

BAY CROSSINGS

"The Voice of the Waterfront"

May 2009 Vol.10, No.5



RocketBoat Blasts Off
A Speedy New Attraction

Bringing Muddy Back
Wetland Restoration Projects

Plastic Measures
San Jose Considers Bag Fee

Green Report Card
High Marks for Richmond

Complete Ferry Schedules for all SF Lines

Rosenblum[®]
CELLARS

Just a Ferry Ride Away...



MENTION THIS AD
AND RECEIVE A
2 FOR 1 RESERVE TASTING

WINERY & TASTING ROOM
2900 Main Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Right Next to the Alameda Ferry Terminal
www.RosenblumCellars.com

Open Daily 11-6 • 510-995-4100

ENJOY OUR WINES RESPONSIBLY
© 2009 Rosenblum Cellars, Alameda, Ca

Vallejo Baylink Ferry

Catch a Great Deal
to Weekend/Holiday
SF Giants games
starting April 18th

visit www.baylinkferry.com
for details



- Voted "most romantic getaway" in Best of Solano poll
- Up to 24 sailings daily to/from Vallejo and the SF Ferry Building with stops at Fisherman's Wharf/Pier 41
- Family fares now available



Discovery Kingdom - Vallejo

Travel the easy way & leave the driving to us

Express bus service

- Daily runs throughout Solano County
- Service 7-days-a-week

Baylink
Travel
the Easy Way

877.64.FERRY or baylinkferry.com



Vienna?

{psst...passport not required}

Grand
OPENING



May 2nd - 3rd
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
10am - 6pm



NEW!
from the upper \$300's



**BELVEDERE
LUXURY CONDOMINIUMS**

GATED COMMUNITY • SINGLE LEVEL LIVING

PRIVATE CLUBHOUSE Coming Soon

Featuring an All-Season Indoor Heated Swimming Pool & Whirlpool Spa, Fully Equipped Fitness Center, Spacious Lounge, Media Area, Game Rooms, Fireplace, Catering Kitchen and Spacious Entertaining Patio

BELVEDEREVALLEJO.COM

TOLL FREE 1.800.931.0933



N. Ascot Parkway at Berkshire Lane



BAYCROSSINGS

"The Voice of the Waterfront"

columns

04 BAYKEEPER
Invasive Species
Threaten Bay Natives
by **Sejal Choksi**

16 SAILING ADVENTURES
A Sailor's History of
Yerba Buena Island
by **Captain Ray**

features

09 ROCKETBOAT
I Think It's Going to Be
a Fast, Fast Ride

12 GREEN PAGES
Group Will Restore
Four Wetlands
by **Bill Picture**

news

05 WATERFRONT NEWS
McKenna to Speak at
Industry Luncheon
by **Paul Duclos**

**10 Springtime Blooming on
Angel Island**

**11 Sausalito - S.F. Ferry
Ride Named World's
Second Best**

**17 Somber Anniversary for
*U.S.S. Iowa***

**20 New Effort Underway
to Limit Plastic Bag
Pollution**

**21 WETA's New Ferry
Reports for Duty**



guides

06 WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES
Our recreational resource guide

18 WETA FERRY SCHEDULES
Be on time for last call

22 AROUND THE BAY
To see, be, do, know

sponsored stories

15 CITY OF RICHMOND
Green Matters



On May 1, Blue & Gold Fleet will launch RocketBoat, a thrilling new addition to its lineup that will speed passengers around the Bay. Photo courtesy of Blue & Gold Fleet.

BAYCROSSINGS

May 2009 Volume 10, Number 5

Bobby Winston, Proprietor
Joyce Aldana, President
Joel Williams, Publisher
Patrick Runkle, Editor

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Joel Williams, Advertising & Marketing Director

GRAPHICS & PRODUCTION

Francisco Arreola, Designer / Web Producer

ART DIRECTION

Francisco Arreola; Patrick Runkle; Joel Williams

COLUMNISTS

Captain Ray Wichmann;
Paul Duclos

WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Bill Picture; Sejal Choksi;
Joel Williams

ACCOUNTING

Cindy Henderson

Subscribe:

By mail: \$45 / year (12 monthly issues)
Online: www.baycrossings.com/subscribe.asp

Advertising Inquiries:

(707) 556-3323, joel@baycrossings.com

Bay Crossings
Ferry Building, #22
San Francisco, CA 94111
www.baycrossings.com

A Division of Nematode Media, LLC

Corrections & Letters

We appreciate the opportunity to publish our readers' comments, letters or requests for corrections, which can be sent to joel@baycrossings.com.

Correction

We received a call from the Bar Pilot Commissioner in charge of training for the past 8 years with a clarification to our article last month referencing Bar Pilots and their training protocols. We were subsequently informed that Captain McCloy did not get his state-required emergency training as a pilot at California Maritime Academy. We apologize for any confusion this might have caused.

The Hostile Takeover of San Francisco Bay

BY SEJAL CHOKSI, BAYKEEPER AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR

San Francisco Bay is known throughout the world for its majestic natural beauty, and San Francisco Baykeeper works every day to protect the health of the birds, fish and other aquatic animals that make the Bay so special. But the Bay isn't just lovely to behold—it is also an active end point along an international shipping route that contributes to a significant portion of California's trillion-dollar economy.

More than 7,000 container ships transit the Bay every year, making shipping both an important part of the Bay Area's industrial economy and a source of pollution to our waterways. The constant cycle of ships traveling between San

Francisco Bay and ports around the world has serious environmental consequences for our local ecosystem. For example, heavy ship traffic can lead to serious environmental accidents, such as the collision and resulting oil spill from the *Cosco Busan* container ship in 2007. A dynamic shipping industry can also create pollution from the building, breaking down and maintenance of large vessels.

A less obvious but equally serious consequence of supporting shipping in the Bay is the introduction of invasive species to our ecosystem. Exotic species are introduced into the Bay in several ways—in boat motors, on the bottom sides of sailboats, and from the aquaculture industry. But by far the most significant source of invasive species is the ballast water of container ships. Ballast water is taken on board an empty ship at port in order to provide vessel stability for an

ocean voyage. When the ship reaches its destination, it discharges ballast water that contains tiny stowaways in the form of the larvae of exotic marine organisms.

When these exotic plants and animals enter Bay waters, they are able to thrive, often outcompeting native species and dominating the ecological community. Scientists estimate that approximately one new exotic species comes to the San Francisco Bay every 14 weeks, so it is no surprise that the Bay is home to 240 invasive species comprising 97 percent of the total number of Bay organisms. Invasive species are successful because they can tolerate a range of environmental conditions and eat many different types of food. When they reach their new environment, individuals can grow and reproduce quickly in the absence of their natural predators, eventually establishing themselves as a large and virulent population.

Invasive species wreak havoc on the Bay's ecosystem. The pervasive overbite clam, *Corbula amurensis*, is suspected to have entered the San Francisco Bay as larvae discharged with a ship's ballast water. Now the tiny clam can be found in huge numbers—19,000 clams per square meter in some regions of the Bay. Because it can tolerate a variety of temperature and salinity conditions, it has truly thrived, to the detriment of the Bay. The invasive clam consumes phytoplankton at a rapid rate and limits the base of the food web, making San Francisco Bay a less productive ecosystem. It also assimilates contaminants in the water more readily than other clam species. As a result, the clams themselves actually become toxic and can poison the fish and ducks that feed on them.

Invasive species may come to the Bay as just a few tiny individuals, but it is nearly impossible to eliminate them once they have taken hold of the ecosystem. The best way to protect the Bay from the damage of more invasive species is to regulate the ships that carry them. In July 2008, San Francisco Baykeeper won a legal victory to prevent the spread of invasive species in our waterways. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

must regulate ship discharges, including ballast water discharges containing invasive species that pollute U.S. waters under the Clean Water Act.

But EPA's regulation alone won't be enough. The invasive species problem is severe, and the shipping industry must be closely monitored and regulated. Baykeeper supports the implementation of mandatory ballast water treatment, which will effectively kill any organisms in ballast water before they can enter the Bay ecosystem. We are also working with local agencies, lawmakers and scientists to ensure that regulations improve under the Clean Water Act.

The Bay's native critters will always share their home with invaders, but with better management of ballast water and invasive species, we can close the Golden Gate to new invaders and end the cycle of environmental damage. To learn more about Baykeeper's efforts to limit the spread of invasive species, please visit www.baykeeper.org.

Congratulations to Eva Chu and Sandor Schoichet for successfully completing the Baykeeper Crossword. They'll both receive Baykeeper T-shirts as prizes. Want to throw your hat in the ring? Test your knowledge of the Bay with the crossword challenge at www.baykeeper.org.

Sejal Choksi,
San Francisco Baykeeper and
Program Director



Sejal first joined San Francisco Baykeeper as an attorney in September 2002, spearheading San Francisco Baykeeper's efforts to secure the nation's first regulations to control agricultural pollution. As the San Francisco Baykeeper, she now directs all aspects of Baykeeper's advocacy programs, pollution patrols, and legal docket.

SIGN UP TODAY!

www.bayarealicenseplate.org



Invest in the Bay Area's future

Register to receive a Bay Area Special License Plate to protect natural habitats & provide recreation throughout the region!



1-877-4SF BAY1

McKenna to Speak at Industry Luncheon

James McKenna, President and CEO of Pacific Maritime Association (PMA), will be the featured speaker at Pacific Transportation Association's Annual Ports and Terminals Luncheon. The event takes place on May 7 at Scott's Restaurant in Oakland's Jack London Square.

As president of the San Francisco-based PMA, McKenna directs the association's principal business activity of negotiating and administering maritime labor agreements with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) on the west coast. He also oversees all operations, including the administration of payroll, benefits, and pension, and the training of the ILWU workforce and PMA staff. Prior to joining PMA in July 2003, McKenna was Chief Operating Officer at Horizon Lines (formerly CSX). He has nearly 30 years of domestic and international maritime industry experience that includes vessel operations, procurement, terminal operations, and labor relations activities. For more details, see www.pacifictrans.org.

SFO Logistics Center Upgrade on Tap

Bay Area shippers are bullish on the SFO Logistics Center. Centrum Properties has initiated plans for a \$23 million upgrade and modernization of the SFO Logistics Center in South San Francisco that will transform what is already a sought-after commercial facility into the premier warehouse distribution center on the Peninsula.

According to Michael McLean, vice president for development of Centrum Properties, there's evidence that even in today's challenging economy, good investment

opportunities are available in communities like South San Francisco. "We continue to see value in this project and the California real estate market in general," he said.

The 572,000 square-foot site has served as a warehouse and distribution facility for the General Services Administration, the U.S. Postal Service and other federal government agencies for the past 60 years.

Renovations are expected to begin this summer. During this time, Centrum will continue to offer leasing opportunities to tenants. The project will be completed and available for lease by new tenants in October 2009. Improvements to the site will include seismic safety updates, infrastructure enhancements, tenant upgrades and installation of new buildings.

Centrum Properties and its equity partner, Angelo, Gordon & Co., purchased the property for \$36.5 million from the General Services Agency in August 2008. The San Francisco office of Holiday Fenoglio Fowler, led by Peter Smyslowski, arranged funding for the deal.

Cruise Vessels Serviced at S.F. Port

Meanwhile, other signs of life seem to be surfacing elsewhere on the commercial waterfront. The Port of San Francisco's maritime marketing manager, Gerry Roybal, has stated that there's been a recent surge of activity at Pier 70, where cruise vessels have come in for repair. In recent months at least three Carnival Cruise vessels have been serviced at the dry dock, providing hundreds of well-paying jobs. BAE Systems runs the dry dock and recently started working with the city-sponsored City Build program, promising to train more locals for the ship-repair industry.

Coast Guard Approves Cal Maritime Course

The U.S. Coast Guard National Maritime Center, through Det Norske Veritas, has approved a Vessel Security Officer (VSO) Refresher Course developed by The California Maritime Academy, a part of the California State University. The course, offered through Cal Maritime's Sponsored Projects and Extended Learning (SPEL) Department, provides a refresher curriculum for maritime security personnel and is designed to facilitate the transition to the USCG mandatory training for Vessel Security Officers.

Cal Maritime is one of a select few training organizations in the country delivering Maritime Security Courses certified by the Coast Guard, The U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). These courses meet the requirements of the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA), the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) International Ship and Port Security Code (ISPS), and State and Federal emergency management standards. As such, the courses are eligible for DHS grant reimbursement under the Homeland Security and Port Security Grant programs.

