



Confronting the pandemic

News Briefs: The city's vaccination plans ramp up. p. 3
Liz Farrell on defending our city and what kids need to know p. 10



Online only

Lou Barberini on city politics, expanded calendar, Michael Snyder's Coastal Commuter, and more.
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MARINATIMES.COM : CELEBRATING OUR 37TH YEAR : VOLUME 37 : ISSUE 3 : MARCH 2021



Left to right: Alexander Calder's *La Grande Vitesse*, 1969; Pablo Picasso's *Woman Seated in a Red Armchair*, 1932. IMAGES: COURTESY OF THE FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO

Modern giants meet at the de Young

Exhibition explores similarities and distinctions between Calder and Picasso

BY SHARON ANDERSON

WORKS BY TWO OF THE most influential artists of the 20th century, Alexander Calder and Pablo Picasso, will be together in comparative exhibition. Not only the first of its kind in a major museum, the de Young is also

the first museum in the United States to explore the artists' relationship. In a visual conversation consisting of more than 100 paintings, sculptures, drawings, and photographs, the artists' innovative approaches to subject matter, space, and composition reinforce their groundbreaking achievements in the realm of abstract art.

CALDER AND PICASSO

Alexander Calder is perhaps best known as the inventor of the mobile in which suspended abstract elements "drawn" in space become alive in a kinetic, three-dimensional change event of balance and harmony. Marcel Duchamp originally

ART WORLD, continued on 6

REYNOLDS RAP : Opinion

Emma, Ronisha, and Latanette

Three young Black mothers murdered and still no justice

BY SUSAN DYER REYNOLDS

"Basically, they're saying my daughter was nothing, she wasn't worth anything anyway. And that's just not true and I get so angry about that."

— Sherree DeYoe, mother of murder victim Emma Hunt

AFTER HER MOTHER'S DEATH FROM STARVATION, 6-year-old Emma Hunt cared for herself and her baby sister in the harsh streets of Ethiopia for a year. That's when Sherree DeYoe adopted the two and brought them to Manteca in San Joaquin County.

In 2020 at age 32, Hunt was the mother of two children living in San Francisco. After battling years of drug addiction, she told her family she had been clean for months and planned to enter a residential treatment program on Monday, Jan. 6. But even after surviving Ethiopia and an addiction to drugs, Hunt could not survive the violent streets of San Francisco's Tenderloin District. Around 4 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 5, after an alter-

REYNOLDS RAP, continued on 4

SUPERVISOR : Opinion

Saving our small businesses

We need to stop viewing small businesses as ATMs

BY CATHERINE STEFANI

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT NEARLY A YEAR HAS passed since the first stay-at-home orders were issued. While I breathed a sigh of relief in January, with the inauguration of a new presidential administration that is taking the pandemic and economic recovery seriously, Covid-19 has nevertheless claimed half a million American lives and inflicted incalculable harm on our economy. Here in San Francisco, few have felt the pandemic's economic toll more acutely than our neighborhood restaurants, shops, entertainment venues, and salons, and those who own and operate them. Many have closed their doors, and thousands are unemployed, uncertain when they will be able to reopen or return to work. That's why I'm taking action to save our small businesses.

In partnership with the Department of Public Health and the Roxie Theater, I am proud to have been part of the successful effort to save the Sundance Film Festival at Fort Mason. Last December, when the latest Covid-19 surge began, the health officer shut down

DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR, continued on 2

MICHAEL SNYDER ON ... TELEVISION



Elizabeth Olsen and Paul Bettany in *WandaVision*. PHOTO: MARVEL STUDIOS

Portals to adventure in time and space

BY MICHAEL SNYDER

IN TIMES OF STRIFE, PEOPLE thirst for escapism. That's as good a reason as any to explain the current proliferation of science fiction and fantasy movies and television. One need only check the box-office

receipts for the interlocked Marvel superhero movies, the *Star Wars* franchise, and the *Harry Potter* saga to understand the magnitude of their popularity. A widespread embrace of the speculative and the extraordinary is just as evident when it comes to serialized television, as networks,

cable channels, and streaming services have stepped up their sci-fi and fantasy programming to meet the demand. As a result, some truly intriguing and addictive shows have found receptive audiences and, in a few cases, cult-like followings.

Loyal viewers can be so numerous and vocal that they'll keep their favorites going on streaming platforms after broadcast and cable TV cancellation. So the dazzling and complex hard sci-fi saga *The Expanse*, dramatizing the possible geopolitical and societal repercussions of Earth's future colonization of our solar system, moved from SyFy to a more receptive home at Amazon Prime, where it's only gotten better. Meanwhile, Fox dumped *Lucifer*, the witty mix of police procedural, supernatural morality tale, and romantic comedy based on a DC/Vertigo comic. In short order, worldwide fan outcry convinced Netflix to pick up this romp about the dapper Devil himself — an expert on evil who is so smitten with an attractive homicide detective that he decides to work as her consultant.

A series like *Snowpiercer* might not have been made a decade ago. It's a crafty TV adaptation of the dysto-

SNYDER, continued on 7

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District 3 Supervisor

continued from cover

drive-in movie theaters, threatening the film festival and its local host, the Roxie Theater. The Roxie is one of the oldest continuously operating cinemas in the United States, and it has been an incredible partner in bringing movies to Fort Mason for all to enjoy.

Due to San Francisco's restrictions, however, Sundance needed a special commitment from the city to allow the film festival to go forward. After advocating on the festival's behalf, I convinced the Department of Public Health to amend the health order and certify that the festival could continue as planned. While I was pleased to see the festival go forward, our small businesses need systemic changes too, and I'm focused on delivering those changes for all those who keep our merchant corridors running.

Last December, at a Board of Supervisors meeting focused on our economy, I introduced one of the largest small business fee-waiver packages in San Francisco history, to help businesses that were ordered to close by the city. The steps we have taken together to stop the spread of Covid-19 in San Francisco have saved lives, but these precautions have had severe impacts on our economy as well. Small businesses employ hundreds of thousands of San Franciscans — they are what make our neighborhoods so vibrant and special, and they truly make up the backbone of our local economy. It is our responsibility to step up and support them in any way possible.

My legislation will waive business registration fees, annual license fees, and all penalties related to those fees for small businesses with \$25 million or less in gross receipts that saw a reduction in revenue due to local health orders, and refunds any such payments that have already been made.

This is a question of fundamental fairness, and the fees that the city would otherwise extract from our small businesses during this difficult time are extraordinarily unfair to begin with. Small businesses should not be forced to pay the city for the privilege of operating when Covid-19 has made it all but impossible

for them to stay open. All budget decisions are reflections of our values, and, although waiving these fees will reduce the city's revenue during a period of fiscal uncertainty, it is absolutely the right and just thing to do.

We need to stand up for our small businesses and our neighbors who keep them running, rather than continuing to view them as ATMs. I was thrilled that my legislation passed out of the Budget and Finance Committee unanimously and with five cosponsors in February. I expect it will begin to provide the economic relief our small businesses so desperately need as soon as possible.

In addition to waiving unfair fees, I have asked the city attorney to draft legislation to preserve parklets in our community, because our small businesses need certainty to plan for their economic recovery. Small businesses, and restaurants in particular, have relied on parklets over

the course of the past year — with many spending thousands of dollars installing and activating them — and they deserve more certainty that they will be permitted to continue to use these spaces as

we recover. My proposal will allow our small businesses to use the parklets they installed in our merchant corridors for an additional two years after the termination of the Covid-19 emergency declaration. With clear expectations from the city, it will be easier for small businesses to recover financially.

While significant, these actions are just first steps. During the committee hearing for my fee-waiver legislation, one small business owner called in to share her experiences. In spite of the tremendous difficulties the city imposes on our local merchants, she remained hopeful. She stated that, Covid-19 aside, she looks forward to the day that it is easier to run a small business in San Francisco. I share that hope wholeheartedly, and I am committed to doing everything in my power to remove obstacles to our small businesses' success.

As we pass the one-year pandemic milestone, each of us must do everything we can to ensure that our neighborhoods return to the vibrant places they once were. That means taking every opportunity we can to champion our small businesses.

**We must take every
opportunity we can to
champion our small
businesses.**

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Chinatown’s new Willie ‘Woo Woo’ Wong Playground and Clubhouse features unique structures inspired by Chinese mythology. PHOTO: JIM WATKINS

A real shot in the arm

Vaccination rollout expands

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

CITY COVID VACCINATION

With the goal of vaccinating at least 10,000 people a day against Covid-19, San Francisco has continued to fine-tune its vaccination distribution plans to increase the ability of residents to participate. More sites have been added to the list of available vaccination locations, ranging from Moscone Center and City College to the Giants stadium. On Feb. 19, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency said it would provide free, roundtrip transportation for people traveling to get their Covid-19 vaccine. Paratransit rides are also free for trips to and from vaccination locations within S.F. Paratransit’s service area.

