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CONTAINS RECYCLED PAPER

\$3.00

MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHERHOOD THROUGH A LENS



Ash Adams/The Chronicle

Ash Adams' son Elliott points to the site of his first lost tooth, which came out during his first week in kindergarten in August 2017 in Anchorage, Alaska.

"Many of my images of my experience of motherhood, all part of a long-form body of work, 'You Are the Color of Memory,' are darkly colorful. Early motherhood was a time of extremes — the world felt immediately more dangerous and more beautiful and in all ways more urgent," Adams said.

For Chronicle photo editor Ash Adams, becoming a mother changed her perspective on the meaning of her work and on its powerful possibilities. For Mother's Day, she sought out other Bay Area photographers who are mothers to share their stories.

Meet some local photographers who are navigating their creative professional landscapes while bearing and raising children. **Pages A16-17. See more online at SFChronicle.com.**

Newsom: Deficit is \$27B even after cuts

To reduce shortfall, governor wants to pull from reserves

By Sophia Bollag

California still faces a \$27.6 billion budget deficit even after the state already cut \$17 billion last month, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Friday during a news conference on his revised state spending plan.

Newsom's 2024-25 budget proposal totals \$288 billion, significantly smaller than the \$310.8 billion budget he signed into law last year. His proposal includes a \$201 billion general fund, the part of the budget over which he and lawmakers generally have the most control.

The deficit Newsom announced Friday reflects tax revenue that has come in below projections he used to craft his initial budget plan, which he announced in January. The deficit remains stubbornly high even after he and California lawmakers approved a series of spending cuts and internal borrowing tricks to reduce the state budget deficit by about \$17 billion in April.

To close the shortfall, Newsom, a Democrat, wants to declare a budget emergency and withdraw money from the state's reserves, a move **Deficit continues on A13**

S.F. Zoo begins internal probe amid allegations

By Tara Duggan

The organization that runs the San Francisco Zoo is conducting an internal investigation, an action that follows a Chronicle report that detailed employee allegations of mismanagement, safety lapses and animal welfare concerns, as well as a recent vote of no confidence in CEO and executive director Tanya Peterson by the zoo's union.

The investigation comes just as San Francisco has begun preparations to host a pair of high-profile pandas from China at the zoo as soon as next year.

On Thursday, executive board members of the San Francisco Zoological Society, the nonprofit organization that runs the city-owned zoo, held a meeting with investigator Harriet Lipkin, a Wash- **Zoo continues on A12**

State faces crushing downturn in wine industry

Closures feared amid plummeting sales, growing competition

By Esther Mobley

Megan Bell felt certain that her winery was going bankrupt.

When she released a new batch of wines in August, only three of her 19 distributors agreed to buy any. She was running \$65,000 over budget on opening a tasting room in Santa Cruz. And she owed \$80,000 to grape growers.

Sales in the second half of the year were the worst Bell had seen since starting her small business, Margins, eight years ago.

Bell labeled 2023 "a disaster" and said she knows she wasn't the only winemaker feeling it: "If anybody's not telling you that, they're lying."

The entire \$55 billion California wine industry is, like the wine industry worldwide, experiencing an unprecedented downturn now. No sector is immune — not the luxury tier, not the big conglomerates, not the upstart natural wines. Wine consumption fell 8.7% in 2023, according to leading industry analyst the Gomberg Fredrikson Report, a sobering reversal for an industry that had, for a quarter-century, taken annual growth for granted.

This year could be the breaking point, with many industry

figures predicting "a good-sized housecleaning," as put by Ian Brand, owner of I. Brand & Family Winery in Monterey County.

"A lot of brands are dead, but they don't even know it right now," echoed Michael Honig, president of Honig Vineyard & Winery in Napa Valley.

An extinction-level event has not come to pass — yet. But regardless of the winery survival rate, it's become clear in 2024 that the nature of the California wine industry has fundamentally changed. After decades of unfettered growth beginning in the 1990s, wine consumption started to flatten around 2018. Now, following what appeared to be a spike during the pandemic, it's in **Wine continues on A14**



Jessica Christian/The Chronicle

Megan Bell, owner of the Margins winery, visits the vineyard she leases in unincorporated Santa Cruz County last month.

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Upcoming Events at Michaan's!

Free Appraisal Event

Wednesday, May 22nd; 10 am - 1 pm
Wednesday, June 5th; 10 am - 1 pm

May Gallery Auction

Friday, May 17th; 10 am
Preview:
Sunday, May 12th; 10 am - 5 pm
Thursday, May 16th; 10 am - 5 pm
Friday, May 17th; 9 am - end of auction

May Annex Auction

Monday, May 13th; 9 am
Tuesday, May 14th; 9 am
Wednesday, May 15th; 9 am
Preview:
Sunday, May 12th; 10 am - 5 pm;
Monday, May 13th & Tuesday, May 14th; 9 am - 5 pm;
Wednesday, May 15th; 9 am - end of auction

Antique Fereghan Sarouk Pictorial Rug.



NEW Showroom Location: 2701 Monarch Street, Alameda, CA 94501
All lots to be offered in our Friday, May 17th Gallery Auction.

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