Navy to Send Only One Ship to Fleet Week

San Francisco's Fleet Week will feature far fewer U.S. Navy vessels when it is staged next October. Published reports indicate that only one ship will be sent by the San Diego-based Third Fleet. Cost-cutting and other budgetary constraints are to blame, said spokesmen. The Navy's "Blue Angels," however, will be arriving in full force, and local shipping associations will be staging events to coincide with the celebration.

We received the following letter in response to Bill Picture's report on the Port of Oakland's efforts to clean up truck pollution.

If your publication is editorially independent and not affiliated with unions or the port, then it should publish the rest of the story here. CCSP [Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports] is a union group with the goal not of cleaning the air, but of unionizing all port drivers.

The Court of Appeals in Los Angeles on March 20 ordered a lower court judge to issue an injunction against all or parts of the L.A. port concession plan and highlighted the ban on independent owner-operators as one element that was an especially egregious violation of the rights of citizens.

In addition to this there are many errors and misstatements in this article; some were made by the union people, but some are not attributed.

The ATA has supported the Clean Truck Programs in Los Angeles and Long Beach, but sued successfully to halt parts of the program that are illegal, unconstitutional, and have nothing to do with clean air.

Clayton W. Boyce
V.P. of Public Affairs and Press Secretary
American Trucking Associations

UPDATE:

Last July, the American Trucking Associations (ATA) filed a lawsuit in federal court to stop the plan. In the meantime, they asked for an injunction to halt implementation of certain provisions of the plan, in particular, the one that requires trucking companies to stop using independent contractors and hire all drivers as employees.

On March 20, three Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals judges urged U.S. District Court Judge Christina Snyder to grant ATA's request. The three-judge panel deemed the provisions in question unconstitutional for they "denigrate small businesses and insist that individuals should work for large companies or not at all." Judge Snyder is expected to rule on April 27.

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) had also called for an injunction. The program, they claimed, will reduce competition and cause irreparable economic harm by decreasing services and raising rates. But, on April 15, U.S. District Court Judge Richard Leon rejected the FMC's request, concluding that there was insufficient evidence to substantiate these claims. Leon also deemed the clean-truck program likely to succeed on merits when it eventually goes to trial.

WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES

- Every Saturday** **12PM – 2PM or 2:30PM - 4:30PM - Introduction to Sailing Course, OCSC Sailing, Berkeley, 510-843-4200, www.ocscsailing.com**
This two-hour skippered charter is designed to provide folks who are considering getting into sailing with a real glimpse of the sport, our club and our people. Cost is \$30.
- Every Wed.** **6PM – 10PM - Wednesday Night Sail - OCSC Sailing, Berkeley, 510-843-4200, www.ocscsailing.com**
This two-hour skippered charter is a great way to see the Bay and enjoy the sunset from the water. The sailing is followed by a social with chili, clam chowder and refreshments in our Clubroom overlooking the Bay. Cost is \$40.
- May 2** **11AM – 3PM - Open House, Tradewinds Sailing School & Club, Richmond, 510-232-7999, www.tradewindssailing.com**
Open to the public at our new facility. Invite your friends and come on out for Bar-B-Q hot dogs and snacks. There will be new & used boats here from Passage Yachts. Bring the family and friends out and have a look!
- May 2** **11AM – 5PM - Free Sailboat Rides & Open Houes, Club Nautique, Alameda, 510-865-4700, www.clubnautique.net**
Come in and enjoy the fun! Find out about San Francisco Bay's premier sailing school and yacht charter company. Take a free sailboat ride (with a suggested donation to the Leukemia Lymphoma Society) and enjoy the free BBQ. All are welcome.
- May 3** **10AM – 12PM - Ocean Beach Cleanup, Surfrider Association (SF Chapter), Ocean Beach at Traval Street, www.sfsurfrider.org**
Help keep our local beaches clean! Just show up at Ocean Beach at the end of Traval Street and we'll provide gloves, bags and instructions. Rain cancels this event.
- May 8** **6:45PM – 9:45PM - Moonlight Paddle, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, www.outbackadventures.com**
Navigating your kayak by moonlight is a mystical experience you won't soon forget. This unique kayak tour allows for a grand view of the moon rising into the night's sky. We will paddle leisurely while admiring the moon's silvery light reflecting off the water's surface.
- May 9** **10AM – 3PM - Tomales Bay Kayak Tour, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, www.outbackadventures.com**
Experience one of the premier paddling destinations in California on this guided kayak tour. Wildlife abounds in this spectacular setting. One of the largest protected bay and coastal areas in California, this kayaker's paradise is a short distance from San Francisco and the Bay Area.
- May 9** **6PM – 10PM - Saturday Night Sail, Tradewinds Sailing School & Club, Richmond, 510-232-7999, www.tradewindssailing.com**
Join Tradewinds for an evening sail on the bay. Navigate at night and enjoy the romance of the bay after dark. Cost is \$30 (Free for club members).
- May 9** **7PM – 11PM - OCSC's KaBoom Seaward Sail – OCSC Sailing, Berkeley, 510-843-4200, www.ocscsailing.com**
Join us on the 82' Schooner Seaward for the KFOG KaBoom festival. Avoid the crowds in the City and get the best seat in the house for the fireworks show... the Bay! Cost Members: \$71.25 Non-Members: \$95
- May 9** **7PM – 10PM - Full Moon Paddle, Sea Trek Kayaking Center, Sausalito, 415-332-8494, www.seatrek.com**
A short introductory session prepares you for a leisurely paddle into the sunset watching harbor seals at play as we explore Sausalito's eclectic floating homes community with the silhouette of Mt. Tamalpais in the distance. As the moon rises over Angel Island we'll enjoy the sparkling San Francisco skyline, and the silvery moonlight in the wake of our kayaks. Beginners welcome. \$75.
- May 9** **7:30PM – 10:30PM - Moonlight Kayaking: Jack London Square, California Canoe & Kayak, Oakland, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Moonlight paddling is enchanting! The water is calm and glassy on the Oakland Estuary and the city lights add to the ambiance. We enjoy a leisurely pace as the sun sets and the moon rises, illuminating a delightful evening. \$49 includes all gear and guides.
- May 10** **7AM – Noon - Monterey Diving, Advanced Diving Technologies, 925-754-8180, www.adtscuba.com**
The summer diving season is in full swing. It's time to get out there and Dive! Float through the beautiful kelp forest, look closely for all the small invertebrate life among all the brilliant colors. Then topside watch for whales and dolphins. It is all here. Join us. 2 tank dive \$90. Nitrox available upon request.
- May 10** **9AM – 2PM - Mother's Day Brunch Paddle, UCSF Outdoor Programs, 415-476-2078, outdoors.ucsf.edu**
Spend Mother's Day kayaking the eastern shores of San Francisco. After touring Mission Creek and the waterfront we'll dock kayaks at a classic SF restaurant, the Ramp, for Brunch. Kayaks, gear, guides, and Brunch are all included. \$79
- May 16** **9AM – 5PM - Radar & GPS Clinic, Club Nautique, Alameda, 510-865-4700, www.clubnautique.net**
Introduction to the proper use of radar. Learn the various functions of the radar and how to apply them onboard a 39' powerboat. Learn to discern buoys from vessels, track vessels to determine whether you are on a collision course, and navigate with radar using bearing fixes. Reservations required. Members: \$282/Non-Members: \$375.

OCSC™ SAILING
Inspire Confidence™



OCSC Sailing
One Spinnaker Way
Berkeley, CA 94710
www.ocsc.com
Phone: (800) 223-2984

We are the top-rated sailing school in North America. Sailing is about discovery, freedom and exploration. Our new award-winning website has everything you want to know about learning to sail, free sailing events, real-time weather, live webcams on the bay and free subscription to our "Now Hear This" newsletter and much, much more!

Club Nautique

San Francisco Bay's Premier Sailing School and Yacht Charter Company

Learn to Sail!

From Beginner to Offshore

You won't find a better, more comprehensive program anywhere!

US SAILING Keelboat Certification Classes.

Call today to get started!

www.clubnautique.net • Alameda: (800) 343-7245 • Sausalito: (800) 559-2582

WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

- May 16 9AM – 3PM - Angel Island Crossing, Sea Trek Kayaking Center, Sausalito, 415-332-8494, www.seatrek.com**
A great adventure paddling from Sausalito over to Angel Island where we'll have a lunch break, short hike and enjoy fabulous views of the Golden Gate Bridge. Beginners with a physically active lifestyle welcome. \$85.
- May 16 12:30PM – 2:30PM - Giants Game Paddle, UCSF Outdoor Programs, 415-476-2078, outdoors.ucsf.edu**
Be part of a world famous San Francisco tradition-experience a Giants home game by kayak! Kayaks, gear, and guides included. \$40
- May 16 6PM – 10PM - Crew Social, Tradewinds Sailing School & Club, Richmond, 510-232-7999, www.tradewindssailing.com**
Meet people to sail with! Potluck hors d'oeuvres, bring your favorite appetizer and meet and socialize with Tradewinds Members. Bring business cards to exchange or use the blank ones we provide in the office. Bring a new friend and introduce them to the sailing lifestyle!
- May 20 7PM – 9PM - Jennifer Stock Cordell Banks Marine Sanctuary, Marin Scuba Club, San Rafael, 415-453-9556, www.marinclub.org**
We invite divers of all skill levels to join us the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Flatiron on 724 B Street in San Rafael for a featured presentation. We offer guest speakers discussing all aspects of diving using multi-media video presentations. Contact Alberta: marinclubmembership@yahoo.com.
- May 24 10AM – 2PM - Kayak Basics, Oakland Estuary, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Are you ready to try kayaking? This half-day class (4 hours) allows you to paddle a few different types of kayaks, including Touring Kayaks (for open water), Recreational Kayaks, and Sit-on-Tops. Learn the basic strokes and the difference between boat types. This class emphasizes basic water safety, but saves capsized recovery practice for a later session. Class fee includes coupon for future kayak rental, good for 2 hours! \$59 includes all gear and instruction.
- May 24 10AM – 12PM - Ocean Beach Cleanup, Surfrider Association (SF Chapter), Ocean Beach at Stairway 17, www.sfsurfrider.org**
Help keep our local beaches clean! Just show up at Ocean Beach at Stairway 17 directly across from the Beach Chalet restaurant at 1000 Great Highway and we'll provide gloves, bags and instructions. Rain cancels this event.
- May 24 12:30PM – 4:30PM - Corte Madera Marsh, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, www.outbackadventures.com**
Come explore the wetlands along Corte Madera Marsh while taking in the views of Mount Tamalpais and the San Francisco Bay. We will paddle out in stable double sea kayaks while keeping our eyes open for the curious harbor seals that gather nearby. If conditions permit, we may take an optional side trip past the infamous San Quentin Prison, then stop for lunch on a nice sandy beach with incredible views.
- May 24-25 Angel Island Overnight Kayak/Camp Trip, Sea Trek Kayaking Center, Sausalito, 415-332-8494, www.seatrek.com**
Don't miss this. We've reserved the kayak campsite on the Island for this fun overnight trip. This trip is suitable for beginners who lead a physically active lifestyle. Beginners will be in double kayaks and those who have taken advanced classes and rough water rescues may elect to paddle a single. We'll paddle to the Island, then take an afternoon hike before settling in for drinks and dinner. A short post dinner hike takes us up to an overlook with incredible views of the Golden Gate and the city night lights. The following morning after a leisurely breakfast we pack up and head back to Sea Trek. \$140
- May 25 8:45AM – 4PM - Beginning Sea Kayaking, Oakland Estuary, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Enjoy Memorial Day on the Oakland Estuary learning how to paddle a sea kayak with our expert instructors! Graduates of this class are qualified to rent closed-deck sea kayaks and participate in more advanced classes and trips. Be prepared to get wet! Cost is \$89 and includes kayak, wet suit and paddling gear, and free coupon for a future rental.
- May 26 10AM – 4PM - Ladies Sail, Tradewinds Sailing School & Club, Richmond, 510-232-7999, www.tradewindssailing.com**
Join us for our ladies sail. Free for sailing club members, \$30 for non-members. Ask about our new Mate's Membership if you'd like to attend all of our club events without spending the extra cash.
- May 31 10AM – 3PM - Tomales Bay Kayak Tour, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, www.outbackadventures.com**
Experience one of the premier paddling destinations in California on this guided kayak tour. Wildlife abounds in this spectacular setting. One of the largest protected bay and coastal areas in California, this kayaker's paradise is a short distance from San Francisco and the Bay Area.