“In addition to reaching our most vulnerable people with a combination of mobile vaccination teams, neighborhood sites, and community clinics, we want to make it as convenient as possible for people throughout San Francisco to get to our high-volume vaccination sites,” said Mayor London Breed. Vaccinations are available for people aged 65 and older, and people in the fields of health care, education, childcare, emergency services, and food and agriculture. To find out more about vaccination eligibility and to set up an appointment, visit sf.gov/getvaccinated.

WILLIE ‘WOO WOO’ WONG OPENS

Following a \$14.5 million renovation, the Willie “Woo Woo” Wong Playground and Clubhouse reopened in February, featuring a larger play area, improved accessibility, public art, and play structures inspired by Chinese mythology.

The half-acre park, located at 830 Sacramento Street, was redesigned following input from neighborhood organizations, and multilingual outreach to local residents. “The incredible work of Chinatown stakeholders over the last decade to push this project over the finish line is a testament to the importance of this unique public playground and park for seniors and families living in cramped conditions,” said Supervisor Aaron Peskin, whose District 3 includes Chinatown. “The Committee for Better Parks and Recreation in Chinatown led robust outreach to identify culturally significant design elements and community programming needs. As we ring in the Year of the Ox, nothing makes me happier than knowing that Chinatown youth will soon be shooting hoops on a new basketball court named after a Chinese American legend, seniors will have a safe respite to practice outdoor tai chi, and children will be able to use the clubhouse as the newest Community Learning Hub.”

Originally opened in 1927 as the Chinese Playground, the park was renamed in 2006 in honor of Willie Wong, a Chinese-American college basketball star.

MORE WIENER HOUSING BILLS

State Sen. Scott Wiener (D–San Francisco) is bringing his total package of housing legislation to four for the current legislative year. Both of the new bills — SB 477 and SB 478 — reflect his longtime commitment to getting California cities to boost housing production. SB 477 provides for greater collection of data on the local implementation of the state’s housing laws. SB 478 cracks down on communities that use “restrictive square footage and lot size mandates to prevent small multiunit buildings (2–10 units) on land zoned for multiunit,” according to Wiener.

These follow the previously announced SB 10, to give cities ways to quickly change zoning to allow 10-unit buildings in certain locations, and SB 234, which provides funding for new housing for at-risk youth.

DOWNPAYMENT PAYMENT

In mid-March, Mayor London Breed announced that the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development would release a new round of funds to help first-time home buyers make downpayments. The Downpayment Assistance Loan Program (DALP) will benefit up to 80 households out of its \$27 million in available funding. The program offers up to \$375,000 in assistance to low- and moderate-income homebuyers purchasing a market-rate residence in the city. To be eligible, applicants need to attend 10 hours of homebuyer education and be preapproved from a lender accepted by DALP. Interested applicants can find more information at sfmohcd.org/dalp.

FACTS AND FIGURES

\$12.9 million: amount the city’s Grants for the Arts division had available for grants in Fiscal Year 2020 . . . **81:** percentage of viewers surveyed by OnBuy.com who said they would find it too awkward to watch *Bridgerton* with members of their family . . . **51:** percentage who said *Sex and the City* was too awkward . . . **Second:** ranking of California in WalletHub’s list of “2021’s Most Sinful States”; the Golden State’s position was derived from an average of its rankings on various categories, such as 12th place for “anger and hatred,” second place for both “lust” and, of course, “vanity” . . . **114:** percentage by which the number of women-owned businesses has increased in the past 20 years, according to whattobecome.com.



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MARCH 2021 :: 3

Reynolds Rap
continued from cover

cation near Larkin and O'Farrell Streets, a man pulled out a gun and shot her once in the neck and three times in the chest.

One week later, officers from the San Francisco Police Department's narcotics squad arrested 18-year-old Kevin Lopez-Figueroa and a 17-year-old juvenile, booking them both on suspicion of murder and conspiracy. Though the incident was captured on videotape, San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin declined to file murder charges against the two suspects, deciding instead on firearms charges. "The people have the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that a defendant did not act in lawful self-defense," said then-spokesman for the district attorney's office Alex Bastian.

BRINGING A MILK CRATE TO A GUNFIGHT

Investigators allowed Hunt's family to view the surveillance tape. They were outraged at what they described as the careless steps made by Boudin. "Emma didn't go after them with a knife. She hit him with the milk crate," her adopted mother, Sherree DeYoe, told FOX40 News. "When you're looking at the full circumstances, there's intent there. They had strong intent to come down and do some sort of harm," said Hunt's stepfather, David DeYoe. According to the DeYoes, Figueroa and the juvenile suspect harassed Hunt for 30 to 40 minutes trying to get money from her, then left the scene and returned with a gun.

Police sources tell me that officers made an undercover drug buy from the juvenile suspect back in the Tenderloin just a week after Hunt's murder. When I asked about Figueroa, the Sheriff's Office responded that he was "not in San Francisco jail custody." As Boudin is fond of reducing charges and releasing suspects on ankle monitors, this wasn't surprising; however, I was surprised that Figueroa isn't listed in the San Francisco Superior Court database — which means there is no trial date set for the firearms charge.

THREE DEATHS IN 30 DAYS

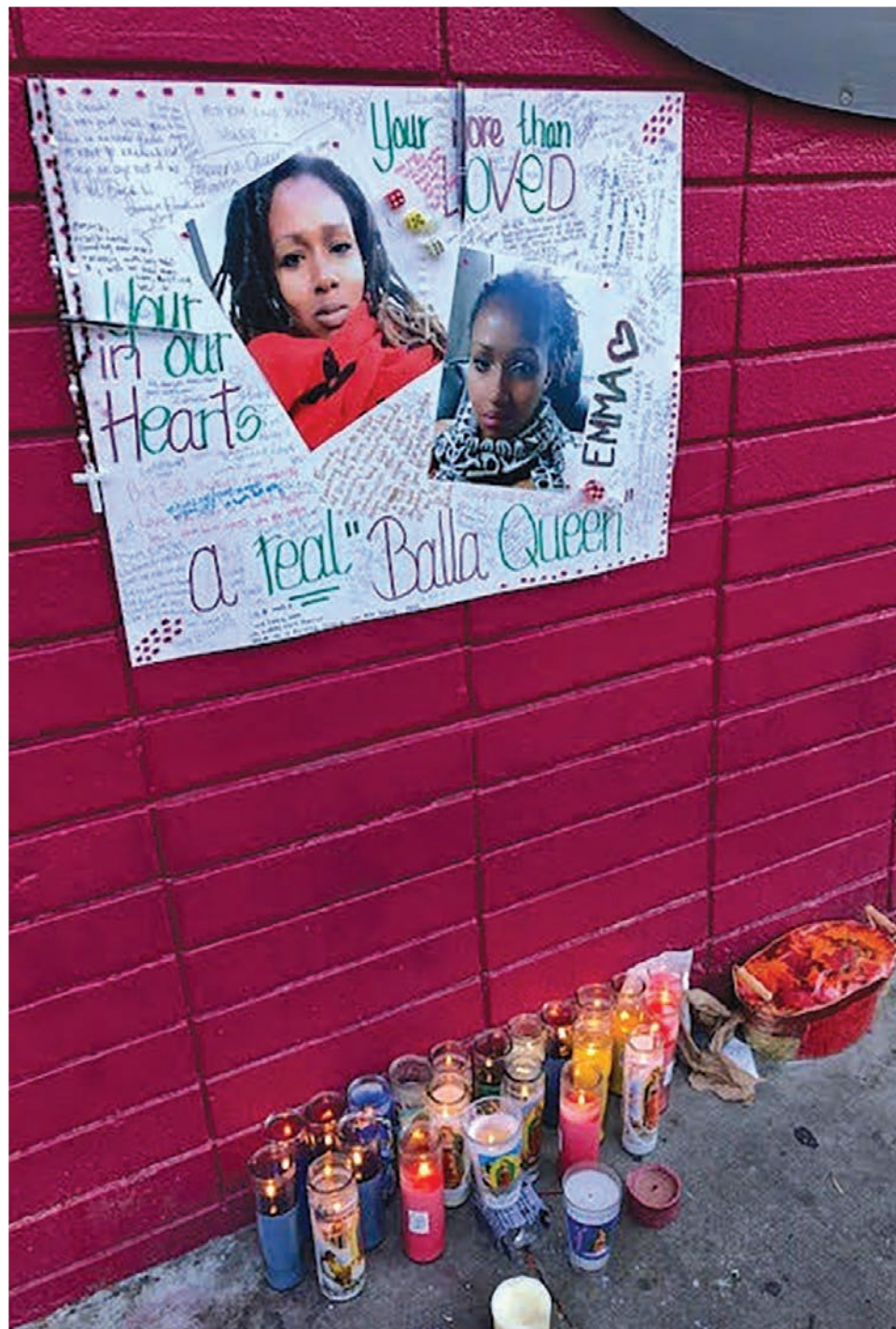
Hunt was one of three Black women in their 30s killed during a 30-day period in San Francisco. Latanette McDaniel, 35, was stabbed to death in Potrero Hill on Dec. 14, 2019, and Ronisha Cook, 33, was gunned down in the Tenderloin on Dec. 19, 2019. Between the three women, a total of 11 children were left motherless.

