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"The Voice of the Waterfront"

December 2008 Vol.9, No.12



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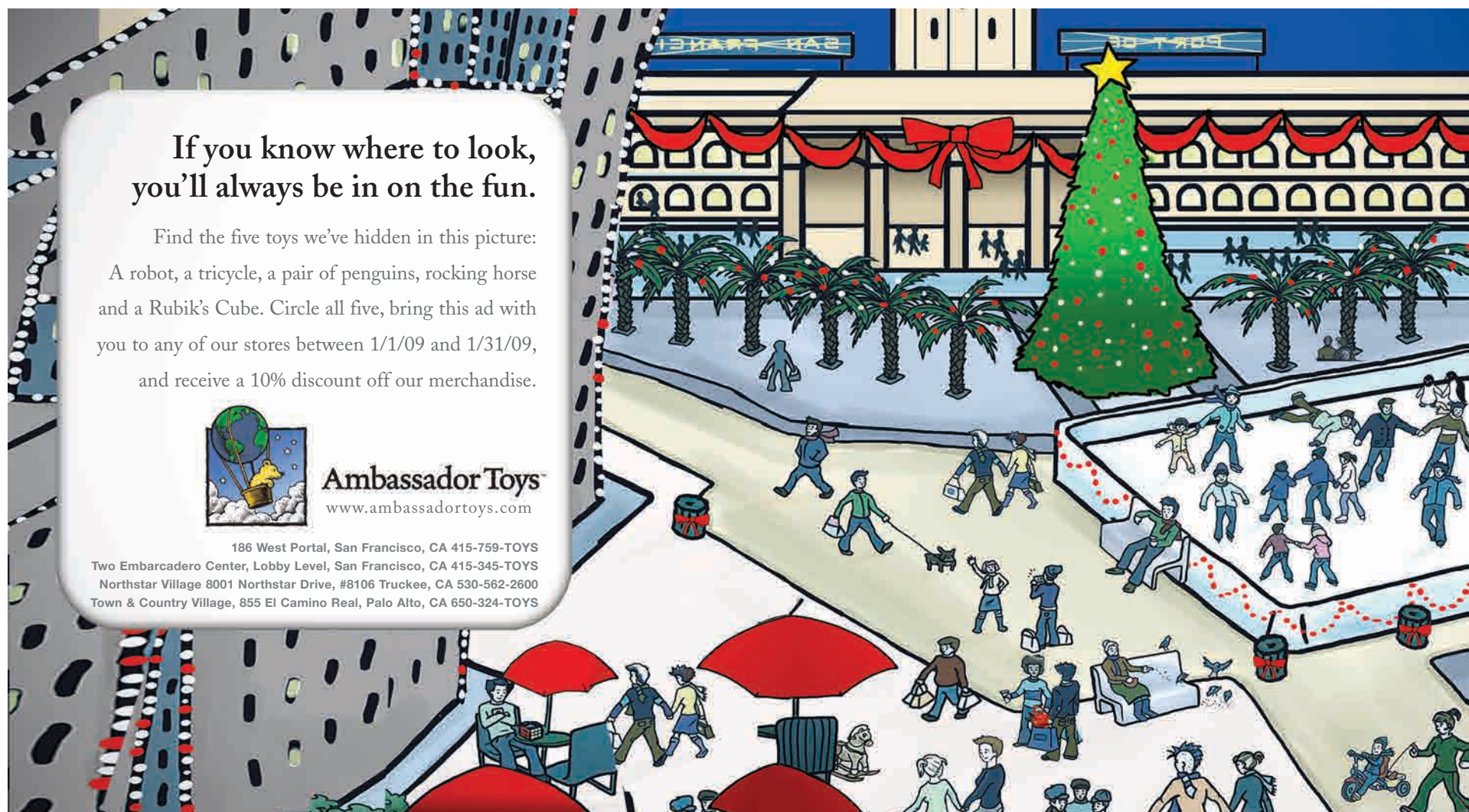
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BAYCROSSINGS