Tradewinds Sailing School and Club
1230 Brickyard Cove Rd #100, Point Richmond, CA 94801
Phone: (510) 232 - 7999 www.TradewindsSailing.com

“Sailing is Personal - So is Tradewinds!”

Take advantage of our Summer Special - **\$100 OFF** of Basic Keelboat, Basic Coastal Cruising or Bareboat Chartering! Check us out on the web and compare our prices. Stop by to see our facilities and fleet.



Outback Adventures
12 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd,
Larkspur, CA 94939
www.outbackadventures.com
Phone (415) 461-2222

We are a comprehensive outdoor guide service, rental shop, and specialty outdoor retailer. In Marin we offer kayak sales, demos, rentals and instructional classes for kayaking and rock climbing. Custom trips and private classes are also available.



Blue Waters Kayaking
12938 Sir Francis
Drake Blvd,
Inverness, CA 94937
www.BWKayak.com
Phone (415) 669-2600

Just an hour north of San Francisco in the Point Reyes National Seashore, wilderness kayaking and hiking experiences await you. Two locations on Tomales Bay offer naturalist-led tours, camping, youth camps, custom trips and all levels of classes. We also do Baja, Yucatan tours in the winter/spring.



TRUE BAY LIVING

without the bay price

“A hidden treasure that offers homebuyers a rare combination of quality, value and convenience.”

- Marianne, Yelp.com

NEW RELEASE!

- Located within Marina Bay master-planned community
- Marina Bay Harbor right outside your door
- Unique maritime architecture with 2-4 bedrooms and attached garages



ANCHOR COVE

■ MARINA BAY, RICHMOND ■

LOWEST PRICES EVER!
FROM THE \$300's

MODELS OPEN
Mon 1-6, Thurs-Sun 10-6
1700 Day Sailor Ct.
510.965.0723



www.AnchorCove.com

Square footage is approximate. Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. Please see sales counselor for complete details.



We Need Your Voice Join Baykeeper Today!

Do you believe polluters like the Cosco Busan should be held accountable for fouling the San Francisco Bay? Do you think cities need to do more to keep sewage out of our streets, creeks and the Bay? If so, join Baykeeper and help us enforce clean water laws to protect the Bay. It's never been more important. Join us today!

www.baykeeper.org



BAYKEEPER.

Celebrate Summer!

Take the Muir Woods Express from Sausalito Ferry Terminal!

Direct bus service from Sausalito Ferry Terminal begins May 23.

Service operates weekends and holidays through September.

**ROUND TRIP FARE \$3.00 Adult
\$1.00 Senior/Youth/Disabled**

For more information, visit
www.goldengate.org or call 511 (TDD 711) &



Blue & Gold Fleet Welcomes its Newest, High-Speed Addition

On May 1, Blue & Gold Fleet is launching RocketBoat, a new addition for the 2009 season. This dual-engine speedboat, powered by a mixture of bio-diesel fuel, will travel at 44 knots and is sure to provide thrills for its 135 passengers. RocketBoat will operate this season until October 31.

The open-air RocketBoat will give both locals and visitors a chance to take in the spectacular views of San Francisco Bay and the City skyline in a whole new way—through twists, turns, and spirals. Passengers will be entertained with a live narration from the captain and crew, and the 30-minute trip is enhanced with a classic rock soundtrack.

RocketBoat runs daily, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., from Gate 4 at Pier 39's West

Marina. RocketBoat slowly passes the sea lions, then speeds to the Bay Bridge, zips by AT&T Park, rounds Treasure Island and then cruises past Alcatraz before returning home to PIER 39. "The breathtaking views are part of the allure of being on the Bay. RocketBoat riders will now take in the sights while their hearts pound and their heads swirl," says Taylor Safford, president of Blue & Gold Fleet, the man behind the ride. "I've been involved in every aspect of the boat design and operation. It will definitely bring new energy to our Fleet."

RocketBoat was built by Sunsplash Marina LLC in New Jersey, where it was loaded up with twin 16VM70 engines, each rated at 1410 horsepower and at 2100 rpm. The all-aluminum vessel uses water jets to achieve its top speed. RocketBoat is powered by a mixture of bio-diesel fuel, complementing Blue & Gold Fleet's status as the largest fleet of bio-diesel ferries and tour boats on San Francisco Bay.

Regular ticket prices are \$26 for adults and \$21 for children ages 11 and under. Group rates are always available and special



Photo Courtesy of Blue & Gold Fleet

discounts fares are being offered to kick off the season. All passengers must be at least 40 inches tall to ride. RocketBoat's route and schedule are subject to Bay conditions. For more information, visit www.rocketboatsf.com.

Blue & Gold Fleet also offers a one-hour Bay Cruise Adventure Tour along San Francisco's waterfront and provides regular ferry service to Sausalito, Tiburon, Angel Island, Vallejo, Alameda and Oakland. More information can be found at www.blueandgoldfleet.com.



Photo Courtesy of Blue & Gold Fleet

SPRINGTIME BLOOMING ON ANGEL ISLAND

BY SILVIA LANGE

Colors are some of the most remarkable springtime features of Angel Island. The terrain sparkles with ruby reds, sapphire blues, topaz yellows, pearly whites, and emerald greens—but these colors come from wildflowers, not gemstones.

The varieties of wildflowers on Angel Island are those found throughout Marin County, and March, April, and May are the best times to catch the annual bloom. Although there are flowers along the Perimeter Road, there are many more higher up on the island. The suggested route for optimal viewing is to hike up

the Sunset Trail to the top of Mount Livermore (788 feet) and come back down the North Ridge Trail. The distance of this journey is about four miles total—you should take time to enjoy the flowers and the spectacular views, just don't miss the ferry!

You won't find all wildflowers on any one trip; wildflowers have their own schedules that are influenced primarily by winter rainfall. The October 2008 wildfire may affect the blooms; this year there are many more zigadene (star lilies) and poppies. Early wildflowers include milkmaids, shooting stars, poppies, miner's lettuce, zigadene, iris, man root, buttercups, hound's tongue, checker bloom, and mission bells. A singular delight is the enigmatic California

pipevine, a brownish flower that looks like a Dutchman's pipe, calabash, or little saxophone.

Later blooms are lupine, mule ears, Indian paint brush, yarrow, sticky monkey flower, cobweb thistle, and drifts of forget-me-nots, a non-native. Another escapee from cultivation is Pride of Madeira, which shimmers like a tower of jewels in shades of purple, lavender, cobalt blue, and pink. Clarkia, known as both Farewell to Spring and Summer's Darling, heralds the change of seasons.

When you are here, please remember not to pick the wildflowers. There are a number of good reasons not to take them home with you: (1) So that those people behind you can enjoy them; (2) So that the flowers will be here next year; (3) Bees, butterflies, birds, and insects need them for pollen and nectar; (4) Fruits, seeds, and berries are important in the food chain; (5) They'll soon wilt; (6) It's illegal to pick native wildflowers on public and private land without permission; (7) They might be poisonous or give you a bad itch; and (8) It would be rude; the flowers are in the middle of a sex act!

At the end of your hike, you can solidify your memories using the "Rainbow Way to Remember." By scrolling through the spectrum, you can pair the colors with specific flowers. Just sit down, close your eyes, and take a few deep breaths. In sequence, let yourself see the colors: **red**, for red rubies and then Indian paintbrush;

orange, for orangey coral and topaz and California poppies; **yellow**, for yellow gold and the glistening buttercups, **green**, for emeralds and the fluttering maiden hair ferns; **blue**, for the Bay and the sky reflecting the forget-me-nots and lapis lazuli; **purple** fading to **lavender**, for amethyst shades of the Pride of Madeira and the lovely iris in the mountain meadow. And finally, **white**, for the pearl white of the clouds above and the fields of star lilies. As you see these colors and these flowers, you will feel very relaxed. And you know you will remember your heavenly day on Angel Island.

Having a devil of a time remembering wildflower names, descriptions, and lore? You can join me, Angel Island docent Silvia "Girl of the Woods" Lange, for a Wildflower Ramble. I am assisted on these frolics by an invisible guide, Mnemosyne, goddess of memory, who provides us with ways to remember the origins of names, plant uses with songs and sayings. For example, the poison oak chant: "Leaves of three, let it be. If it's prickly or hairy, it's a berry. If it's shiny, watch your heinie." For Wildflower Ramble reservations, please call the Angel Island State Park Volunteer Coordinator at (415) 435-3522. The hikes start at 10:30 a.m. and the cost is \$5. For even more information, check out my book, *Wildflowers of Angel Island: Fact & Fancy*, which is available at the Angel Island gift shop and through the website, www.angelisland.org.

Catch us Live at:
PERI'S Silver Dollar
Friday MAY 8th
at 9pm sharp!
29 Broadway
Fairfax

ASTRAL KITCHEN

Check out our new CD
"Diabolic Design"
At

www.astralkitchen.com

Original Rock and Roll / Tribute Classics!
Available for your special event!

CALL NOW For Booking: 707-939-1212

M32

Just Published...

Flags of Convenience

A Novel

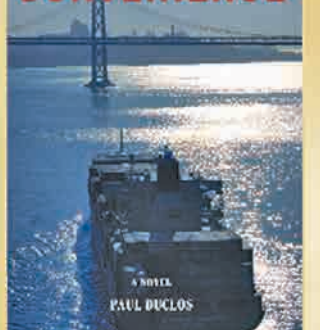
Paul Duclos

Available Now at the Bay Crossings Store

iUniverse

Call 1-800-AUTHORS to order, or visit www.iUniverse.com

**FLAGS OF
CONVENIENCE**



Sausalito-San Francisco Trip Named World's Second Best Ferry Ride



Photo by Joel Williams

Views of the San Francisco skyline from Sausalito's waterfront are stunning, and they get even better when on a ferry ride to the City. The ferries from Sausalito to San Francisco dock in downtown Sausalito at Humboldt and Anchor Streets.

The ferry ride from Sausalito to San Francisco Ferry was recently named the second most exciting ferry ride in the world in a poll of professional travel writers conducted by the Society of American Travel Writers (SATW).

SATW members had high praise for the ferry ride. Eric Lindberg, a freelance travel writer and photographer, said, "Crossing San Francisco Bay on a sunny afternoon, with Alcatraz Island and the Golden Gate Bridge to the right, the Berkeley Hills to the left, and that glorious San Francisco skyline looming ahead; all that's missing is a bar of Ghirardelli Chocolate and a warm loaf of sourdough bread." For the budget-conscious traveler, freelance writer John Flinn noted, "The San Francisco-Sausalito ferry follows almost the same route as the more expensive tour boats."

Ferries from Sausalito to San Francisco are operated by Golden Gate Ferry and the Blue and Gold Fleet. Golden Gate Ferry operates nine departures a day from the Ferry Building and Sausalito, with a one-way fare of \$7.45, while the Blue and Gold Fleet operates four to five departures per day from Pier 41 and Sausalito, with a one-way fare of \$9.50. The ferries dock

in downtown Sausalito at Humboldt and Anchor Streets.

"Public and private ferry boats provide an inexpensive alternative to cruises, often traversing some of the world's most beautiful harbors, fiords, rivers and waterways at bargain prices," said SATW President Bea Broda.

In terms of the other entries on the list, Hong Kong's Star Ferry came in first, with a writer noting that "a ride aboard Hong Kong's Star Ferry is crammed with views and people to create the cheapest multi-cultural, multi-sensory cruise experience in the world." New York's beloved Staten Island Ferry came in third; "Busy and bustling New York City shows you an entirely different, more romantic side when you're viewing it from the water," one SATW member wrote.

Other west coast entries included the Washington State Ferries from Puget Sound to the San Juan Islands and the British Columbia Ferry System that connects the City of Vancouver with Vancouver Island. Rounding out the list were the ferry from the Sydney Harbor to Manly in Australia, the ferry system of the Greek Islands, the Alaska State Ferry System, the ferry ride from Flam to Gudvangen in Norway and the ferry from Mallaig to the Isle of Skye in Scotland.

IT'S OK TO LIVE...

ELLINGTON

WHERE YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL.

Views - Value - Visionary

Ellington, where cosmopolitan living meets inspiring, Jack London Square. Abundant amenities and exceptional city, water and mountain views, framing a vibrant, and diverse neighborhood with exceptional urban design.