Supervisor Matt Haney, whose district includes the Tenderloin, spoke at a January 2020 press conference held near a makeshift memorial for Hunt.

"What is most important is that we listen to the leaders within our community, listen to Black women in our community, leaders who tell us what we should do to prevent this in the future," Haney said. Shamann Walton, now president of the Board of Supervisors, also attended, stating, "We want everyone to know that we take every violent crime seriously, making sure that the resources to address violence go to the areas and the neighborhoods, communities where we see it." But over a year later, their words ring hollow as Hunt's killers are free, while one of Cook's killers wasn't even charged — and went on to kill again.

TRAGIC TIES

This past Jan. 28 around 5 p.m., legendary private detective Jack Palladino, 76, whose clients over the decades



A makeshift memorial to Emma Hunt in the Tenderloin near the place of her murder. PHOTO: USED WITH PERMISSION

included Hollywood stars and the Black Panthers, stepped out of his Haight Ashbury home on Page Street to take pictures in the neighborhood. A car pulled up and a man jumped out, attempting to steal Palladino's high-priced camera. Palladino held on and hit his head on the pavement as the car dragged him. Witnesses ran to his aid, but several days later Palladino died in the hospital from his injuries. In what sounds like a movie plot, the private eye helped solve his own case when pictures taken on his camera revealed the suspects, leading to the arrests of 24-year-old Lawrence Thomas of Pittsburg and 23-year-old Tyjone Flournoy of San Francisco.

The name Flournoy sounded familiar, so I looked him up in an arrest database and discovered why: Flournoy was one of four men arrested for the 2019 murder of Ronisha Cook. Just before noon on Dec. 19, officers from Tenderloin Station on patrol in the area of Eddy and Leavenworth Streets heard gunfire. At the crime scene, witnesses described a vehicle that fled the scene. Officers located a vehicle matching the description with damage from gunfire in the area of Eighth and Folsom Streets. They also found Cook suffering from gunshot wounds and rendered aid, but she succumbed to her injuries at the hospital. Homicide Detail identified four suspects — 28-year-old Derick Session, 39-year-old Gary Owens, 31-year-old Robert Huntley, and 23-year-old Tyjone Flournoy.

The district attorney's office charged only two of the men — Owens and

Huntley — with Cook's murder. Both men remain behind bars (still without trial dates). Session and Flournoy were released. After the attack on Palladino made the news, Boudin told the *San Francisco Chronicle* he "filed murder charges against the people we believe we can prove were the actual shooter and the driver of the car. At the time of the arrests, we asked police to keep investigating the two passengers in the car, including Mr. Flournoy." It's convenient for Boudin to fall back on one of his old standards by putting the onus on police; however, California Penal Code 182 PC states "If two or more people conspire to commit any crime, they shall be punishable in the same manner and to the same extent as is provided for the punishment of the felony."

In other words, there were ways of keeping Flournoy and Session in jail while Boudin waited for "more evidence." Instead, he set them free — and Flournoy is now facing charges in the murder of Palladino.

IS RACIAL JUSTICE ONLY FOR CRIMINALS?

Latanette McDaniel's killer also remains behind bars. The next hearing is March 17, and again, no trial date has been set. On Dec. 14, 2020, shortly before midnight, McDaniel was stabbed in the Potrero Hill neighborhood. As she lay dying, she told investigators that a woman named Vernisha Mandigo killed her. The incident, along with McDaniel's final words identifying Mandigo, were purportedly captured by police body cameras. Mandigo, 25 at the time, confessed to the killing. Since 2013, Mandigo has been arrested nearly 20 times in multiple jurisdictions, including San Francisco, for crimes including prostitution, receiving stolen

property, and car theft. While none of her previous crimes were violent, the sheer volume of arrests was at the very least a cry for help. Yet Mandigo was released again and again.

In multiple interviews, Chesa Boudin has said his goal as San Francisco's district attorney is to enforce the law equally, fight for racial justice and equity, and focus resources on root causes of crime to break the revolving door of America's failed justice system. But actions speak louder than words. For Emma Hunt and Ronisha Cook, there is no justice for them or for their grieving families. Hunt's killers are free, and one of Cook's suspected killers was free to kill again. Latanette McDaniel died in the arms of investigators, her murder committed by another young woman who showed signs for nearly a decade she needed resources focused on her. Now, presumably, she will spend the rest of her life in prison. I say *presumably* because you can never be sure with Boudin.

'MY FATHER SHOULD BE FREED TOO'

On May 6, 2020, Boudin wrote an op-ed for the *Los Angeles Times* titled, "I'm keeping San Francisco safer by emptying the jail. My father should be freed too." He starts by saying people in prison "face a grave risk of falling ill, dying and spreading Covid-19" and admits the issue is personal because his 75-year-old father "lives in a prison cell."

Boudin has never made any bones about the fact that much of his work is based on what happened as a result of his parents' involvement in the Weather Underground, a militant group active in the '60s and '70s that bombed the Pentagon and the United States Capitol, among other targets. His mother, Kathy Boudin, pleaded guilty to felony murder and served 22 years in prison, and his father, David Gilbert, was sentenced to life for the 1981 heist of a Brinks truck in New York that resulted in the deaths of Brink's guard Peter Paige and two Nyack policemen, Sgt. Edward O'Grady and Police Officer Waverly Brown. Using his newfound celebrity, Boudin has been actively campaigning for New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo to grant his father clemency. In his op-ed, Boudin describes his parents as "political activists," points out that they were unarmed, and that other participants shot and killed the victims. He calls the crime a "botched robbery" and refers to his parents as "getaway drivers."

Does Boudin's understating of history cloud his judgment when it comes to murder cases? For example, did his belief that his parents were getaway drivers and not worthy of murder charges influence his choice to set Tjone Flournoy free because he was a passenger in the getaway car? In the *Los Angeles Times* op-ed, Boudin says making decisions "about who to incarcerate and for how long and who to release on what conditions" is "agonizing," but he never mentions how agonizing those decisions are for the victims and their families. "For decades, criminal justice policy has been driven by the sometimes realistic fear that any person released could commit a heinous crime," he continues. "Locking up millions of people destroys families and communities..." Allowing violent repeat offenders back out on the streets, where their victims are predominantly people of color in poor neighborhoods, destroys families and communities, too. Where is their justice?

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Peak woke

Has San Francisco reached the high tide of its progressive resurgence?

BY JOHN ZIPPERER

SAN FRANCISCO IS THE NEW Berkeley,” said KCBS Radio reporter Bob Butler in a recent political discussion. “Remember all the times when we talked about how wacky Berkeley was for the things that they were doing? Well, San Francisco is doing that.”

The “that” in question is letting your leftist freak flag fly, unhindered by considerations of compromise, common sense, or if your ideas are even workable. This was in full view recently when the city’s school board spent valuable time not coming up with a plan to safely reopen schools but devising a plan to rename 44 city public schools whose namesakes fell afoul of the board’s ideological stance. They devised a list that seemed tailor-made to please right-wing provocateurs like Tucker Carlson. The offending names included former mayor and current U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, as well as Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Oh, and there was still no plan to reopen public schools — which, if racial and economic reckoning was a school board priority, would itself have been a priority. Racial minorities and economically disadvantaged children are being hurt the most by not being able to attend schools; many don’t have the technology to access online learning, they often don’t have high-speed Internet connection (I remember one local expert talking about families with no Internet connection, where the kids couldn’t even do their homework until their mother came home

from work and they could use her smartphone’s Internet connection), and they’re highly unlikely to have tutors available to help them catch up.

Instead, the school board used its time to insist that Dianne Feinstein is the same as a slave ship captain. This stain is likely to remain on San Francisco’s reputation long after the freak flag is lowered and sanity returns to the school board.

The board has asked the public to suggest new names for the schools via an online form. I’m hoping at least one of them is named Boaty McBoatface.

LEFT-RIGHT, LEFT-RIGHT

When I brought this up to C.W. Nevius, former *Chronicle* columnist and current author of “C.W.’s Newsletter,” he said, “One of the ironies of San Francisco, as ‘woke’ as San Francisco is, year after year we elect a moderate mayor. The only progressive mayor in recent history was Art Agnos — and he was a one-term mayor.”

That pattern has held, with current Mayor London Breed representing what can probably be called the moderate wing of the local Democratic Party. Yet today the Board of Supervisors is controlled by the left wing, the district attorney is the city’s unofficial public defender, and the school board is made up of achingly woke members. Progressives have been eyeing the mayor’s office as a sign of achieving their goal of control in the city, but I suspect they have reached peak woke, the high point of their current resurgence, and we are likely to see a reaction at the ballot box that is based on the Left’s

overreach on crime, small business conditions, and schools.

Last year, I interviewed a candidate running to replace a Democratic incumbent in Sacramento. She was a smart and well-spoken candidate, but her views on crime left me wondering how well she had thought them through. While discussing victims of burglaries, including her own loss of a computer to a thief, she didn’t blame the thieves; she blamed the victims, saying they had guilt because they had not changed a system that drove people to commit crime.

