

Upcoming Events at Michaan's!

Free Appraisal Event - New Time
 Wednesday, November 20th; 9 am - 12 pm
 Wednesday, December 18th 9 am - 12 pm

December Gallery Auction
 Friday, December 13th; 10 am
Preview:
 Sunday, December 8th; 10 am - 5 pm
 Thursday, December 12th; 10 am - 5 pm
 Friday, December 13th; 9 am - end of auction

December Fine Auction
 Monday, December 16th; 10 am
Preview:
 Sunday, December 8th; 10 am - 5 pm
 Thursday, December 12th; 10 am - 5 pm
 Friday, December 13th; 9 am - 5 pm
 Monday, December 16th; 9 am - end of auction

Chinese Silver Tray and Coffee Pot.
Fine Auction

FRIEDENSREICH HUNDERTWASSER
(Austrian, 1928-2000)
"Regentropfenzähler"
(Rain Drop Counter)
Fine Auction

James Lovera Studio Pottery Red Inverted Conical Vase.
Gallery Auction

Chinese Wucui Glazed Dragon Vase with Lid.
Gallery Auction

Dale Chihuly Art Glass Orange Persian.
Fine Auction

Antique French Bulldog Papier Mache Automaton.
Gallery Auction

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Auctioneers & Appraisers

San Francisco Chronicle

SFCHRONICLE.COM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024 CONTAINS RECYCLED PAPER \$3.00

Sheriff defies calls to resign

San Mateo County fallout grows amid wrongdoing claims

By Rachel Swan

When San Mateo County Sheriff Christina Corpus ran for office two years ago, she promised to clean up the scandal-plagued department, dubbing her campaign "Team Revolution."

Her predecessor came under scrutiny amid accusations of prioritizing donors when issuing concealed-carry gun permits and improperly dispatching investigators to raid the garage of an Indiana Batmobile manufacturer, which came after he

Sheriff continues on A11

Hopefuls lining up to lead Oakland

By Sarah Ravani

After a stunning recall put an abrupt end to Mayor Sheng Thao's two years as mayor, who will lead Oakland next remains unclear. The number of people throwing their hat in the ring is growing rapidly — but political insiders have zeroed in on one name in particular: Rep. Barbara Lee.

The Oakland Democrat, who has been in Congress since 1998 and is 78 years old, has not publicly said she intends to run for the position, and her office declined to comment.

Oakland continues on A12



Photos by Florence Middleton/Special to the Chronicle

PARADISE REBORN

Couple whose home was spared in 2018 fire see much different community as town rebuilds: 'People are coming back, but we don't know any of them'

By Florence Middleton

Editor's note: After the 2018 Camp Fire, a photojournalist visited a Paradise couple while they were displaced in Chico, shortly after they returned home and again early this year. This is their story.

PARADISE, Butte County — When California's most devastating wildfire destroyed the town of Paradise in November 2018, Gloria and Mike Sikut narrowly escaped. The home they had lived in for decades somehow survived even as the Camp Fire burned down 95% of the town. For months, they lived in motels with those who lost their homes. Three months later, after extensive work on their home to remove smoke dam-

age, the Sikuts returned to a ghost town.

Back at home, a cancer-causing chemical contaminated their house's water supply, forcing them to use bottled water for months. Mike built a long fence to block their kitchen window view — he grew depressed by seeing the devastation.

Now, years later, Paradise has become one of the fastest-growing cities in California. With insurance money, residents have rebuilt entire neighborhoods. Many of the homes are larger than the originals, the Sikuts said. But as people and businesses return, they feel it's not the town they once knew.

"People are coming back," Mike said, "but we don't know any of them."

Paradise continues on A14



ABOVE: Gloria and Mike Sikut try the fried fish at Paradise Blue Lagoon Chowder House in February, a few weeks after the seafood restaurant's grand reopening.

TOP: The Sikuts' Paradise home remains unscorched in February 2019 next to the ashes of the house next door destroyed in the 2018 Camp Fire, which burned down 95% of the town.

Trump made gains in blue-collar parts of S.F.

By Aldo Toledo

Tucked into the southeast corner of San Francisco, Visitation Valley is an oft forgotten, sleepy neighborhood that seems a world away from the hustle and bustle in other parts of the city.

But the neighborhood made its mark during this month's presidential election. More voters in Visitation Valley — a mostly Asian working-class neighborhood — chose Donald Trump than in any other neighborhood in San Francisco.

While the city went solidly for Kamala Harris — 81% to Trump's 15% — the president-elect put up some of his best

numbers in heavily Asian, working-class neighborhoods including Visitation Valley, the Excelsior and Silver Terrace. Those gains mirrored those Trump made among similar demographics elsewhere in the country.

Despite the lack of campaign signs in yards or windows, Trump gained in every Visitation Valley precinct. In one precinct next to McLaren Park, his vote share grew from 26% in 2020 to 41% this month, the highest citywide. Treasure Island shifted the most of any neighborhood, going from 13% in 2020 to 23% this year.

Residents across the political

Trump continues on A13



Stephen Lam/The Chronicle

Jeffrey Callaway of Visitation Valley voted for Robert F. Kennedy Jr. He said voters were tired of politicians "doing nothing."