Priced from the \$300,000s to over \$1 million

Now Selling

Open Daily 10 am to 6 pm

Model Tours Available
222 Broadway, Jack London Square

510-835-8885
www.the-ellington.com

Brokers Welcome*

*Broker's Clients must be registered in person on the Client's first visit in order to be eligible. Exclusively represented by Pacific Marketing Associates



Ducks Unlimited Strives to Bring Wetlands Back

BY BILL PICTURE

Memphis-based Ducks Unlimited is currently overseeing four large-scale wetland and tidal marsh restoration projects here in the Bay Area. Under DU's guidance, tidal wetland on former commercial salt ponds along the Napa River will be restored to its original condition, as will salt marsh in Newark's Don Edwards San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge, tidal marsh in Redwood City's Bair Island complex, and tidal marsh in the Napa-Sonoma Wildlife Area.

According to DU, the native animal and plant species that once called these soggy stretches of land home aren't the only ones who stand to gain something from such restoration efforts. The local economy is also likely to get a jumpstart—to the tune of nearly \$40 million.

“For every project we undertake, we need local construction workers and engineers to move the dirt and help turn degraded land back into functioning wetlands,” says Dale Humburg, chief



Photo Courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

Plans for the restoration of tidal marsh in the Napa Sonoma Wildlife Area have been halted temporarily as Ducks Unlimited waits for state bond money frozen in the latest round of budget cuts to be freed up.

biologist for Ducks Unlimited. “It’s a win-win for both people and wildlife.”

Man vs. Wetlands

Over the years, more than 50 percent of the original wetlands in the United States have been drained, largely for the purpose of development. In California, that number is closer to 90 percent.

Once considered a muddy eyesore

bereft of any real value or benefits, wetlands and tidal marshes have since been found to serve a multitude of purposes. Besides serving as natural habitats to dozens of animal and plant species, many of which are now considered endangered, wetlands also act like a water purifier, improving water quality by filtering out pollutants.

Wetlands also provide natural flood control by serving as a spongy buffer between rising water and dry land. “That’s especially important now in the Bay Area, as we’re seeing sea levels slowly begin to rise,” says Mark Biddlecomb, DU’s Director of Conservation Programs for Arizona, California, Nevada and Utah.

Biddlecomb points out that draining wetlands can have a negative effect on local air quality as well. For instance, when the streams that once fed Owens Lake in Southern California were diverted to provide water for Los Angeles County’s fast-growing population, the lake quickly dried up. As a result, what has been left behind is an acidic dust that desert winds pick up and blow around, causing respiratory problems for nearby residents.

“It’s all related,” he says. “And the consequences of tampering with any ecosystem—incidentally, wetlands are considered the most biologically diverse

of all ecosystems—are difficult and very costly to reverse.”

Check, please!

Undoing the damage done to wetlands by their shortsighted human neighbors isn’t cheap. In fact, a single restoration project can cost tens of millions of dollars. While most would agree that such efforts are both worthwhile and necessary, coming up with the cash to fund such projects can be difficult, particularly in tough economic times.

“We don’t really have to convince people anymore that this is a good thing,” says Biddlecomb. “What we have to convince them of is that it’s as important as schools and other tax-funded projects. There are limited dollars available, especially now, and lots of people competing for those dollars.”

Ducks Unlimited felt the recession’s sting recently when the latest round of state budget cuts, which resulted in a temporary freeze on bond money that was to be used for habitat restoration, put the brakes on the Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wetland Restoration Project.

“It hasn’t affected us too much yet because not a lot happens construction-wise during winter, due to weather,”



Photo Courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

In addition to four public projects, Ducks Unlimited is also working with Viansa Winery to enhance restored wetland on the vintner’s Sonoma property.

Biddlecomb explains. “But we would be starting up again right about now, so our fingers are crossed that the freeze ends soon.”

Since its creation in 1937, Ducks Unlimited has learned how to enlist support—financial and otherwise—for projects from various sources, and avoids putting all its eggs in one basket. Thus, the thousands of projects it has undertaken

to those that wish to provide a unique learning environment for schoolchildren.

“Ultimately, we all want the same thing—to restore wetland,” Biddlecomb explains. “So part of our function is to bring together partners that share that goal.”

That support has been much easier to come by in the ever-greener Bay Area. But Biddlecomb says that even

“For every project we undertake, we need local construction workers and engineers to move the dirt and help turn degraded land back into functioning wetlands. It’s a win-win for both people and wildlife.” — Dale Humburg, chief biologist for Ducks Unlimited.

since 1937—Ducks Unlimited currently has 200 active projects, 185 of which are in California—have been paid for with a mix of federal and state dollars, and money from individuals and other like-minded organizations.

As its name suggests, Ducks Unlimited is particularly interested in wetlands restoration for the purpose of providing a habitat for waterfowl. But DU has forged partnerships with organizations that have other plant and animal species’ best interests at heart, from those that wish to provide a safe stopover for salmon hatchlings on their way to the open ocean

potential partners in less environmentally conscious regions come around quickly when they see the near-instant benefits reaped from completed projects on Ducks Unlimited’s resume.

“It’s sort of a build-it-and-they-will-come-type scenario,” he jokes. “You build a wetland, and there’ll be birds on it the next day. People want to see results, and the results here are pretty immediate. So that makes this road a lot easier to travel.”

For information on Ducks Unlimited, visit www.ducks.org.



Photo Courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

Ducks Unlimited is working with the California Department of Fish & Game and the Wildlife Conservation Board to restore and enhance tidal wetlands on former commercial salt ponds along the Napa River. DU’s plan includes public access for hiking, biking, hunting, fishing, bird watching and environmental education.

EPA Chemicals Database a Valuable Public Resource

BY BILL PICTURE

According to data recently made public by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 23 percent more toxic chemicals were released into the environment by industrial facilities in California in 2007 than during the previous year. Nationwide, there was a 5 percent decrease in 2007 compared to 2006.

These data were culled from the EPA’s latest Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), a publicly-accessible database that lists more than 650 toxic chemicals and specifies how much of each chemical is being released by certain facilities operating in a given region.

Several dozen types of industrial facilities are required by law to calculate the amount of toxic chemicals they release into the air, water and land each year and report that information to the EPA as part of the TRI program. Among them are metal mining and petroleum-related operations, food and beverage manufacturers, computer manufacturers and printing operations. The TRI, which was established through legislation 20 years ago, does not, however, include data on chemicals from many non-industrial commercial sources, such as agriculture.

“There’s a lot that the TRI is not,” says Nancy Levin, a TRI coordinator for EPA Region 9, which includes California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. “For example, the TRI does not include chemical releases from mobile sources, such as car and truck emissions. And dry cleaning facilities are not one of the types of industries required to report. It’s still a good jumping-off point, though.”

Three of the ten facilities that released the most toxic chemicals in California in 2007 are located right here in the Bay Area: the Tesoro Golden Eagle

refinery in Martinez, the Valero Benicia Refinery and the Chevron Richmond Refinery.

That said, Levin wishes to make it clear that a facility’s inclusion in this Top 10 list does not mean that the facility is not in compliance with state or federal standards governing toxic chemical releases.

Topping the list of the most commonly released toxic chemicals in California were lead and ammonia. Lead is classified as a “persistent bioaccumulative and toxic chemical” or PBT. These are chemicals particularly dangerous to humans and entire ecosystems as they remain in the environment and food chain. Releases of mercury, another PBT, went up 38 percent nationwide between 2006 and 2007. Overall, PBT releases went up 1 percent nationwide.

The TRI database can be searched by state, county, zip code, facility, industry and chemical. Members of the public are encouraged to contact the EPA directly if they feel that a chemical and/or industry should be added to the TRI program. Over the years, 350 chemicals have been added to the reporting list.

“The TRI is really data-rich, and can be a little overwhelming for that reason,” says Mariela Lopez, another Region 9 TRI Coordinator. “But we’re constantly striving to find a way to present the information that we compile in a way that’s meaningful for the public, and looking at ways to make the database itself more user-friendly.”

“It’s a starting point for any community that wants to know what’s happening in its backyard,” adds Levin. “It won’t answer every question, but it gets the dialogue started and puts at the fingertips of a community the information it needs in order to know what questions to ask next.”

To view 2007 Toxics Release Inventory data, point your web browser to www.epa.gov/tri.

Richmond Chamber of Commerce & the City of Richmond

GREEN IS GOLD EXPO 2009

**F
R
E
E**

Making a difference in your business, the community and the environment

For your business, for your home, for everyone!

Thursday, May 14, 2009 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Craneway Pavilion, Ford Point Building
1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond

Join us for ALL or PART of these exciting events.

9:00-11:30 a.m. AND 2:00-4:30 p.m. Green Tours of Richmond

Tour Richmond's green businesses and exciting shoreline.
Visit available sites for relocation or expansion of your business.
Ride on board AC Transit's hydrogen powered bus.
\$35 per tour. Seating is limited.

12:00-2:00 p.m. Achieving A Sustainable Future Seminar and Luncheon

How do we achieve a sustainable future today? Attend this informational seminar, featuring three highly qualified guest speakers. Topics are: "Green Building and Energy Efficiency", "Green Jobs and Careers" and "Sustainability: Issues, Approaches and Payoffs."
Located at Mountain Hardwear Inc., 1005 Harbour Way South, north end of the Ford Point Building
\$35 per person including a gourmet catered box lunch. Seating is limited.

4:00-7:30 p.m. Green Is Gold Expo FREE to the Community

Exhibitors showcasing their products, services, ideas and causes
Networking opportunities
Discover green practices that save money and the environment.
FREE electronics recycling drop-off provided by Hi-Tec Recycling
Door prizes, FREE food & no-host bar
Located in the Craneway Pavilion

For further information or participation call 510.234.3512 or visit www.rcoc.com

FREE to the community

Event Sponsors:

Chevron Richmond Refinery

Kaiser Permanente

Mechanics Bank

Richmond Sanitary Service, Inc.

SunPower Corporation

Wal-Mart

Wells Fargo

PG&E

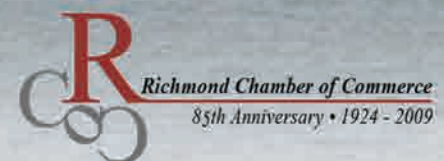
Courtyard Marriott

Sims Metal Management

Media Sponsors:

Bay Area News Group

West County Times



Green Matters: Richmond is Keeping Score

The City of Richmond is well on its way to meeting its goal of implementing fourteen of the twenty-one Urban Environmental Accords introduced in 2005 on World Environment Day by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, the United Nations Environmental Program, the University of California at Berkeley and a number of environmental groups. Together, the twenty-one accords, practical actions related to water, energy, waste, urban design, transportation, urban nature, and environmental health, provide a road map for sustainable urban living.

The City of Richmond signed on to the Accords in 2008, thereby pledging to implement as many of the suggested actions as possible by 2012, when the accords' creators will reconvene to assess participating cities' efforts. At that time, a "green star" rating will be assigned to each city based on achievement.

The fourteen Accords committed to by the City of Richmond include a 25 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions citywide by 2030, a 10 percent reduction in the city's use of electricity during peak hours, a 10 percent reduction in untreated wastewater discharge, and protection of wildlife habitats from unsustainable development. Richmond has also committed to eliminating from municipal use each year one product, chemical or compound that poses a risk to human health.

To that ambitious end, the City of Richmond Environmental Sustainability Team (CREST) was created last September. Under the direction of the City Manager's office, CREST, which consists of eight staff members representing various city agencies, including Planning and Building Services, Community Redevelopment Agency, Housing Authority, and Public Works, is developing practical strategies for quickly and efficiently implementing the committed-to Accords.



The City of Richmond has partnered with the non-profit organization Solar Richmond to train local youths to install solar panels. This model program has received commendations from both the State and Federal levels.

Ahead of the game

Four of the fourteen Accords had already been achieved by the time the City signed on in September. One of those was the adoption of a municipal green building policy. Under that policy, green building techniques must be employed for construction and renovation of municipal

ordinance. Some minor changes are being made before the ordinance is presented for final approval. Assuming it passes, Richmond will be the first city in Contra Costa County to set such a standard. If all goes as planned, the ordinance will go into effect on July 1.

"It's literally filled with sustainable principles," said Administrative Chief Janet Schneider.

facilities—the idea is to lead future private construction efforts by example.

Now, Richmond wishes to expand its focus to include all new construction, residential and commercial, within its city limits. A pending ordinance backed by Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin would set a green standard to which all new buildings would be required to comply. Permits would be granted based on a point system, with a certain number of points assigned to a given green element. For instance, low-flow toilets are worth four points, and a solar water heater is worth ten points. A minimum of fifty points is required to obtain a permit.