When I politely suggested that such an approach to crime will result in an inevitable backlash from voters who don’t like being blamed when their homes are burglarized and vandalized or their cars stolen, I expected her to defend her point. And she could have. Anyone who had a halfway decent religious education — in I think just about any religion, but certainly the one based on a Middle Eastern carpenter — would at least be familiar with the concept of feeling compassion for the offender, as well as taking responsibility to make a just society. As I’ve written here before, we are at a moment in time where millions and millions of people are open to making significant changes in society to make it fairer and more just, not just for themselves but for people they have never met who are suffering the effects of systemic injustice.

But that wasn’t the response. Instead, she reiterated her point and moved on. I realized she didn’t have a position that had been derived from facts and evidence and questioning, the better to arrive at a

policy that can withstand critics; she had a position that can only be derived from talking to people you already agree with, and formulating a policy that fits ideological, not human, parameters.

THE BACKLASH

The blowback has already started. The Campaign for Better Public Schools was recently formed by the Families for San Francisco PAC to explore remedies ranging from recalling members of the school board to a charter amendment that would turn school board members into mayoral appointees. As for crime, District Attorney Chesa Boudin got elected in a low turnout election and through the magical machinations of ranked-choice voting. There is already an effort to recall Boudin; but if that stalls and he makes it to a reelection campaign, it will be very hard to imagine him being reelected. The latest news that the city is considering laying off 11 percent of its police officers is not Boudin’s doing, but it is unlikely to calm voters worried about dangerous streets.

There is no lane for the Republicans to use the Left’s overreach to gain power in San Francisco like it was able to do in New York City. The GOP here is too small and the brand has been tarnished beyond immediate repair by four years of Trumpism. But there is every reason to expect that the moderate wing of the Democratic Party will ride schools, crime, and small business to victory over the next couple city elections.

Send feedback to letters@marinatimes.com; author email: john@marinatimes.com

One week of nonstop crime

HERE’S A SAMPLING OF recent crimes in the districts covered by Northern SFPD station.

SHOTS FIRED
Feb. 2, 7 a.m.
700 Block of McAllister Street

Officers responded to a report of shots fired. One witness was walking his dog and took cover behind a car when he heard gun fire. Multiple residents and witnesses reported seeing a white sedan stop in the area and several shots being fired. The officers found that bullets had penetrated walls, damaged interior property, and shattered a window at the victims’ residences, though no one was injured.

STEALING ELECTRONICS, PART I
Feb. 3, 3 p.m.
500 block of Hayes Street

Employees of a retail store met with officers and reported that a known thief had entered the store. One of the employees approached the subject and told him he was not allowed in the store. The sub-

ject ignored the instruction and brandished a silver handgun at the employee. The subject then stole several electronic devices and fled the area on a scooter.

STEALING ELECTRONICS, PART II
Feb. 4, 6:30 a.m.
2300 block of Lombard Street

An employee of a business told officers that multiple electronic items had been stolen from the store. Surveillance footage from the business and from a construction site across the street revealed a male with distinctive clothing tampering with the store’s door before diving through the glass to gain entry.

At about 7:30 a.m., two officers located the subject with another male on the 2100 block of Chestnut Street. The subject attempted to discard one of the stolen items in a trash bin, and the rest of the stolen property was located in some luggage, which was seen with the subject in the security video. The subject was arrested for burglary and possession of stolen property; the other person was also arrested on an unrelated

warrant for a theft violation. Both were booked at County Jail.

BANK BOMB THREAT, PART I
Feb. 4, 4 p.m.
500 block of Golden Gate Avenue

Responding to a report of a bank robbery, officers talked to a teller who reported that a subject handed in a note demanding money and claiming to have a bomb. No bomb or explosive device was seen by the victim or any witnesses. The teller gave money to the subject, who fled on a bike. The officers reviewed video surveillance of the incident.

BANK BOMB THREAT, PART II
Feb. 5, 3:10 p.m.
500 block of Van Ness Avenue

The same two officers who responded to the previous day’s bank robbery responded to a similar event at another bank. However, in this incident, the teller observed what was believed to be a grenade; the teller gave money to the subject, who fled on a bike. The officers reviewed security video and believed the suspect

to be the same person from the previous day. About two hours later, the officers were patrolling the area of Myrtle Street and Van Ness Avenue when they located a subject matching the individual they had observed on the security video from both bank robberies. The subject was detained without incident, and he later confessed to the robberies. He was booked at County Jail.

KIDNAPPING
Feb. 6, 8:47 p.m.
2100 block of Jackson Street

An unknown suspect or suspects stole a Honda Odyssey with a 4-year-old girl and 2-year-old boy inside. The victim, a driver making a DoorDash delivery, had stepped away from his vehicle; upon his return, he discovered a subject inside his van with his two children. As the victim pulled the subject from the vehicle, the subject stole a cell phone from the victim’s hand and ran into the passenger side of a waiting getaway vehicle. The victim ran after the subject and grabbed the door handle as the getaway vehicle began to flee, dragging

the victim for half a block — though the victim was able to open the passenger door. The victim got into the vehicle and there was a physical altercation over his phone. He eventually got his phone back and ran back to where he had left his own vehicle, but when he arrived he discovered that his vehicle and his children were no longer there.

Police initiated a citywide search and requested assistance from outside law enforcement agencies, including an Amber Alert through CHP. The entire SFPD night watch, including specialized units, was held over to assist in the search for the children.

The next day at about 1 a.m., two police officers located the van in the Bayview District. The two children were inside; according to police reports, the children appeared unharmed. They were assessed medically and reunited with their parents.

SFPD arrested two male suspects in their twenties and charged them with auto theft, robbery, conspiracy, battery, child endangerment, aggravated assault, aggravated kidnapping, and a parole violation.

Art World
continued from cover

coined the term “mobile” in 1931 referring to both “motion” and “motive” in French. Early mobiles moved by motors whereas Calder created mobiles that responded to air currents, light, humidity, and human interaction. Similar to the Futurist art movement when motion translated as repetitive sweeping lines in paint onto canvas, the mobile was also influenced by industrialization and the rhythmic movements of machinery, commonplace in the world of manufacturing.

Pablo Picasso is considered one of the most influential and prolific artists of the 20th century. Working in a variety of styles and mediums throughout his life, he radically merged abstraction and representation as one of the pioneers of a new art form called Cubism. Picasso fearlessly tackled controversial subjects relating to the human condition, including love, sex, war, suffering, mortality, and death. One of his most iconic works is *Guernica* (1937), a painting giving depth to the horrors and brokenness of war, created in response to the brutal bombing of the Spanish town of Guernica by Nazi German and Fascist Italian air forces during the Spanish Civil War (1936–39). Creating an instantly recognizable painting style, Picasso’s influence became

so great that it catapulted him into the world of celebrity, a distinction not commonly experienced among painters.

“Through his mobiles, Calder animated sculpture, embraced chance as a crucial artistic element, and engaged the viewer in a dynamic dialogue with the ever-evolving artwork. Exploring the concept of metamorphosis while alternating between representation and abstraction, Picasso revealed the infinite potential inherent in both styles — often in the same work



Left to right: Alexander Calder’s *My Shop*, 1955. Pablo Picasso’s *The Studio*, 1955. IMAGES: THE FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO

of art,” states Timothy Anglin Burgard, distinguished senior curator and Ednah Root curator in charge of American Art at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

A JOURNEY OF TWO PARALLEL VISIONS

Conceived by the artists’ grandsons, Alexander S.C. Rower and Bernard Ruiz-Picasso, “Calder-Picasso” explores an exchange of works from the mid-1920s to the early 1970s. Thematically arranged, the similarities and distinctions of their art careers are mapped out in a journey through the Herbst Exhibition galleries. In the first gallery, the visitor is greeted by Picasso’s wire and sheet metal representation of the poet Guillaume Apollinaire, titled *Figure* (1928). Calder’s *Ball Player* (ca. 1927) captures a figure reaching out into space during a moment of action.

The second gallery, “Drawing in Space,” is named from a phrase coined by critics for Calder’s wire sculpture in 1929. Line greets empty space or “the void,” a dynamic reminiscent of the space between musical notes or the pauses in the motions of dance in Calder’s *Aztec Josephine Baker* (1930), a wire sculpture representing the charismatic African American dancer, cabaret performer and legend of the jazz age in Paris during the 1920s.

THE VOID AND THE VOLUME

The play of negative space is expounded upon in the remaining galleries, including “The Void and the Volume/In Suspense.” Picasso’s *Woman Seated in a Red Armchair* (1932) minimalizes the figure into a series of floating shapes, disconnected yet positioned to suggest a female form. Similarly, Calder’s *Little Yellow Panel* (1936) explores the idea of a two-dimensional painting and a three dimensional element in motion. Picasso’s *Portrait of a Young Girl* (1936) could almost be a painting of a Calder-esque sculpture representing a girl in front of water — a figure represented in tube-like shapes connecting with a repeated rhythm of line and, once again, void.

Both artists explored and discussed in journals their ideas to expand the limits of volume and space in representation. In this exploration was a desire to strip form to its basic components as Picasso did in his bronze *Bull’s Head* (1942). The animal is reduced to a bicycle seat and handlebars rearranged with genius simplicity to evoke the head of the bull.

