

Food + Home
The newest entries in our guide to Bay Area restaurants serving authentic regional Chinese cuisines. **LI**



Sporting Green
Super Bowl rivals Edelman, Peters do Bay Area proud. **BI**



Travel
Amador County adventure: Ghost hunting, blacksmithing, wine tasting and lake life. **MI**



San Francisco Chronicle

SFCHRONICLE.COM | Sunday, February 3, 2019 | CONTAINS RECYCLED PAPER | \$3.00 *****



Photos by Gabrielle Lurie / The Chronicle

By Lizzie Johnson

For the Paradise ballet, the show had to go on after the blaze

OROVILLE, Butte County — The music halts abruptly, the last piano notes reverberating, as a small woman in the front row of the theater leaps to her feet. She's wearing ballet slippers and a pink Star Wars sweater reading, "The Last Jedi." Her halo of white hair is frizzing.

"Tempo! You're not jumping," Trudi Angel, 75, shouts at the dancers. "That's not ballet. Do it again."

She settles back into her seat as the tune resumes, taking notes in tight script on folded paper and whispering directions into a walkie-talkie. On stage, the teenagers jump from foot to foot, their point shoes thudding, as a phalanx of tinier dancers, barely 6 years old and dressed as fluffy white sheep, bob alongside.

Three days remain until an opening night that had been pushed back a month to late January.

Ballet continues on A16

Dancing through disaster



Top: Dancer Joshua Webb ties Grace Rosendin's tutu before she goes onstage during the final performance of "The Nutcracker" at the Oroville State Theatre. Above: Director Trudi Angel looks through mouse costumes before a rehearsal.

PG&E may try to kill solar, wind contracts

Bankruptcy saga ensnares major energy companies

By J.D. Morris

As it begins the long process of reorganizing under bankruptcy protection, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is locked in a related legal fight over renewable power contracts that involves some of the biggest names in the energy industry.

Led by NextEra Energy Inc., companies that sell wind and solar energy to PG&E are trying to prevent the San Francisco utility from canceling its wholesale contracts with them in an effort to strike cheaper deals in Bankruptcy Court.

NextEra also owns the Florida Power & Light Co. utility. Its recent PG&E-related efforts, which started with federal regulators, have earned support from companies including Consolidated Edison Inc., which owns a utility serving New York City, and Exelon

PG&E continues on A14

BART on quest for turnstiles that halt cheats

By Rachel Swan

In a small laboratory tucked away on the second floor of BART's Oakland headquarters, engineers are toiling at a project that has bedeviled the transit agency for years: a fare gate sturdy enough to stop cheaters.

No idea is bad, it seems.

As they chase the perfect barrier, the engineers are adding a panoply of new accessories to BART's existing infrastructure. They're testing plates shaped like shark fins that would stick up when the turnstiles close, to discourage people from vaulting over them. They've considered sloped tops that would make it harder to mount the steel cabinets. Or pressure plates to trace people's movement, distinguishing the jumpers and piggybackers from strollers and bicycles

BART continues on A18

JOE GAROFOLI *It's All Political* Lessons in local GOP defeat

Catharine Baker was the only Republican representing the Bay Area in either the Legislature or Congress, until she lost her re-election bid to the Assembly in November. Now there is none.

The two-term incumbent practically ran as a Democrat, and still lost to a political neophyte. That raised the question: If Baker can't win in the Bay Area, what Republican can?

'It's All Political' podcast

Can any Republican get elected in California? Joe Garofoli talks to Catharine Baker. [sfchronicle.com/political](#)

The answer Baker found after spending weeks combing through post-election data and campaign trail anecdotes should be a red flag for Republicans in the Bay Area and beyond in California, heading into President Trump's 2020 re-election campaign.

"Ninety percent of the feedback we received was, 'I can't vote for you because you're Republican,'" Baker said.