Last month, the City Council gave the initial go-ahead to move forward with the

Pushing ahead

Over the course of the last six months, CREST has been working diligently to help the city tackle the other items on its green "to do" list. And much headway has been made.

Among its laundry list of environmentally conscious accomplishments to date (twenty-nine in all) is the completion of a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory. A municipal inventory is nearly completed. Last year, the City Council adopted by motion the greenhouse gas emissions targets established by AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

The City is also working with the Association of Bay Area Governments'

Energy Watch program to improve lighting efficiency in municipal buildings. The City's internal recycling program was beefed up, and a pilot composting program is currently being tested at City Hall and a handful of fire stations. A marketing campaign geared toward luring green businesses to Richmond has also been initiated.

Richmond has been able to take a lot of cues from neighboring counties that signed on to the Accords prior to 2008, and tweak those counties' efforts to best suit Richmond's unique needs. But Richmond is leading the way in some areas.

The RichmondBUILD program, which provides free solar panel installation training to lower-income residents, has won several awards and is considered a national model for public/private partnerships. Now, the City intends to expand the program to include green construction and energy efficiency training.

Perhaps best demonstrating Richmond's commitment to the goal of sustainable urban living are the ongoing green changes being made to its General Plan. The plan establishes long-term development objectives, taking into account a wide range of factors, including mobility, conservation, parks and open spaces, public safety, education, arts and culture, and preservation of historic resources.

A constant work in progress, the plan has been updated to reflect the City's ever-greener focus, in particular the focuses on green building techniques and environmentally sustainable urban planning and development. The new-and-improved General Plan is set to be adopted by the City Council by the end of this year. "It's literally filled with sustainable principles," says Administrative Chief Janet Schneider.

Richmond Community
Redevelopment Agency
Office of Economic Development
(510) 307-8150
Richmondca4business.com

YERBA BUENA ISLAND

BY CAPTAIN RAY

For most of us, the only time we might think about Yerba Buena Island is while we're driving through the tunnel that connects the eastern and western spans of the Bay Bridge. However, this small island, just a little under one square mile, has had an interesting history.

The first interesting part of its history is the island's name. The derivation of the name Yerba Buena, a variant of *hierba buena* (meaning 'good herb' in Spanish), is from the common name of a mint plant that grew abundantly in the area, including the steep slopes of the island. The first California legislature, meeting in 1850, included the island within the boundaries of San Francisco County and at that time, they gave it the name Yerba Buena, which had been the name of San Francisco until 1847. In 1895, however, the United States Geographic Board changed the name to Goat Island, because Captain Gorham Nye had, decades earlier, stocked the island with goats that he sold to visiting vessels. Because the local populace continued to use the name Yerba Buena, the Board reversed itself and officially restored the island's name in 1931. Before all of that, early Spanish settlers called it Sea Bird Island, and, in his book *Two Years Before the Mast*, Richard Henry Dana referred to it as Wood Island.

The military considered fortifying the island during the Civil War. There was concern that on some dark and foggy night, Confederate ships might be able to slip past the cannons at Fort Point and Alcatraz and into the bay. However, nothing ever came of this idea. Instead, aids to navigation became more important, and the unique octagonal lighthouse and the fog signal—still operational on the southern end of the island—were completed in 1875. The beautiful house just above these installations was constructed for the lighthouse keeper and now serves as the home of a Coast Guard admiral (see photo).

In the early 1930s, a quite remarkable tunnel was bored through Yerba Buena Island to connect the two spans of the Bay Bridge. While only slightly more than a



Photo courtesy of USCG

The unique octagonal lighthouse and the fog signal—still operational on the southern end of the island—were completed in 1875. The beautiful house just above these installations was constructed for the lighthouse keeper and now serves as the home of a Coast Guard admiral.

quarter-mile long, it is one of only a very few double-decker tunnels in the world, and it has the largest diameter of any vehicular tunnel in the world. The Works Progress



Photo courtesy of USCG

Administration utilized the stone quarried from the tunnel in the construction of Treasure Island. The east shore of the island was once the site of a Native American fishing village. Today it is the home of a United States Coast Guard Base. From its docks, the Coast Guard dispatches 225-foot seagoing

buoy tenders to maintain aids to navigation from the Oregon to the Mexican borders. Like all Coast Guard vessels, they display the distinctive blue, white and orange bow stripes, but these tenders are quite distinctive. Unlike all other Coast Guard vessels that are painted white, buoy tenders are painted black (see photo). Look for them the next time you cross the Bay Bridge or pass close the Yerba Buena Island on the ferry.

Sitting atop the island is a complex of antennas that are used by the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS). This complex was established in 1972 to "provide active monitoring and navigational advice for vessels in particularly confined and busy waterways." Of the 12 VTS systems now operating within the United States, VTS San Francisco was the first to be established. Using a system of radar installations, video cameras and reports

from the vessels themselves, VTS monitors shipping throughout the San Francisco Bay, the Delta, and the offshore approaches to the Golden Gate. VTS also broadcasts a "vessel traffic report" on marine radio every half hour.

Smile! The ferry you're riding is being monitored by VTS as you read this.

Ray Wichmann, is a US SAILING-certified Ocean Passagemaking Instructor, a US SAILING Instructor Trainer, and a member of US SAILING's National Faculty. He holds a 100-Ton Master's License, was a charter skipper in Hawai'i for 15 years, and has sailed on both coasts of the United States, in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Greece. He is presently employed as the Master Instructor at OCSC Sailing in the Berkeley Marina.



Somber Anniversary for U.S.S. Iowa

Last month marked the 20th anniversary of a gun turret explosion in which 47 sailors on the *U.S.S. Iowa* lost their lives. One of the worst peacetime accidents in U.S. naval history, the event was commemorated with memorial services held by Historic Ships Memorial at Pacific Square, the non-profit organization working since 1996 to preserve the battleship and the group named by the Navy the save the ship.

The *U.S.S. Iowa*, which is three football fields long and weighs 50,000 tons, was built in 1943 at a cost of \$120 million. The ship is the namesake of the world's best known collection of battleships built by the United States—the Navy's illustrious Iowa class. The ship carried President Franklin Roosevelt to the Tehran Conference to meet with Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin and Chiang Kai-Shek. Originally selected to serve as the platform for the surrender ceremony marking the end of World War II, *U.S.S. Iowa* was present in Tokyo Bay and transmitted to the world the news that peace had been achieved. The ship departed from San Francisco Bay to serve in the Korean Conflict in 1951, and served through the Cold War. In 1990, the ship was last decommissioned and, in 2001, was towed 5,700 miles from Rhode Island to her present location at the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet in Benicia, about ten miles from her proposed future home.

U.S.S. Iowa is expected to attract nearly 400,000 visitors annually, and a \$20 million campaign has started to move her to Mare Island in Vallejo, which was the nation's first naval base on the Pacific Ocean. The Mare Island proposal has been declared by the Navy as sole remaining viable bid to preserve the battleship. More information can be found at www.battleshipiowa.org, and donations can be sent to Historic Ships Memorial at Pacific Square, P. O. Box 361, Vallejo, CA 94590.

Voted Best Restaurant 4 Years Running



**Lunch & Dinner Daily
Banquets Corporate Events**

www.scomas.com (415)771-4383

Fisherman's Wharf on Pier 47 Foot of Jones on Jefferson Street

ALAMEDA | OAKLAND FERRY



Whether you're commuting to work or enjoying a weekend outing with friends or family, the Alameda/Oakland Ferry is a great way to travel the bay.

service between Oakland's Jack London Square, Alameda Main Street, SF Ferry Building and SF Pier 41, Seasonal service to ATT&T Park for Giants game and Angel Island State Park



510.749.5837 | www.eastbayferry.com

Since 1984

**Quinn's
Lighthouse**

N37° 46.88'
W122° 14.37'



**Restaurant
& Pub**

Historical Landmark Built 1890

A Taste of History

Featuring American
Cooking

with contemporary touches
at reasonable prices

Open Everyday
11:30am to 9:00pm

Quinn's
Lighthouse
was awarded



"Best
Casual
Dining Family
Restaurant"
EAST BAY!

1951 Embarcadero
Oakland
536-2050

www.quinnslighthouse.com

GET THERE BY FERRY

Golden Gate Ferry							
LARKSPUR*							
Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Depart Larkspur	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Larkspur	Depart Larkspur	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Larkspur
05:50 a.m.	06:20 a.m.	06:25 a.m.	06:55 a.m.	09:40 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	-----	-----
06:35	07:05	07:10	07:40	11:40	12:30 p.m.	12:40 p.m.	01:30 p.m.
07:10	07:40	07:45	08:15	01:40 p.m.	02:30	02:40	03:30
07:50	08:20	08:30	09:05	03:40	04:30	04:40	05:25
08:20	08:50	09:10	09:45	05:30#	07:00	07:15	08:00
09:15	09:50	10:10	10:45	One-way Ferry Fares			
10:10	10:45	10:55	11:30	Larkspur		Sausalito	
11:10	11:45	11:55	12:30 p.m.	Daily		Daily	
11:40	12:15 p.m.	12:25 p.m.	01:00	Adult Cash Fare \$7.45 \$7.45 TransLink \$4.70 \$4.00 Senior/Disabled/Medicare/Youth (6-18) \$3.70 \$3.70 Children 5 and under Free Free Children ages 5 and under travel free when accompanied by a full fare paying adult (limit two youth per adult).			
12:40 p.m.	01:15	01:25	02:00				
02:15	02:50	03:00	03:30				
02:50	03:25	03:35	04:05				
03:40	04:15	04:25	04:55				
04:15	04:45	04:55	05:25				
-----	-----	05:20	06:05				
05:10	05:45	05:55	06:25				
05:35	06:10	06:20	06:50				
06:35	07:10	07:20	07:50				
07:20	07:55	08:10	08:40				
08:10	08:45	08:50	09:20				
08:50	09:25	09:35	10:05				

* Direct ferry service is provided to most Giants games at AT&T Park. Special service is provided to various concerts and the Bay to Breakers Race. On weekdays, with the exception of the 5:20pm San Francisco departure which uses a 715 passenger Spaulding vessel, all other trips use high-speed catamarans. Weekend service is provided by a 715 passenger Spaulding vessel.
To San Francisco via Sausalito.

SAUSALITO							
Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Depart Sausalito	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Sausalito	Depart Sausalito	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Sausalito
07:10 a.m.	07:35 a.m.	07:40 a.m.	08:10 a.m.	-----	-----	10:40 a.m.	11:10 a.m.
08:20	08:45	10:15	10:45	11:20 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:30 p.m.
10:55	11:25	11:35	12:05 p.m.	12:45 p.m.	01:15 p.m.	01:25	01:55
12:15 p.m.	12:45 p.m.	12:55 p.m.	01:25	02:10	02:40	02:50	03:20
01:55	02:25	02:35	03:05	03:50	04:20	04:45	05:15
03:20	03:50	04:00	04:30	05:35	06:05	06:30	07:00
04:45	05:15	05:30	06:00	06:30	07:00	---	---
06:10	06:35	06:45	07:10				
07:20	07:50	07:55	08:20				

Contact Information Toll free 511 or 711 (TDD) For the Golden Gate Ferry website, visit: <http://goldengateferry.org/> Comments and questions can be submitted at <http://ferrycomments.goldengate.org/>

Holiday service is in effect on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and the day after Thanksgiving Day (Sausalito). The Larkspur line operates on a Modified Holiday Schedule on the day after Thanksgiving Day. No ferry service on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Sharing time with whales is a privilege.