“We are delighted to share this fascinating exhibition with audiences on the West Coast,” said Thomas B. Campbell, director and CEO of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. “It reaffirms the revolutionary impact of their work, as each grappled with the representation of form, space and time, in art — and in doing so, redefined the conception of art itself.”

Calder-Picasso: through May 23, 415-750-3600, famsf.org. The exhibition will be available for in-person viewing when the museum is able to reopen according to state guidelines.

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

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

The Marina Books Inc. best-seller list

COMPILED BY KEVIN MCCARTHY

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. **The Four Winds: A Novel**, by Kristin Hannah
2. **The Law of Innocence** (A Lincoln Lawyer Novel), by Michael Connelly
3. **The Midnight Library**, by Matt Haig

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. **First Principles: What America’s Founders Learned from the Greeks and Romans and How That Shaped Our Country**, by Thomas Ricks
2. **Bag Man: The Wild Crimes, Audacious Cover-up, and Spectacular Downfall of a Brazen Crook in the White House**, by Rachel Maddow
3. **How Not to Die Alone**, by Logan Ury

PAPERBACK FICTION

1. **Deacon King Kong: A Novel**, by James McBride
2. **Long Bright River:**

3. **A Novel**, by Liz Moore
3. **Trust Exercise: A Novel**, by Susan Choi

PAPERBACK NONFICTION

1. **Betrayal in Berlin: The True Story of the Cold War’s Most Audacious Espionage Operation**, by Steve Vogel
2. **Know My Name: A Memoir**, by Chanel Miller
3. **Furious Hours: Murder, Fraud, and the Last Trial of Harper Lee**, by Casey Cep

CHILDREN’S BEST SELLERS

1. **The Power of Yet**, by Maryann Cocca-Leffler
2. **The Ask and the Answer** (Chaos Walking Book 2), by Patrick Ness
3. **The Tower of Nero** (The Trials of Apollo- book 5), by Rick Riordan

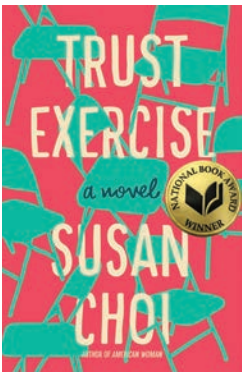
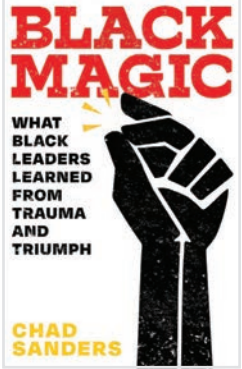
NEW RELEASES

Black Magic: What Black Leaders Learned from Trauma and Triumph, by Chad Sanders

When Chad Sanders landed his first job in lily white Silicon Valley, he quickly concluded he needed to emulate whiteness to be successful. And while he finally felt included, he felt awful. So he reverted back to the methods he learned at the dinner table, and how he’d been raised. And it paid off. Sanders began to land more exciting projects and the respect of his colleagues. He believes this was something he calls Black Magic, namely resilience, creativity, and confidence forged in his experience navigating America as a Black man.

The Sanatorium: A Novel, by Sarah Pearse

Long plagued by troubling rumors, a former abandoned sanatorium half-hidden in the Swiss Alps has since been renovated into a five-star minimalist hotel, where Elin Warner joins her estranged brother, Isaac, and his fiancée, Laure, to celebrate their engagement. *The Sanatorium* has strange disappearances, a savage storm



and tense story that critics have compared to *The Shinning* and the thrillers by Tana French.

Parked, by Danielle Svetcov

For fans of Rebecca Stead and Joan Bauer comes a scrappy, poignant, uplifting debut about family, friendship, and the importance of learning both how to offer help and how to

accept it. A wonderful book for young adults set right here in the Marina.

For additional new releases, visit marinatimes.com.

Kevin McCarthy can help you find your next book at Books Inc. in the Marina (2251 Chestnut Street, 415-931-3633, booksinc.net/sfmarina).



Sir Patrick Stewart and Alison Pill in *Star Trek: Picard*. PHOTO: TRAE PATTON/ CBS INTERACTIVE INC.

Snyder continued from cover

pian Bong Joon-Ho movie regarding class struggle and bigotry during a new ice age when the last of humanity tries to survive on a massive train that perpetually moves through the frozen wastes. It's already up to a second set of episodes on TNT, and is worth watching from the very beginning.

Besides offering people portals away from the mundane, the sci-fi proliferation is being fueled in part by greater technical wizardry, affording productions the chance to create imaginative, palpably realistic-looking imagery, regardless of how amazing or otherworldly. And the writing, acting, and direction are often light years beyond the cheesy, B-movie Saturday matinee fodder that marked most onscreen sci-fi before Stanley Kubrick's scientifically researched, visually splendid blockbuster *2001: A Space Odyssey* brought art-house sensibilities to the genre and the groundbreaking debut *Star Trek* series imbued a space-faring TV adventure show with the utopian ideal of a united federation of planets.

TREK ON

It's only fair that *Star Trek* is a significant presence in the current sci-fi boom. Despite its 1966–69 three-season run spawning a mixed bag of movie spin-offs and a recent feature-film reboot, *Star Trek* became most notable for its television sequels — the venerated *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, the complex and sprawling *Deep Space Nine*, and the questing *Voyager* — as well as the less memorable attempt at a prequel, *Enterprise*, and an animated *Star Trek* series that aired for two seasons from 1973 to 1974.

The hiatus between the last episode of *Enterprise* in 2005 and the 2017 debut of *Star Trek: Discovery* seemingly created a demand. *Discovery* — a series set 10 years before the original *Star Trek* and centered on a morally conflicted female Starfleet officer — was relied upon to launch the CBS All Access streaming service and did such a good job of corralling subscriptions that it was followed by two more iterations so far.

The first was *Picard*, a miniseries catching up with Jean-Luc Picard, Patrick Stewart's proud and able captain from *The Next Generation*, pulled out of retirement to address a crisis, accompanied by a handful of other well-loved characters from earlier *Trek*. The second was a genuinely funny, canon-wise animated series *Lower Decks* about a bunch of troublemaking but dedicated Starfleet ensigns. Next up will be the highly-anticipated *Strange New Worlds* with Anson Mount reprising his roundly embraced *Discovery* role as Christopher Pike, the captain of the *Enterprise* before William Shatner's legendary James T. Kirk, and Ethan Peck as a young Mr. Spock. With CBS All Access having just been rebranded Paramount Plus, you can expect more *Trek* content, such as an announced vehicle for actress Michelle Yeoh about Starfleet black ops, along with the company's massive feature-film library.

There's no denying the allure of the Disney Plus *Star Wars*-adjacent TV program *The Mandalorian*, a spaghetti western in

space that teamed the lone-samurai title character (Pedro Pascal) with the cuddly alien Grogu or, as he's known to legions of viewers who buy merchandise adorned with his adorable image, Baby Yoda. Each episode is like a mini-blockbuster with outrageous stunts, epic battles, capers, and interplanetary intrigue that always seems to end too soon. The good news is that it will continue into a third season next year, and it will be preceded at the end of 2021 by another *Star Wars* series, *The Book of Boba Fett*, with Temuera Morrison as bounty hunter Boba and Ming-Na Wen as his mercenary sidekick.

MERELY MARVELOUS

As much excitement as *The Mandalorian* has generated, an equally resounding buzz surrounds Marvel Studios' nine-episode *WandaVision*, a Disney Plus hit that's directly connected to the extensive Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) but stands on its own as a surreal amalgamation of American sitcom homage, angst-ridden superhero action, and mystery that launched a zillion online fan theories. *WandaVision* spotlights the star-crossed relationship between Eastern European refugee/telekinetic-turned-reality-manipulator Wanda Maximoff (a versatile Elizabeth Olsen, from whimsical to righteously furious) and the mega-powered android the Vision (a droll yet noble Paul Bettany), two misfit members of the superheroic Avengers. In the aftermath of the film *Avengers: Endgame*, the couple resurfaces in a suburban New Jersey town, living in what appears to be a vintage situation comedy. Things get a little twisted, as if David Lynch had directed "Pleasantville, MCU." Then, they get full-on bonkers when "reality" intrudes and the Marvel saga moves thrillingly forward via the entangled fates of Wanda and Vision.

Next up this month from Marvel and Disney Plus: *The Falcon and the Winter Soldier*, teaming two more Avengers in what appears to be a multichapter buddy picture starring Anthony Mackie and Sebastian Stan. *Loki*, a show featuring the escapades of the Norse god of trickery (Tom Hiddleston) as he bounces through time and space, is also expected to cross-reference the MCU and impact the next slate of Marvel movies.