Garofoli continues on A19



Santiago Mejia / The Chronicle

Former Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, defeated as the Bay Area's only Republican lawmaker, is considering her next step.

Weather A20

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Annex Auction
February 5 & 6, 10am
Preview: February 3 & 4, 9am - 5pm
Days of sale, beginning at 9am

Gallery Auction
February 9, 10am
Preview: February 3, 9am - 5pm
February 8, 12pm - 5pm
Day of sale, beginning at 9am
and by appointment

Collectibles & Ephemera Auction
February 11, 1pm
Preview: February 3, 9am - 5pm
February 8, 9 & 10, 12pm - 5pm
Day of sale, beginning at 9am
and by appointment

Weekly Appraisal Events
Every Wednesday, 10am - 1pm
our events are always free and open to the public, please join us.



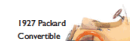
JOHN CTERELAK (American b. 1942) "Winter Orchard" Oil on canvas



Forsberg Red Fox Snake Skin Small Rolling Table.



Cartier 18K Yellow Gold Travel Watch - Movado Movement.



1927 Packard Convertible Pedal Car

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Annex Showroom: 2701 Monarch Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Real Estate

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE AND SFCHRONICLE.COM | Sunday, February 3, 2019 WB/PN

Getaway to the Pacific Northwest Bay Area buyers flock north for second homes **H4**



Cascade Sotheby's International Realty

The living room at this Tidewater, Ore., home features floor-to-ceiling windows within a wood-paneled wall and a stone fireplace.



Liz Rusby / Grubb Co.

Designer Profile

Mary Cronin of Emeryville's the Design Shop commissions art to add unique flair to homes.

J1



PROPERTY POST

Step into the residences at Sycamore and discover two single-story plans, as well as two plans that include a casita with full bath – perfect for in-laws or guests.

Sponsored by: 

H3



PROPERTY POST

Introducing Residence 68B:
Half-Floor Penthouse

Sponsored by:
181 FREMONT RESIDENCES

H5



Homes with an enlightened vibe, and a price to match.

Livermore homes from the \$600s featuring a yoga lawn, art walk, trails, pool and spa, clubhouse, fitness center and community garden. SageLivermore.com • 866.696.7432



Open Homes

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE AND SFCHRONICLE.COM | Sunday, February 3, 2019

DESIGNER PROFILE

Mary Cronin leads talented team to craft unique spaces

By Jordan Guinn

Five years ago, Mary Cronin was just starting out in the staging business. Now, she runs a full-service firm that consults with Realtors and sellers on not only staging but bath and kitchen remodels, facade colors and interior design.

"We've become a one-stop shop for agents and sellers," said Cronin, whose firm the Design Shop stages and remodels roughly 100 homes per year around the Bay Area. "The last 5 years we've really exploded."

Cronin credits the Design Shop's success to her network of craftsmen, contractors and designers.

"I hate the cliché, 'It takes a village,' but it's true," she said. "It's not me who makes the Design Shop successful, it's our team. Everyone works really hard toward the same goal."

Cronin continues on J5

Mary Cronin, the Design Shop

Address: 1308 63rd St., Suite C, Emeryville

Website: www.thedesignshop.co

Phone: 415-290-1113

Email: mary@thedesignshop.co



Open Homes Photography

Mary Cronin of Emeryville's the Design Shop helped stage and conceptualize this contemporary farmhouse in Sonoma that includes a pool and deck access off all four bedrooms. The custom-built farmhouse is set on more than an acre.

2018 | BAY AREA BROKERAGE OF THE YEAR

VANGUARDPROPERTIES.COM

DRE# 01486075



DESIGNER PROFILE

Cronin commissions original art to add unique flair to homes

Cronin from page J1

Cronin commissions artist Amelia McAndrew to create original paintings and textiles and turns to Amanda Goldberg of Planted Design when she wants to incorporate a living wall into a home. She leases furniture from Lorinda Savage of Cisco Home and leans on Anna Watkins Porter's 25 years of experience in design for help coordinating the big picture.

