



Photos by Gabriella Angotti-Jones/Special to the Chronicle Ann Kerr, who coordinates the Visiting Fulbright Scholar program at the UCLA International Institute and is the mother of Warriors head coach Steve Kerr, teaches a freshman-level foreign policy class this month.

# Still influencing young minds at 90

Warriors coach's mom offers lessons on Middle East at UCLA

### By Ron Kroichick

LOS ANGELES — Ann Kerr stood in a small classroom at UCLA, sharing snippets of her remarkable life story to an attentive audience.

Twenty-two freshmen, including several from the Bay Area area 11.1



All the while, her son counts as one of the most politically engaged figures in sports. Steve Kerr long has been an advocate for gun safety, calling for universal background checks and other "sensible legislation." He drifted into a new frontier this summer when he spoke at the Democratic National Convention, nine days after guiding the U.S. men's basketball team to the Olympic gold medal in Paris. The roots of Steve Kerr's political engagement, and wider sense of the world, trace to his parents, Malcolm and Ann. Malcolm Kerr's life is well-documented -hewas a distinguished UCLA professor and Middle East scholar who fulfilled a lifelong dream when he became president of American University of Beirut, or AUB. He Kerr continues on A9

## **S.F. down 45,000 jobs from 2019 level**

City labor force still struggling to recover in wake of pandemic

### By Roland Li and Harsha Devulapalli

More than four years later, San Francisco is struggling to regain the jobs that were lost in the wake of the pandemic. The city, hit hard by remote work, tech layoffs and strict public health orders, had a labor force in the first quarter that was 7.3% below its 2019 level, or more than 45,000 fewer jobs.

In contrast, the Bay Area as a whole was only 1% below 2019 levels. California saw a 3.5% gain, and the U.S. saw a 5.2% increase in jobs as of the first quarter, according to detailed data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Two of the city's biggest job sectors, restaurants and hotels, were walloped by 2020's historic plunge in tourism and dining, and haven't recovered since. Restaurants, which accounted for 45,000 of the jobs worked in the city in the first quarter, were down 19% from 2019. Accommodation jobs, largely at hotels, were down 30%.

"I would say the biggest reason we're doing worse than the (rest of the) Bay Area is population loss and tourism," said Ted Egan, the city's chief economist.

San Francisco and San Mateo County's hotel revenue was only 61% of 2019 levels in August, one *Jobs continues on A8* 

### Chase Center, at age 5, an S.F. economic engine

the Bay Area, enrolled in the weekly one-unit seminar, "U.S. Values vs. U.S. Interests in Greater Middle East diplomacy." On this day, the second class of the fall quarter, Kerr asked the students to introduce themselves and explain their interest in the topic.

Then she offered her own background, how a college junior from Southern California took a 17-day freighter voyage to Beirut to study abroad in 1954. How she connected with four Arabic roommates, one each from Palestine, Jerusalem, Lebanon and Iraq. Old family photos of Ann Kerr and her children are displayed in her home in Los Angeles.

How her decadeslong fixation with the Middle East has enriched her life and also brought enduring heartbreak.

Kerr purposely doesn't mention this to her students: One of her four adult kids is Steve Kerr, head coach of the Golden State Warriors.

Ann turned 90 in August, a landmark worthy of an exuberant family celebration but not enough to slow her down. She still coordinates the Visiting Fulbright Scholar program at the UCLA International Institute. She still teaches every quarter. She still pours her time and abundant energy into "connecting cultures and people," as Steve put it.

"She's just this force of nature," he said.

#### By J.K. Dineen

Five years after its opening, Chase Center is coming of age.

When Stephen Curry and Draymond Green took the court for the Warriors' first home game of the season on Sunday, they did so in a Chase Center that has gone from being a somewhat controversial newcomer — some blamed the team for abandoning Oakland for this new arena and others worried about traffic gridlock around its events — to one of the city's strongest economic engines, a revenue-generating powerhouse of high-octane entertainment, food and sports.

Since opening in October 2019 — five months before the pandemic — the Chase Center has generated \$4.2 billion for the city's economy, \$2.9 billion in "direct spend" and another \$1 billion in what economists call "spend recirculation," according to a new report from the consultant Accenture.

**Chase continues on A7** 

### Woman, 91, allegedly bilked of millions

#### **By Megan Cassidy**

In October 2022, the private caregiver of 91-year-old Geraldine Clark called her patient's family with some alarming news.

Clark, whose nest egg had long afforded her a comfortable lifestyle in San Francisco, couldn't make rent, and her caregiving staff hadn't been paid in weeks, the woman told Clark's nephew, David Stewart.

Clark lived modestly and paid less than \$2,000 a month for her rent-controlled apartment. The dividends from Clark's stock portfolio should have been more than enough to support her and her 24-hour home nursing staff, Stewart surmised.

Instead, Clark was moved to a government-funded nursing

home as her family scrambled to access her bank records. It wasn't until after she died, four months later, that the reality of Clark's financial collapse came into focus.

Over the course of seven years, Clark's caregivers allegedly cashed out more than \$4 million on top of their salaries, according to a trustee's investigation into Clark's finances. The trustee, who had been appointed by a court to manage Clark's finances after her death, found that the funds had been paid out through hundreds of checks, which had been signed by Clark but filled out by someone else.

"There were months that (the caregivers) were pulling out \$100,000, \$200,000," Stewart said in a recent interview with *Bilked continues on A8* 



Provided by Kaira Stewart

Geraldine Clark, left, with her partner, William Clement. Clark's caregivers allegedly cashed out over \$4 million in checks.

 WEATHER: Breezy afternoon. Highs: 60-73. Lows: 38-50. **B8** 

