids Have Soccer Practice At The Marina Greens At 8am When You Slept 3 Hours Last Night
- ☒ 20 Something Neighbors Partying Till 5am Yelling Fraternity Bro Chants
- ☒ Skateboard Attachment For The UPPA Baby Vista Stroller
- ☒ Swearing Under Your Breath At Uber Drivers Trying To Find Parking With A Crying Child
- ☐ Big Enough Garage For The 7 Seater And A Sedan
- ☐ Home Office For Work Concentration And Occasional Yoga
- ☐ Treehouse For The Kids To Play Make-believe
- ☐ Enough Space To Promise Yourself That You Are Going To Be A Better Parent Today



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COMPASS

The Marina Times Real Estate Market Report: October 2018

By Alain Pinel Realtors

SINGLE FAMILY HOME SALES

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2622 Chestnut Street	5BR/4+BA	\$4,730,000	Above	108
	2944 Webster Street	5BR/4+BA	\$6,150,000	Below	37
	2680 Green Street	5BR/6+BA	\$12,900,000	Below	6
Lake St.	2023 Lake Street 109 7th Ave.	3BR/2+BA 4BR/3BA	\$2,475,000 \$3,450,000	Below Above	25 9
Laurel Heights (no sales)					
Lone Mountain (no sales)					
Marina	451 Avila Street 465 Marina Blvd.	4BR/3BA 6BR/5+BA	\$4,506,150 \$7,200,000	Below Below	33 4
Nob Hill	1266 Washington Street	5BR/5BA	\$16,000,000	Below	168
North Beach (no sales)					
Pacific Heights	2104 Divisadero Street	4BR/3+BA	\$3,395,000	At	26
	2117 Broderick Street	4BR/3+BA	\$3,450,000	Above	22
	1 Raycliff Terrace	4BR/3+BA	\$7,600,000	Below	9
	2900 Broadway	5BR/6BA	\$32,000,000	Below	22
Presidio Heights	3710 Clay Street	3BR/2+BA	\$4,600,000	Above	7
	3788 Clay Street	5BR/4+BA	\$6,175,000	Above	11
Russian Hill (no sales)					
Sea Cliff	247 32nd Avenue	4BR/2+BA	\$2,800,000	At	16
	263 29th Avenue	4BR3+BA	\$3,600,000	Above	28
	165 28th Avenue	5BR/3+BA	\$4,500,000	Above	15
Telegraph Hill (no sales)					

CONDOS

NEIGHBORHOOD	ADDRESS	BEDROOMS/ BATHROOMS	SALE PRICE	ABOVE/AT/BELOW ASKING PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
Cow Hollow	2757 Greenwich Street	2BR/1BA	\$1,045,000	Above	11
	2912 Steiner Street #4	2BR/1BA	\$1,050,000	Above	11
	2244 Greenwich Street	2BR/2BA	\$1,791,000	Above	26
	1501 Greenwich Street #502	3BR/2+BA	\$2,100,000	Above	16
Lake St.	840 Lake Street #4	2BR/1BA	\$975,000	Above	29
	17 14th Avenue	2BR/1+BA	\$1,350,000	At	27
	641 Lake Street	3BR/2BA	\$2,250,000	At	27
Laurel Heights	105 Palm Avenue #14	2BR/1BA	\$1,100,000	Above	14
	44 Parker Avenue	3BR/2BA	\$2,500,000	Above	26
	35 Blake Street	4BR/4+BA	\$3,100,000	Above	27
Lone Mountain (no sales)					
Marina	190 Cervantes Blvd. #101	1BR/1BA	\$799,000	Below	57
	3354 Laguna Street #2	2BR/1BA	\$1,050,000	Above	26
	3615 Buchanan Street #205	2BR/2BA	\$1,475,000	Above	17
	2375 Bay Street	3BR/2BA	\$2,850,000	Below	26
Nob Hill	1177 California Street #906	0BR/1BA	\$545,000	Below	38
	901 Powell Street #4	1BR/1BA	\$735,000	Above	9
	1250 Clay Street #205	1BR/1BA	\$750,000	At	20
	1635 California Street. #33	2BR/2BA	\$1,115,000	Above	18
	1177 California Street #224	2BR/2BA	\$1,350,000	Below	0
	1301 Clay St. #6	3BR/2BA	\$2,200,000	Above	16
	850 Powell Street #902	2BR/2+BA	\$2,600,000	Below	21
	1333 Jones Street #1210	2BR/2BA	\$3,350,000	Below	88
North Beach (no sales)					
Pacific Heights	2364 Pacific Ave #1	1BR/1BA	\$700,000	Above	104
	2040 Franklin Street #804	1BR/1BA	\$1,055,000	Above	13
	3045 Jackson Street #501	1BR/1BA	\$1,200,000	At	0
	2760 Sacramento Street #3	2BR/1BA	\$1,285,000	Above	27
	2240 Green Street #3	1BR/1BA	\$1,310,000	At	9
	2040 Franklin Street #1205	2BR/2BA	\$1,353,000	Above	13
	1740 Franklin Street #3	2BR/2BA	\$1,600,000	At	40
	3164 Clay Street	2BR/2BA	\$1,950,000	At	16
Presidio Heights	2105 Buchanan Street #6	3BR/2BA	\$1,952,813	Above	13
	1928 Jackson Street	2BR/2BA	\$2,400,000	Above	17
Presidio Heights	122 Arguello Blvd.	3BR/2BA	\$2,295,000	Above	20
	408 Laurel Street #2	3BR/3+BA	\$2,750,000	Above	8
Russian Hill	2534 Polk Street	2BR/1BA	\$825,000	Above	44
	1050 North Point St. #507	1BR/1BA	\$835,000	Above	18
	62 Macondray Lane	1BR/1BA	\$875,000	Above	21
	1438 Filbert Street #402	1BR/1BA	\$1,040,000	Above	14
	1826 Taylor Street	2BR/1+BA	\$1,252,000	Above	48\
	2555 Leavenworth St. #303	2BR/2BA	\$1,522,000	Above	6
	774 Bay Street	3BR/2BA	\$1,533,000	Above	12
	2831 Polk Street #1	2BR/2+BA	\$2,100,000	Above	8
	1548 Vallejo Street	3BR/2BA	\$2,350,000	Above	9
	999 Green Street #1901	2BR/2BA	\$2,950,000	Below	19
	1269 Lombard Street #A	4BR/3+BA	\$3,175,000	Above	17
	990 Green Street #5	3BR/3BA	\$4,200,000	At	0
Sea Cliff (no sales)					
Telegraph Hill	241 Telegraph Hill Blvd.	2BR/2BA	\$1,680,000	Above	16