And there's more superhero fare due, including the debut of the CW's *Superman & Lois*, investigating the married life of the Man of Steel and his journalist wife as they raise two sons; third seasons of DC's edgy *Titans* and off-the-wall *Doom Patrol* on HBO Max; and a second violent, darkly humorous season of *The Boys* on Amazon Prime. HBO's *The Nevers*, introducing a group of Victorian women who gain astonishing powers from a cosmic anomaly, is on the way. Plus, more *Stranger Things* and *The Handmaid's Tale* are imminent. All in all, the fictional future looks fantastic.

Michael Snyder is a print and broadcast journalist who covers pop culture on "Michael Snyder's Culture Blast," via GABNet.net, Roku, Spotify, and YouTube, and "The Mark Thompson Show" on KGO radio. You can follow Michael on Twitter: @cultureblaster

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MARCH EVENTS

NOT TO MISS THIS MONTH

MAJOR EVENTS

S.F. Ballet: Digital Program 3
Daily, March 4–24
Livestream
Symphony #9 highlights two lead couples and a solo male set against a backdrop of grays and red recalling works of Socialist realism; *Wooden Dimes* features dramatic, contemporary choreography; and fan-favorite *Swimmer* brings audiences on a psychedelic multimedia journey through loneliness, love, and 1960s pop culture. \$29–\$289, 415-865-2000, sfballet.org

S.F. Opera: Ring Festival
Saturday, March 6, 13, 20, & 27, 1 p.m.
Livestream and on-demand
Tune in to moderated conversations, lectures, and streaming of Wagner's Ring cycle in its entirety each weekend. Free–\$144, 415-864-3330, sfopera.org

COMMUNITY CORNER

Chinatown Foot Patrol
Thursday, March 4, 11:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
Meet: Chinatown gate (480 Grant Ave.)
Join this volunteer foot patrol to combat the rising hate crimes toward Asian Americans. Come and leave as you please. Free, eventbrite.com

GALAS & BENEFITS

Greater Bay Wish Quest Scavenger Hunt
Sat., March 6, 8 a.m.–Sun., March 7, 8 p.m.
Online
Enjoy a weekend of fun and family-friendly competition in this interactive scavenger hunt using the GooseChase phone/tablet app. Free, fundraising encouraged, 415-402-2765, sf.wish.org

26th Annual Art Inspiring Hope Virtual Gala: Up in the Air
Saturday, March 20, 6 p.m.
Livestream
Celebrate Camp Okizu's 40th year of supporting Bay Area children with cancer and their families at this gala featuring a gourmet food option, specialty cocktails, and a raffle. \$100, 415-382-9083, okizu.org

ARTS & CULTURE



The Marsh: Women's History Month
Various dates through March
Livestream
Launching the celebration is Honour: Confessions of a Mumbai Courtesan (March 3), which continues with a collection of virtual performances by female performers, including acclaimed mezzo-soprano Hai-Ting Chinn's eclectic musical science show Science Fair: An Opera with Experiments (March 6). Visit website for schedule. Donation, themarsh.org
COURTESY PHOTO

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

The CJM: Levi Strauss: A History of American Style
Daily, ongoing
Online
This original exhibition at the Contemporary Jewish Museum celebrates the life of Levi Strauss, the birth of the blue jean, and San Francisco, the city where it all began. Free, 415-655-7800, thecjm.org

Chinese Culture Center: Women我們: From Her to Here
Daily through Aug. 28
Online
This exhibition features the work of 11 LGBTQ+ and feminist contemporary artists and art collectives from the Bay Area, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and beyond who are exploring queer and feminist spaces in the Asian diaspora. Free, 415-986-1822 ext. 025, cccsf.us

SFAI 150: A Spirit of Disruption
Daily, March 19–July 3
Online
The San Francisco Art Institute celebrates its 150th anniversary with an exhibition and podcast series reflecting on the school's extraordinary and diverse legacy. Free, 415-749-4563

THEATER

Remote Theater: The Art of Sacrifice
Saturday March 6, 4 p.m. & Sunday, March 7, noon
Livestream
An American chess master returns home for a defining emotional match with her challenging and unpredictable mother, who years ago coached her to success. A taut, true, and ultimately forgiving play about the negotiations we all make as parents and children, this intricate drama beautifully delineates the complexity within the strict boundaries of a chessboard or a family. Free, donations requested, remote.theater

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre/S.F. Playhouse: Hieroglyph
Daily, March 13–April 3
On demand
This co-production filmed onstage at the Playhouse tells the story of 13-year-old Davis who struggles after she's involuntarily displaced post-Hurricane Katrina. This raw, honest play traverses the intersection of environmental racism, sexual violence, and displacement, examining the psychological effects of a state-sanctioned man-made disaster on the most vulnerable members of the Katrina diaspora. Contains depictions of violence and sexual abuse, which could be disturbing to some viewers. \$15–\$100, 415-677-9596, sfplayhouse.org

42nd Street Moon: Fourth Fridays
Friday, March 26, 8 p.m.
Livestream
"Don't Burst My Covid Bubble" cabaret features Moon singers, and maybe some unexpected guests, for conversation and music. Free, 415-255-8207, 42ndstreetmoon.org

ACT: Trouble in Mind
Monday, March 29, 6 p.m.
Livestream
This reading of Alice Childress's play-within-a-play is an unflinching examination of white fragility and liberalism in the theater industry as six actors gather in a Broadway theater to rehearse an anti-lynching play, written and directed by white artists. \$5–\$50, 415-749-2228, act-sf.org

MUSIC: CONTEMPORARY

S.F. Jazz: Fridays at Five
Friday, March 5, 12, 19, & 26, 5 p.m.
Online streaming
Tune in to hear Laurie Anderson and Tammy Hall (March 5); ACS Trio (March 12); Cindy Blackman Santana: Tony Williams Spotlight with Terence Blanchard, Bill Frisell, Joe Lovano, Kronos Quartet, Members of S.F. Jazz Collective, and Others; (March 19); and Jane Monheit (March 26). \$5/monthly, 800-920-5299, sfjazz.org

MUSIC: CLASSICAL

Old First Concerts: Anita Graef, Cello
Sunday, March 14, 4 p.m.
Livestream
Chicago-based cellist Anita Graef performs David Baker's jazz-inflected *Sonata*, Astor Piazzolla's *Le Grand Tango*, Schumann's *Adagio and Allegro*, and more. Donation, 415-474-1608, oldfirstconcerts.org

DANCE

Dance Mission: DIRT Festival
Friday, March 5, 5 p.m.
Saturday, March 13, 5 p.m.
Livestream
“Harriet’s Gun, Shapeshifting Towards a Radically Imagined Black Future” is a ritual of Black joy, possibility, and healing as Black artists tell their stories, uplift creative medicine, and conjure hope. \$10–\$20, 415-826-4441, [dancemissiontheater.org](#)

ODC/Dance: Drinks and a Dance
Friday, March 19, 5:15 p.m.
Livestream
This screening of *Word’s on Fire* with smoldering choreography and fiery music, performed by the renowned ensemble The Crooked Jades, offers a glimpse of a slice of American history through the vivid portal of sound and movement to explore the cyclical nature of human experience. \$15–\$35, 415-978-2787, [odcdance.org](#)

NIGHTLIFE

HellaSecret Outdoor Comedy & Cocktails
Thursdays, 7 p.m.
Friday–Saturdays, 7 p.m. & 8:45 p.m.
Location revealed at ticketing
Enjoy socially distanced 70-minute comedy shows with 4–5 comics with impressive credits at unique outdoor pop-up locations. \$20–\$25, [eventbrite.com](#)

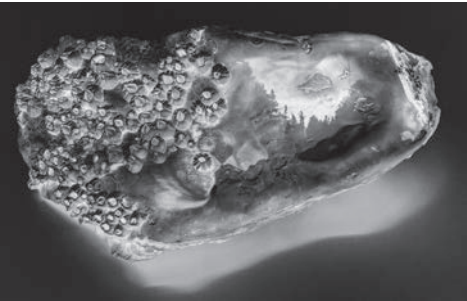
Exploratorium: After Dark Online Art & Science
Thursday, March 4, 7 p.m.
Livestream via YouTube or Facebook
Explore the intersections of art and science through the practice of artists who weave science, technology, and methods of discovery in their practices, and how those reciprocal relationships can inspire a deeper understanding of the world. Ages 18 & up. Free, 415-528-4444, [exploratorium.edu](#)

FILMS & LECTURES

Fort Mason Flix
Tuesday–Sunday through March 14
Fort Mason Center
This wildly popular drive-in movie event concludes this month with *Finding Dory*, *Selena*, *Blade Runner*, *Parasite*, and many more. \$49/car, [fortmason.org](#)

Commonwealth Club: Don Lemon
Friday, March 19, noon
Livestream
In conversation with Valerie Jarrett, former senior adviser to President Obama, CNN anchor Don Lemon discusses his new book, *This Is the Fire: What I Say to My Friends About Racism*, where he examines America’s systemic flaws that prevent equality for all. \$15, 415-597-6705, [commonwealthclub.org](#)

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT



Consider the Oyster: Art, Science & Culture
Daily through April 30, open 24 hours
Levy Art & Architecture (2501 Brant St.)
This storefront window exhibition developed by Natural Discourse considers forests as viewed through oyster shell pinhole cameras, native oyster restoration at the Presidio, and oyster farming and feasting in Tomales Bay. Films play weekends only. Free, 415-641-7320, [levyaa.com](#); 415-561-5300, [presidio.gov](#)
PHOTO: DAVID JANESKO