415-331-6267

www.sfbaywhalewatching.com

Sponsored by

WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

WETA



Blue & Gold Ferry							
ALAMEDA/OAKLAND				ALAMEDA/OAKLAND			
Weekdays to San Francisco				Weekends and Holidays to San Francisco			
Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive S.F. Pier 41	Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive S.F. Pier 41
06:00 a.m.	06:10 a.m.	06:30 a.m.	-----	09:00 a.m.	09:10 a.m.	-----	09:35 a.m.
07:05	07:15	07:35	-----	10:40	10:25*	11:10 a.m.	11:25
08:10	08:20	08:40	-----	12:20	12:10*	12:50 p.m.	01:05 p.m.
09:15	09:25	09:45	10:00 a.m.	01:55 p.m.	01:45 p.m.*	02:25	02:40
11:00	10:50*	11:30	11:45	04:00	03:45*	04:30	04:45
12:45 p.m.^	12:35 p.m.*	01:15 p.m.	01:30 p.m.	05:45	05:30*	-----	06:20
02:30	02:20*^	03:00	03:10	07:20	07:05*	07:50	08:05
04:40	04:30*^	05:10	-----	08:55^	08:45*	08:25	09:30
05:50	05:40*^	06:15	-----	10:30^	10:20*	-----	11:00^
06:20	06:10*	-----	07:00	Weekends and Holidays from San Francisco			
06:55^	06:45*^	07:20	-----	Depart S.F. Pier 41	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland
07:55^	07:45*	08:20	-----	08:30 a.m.#	-----	09:10 a.m.	09:00 a.m.
08:55^	08:45*	-----	09:25	09:45	10:00 a.m.	10:20	10:35
Weekdays from San Francisco				11:35	11:50	12:10 p.m.	12:20 p.m.
Depart S.F. Pier 41	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland	01:10 p.m.	01:25 p.m.	01:45	01:55
-----	06:30 a.m.#	07:15 a.m.	07:05 a.m.	02:50	-----	03:45	03:55
-----	07:35#	08:20	08:10	04:55	05:10	05:30	05:40
-----	08:40#	09:25	09:15	06:30	06:45	07:05	07:15
10:15 a.m.	10:30	10:50^	11:00^	08:10	08:25	08:45	08:55
12:00 p.m.	12:15 p.m.	12:35 p.m.^	12:45 p.m.^	09:40	09:55	10:15	10:25
01:45	02:00	02:20^	02:30^	No ferry service on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Presidents Day.			
03:45	04:10	04:30^	04:40^	Regular weekday service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day			
-----	05:20	05:40	05:50	FARES:			
05:20	05:45	06:10	06:20	One Way	Round Trip	10 Ticket Book	20 Ticket Book
-----	06:25	06:45	06:55	Adult (13+)	\$6.25	\$12.50	\$50.00
-----	07:25	07:45	07:55	Junior (5-12)	\$3.50	\$7.00	\$90.00
-----	08:25	08:45	08:55	Child under 5*	FREE	FREE	-----
* To S.F. via Oakland # To Alameda via Oakland				Senior (65+)*	\$3.75	\$7.50	-----
^ Departs immediately after loading				Disabled Persons*	\$3.75	\$7.50	-----
Schedule is effective through May 15, 2009. For the most current schedule, visit http://www.eastbayferry.com/				Active Military	\$5.00	\$10.00	-----
Schedule information collected from http://www.eastbayferry.com				PURCHASE TICKETS ONBOARD THE FERRY or at the Regional Transit Connection (RTC) at participating Bay Area businesses. Please call the 24-hour Ferry Fone at (510) 522-3300 to confirm times.			

Blue & Gold Ferry					
BAY CRUISE			SAUSALITO		
Depart Pier 39			FISHERMAN'S WHARF, PIER 41		
Weekdays		Weekends and Holidays		Weekdays	
10:15 a.m. 11:00* 12:15 p.m. 01:15 02:00*	02:30 p.m. 04:00 05:30*	10:15 a.m. 11:00 12:15 p.m. 01:15 02:00	02:30 p.m. 04:00 05:00 06:00 06:45	Depart S.F. Pier 41	Arrive Sausalito
* Does not operate after Sept. 7 For the most current schedule, visit www.blueandgoldfleet.com Bay Cruise does not operate during inclement weather. Additional cruises may be added on demand. Check with ticket booth on day of sailing for schedule. No reserved seating available.					
FARES: All prices include audio tour.					
Adult	\$24.00	Junior (12-18)	\$20.00	Senior (62+)	\$20.00
Child (5-11)	\$16.00	Discount fares available at http://www.blueandgoldfleet.com/Sightseeing/Boat/baycruise.cfm			
ANGEL ISLAND - S.F.					
Weekdays - Daily Departures Pier 41					
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Pier 41		
09:45 a.m. 01:05 p.m. -----	10:05 a.m. 01:50 p.m. -----	10:10 a.m. 02:00 p.m. 03:25	10:30 a.m. 02:20 p.m. 03:45		
Weekends - Departures Pier 41					
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Pier 41		
09:40 a.m. 11:45 01:50 p.m. -----	10:05 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 02:45 -----	10:05 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 04:30	11:35 a.m. 01:40 p.m. 05:25		
FARES	S.F. Pier 41 Ferry Bldg*	Alameda/Oakland*	Vallejo*		
Adult	\$15.00	\$14.50	\$30.50*		
Child	\$8.50 (age 6-12)	\$8.50 (age 5-12)	\$21.00 (ages 6-12)		
Child	Free (5 & under)	Free (4 & under)	Free (5 & under)		
* All prices include State Park Fees / Weekend Schedule on Memorial Day (May 25) / Independence Day (July 4) and Labor Day (Sept 7)					
ALAMEDA/OAKLAND - WEEKENDS ONLY					
Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland
09:00am*	09:10am*	10:10am	03:10pm	03:45pm*	03:55pm
* Requires transfer at Pier 41 onto 9:45 am Angel Island Ferry					
TIBURON COMMUTE					
TIBURON - DOWNTOWN S.F.					
Weekdays					
Depart Tiburon	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Tiburon		
06:00 a.m. 06:50 07:50 08:45 ----- 05:00 p.m. 05:50 06:40	06:20 a.m. 07:10 08:10 09:05 ----- 05:20 p.m. 06:10 07:00	07:15 a.m. 08:15 ----- 04:25 p.m. 05:25 06:15 07:15	07:35 a.m. 08:35 ----- 04:45 p.m. 05:45 06:35 07:35		
FARES: One-way Round trip					
Adult	\$9.50	\$19.00			
Child (5-11)	\$5.25	\$10.50			
20 Ticket Commute Book \$140.00 (Mon. - Fri.)					

Baylink Ferry			
VALLEJO			
VALLEJO - SAN FRANCISCO			
Weekdays			
Depart Vallejo to S.F. Ferry Building	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg. to Vallejo	Depart Pier 41 Fisherman's Wharf to Vallejo	
05:30 a.m. 06:30 07:00 07:45 08:45 10:00 11:30 02:00 p.m. 03:20 04:05 04:45 05:35 06:35^ 09:00^	06:35 a.m. 07:35 08:10 08:55 09:55 11:10 12:40 p.m. 03:30 04:30 05:15 06:00 07:05 07:45^ 11:00^	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- 11:30 a.m. ----- 03:10 p.m. ----- ----- ----- 06:45 ----- 10:30^	
^ Fridays only			
Weekends and Holidays			
Depart Vallejo to S.F. Ferry Building	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg. to Vallejo	Depart Pier 41 Fisherman's Wharf to Vallejo	
10:00 a.m.# 11:30 01:00 p.m. 03:00* 06:00*	11:10 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 02:10 04:30* 07:30*	11:30 a.m.# ----- ----- 04:10 p.m.* 07:10*	
Effective Monday, May 23			
08:10 a.m. 10:00 11:30 01:00 p.m. 02:30 04:00 05:35 06:35^ 09:00^	09:20 a.m. 11:10 12:40 p.m. 02:10 03:40 05:10 07:05 07:45^ 11:00^	09:40 a.m. 11:30 ----- ----- 04:00 p.m. 05:30 06:45 ----- 10:30^	
FARES: One-way			
Adult (13-64)	\$13.00		
Senior (65+)/Disabled/Medicare	\$6.50		
Child (6-12)	\$6.50		
Baylink DayPass	\$24.00		
Baylink Monthly Pass (Bus / Ferry) w/Muni	\$290.00 \$330.00		
Call (707) 64-FERRY or visit www.baylinkferry.com for updated information.			
^ available only on Saturdays, Memorial Day (May 25), Independence Day (July 4) and Labor Day (Sept 7) # Serves S.F. Ferry Building prior to arrival at Pier 41 * Serves Pier 41 prior to arrival at S.F. Ferry Building For the most current schedule, visit http://www.baylinkferry.com/schedule/index.php Travel time between Vallejo and San Francisco is approximately 60 minutes.			
VALLEJO - ANGEL ISLAND			
Weekdays			
Depart Vallejo	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Vallejo
07:45 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	02:00 p.m. 03:25	04:30pm 05:30
Weekends			
Depart Vallejo	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Vallejo
08:10 a.m.* -----	10:10 a.m. -----	02:55 p.m. 04:15	05:00 p.m. 06:30
* Requires transfer at Ferry Building to 9:20 a.m. All ferry Free transfers are required in San Francisco at either the Ferry Building or Pier 41. Ask a deckhand if you have questions about where to make the transfer. Tickets are now on sale at the Vallejo Ferry Terminal Ticket Office.			
FARES	S.F. Pier 41 Ferry Bldg	Alameda/Oakland	Vallejo
Adult	\$15.00	\$14.50	\$30.50*
Senior (62+)	\$11.25	\$11.25	\$22.00
Child	\$8.50 (age 6-12)	\$8.50 (age 5-12)	\$21.00 (ages 6-12)
Juniors	Free (5 & under)	Free (4 & under)	Free (5 & under)
Child	Free (5 & under)	Free (4 & under)	Free (5 & under)
* Fares include State Park admission Angel Island State Park Ferry Service - Season Begins Saturday, May 23, 2009			

Harbor Bay Ferry			
EAST END OF ALAMEDA/S.F.			
Depart Harbor Bay Island	Arrive S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Depart S.F. Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Harbor Bay Island
06:30 a.m. 07:30 08:30 ----- 05:05 p.m. 06:05 07:05	06:55 a.m. 07:55 08:55 04:30 p.m. 05:30 06:30 07:30	07:00 a.m. 08:00 04:35 p.m. 05:35 06:35 07:35	07:25 a.m. 08:25 05:00 p.m. 06:00 07:00 08:00
No weekend service			
FARES:			
Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry passengers can purchase Ferry tickets, passes and books on board the ferries. Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry accepts cash, checks, Visa, Mastercard and Commuter Checks as payment for ferry tickets.			
Fare:			
One-way Adult			\$6.50
One-way Juniors (5-12)			\$3.25
Children (under 5)			Free
One-way Seniors (62 & over)			\$3.75
Disabled			\$3.75
Active Military			\$5.25
One-way Commute (book of 10)			\$55.00
One-way Commute (book of 20)			\$100.00
Monthly Pass (book of 40)			\$185.00
Free MUNI and AC Transit Transfers Provided			

Red & White			
BAY CRUISE			
Pier 43 1/2		FARES:	
Monday through Sunday			
10:00 a.m.	01:15	04:15^	Adult (18+) \$22.00
10:45^	01:45	05:00*	Youth (5-17) \$16.00
11:15	02:30	05:30#	Child (under 5) Free
12:00 p.m.	03:00	06:15#	Family Pass \$69.00
12:30*	03:45		(2 Adult + 4 Youth)
# May 20-Sept 7			
* Weekends Only, Apr 2-May 19 & Sep 8-Oct 25			
^ Weekends Only, Jan 1-Apr 1 & Oct 26-Dec 31			

AT&T PARK SERVICE			
Direct service is available Alameda/Oakland and Vallejo for selected Giants baseball games. For service from Larkspur to selected games please visit goldengateferry.org . For more information, visit www.eastbayferry.com for Alameda/Oakland service and www.baylinkferry.com for Vallejo service. Or call Blue & Gold Fleet at (415) 705-8200.			

Angel Island Ferry			
ANGEL ISLAND - TIBURON			
Weekdays			
10:20 a.m.	11:20	1:20 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
Weekends			
10:20 a.m.	11:20	1:20 p.m.	2:20 3:30 4:20 5:20
For the most current schedule and other information, visit http://www.angelislandferry.com/		FARES: Round Trip	
		Adult (13 and over)	\$13.50
		Child (6 - 12)	\$11.50
		Children (3 - 5)	\$3.50
		Bicycles	\$1.00
Schedule Subject to change w/o notice			

Blue & Gold Ferry			
ROCKETBOAT			
Seasonal May through October			
Depart from Pier 39			
11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	01:30 p.m. 02:30	03:30 p.m. 04:30	05:30 p.m.
FARES:			
Adult (age 19 and over)		\$26.00	
Junio (12 - 18)		\$24.00	
Child (5 - 11)		\$21.00	
*Height restrictio. Children must be at least 40 inches tall to ride.			

www.primowebdesign.com • 800.969.4704

Providing complete Web Design services including:

- Shopping carts
- Content Management Systems
- Blogs
- Bulletin Boards
- Hosting



Professional web site design for small businesses and individuals

Fun on Ferries, Shoreline Snacking and Shopping, Take the Kids, Bikes on Boats, Fun on Ferries...