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, Manager, Alain Pinel. Real Estate, 1880 Lombard Street, 415.321.4274, jcostello@apr.com. www.apr.com

Doing something or nothing

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

WHEN PRODUCER MARTIN Gabel attended the initial rehearsal of the play *The Assassin*, he spotted an actress who was “gesticulating wildly instead of remaining motionless.” Irritated, Gabel told her “Don’t just do something — *stand there.*”

So we are told in a 1945 article by Leonard Lyons. Last month, San Francisco voters heeded Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff’s demand that they follow the traditional form of that line and “don’t just stand there — do something.” Benioff was talking (and tweeting) about supporting Proposition C, which would tax large businesses of many types to raise about \$300 million a year for additional spending on homeless services. Opponents raised a number of concerns, such as a lack of specificity about how the money would be spent, the lack of transparency or effectiveness about the hundreds of millions of dollars the city already spends on the homeless each year, and that businesses just might find other cities in which to ply their trades without being targeted with new taxes every time voters get upset at something.

Proponents saw it differently. I recently spoke with David Campos, former supervisor and current head of the Democratic County Central Committee, about the homeless tax proposition, which he said “was ultimately about should the wealthiest city in the country turn its back on the homeless? . . . I don’t understand why [Mayor London Breed] came out against it, because what it does is it actually provided the mayor the funding needed

to address a lot of the issues around homelessness that we’re not able to address, specifically the issue of housing and services.”

In particular, he said it gives the city funding to do more than just house people in temporary shelters; the city can build that supportive housing that is permanent and includes services for the tenants who might be struggling with addictions or mental health issues. He notes the irony that he is helping just that become a reality down in Santa Clara, where he is a deputy county executive.

BUT IS IT LEGAL?

The threat of a lawsuit challenging the legality of the proposition’s implementation is an echo of a lawsuit against the city over another tax-the-businesses measure approved by city voters back in June of this year. That earlier measure increased taxes on businesses to provide money for child-care and early education programs; the lawsuit charges that taxes can’t be raised without a two-thirds majority vote. Proposition C garnered 61 percent of the votes, a bit shy of two-thirds. There is disagreement about whether that vote requirement only applies to legislators or also to the public in referendums. Judges will have to determine that.

Following November’s election, I hosted a political roundtable in which I asked CBS Bay Area legal and political reporter Melissa Caen — who is also a lawyer—about Proposition C, and she said “There’s some legal issues here. It was passed with a majority . . . but not a supermajority. There’s a question about [whether] you can collect the tax but can you actually spend



Why is this man smiling? Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff’s vocal support for Proposition C helped assure its victory.

PHOTO: CELLANR

the tax, because there wasn’t a supermajority?” So far, City Controller Ben Rosenfield has said the tax can be collected but the city won’t be able to spend it until the legal issue is resolved. After all, if a judge ultimately rules for the plaintiffs, then the city would have to pay back that money — and then whose ox is gored?

“The challenge with Prop C is that there are forces that are trying to keep it from being enforced,” Campos said. He hopes that Breed will implement it right away; if not, the supervisors should step in and make sure it happens. He repeatedly said

it was about making sure that “the will of the voters is respected, and this bogus idea of a lawsuit — we’re going to have to fight that.” I didn’t endear myself to Campos or his fans

in the audience when I mentioned that the will of voters had done other things they might not agree with, such as elect Donald Trump (with an assist from the Electoral College).

SHOPPING LIST

As for how Breed will spend the money, he said, “You’re the mayor; you’re the chief executive. Make it right. Make sure the people working for you are doing what they are supposed to do.”

Caen notes that an advisory council will actually dole out the cash. Its seven members will be appointed by Mayor Breed, the Board of Supervisors, and other city leaders. But an influx of new dollars doesn’t mean that the will of the voters will actually happen; it might even result in the city just doing nothing.

“Right now we’re spending like \$300 million a year on homeless services,” said Caen. “Are we just going to move that over and pay for something else and bring this on in and end up in a net-similar situation, as opposed to putting it on top of what we already spend — which I think is the intent? But as is often the case — anyone who watches politics, you know — as soon as you raise taxes over here for something, they’re just going to suck that [previously allocated] money over and pay for something else that’s less popular. So you could end up back at zero even though we’ve got this new tax money coming in.”

Real estate news tips?

Email: john@marinatimes.com



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