POTABLES & EDIBLES

Museo Italo Americano: Cooking with Chef Lorenzo
Friday, March 3, 6–7 p.m.
Livestream
Join chef Lorenzo Bonisonni, founder and chef of Stagioni Italiane as he prepares risotto con la luganega, a version of the classic risotto alla Milanese but made with fresh sausage. \$25–\$30, 415-673-2200, [museoitaloamericano.org](#)

Asian Art Museum: Nowruz, a Persian New Year Celebration
Thursday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.
Livestream
Watch a live demonstration of how to prepare kuku (a traditional Persian egg dish similar to a frittata), as well as videos of a stunning performance by Aisan Hoss Dance, with storytelling and a sharing of Persian history and culture. You will also learn about the traditional Nowruz table, haft-sin, a ceremonial spread with seven symbolic items. \$5, 415-581-3500, [asianart.org](#)

15th Annual California Artisan Cheese Festival: Bubbles Brunch Cooking Demo
Sunday, March 14, 10:30 a.m.–noon
Livestream
Join chef and cheese specialist Tracey Shepos Cenami of La Crema and James Beard award-winning author Laura Werlin, for a three-course, cheese-focused spring brunch. Includes recipes. \$65, 707-837-1928, [artisancheesefestival.com](#)

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Checkpoint Challenges
Daily, ongoing, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Chestnut Gate, 3101 Lyon St., Presidio
Walk, run, or race between checkpoints using your smartphone as a map and compass and

your own navigation skills in this physical and mental outdoor sport. All fitness levels and ages. \$5, [checkpointchallenges.com](#)

Divine Yoga Studio: Outdoor Yoga
Saturday–Sunday, ongoing, 10–11 a.m. & 11 a.m.–noon
Panhandle (1702 Oak Street), Golden Gate Park
Get back to nature after months of sheltering inside to connect mind, body, and spirit in a relaxing green space. \$20,

Hike & Meditation in Presidio Forest
Saturday–Sunday, ongoing, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Meet: Yoda Fountain, Letterman complex
After a 15-minute easy hike, enjoy a 30-minuted guided meditation surrounded by redwood trees. Bring whatever you need to meditate (towel, blanket, cushion) and follow social distancing guidelines. Donation, [eventbrite.com](#)

CHILD’S PLAY

SFPL/SFMOMA: Sweet Stories
Sunday, March 14, 11–11:15 a.m.
Online
Sponsored by S.F. Public Library and S.F. Museum of Modern Art, Mr. Jim reads *Dancing Through Fields of Color: The Story of Helen Frankenthaler* by Elizabeth Brown and illustrated by Aimee Sicuro. Free, 415-357-4000, [sfmoma.org](#)

SFPL: Women Building the Presidio Tunnel Tops
Monday, March 22, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
YouTube Live
Meet the women behind the construction of the new Presidio Tunnel Tops project in this live panel facilitated by a Crissy Field Center youth leader. Learn about the project and hear about the all-women project management team’s journeys to careers building parks. Free, 415-557-4400, [sfpl.org](#)
E-mail: [calendar@marinatimes.com](#)

AUTO LOAN SALE

Now through March 31, take advantage of rates as low as **2.19% APR¹** on new, used, or refinanced vehicles during our Auto Loan Rate Sale. Plus, we offer:



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MomSense ∴ Don't just stand there, do something

Defending our city: Three things I want our kids to know

BY LIZ FARRELL

LAST MONTH I WROTE about finding hope in 2021, and I have had to remind myself several times about finding that hope. I love this city, there are so many things that make it great, and we are committed to raising our three children here. As an optimist I try to look at all sides before forming an opinion, but it has become extremely difficult lately to defend our beloved city between kidnappings, seniors being attacked in broad daylight, and brazen home invasions — not to mention a continued delay of getting thousands of students safely back to their classrooms. The state of our city is heart-breaking, terrifying, and frustrating; however, I'm not giving up, and this is what I want my children to know:

PROBLEMS DON'T FIX THEMSELVES

If you don't like how something is being done, complaining about it isn't going to fix it or change it, that's the easy part; actually doing something about it is much harder and takes courage. My example is

meant to demonstrate what can happen when we empower our kids, but it is a privileged example because many kids are not even going to school in person.

When my older son returned to in-person school he was frustrated with the cafeteria and felt Covid regulations were affecting the food quality. Every day I heard about how hungry he was, how no one was eating the food, and as a result so much was being wasted, especially when so many in our city don't have any food. I encouraged him to do something about it if it bothered him that much, instead of watching it get worse. We talked about what he could do, and shortly after, he set up a meeting with a faculty advisor who helped him coordinate a meeting with the food service manager. They were able to brainstorm some ideas to ensure students were eating and less food was being wasted. Later at dinner, I actually heard rave reviews about the lunch.

WHO WE ELECT MATTERS

We may set out with the best intentions to change the world, but it is important to first understand what is broken and why, what needs to change, and if you

can do anything to fix it. Our children learned this firsthand when their dad ran for public office. It takes hard work and long hours to make a difference on a city level. They learned that every vote counts, and you have to work for those votes — they knocked on a lot of doors and hung a lot of door hangers. People would ask, "Why should I vote for your dad?" or "What does he believe?" The kids had an answer, and it wasn't just "Because he's my dad."

We see so much criticism of elected officials on social media, and what I struggle with is how many of those people complaining voted for the same people they are complaining about. Lately, it has primarily been focused on the Board of Education and the district attorney. They didn't drastically change after being elected, but for such a well-educated city, it is astonishing how many people aren't educated voters. If this past year has taught us anything, it is who we elect matters, and it affects everyone's daily quality of life.

IT IS NEVER ALL BAD

I want my children to know it is never all bad, but sometimes



The times don't just shape you, you can shape the times.

PHOTO: SYHINSTAS

we just have to look harder for the good. I don't want them to live in fear or think life is all doom and gloom. So take a break from social media and the news and get outside. Take the time to remember what you love about our city and then seek it out. For me, it is visiting our favorite playground or a hike to my favorite city vista.

Recently, we were working on Valentine's cards for my son's class and he asked how all the kids who aren't in school would get Valentines. I told him I wasn't sure, but after a few phone calls I arranged to have some of our extra cards delivered to the learning hubs. If ever there were a time that

every child should feel noticed and receive a message of love it was then. I hope this brought as much joy to those kids as it did for us to make the cards.

During trying times, the greatest gift we can give our kids is to remind them they are loved. It is also especially powerful to teach them tools to empower themselves to make a difference. This world and our city need all the help they can get, and I am constantly inspired by the resiliency and curiosity of our youth. We can all help each other to harness the bad so we can work together for more good.

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Feeling Good ∴ A one-year pandemic check-up

A potpourri of solutions to combat pandemic fatigue

BY JULIE MITCHELL

NOW THAT IT'S BEEN A FULL YEAR since pandemic-related shut-downs and shelter-in-place began, we are all pretty much suffering from what's been termed "Covid fatigue." Even the most resilient among us are tired of staying in, cooking and eating all our meals at home, working and going to school online, and trying to stay close to our friends and families via Zoom, Face-time, and social media.

But more than simply feeling grouchy about pandemic restrictions and isolation, some are experiencing more serious mental health issues. Anxiety, insomnia, and simple stress are causing people to turn to everything from alcohol and cannabis to yoga and meditation to cope. The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress outlined quarantine stressors and their psychological effects, among them:

- Frustration and boredom related to insolation and loss of one's usual routine along with limited social and physical contact with others
- Lack of or delayed information from public health authorities and unclear guidance from health and government officials
- Fears about becoming infected and/or infecting others
- Financial loss

WEED OUT YOUR WORRIES

According to a recent study in *Psychiatry Research*, worry and stress is associated with substance abuse, and people

who used drugs and/or alcohol before the pandemic exhibited the highest levels of worry and fear. The study included 160 participants between the ages of 18 and 65 and found that 6.9 percent of participants started smoking cigarettes during the pandemic while 8.8 percent started drinking alcohol, 5.0 percent started using cannabis, and 4.4 percent started using e-cigarettes. Approximately 5 percent of those surveyed turned to harder drugs.

San Francisco-based dispensary Eaze told the Associated Press (July 13, *The New York Times*) that first-time purchases of cannabis were up more than 50 percent at the beginning of the pandemic last March. And when the Marina's Apothecarium moved to curbside pickup, the staff noticed a change in the size of orders, especially gummies. "People are buying them as sleep aids and anxiety," said one. And most high-end dispensaries sell edibles not only in gummy form, but also THC-enhanced chocolate bars, truffles, cookies, granola bars, and even beverages.

A study from the *Journal of Addictive Diseases* reported in *Forbes* (Sept. 25, 2020) that while patients are still using cannabis for chronic pain, autoimmune conditions, and other health concerns, since the beginning of the pandemic there has been a 90-percent increase in cannabis use among study participants with mental health issues.