Plastic Bags Are the Target of Major New Conservation Effort

Save The Bay has launched a major new campaign, called “The Bay vs. the Bag,” with the goal of significantly reducing pervasive plastic bag pollution in Bay Area waterways.

With this campaign, the venerated organization plans to help San Jose and other Bay Area cities create and pass legislation that will require a 25 cent fee on both paper and plastic bags distributed by all retailers. Also utilizing an interactive website, the campaign hopes to mobilize tens of thousands of Bay Area residents to stand up to the plastics industry by supporting these city efforts to immediately “kick the bag habit” by switching to reusable bags.

“The plastics industry is putting profits over the health of San Francisco Bay,” said David Lewis, Executive Director of Save The Bay. “Plastic bag pollution is unnecessary, preventable and costly. Bags clog storm drains and

recycling equipment, costing cities millions of dollars, and bag litter lowers property values and degrades recreational areas.”

It is no secret that plastic bags are a major component of urban litter. Even when placed in trash bins, these

lightweight bags are picked up by wind and blown into the gutters—where they flow into bays and the ocean. On just one day in 2007, over 25,000 bags were removed from San Francisco Bay, and this amount represents only a small fraction of the total plastic trash

flowing into the Bay and ocean. Bay Area residents use 3.8 billion plastic bags per year and discard over one hundred plastic bags per second. It is estimated that about one million of these bags wind up in the Bay each year where they pollute our waters, smother

extensive costs from trying to recycle this small portion of plastic bags because they jam processing machines and cause work stoppages. In San Jose, less than four percent of plastic bags are recycled and work stoppages from jammed bags cost the City approximately \$1 million per year.

“The plastics industry is putting profits over the health of San Francisco Bay. Plastic bag pollution is unnecessary, preventable and costly.”

— David Lewis, Executive Director of Save The Bay

San Jose and California Consider Landmark Ordinances

Through stakeholder and community outreach, advocates have concluded that San Jose residents and local recyclers are in favor of a fee ordinance. If the San Jose City Council passes the ordinance under consideration, it will be the first California city to reduce bag usage by requiring a fee on both plastic and paper bags.

“The City of San Jose is committed to significantly reducing single-use bags in the environment,” said Councilmember Kansen Chu. “Plastic bags litter our creeks. In fact, the State Water Board has listed several waterways in the Bay Area, including Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek as ‘impaired by trash.’ Plastic debris, including bags, makes up 60 percent of the litter polluting our waterways. Experience has shown that outreach and recycling options alone are not enough to reduce the consumption of single-use carryout bags.”

A similar effort is underway at the California state level. A California state bill (AB 68) currently being considered in the legislature would require a 25 cent fee on plastic and paper bags. Under this bill, fee revenue will be distributed for litter cleanup and prevention, retailers will retain a portion to offset costs and incentivize reusable bags, and low-income customers will be exempt. But the multi-billion dollar plastics industry, led by the American Chemical Council (ACC), has dispatched industry lobbyists to California and other states to block efforts to reduce bag use and sue cities for banning or requiring fees on single-use bags.

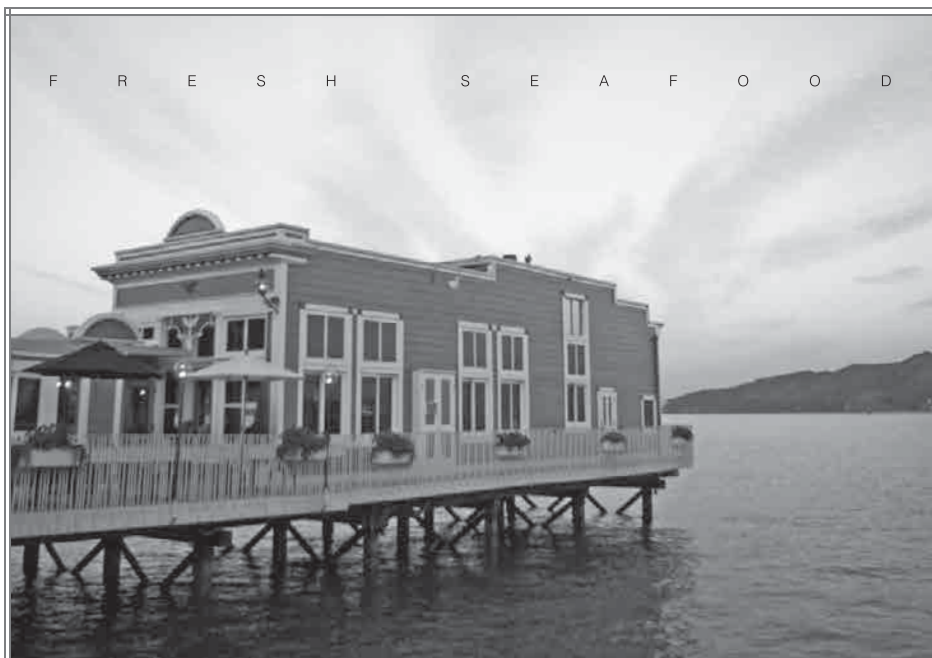
wetlands and entangle and kill animals. Furthermore, the Pacific Ocean hosts a floating garbage patch, twice the size of Texas, where a study recently found that plastic particles are more abundant than plankton.

Plastic and Paper Bag Bans and Fees are Proven Solutions

Fees on single-use bags are proven to reduce litter and plastic bag use and motivate shoppers to switch to reusable bags. In Ireland, a 33 cent fee on plastic bags reduced their use by 90 percent and reduced plastic bag litter by 93 percent in one year, as reported by Ireland’s Department of the Environment. IKEA in Britain reports that charging customers for bags resulted in a 95 percent decrease in plastic bag use.

“The bottom line is that plastic bag pollution is threatening the health of San Francisco Bay, the ocean and our whole environment. The best policy is to eliminate these toxic products through bans and fees—and by switching to reusable bags—before the destruction becomes completely irreversible,” said Lewis.

Other efforts have proven unsuccessful. Despite the fact that California has pushed a statewide effort to recycle plastic bags for 15 years, the California Integrated Waste Management Board estimates that less than five percent of all single use plastic bags in the state are actually recycled, and there is little market for “down-cycled” plastic film. Recycling firms report



From the Sausalito Ferry, take a left, two blocks south.

SCOMA'S

S A U S A L I T O

588 BRIDGEWAY 415.332.9551 SCOMASSAUSALITO.COM

For more information on “The Bay vs. the Bag,” see www.saveSFbay.org/bayvsbag.

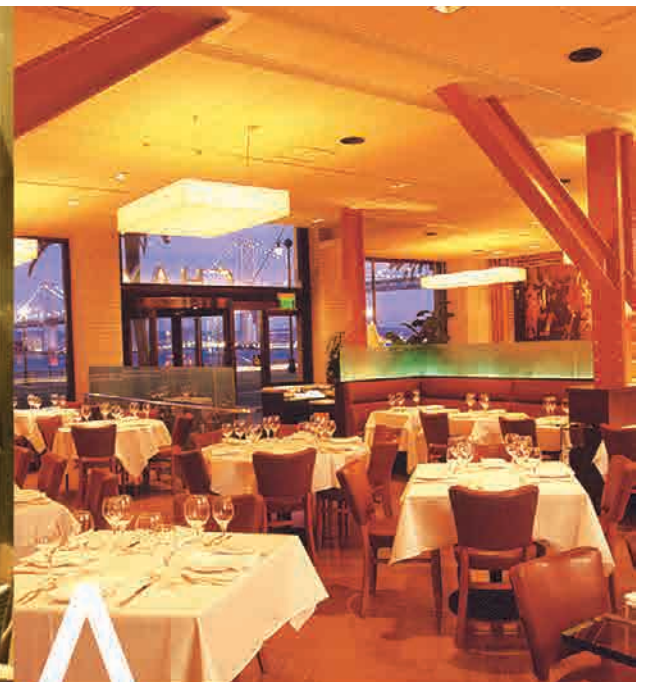
Weta's Newest Ferry Pisces Adds Pizzazz To Regional Ferry Service

With the arrival of *Pisces* in April, 2009, WETA can boast completion of two 149-passenger vessels that are the first of their kind in the nation. Like *Gemini*, the exhaust from the *Pisces* is 85 percent cleaner than EPA emission standards for Tier II (2007) marine engines and is ten times cleaner than existing Bay Area ferries, making these ferries the most environmentally friendly ferries in the nation. Under an agreement with the City Of Alameda, *Pisces* and *Gemini* will be provided to Alameda for use on its existing ferry routes. Pending completion of service discussions, *Pisces* may set sail on the Harbor Bay Ferry Route in May. If so, *Pisces* could provide backup for the *Bay Breeze* ferry, which is scheduled for extensive overhauls later this year.



Photo Courtesy Bay Ship & Yacht, Eric Balderston, photographer

The *Pisces* arrived in the Bay Area on April 8th and was brought to Bay Ship & Yacht in Alameda, where workers performed a haulout for hull cleaning and final survey before the ship is put into service.



CHAYA

city

CHAYA BRASSERIE LOS ANGELES
8741 ALDEN DRIVE
RESERVATIONS: 310.859.8833

beach

CHAYA VENICE
110 NAVY STREET
RESERVATIONS: 310.396.1179
WWW.THECHAYA.COM

bay

CHAYA BRASSERIE SAN FRANCISCO
132 THE EMBARCADERO
RESERVATIONS: 415.777.8688

AROUND THE BAY IN MAY

Bicyclists Ride Free On Regularly Scheduled Larkspur Ferry Trips

With the recent completion of the reconfigured Larkspur Ferry Terminal parking lot, to acknowledge the addition of new customer amenities for bicyclists added during the project, Golden Gate Larkspur Ferry is offering free ferry rides for bicyclists on weekends in May 2009, including Memorial Day. This special offer is available on: May 2 and 3; May 9 and 10; May 16 and 17; and May 23, 24 and 25. Bicyclists can board at either the Golden Gate Larkspur Ferry Terminal or Golden Gate San Francisco Ferry Terminal on a first-come, first-serve basis as space is limited for bikes aboard the vessels. The vessels will accommodate up to 40 bicycles during this special promotion. Along with the work necessary to add additional parking spaces, the existing bicycle path was restored to its original use—rather than being used for overflow parking as it had been. Additionally, the bike path was relocated at the Terminal entrance along the creek

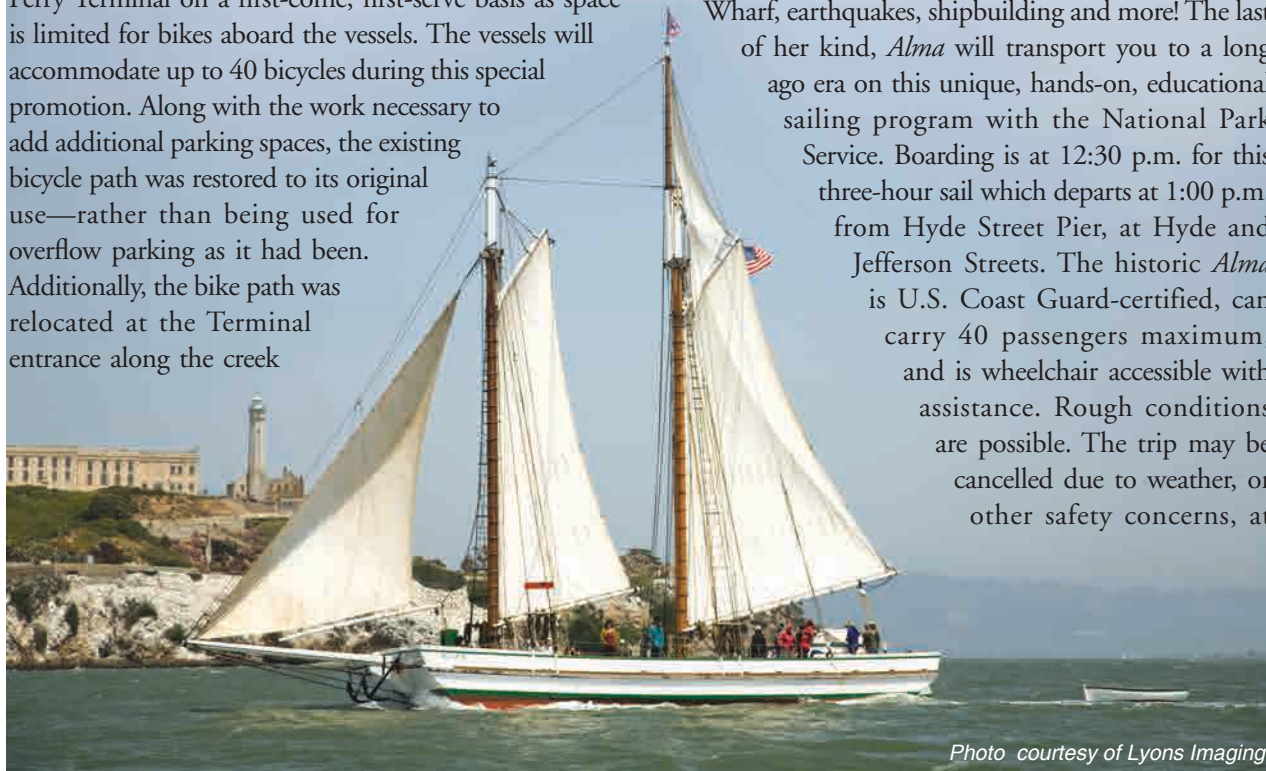


Photo courtesy of Lyons Imaging

including the construction of a new bicycle bridge. *Free rides do not apply to Sausalito, AT&T, or KaBoom (May 9) and Bay to Breakers services (May 17).* For more information, call 511 (or 711 TDD) and say “Golden Gate Transit” or visit www.goldengate.org.