Cronin admits to being a control freak when her firm started, but over time she has learned to trust her team and let them practice their craft. "I surround myself with

experts and give them autonomy," she said. "I've been really lucky to find quality workers who share the same passion — expert attention to detail and a strong work ethic."

Though the Design Shop provides interior design consultation, their work focuses on preparing homes that will soon be available for sale.

"Staging a home for market is different than designing for living," Cronin said. "For example, you might place a bed differently because it will show better in photos. There's definitely a distinction between designing for living and designing for staging."



Liz Rusby / Grubb Co.

Mary Cronin and Emeryville's the Design Shop staged the living room of this Oakland home.

Prospective home buyers pore over photos on the internet, so it's important for a property to look its best, she said.

"If it doesn't show well in online, buyers won't come out," she said.

Her latest showpiece is 16795 Mission Way in Sonoma, a custom-built contemporary farmhouse set on more than an acre.

Whitewashed trusses brace the great room's 20-foot vaulted ceiling while a white quartz

island anchors a kitchen equipped with Viking appliances. All four bedrooms open to decks, and the listing that includes a detached guest house on a bluff can be purchased fully furnished for \$4.295 million.

OPEN HOMES GUIDE VISIT SFGATE.COM/REALESTATE

OAKLAND

Rockridge \$750,000 5405 Carlton St #303 Sun 2-4:30 Very inviting, light filled spaces! Open living, dining and kitchen area, perfect for entertaining, too. Wonderfully upgraded kitchen with high end quartz counters and all new appliances. New flooring throughout. Plus room has new French doors and can also be used as an office/study. Assigned parking and roomy storage space. Very coveted Rockridge location close to College Ave amenities, BART, and transbay bus across the street. CB Anne Van Dyke CalBRE# 00993411, 510-882-5697

Rockridge \$795,000 5723 Hermann St. Sat/Sun 12-3 2+BR/1BA Bungalow - An Urban Oasis! Remodeled for Modern lifestyles. Open floor plan, plus room, garage, usable basement, large deck & Stroll to BART, Dinner, Coffee, Everything! Jennie A. Flanagan, Compass 510-610-3601 #0137018. 5723hermann.com

Rockridge/Temescal \$699,000 4902 Broadway Unit #103 Sun 2-4:30 Step inside this one of a kind renovated condo. 1 generous BD, a den area, 1.5 bathrooms and 1,068 sq ft of living space. Open floor plan features high ceilings, refinished HWF, sun filled living/dining area and updated kitchen. This back unit includes a landscaped patio area. Walk to shops, restaurants. BHGRE Cheryl Berger #01844879, 510-868-1467

West Oakland \$599,000 1309 Wood St. Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Serene yet modern townhome. 2 bedroom suites and 2-car garage with extra storage and laundry are added conveniences. Farrah Wilder, Compass 510.928.5628 # 01828101

West Oakland \$1,090,000 1432 Wood St, Open Sunday 2-4 Final Phase release at WESTHAUS10, West Oakland's hottest new luxury home community. This brand new 3+bd/2.5ba home offers high ceilings, great light, designer finishes, gourmet kitchen, ethanol fireplace, attached garage and an amazing yard. Located near West Oakland BART! www.1432Wood.com Jose Contreras w/ Winkler Real Estate Group 510-332-8695

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Clayton \$1,218,000 3 White Diamond Lane Sat/Sun 12-4



6 New Construction Single Story Homes now available! Introducing this special enclave of 6 homes at Verna Way in Clayton. These new homes offer outstanding designs, expert craftsmanship with an ideal floor plan. Two of the six homes enjoy this floor plan with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, den, chef's kitchen w/ a large great room, beautiful finishes throughout & more. DRE#01995244

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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Clayton \$1,285,000 1 White Diamond Lane Sat/Sun 12-4



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