OHM YOUR WAY TO MINDFULNESS

Those who prefer a more natural form of pandemic-stress relief are turning to meditation and yoga. A January 2021 study

from Columbia University's Department of Psychiatry sought to assess the benefits of meditation and yoga on people with heightened anxiety brought about by Covid-19 worries. Meditation, along with yoga, has helped people manage stress and improve overall well-being — often referred to as the mind-body connection. These practices encourage being present and focusing on breath using physical postures and breathing techniques. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) points out that yoga is often proposed as a non-pharmacological intervention for mental issues such as stress and fear. It has been found effective in reducing perceived stress and can enhance emotional control resulting in improved self-efficiency, self-confidence, and overall quality of life.

Meditation usually refers to a formal practice — either guided or practiced on one's own — that can calm the mind and provide enhanced awareness of ourselves, our minds, and our environment. Meditation has been practiced for years by people from diverse backgrounds, particularly in Eastern traditions, and it has now spread into Western society. The term "mindfulness" is often mentioned as a benefit of meditation that simply means being aware of the present moment. Both yoga and meditation apps are available to download on smart phones or tablets.

STICK IT TO STRESS

Another ancient form of stress relief comes in the form of acupuncture. According to HealthCMi, the Healthcare Medicine Group, acupuncture treatment ses-

sions and acupoint tapping are effective for the relief of severe anxiety. Two independent investigations confirm the efficacy of traditional Chinese medicine for relieving stress, especially among frontline Covid-19 health care workers. There are several acupuncture centers in San Francisco open now, including Double Happiness Health (doublehappinesshealth.com), and San Francisco Community Acupuncture (missionsfca.com), which offers treatments at reduced rates.

Newly opened Redmint (redmint.com), an "urban sanctuary" on Union Street, offers a variety of wellness treatments, including acupuncture, body treatments, skincare and facials, LED light therapy, deep-tissue massage, and virtual services and classes inspired by TCM or traditional Chinese Medicine. Founded by TCM practitioner and entrepreneur Helina Fan, Redmint focuses on the healing power of TCM, which is represented by five elements: fire, wood, metal, and earth and water — to create holistic rituals to help balance the mind-body connection and help with pain and inflammation, stress, insomnia, digestion, headaches, and hormone imbalances. According to Fan, "Redmint opens at a time when people are wanting to take charge of their internal health with holistic self-care rituals that help maintain a vital state of balance through preventative care."

With more vaccines administered daily, there is light at the end of this long, strange trip we're on. But if the stress is getting to you, consider combatting it with an untraditional approach to feeling better.



Despite the pandemic and economic stress, single-family home prices in the city have risen over the past year. PHOTO: GAREY DE MARTINI

Perseverance

Homes remain in demand despite, or because of, the pandemic

BY GAREY DE MARTINI

PITY THE PEOPLE WHO MOVED TO Austin, Tex., often touted as a far better place for techies to live than California. Two weeks ago that city was pelted by heavy snow and arctic winds. That had to be a wakeup call for new arrivals.

According to a recent *Wall Street Journal* article, many people fled their small apartments this past year during the pandemic and scrambled to buy houses far from where they lived, spurring bidding wars and supercharging real estate markets across the country.

Turns out, people were moving to places they didn't know. Many were surprised by what they found. Neighbors could be less welcoming, communities could be duller, and nature could be harsher than they imagined. As a result, some people felt significant buyer's remorse.

PROMOTING GOOD VALUES

This home shopping frenzy also led to some housing markets becoming overvalued. According to marketwatch.com, Fitch Ratings recently reported that around 25 percent of metropolitan statistical areas (meaning major cities) around the United States are more than 10 percent overvalued.

Believe it or not, the most overvalued housing markets in America are not in California.

Among the 20 largest metro areas nationwide, Las Vegas was the most overvalued, with Fitch estimating that home prices were overvalued by approximately 28 percent. Dallas-Ft. Worth was next, with Fitch projecting prices were overinflated between 20 and 24 percent.

Fitch also examined which states had the most overvalued housing markets. Idaho led this list, with Fitch estimating that home prices there were overvalued between 30 and 34 percent. Nevada was next.

MEANWHILE, IN SAN FRANCISCO . . .

"The market shocked everyone in January, real estate agents and their clients alike," said Missy Wyant Smit, a top producer with Compass San Francisco. "It was so much hotter than expected. We know of one home where agents prepared and shared more than 100 disclosure packages, arranged for 90 showings in one week, and received as many as 30 offers. That's about as big as it gets."

Clearly San Francisco's single-family homes remain in demand. According to the San Francisco Association of Real-

tors, based on a rolling three months of data, the median price in January for a single-family home was \$1,609,444. That's up 7.3 percent over last year's January figure. The median price of a condo or loft during the same period was \$1,160,000 — down 1.9 percent from the previous year.

The law of supply and demand plays a big part in all of this. In San Francisco in January, there were just 319 active listings for single-family homes. That was down 22.9 percent from January 2020. At the same time, there were 687 active listings for condos and lofts, up 19.3 percent over the previous year. Consequently, prices were up in one category of homes, and down in the other.

The percent of properties sold over their listing prices was down a bit. In July 2018, 86.2 percent of all single-family homes sold over their asking prices. In contrast, in January of this year, only 62.5 percent of single-family homes sold over their listing prices — still the majority of single-family homes, but not to the same extent as in previous years.

Nevertheless, Smit said, "Offer dates are back and we all know offer dates are a sign of strong interest. They tend to up the ante when it comes to competition and resulting sale prices."

Clearly, the condo market in 2020 took the hardest hit, but it seems like even this sector of the market is seeing some signs of recovery. The consensus among real estate agents is this is the time to buy a condo if you can afford one. Prices have come down, and this is an opportunity for those who have wanted to buy for years but were previously priced out.

Igor Popov, chief economist at Apartment List, in a recent sfgate.com interview said, "The pendulum really swung from cities toward suburbs last year. I think in 2021 — and it depends on public health, naturally — everything will swing back." He added, "Now everyone will adjust back to a post-vaccine world that hopefully comes soon."

When that happens, homebuyers will likely renew their interest in San Francisco condos and lofts, just as they did after the Great Recession in 2009 and 2010. Back then, in a matter of months the market changed dramatically. It went from a buyer's market to a seller's market very quickly, and remained a seller's market for almost 10 years, until the pandemic hit and shelter in place orders were issued.

That was one year ago this month. How fast things can change!

Send feedback to letters@marinatimes.com

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Camp Strawberry

Day Camp

9 am - 4 pm
Ages 4 to 11

Campers participate in activities including arts and crafts, field games, science lessons, nature walks, and more. Swimming, tennis, soccer, and other sports rotate throughout the week. Includes spirit days, water days, and special events!

Athletic-X

9 am - 4 pm
Ages 9 to 12

This sports-focused program is designed with active kids in mind. Campers participate in conditioning exercises, a variety of sports including soccer, tennis, kickball, swimming, kayaking, paddleboarding, and more! Includes special events and spirit days.

CIT Program

9 am - 4 pm
Ages 12 to 15

This hands-on program develops leadership and responsibility by engaging with campers. The day is divided into assisting younger campers and participating in educational activities with other CITs. CITs will practice public speaking, leading games & groups, and safety skills.

Session Dates

Session 1

June 14th - 18th

Session 2

June 21st - July 2nd

Session 3

July 5th - 16th

Session 4

July 19th - 30th

Session 5

August 2nd - 16th

Session 6

August 9th - 13th

• 1 & 2 week sessions

• 10 minutes from the Golden Gate Bridge

• Full day camp

• After care extensions - TBD

• Nature-based programming

• Registration opening soon!

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2050 Chestnut St.

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3349 Fillmore St.

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2251 Chestnut St.

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1901 Union St.

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2643 Gough St.

Postal Chase (Inside)

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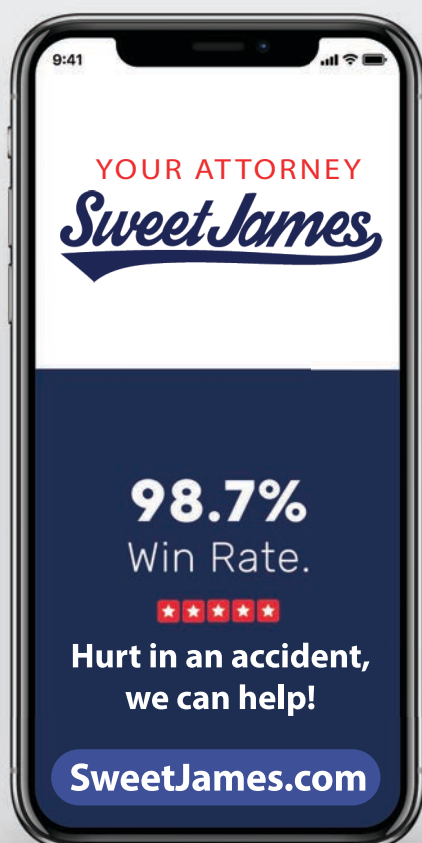
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