KaBoom!

The weather is often better in May than in July around the San Francisco waterfront, which is great for being able to appreciate Northern California’s largest fireworks display synchronized to a “World Class Rock” soundtrack provided by KFOG. This year’s 16th Annual KaBoom on Piers 30/32 will feature music by Los Lonely Boys, Susan Tedeschi and Chuck Prophet. The event also features a Children’s Stage with continuous performances and plenty of food and

beverages are available. The event, which started in 1994, used to be known as the KFOG Sky Concert. Saturday, May 9 at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. For more information visit www.kfog.com.

Sail Back In Time On The Historic Alma

Haul line to raise the sails with National Park Service Rangers as you explore the Bay aboard the historic 60 foot *Alma*. Take in dazzling views and San Francisco’s riveting history: Native Americans, Spanish explorers, the Gold Rush, lighthouses, the Barbary Coast, Fisherman’s Wharf, earthquakes, shipbuilding and more! The last of her kind, *Alma* will transport you to a long ago era on this unique, hands-on, educational sailing program with the National Park Service. Boarding is at 12:30 p.m. for this three-hour sail which departs at 1:00 p.m. from Hyde Street Pier, at Hyde and Jefferson Streets. The historic *Alma* is U.S. Coast Guard-certified, can carry 40 passengers maximum, and is wheelchair accessible with assistance. Rough conditions are possible. The trip may be cancelled due to weather, or other safety concerns, at

discretion of the captain. San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park includes a magnificent fleet of historic ships, Visitor Center, maritime museum, and library. Rates: \$35 adult, \$30 senior, \$20 child, under six free with adult. Tickets purchased on day of sail at Hyde Street Pier ticket booth (opens at 9:30 a.m.). Programs in May are on May 9 and 30 and continue through November. For additional dates or more information call (415) 447-5000 or visit the park’s website at www.nps.gov/safr.

American Sailing League Speeds by PIER 39

The American Sailing League brings its Championship Series to PIER 39 on Saturday and Sunday May 30-31. These 18-foot customized sailboats are among the fastest

and most exciting in the sport today. Their races combine all of the athletic skill of the X-Games with the breakneck speed and spectacular wipeouts of NASCAR. All races will run in full view at the Bay end of PIER 39, with these skiffs reaching more than three times the speed of average sailing yachts. The races will take place from noon to 5:00 p.m. and admission is free.

Jack London Square presents Dancing Under the Stars

Come to Jack London Square on Fridays for a free outdoor dance lesson held under the stars. Couples and singles of any age and experience are welcome. Instruction will be provided by the expert staff of Oakland’s Linden Street Dance Studio. For those who work up an appetite on the dance floor, Jack London Square restaurants will provide special prix fixe menus for the evening. Dancing Under the Stars is a series of free outdoor dance lessons offered every Friday from May 1 to July 3. A different style of dance will be taught each week, from Salsa, to Rumba, to Waltz. For more information, contact (510) 645-9292 or visit www.jacklondonsquare.com.

Concerts at the Cove Return to Alameda

Concerts at the Cove begins its 11th season with a free outdoor performance by chamber music ensemble Quartet San Francisco from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8 at Crab Cove in West Alameda. This is the first time a concert has been offered in May and the first time classical music has been part of the program. For the past 10 years, the concerts have been on the second Friday of June, July and August. The addition of a fourth concert to the series celebrates the 75th anniversary of the founding of the park district in 1934. Quartet San Francisco—led by nationally-renowned jazz violinist and founder Jeremy Cohen—incorporates a modern approach to chamber music as they swing and groove on both drastic and faithful re-arrangements of many genres. The quartet of two violinists, a violist and cellist have brought their unique blend of modern and traditional music to concert halls around the world since 2001. Premium beer, wine and food from West

Alameda businesses will be on sale throughout the event. The Crab Cove Visitor Center, which is adjacent to the concert area, will be open until 7:30 p.m. each night during the concerts offering organized activities for families and children. Free parking is available at Crown Memorial Beach and parking lots at Santa Clara at Webster and Taylor at Webster. Free valet bicycle parking will be available from Bike Alameda at the concert site. For more information, visit www.westalamedabusiness.com.

To have your event or announcement considered for the Bay Crossings Around the Bay listings, please send information or a press release to: joel@baycrossings.com.

Great food to celebrate life in the City !

Enjoy a ten minute walk from the Ferry Building or short hop on the F-Line



Crab House at Pier 39

X Voted 'Best Crab in San Francisco'

- Sizzling Skillet-roasted Mussels, Shrimp & Crab
- Romantic Cozy Fireplace
- Stunning Golden Gate Bridge View

Open Daily 11 am - 11 pm
2nd Floor, West Side of Pier 39
Validated Parking

crabhouse39.com 415.434.2722

FRANCISCAN CRAB RESTAURANT

- Whole Dungeness Crab
- Breathtaking Bay Views
- Bay side of Historic Fisherman's Wharf

Open Daily 11 am - 11 pm
Pier 43 1/2
Validated Parking

415.362.7733
franciscan Crab Restaurant.com



If you know where to look, you'll always be in on the fun.

Circle the five toys we've hidden in the illustration. The toys are a frog backpack, box of marbles, binoculars, magnifying glass and a stomp rocket. Then bring this ad with you to any of our stores before 5/31/09, and receive a 10% discount off our science kits.

Ambassador Toys
www.ambassador toys.com

186 West Portal, San Francisco, CA 415-759-TOYS
Two Embarcadero Center, Lobby Level,
San Francisco, CA 415-345-TOYS
Northstar Village, 8001 Northstar Drive,
#8106 Truckee, CA 530-562-2600
Town & Country Village, 855 El Camino Real,
Palo Alto, CA 650-324-TOYS

BLUE & GOLD FLEET

415.773.1188

www.blueandgoldfleet.com



The enchanting nautical experience begins when passengers board Blue & Gold Fleet boats that sail on San Francisco Bay. Blue & Gold Fleet is the largest excursion and commuter ferry service provider in the Bay Area.



San Francisco Bay Cruise Adventure An hour long cruise along the City's historic waterfront, right past the PIER 39 sea lions, under the Golden Gate Bridge, by Sausalito, past Angel Island and around Alcatraz.

Sausalito & Tiburon A comfortable ride across the San Francisco Bay to the two Marin seaside villages of Sausalito and Tiburon to enjoy shopping, dining or an easy stroll around town.

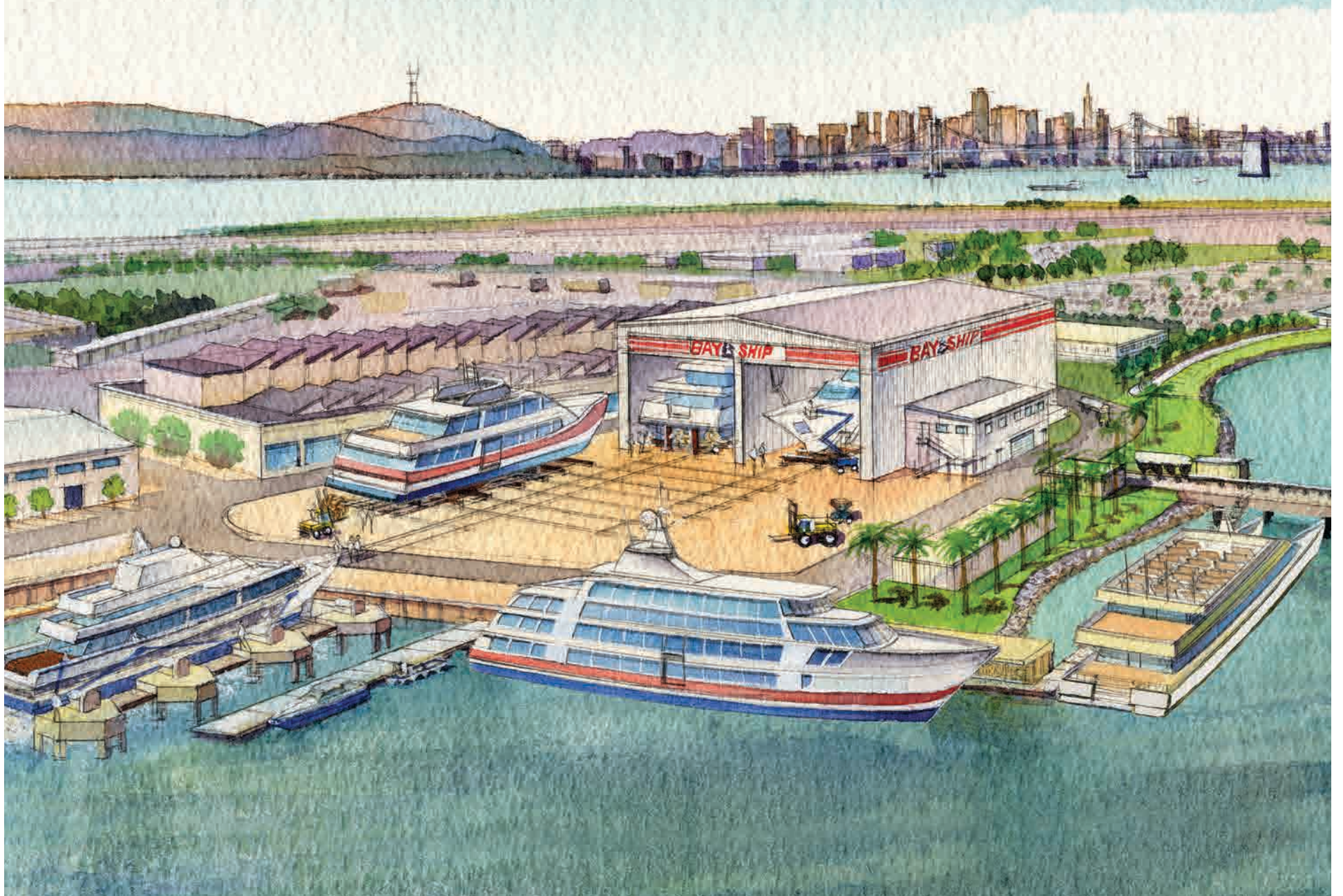
Angel Island A California State park and wildlife reserve. Angel Island is both a great picnic destination with hiking, kayak tours, an hour-long fully-narrated TramTour, as well as a historical site dating back to the U.S. Civil War.

Vallejo Sail to Vallejo, a waterfront community that includes the city's Heritage District, Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum and family-friendly Six Flags Discovery Kingdom theme park.

Alameda & Oakland There's dining in Jack London Square, the Farmer's market on Sundays and jazz nightly.

**Blue & Gold Fleet at PIER 39
Beach Street & The Embarcadero
San Francisco**

Ferry Maintenance Center San Francisco Bay



2900 Main Street, #2100 • Alameda, CA 94501

www.bay-ship.com

New 1200 Ton Syncrolift® • 2800 Ton Drydock

Contact: Mike Anderson

Phone: 510-337-9122 • E-mail: manderson@bay-ship.com