"The Voice of the Waterfront"

columns

08 SAILING ADVENTURES
The Best Sailing Days
Are in the Winter
by **Captain Ray**

12 BREW REVIEW
We Wish You a Beery
Christmas
by **Joel Williams**

features

07 ANGEL ISLAND
Four Parks in One
by **Dave Matthews**

09 WETA
New Ferry Sets Sail

10 GREEN PAGES
Historic Makeover for
S.F. Civic Center
by **Bill Picture**

news

04 BAYKEEPER
Holiday Sewage Spills
by **Sejal Choksi**

05 WATERFRONT NEWS
Neptune to Shed Jobs,
Relocate Headquarters
by **Paul Duclos**



guides

06 WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES
Our recreational resource guide

14 WETA FERRY SCHEDULES
Be on time for last call

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

sponsored stories

13 JACK LONDON SQUARE
32nd Annual Yacht Parade

16 CITY OF RICHMOND
Unique Holiday Gifts

BAYCROSSINGS

December 2008 Volume 9, Number 12

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CORRECTION: In last month's issue we failed to properly credit the photographer that took the wonderful photos for the SPCA article titled, "How Much Is That Doggie In the Window?" Those photos, as well as the one above of Macy's window are Copyright Lori A. Cheung, thePetPhotographer.com



Named *Gemini*, this 149-passenger ship will launch WETA's new ferry fleet and is expected to be put into use daily on one or two bay area commuter ferry runs.
Photo courtesy WETA.

Winter Months Are No Holiday From Sewage Spills in the Bay

BY SEJAL CHOKSI, BAYKEEPER AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR

As fall turns to winter, many of us look forward to the holiday season and to celebrations with friends and family. Unfortunately, we at San Francisco Baykeeper have come to expect that the winter months also bring something less pleasant: sewage spills in San Francisco Bay. One cause of sewage spills to the Bay is the rain we get in the winter; during heavy rains, water seeps into leaky sewers and is piped to sewage treatment

plants, overwhelming their capacity and sometimes causing sewage overflows. But another cause of winter sewage spills might surprise you, and it's happening right in your kitchen: holiday cooking and cleaning.

Most families around the holidays gather together for special meals in celebration of the season. While we look forward to enjoying rich foods like turkey, potatoes and homemade gravy, many of us might not recognize that the fat and oil that come along with holiday meal preparation can lead to sewage spills. When fats, oils and grease from pots, pans and fryers get washed down the drain, they stick to the inside of sewer lines and build up over

time. Even small amounts of grease and oily scraps down the drain can lead to sewage backing up in your home, backyard or neighborhood—and as we all know, sewage is not a festive addition to any holiday get-together. When backups occur in the street, untreated sewage can flow to storm drains and straight into local creeks

In addition to making changes in your household, you can help put an end to sewage spills by supporting investment in your city's sewage infrastructure. Many of California's sanitary sewer systems were built in the early part of the 20th century and are in poor condition with broken pipes. The Bay Area's winter rains flood

The winter months also bring something less pleasant: sewage spills in San Francisco Bay.

and San Francisco Bay, harming the marine ecosystem and the birds, fish, seals and sea lions that depend on healthy water.

Baykeeper has been working to reduce sewage spills to the Bay for over a decade. Some solutions to the Bay's sewage problems will require complex legal and policy remedies, such as investing in long-term improvements to sewage infrastructure in the Bay Area. Fortunately, though, you can easily help stop sewage backups caused by fats, oil and grease. Baykeeper and the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) have developed some recommendations to help individuals reduce the burden on our sewage treatment systems:

- Pour cooled fats, oils and grease into a can with a lid, or mix them with an absorbent material such as cat litter, and dispose of in the garbage.
- Wipe down greasy pots, pans and dishes with a paper towel. Dispose of the paper towel in your kitchen scrap recycling or in the garbage.
- Don't use hot water, soap or the garbage disposal to wash grease down the drain. Water cools through the pipes, causing the grease to harden into clogs further along in the sewer system.
- Drop off large amounts of cooking oil—like used oil from a turkey fryer—to be recycled at your city's residential cooking oil drop-off locations.

these crumbling sewer systems, leading to spills in our streets, creeks and beaches. For example, last winter, more than three million gallons of untreated and partially treated sewage were discharged into Richardson Bay from a public treatment plant run by the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin. Baykeeper has advocated for new laws to protect our watershed from these yearly floods of sewage. We're also targeting the worst sewage polluters around the Bay and making sure local cities aren't breaking our clean water laws.

You can help protect the Bay by supporting Baykeeper's Sick of Sewage campaign. For more information, visit us 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.

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Neptune to Shed Jobs, Relocate Headquarters

BY PAUL DUCLOS

Economic conditions and the cost of doing business in the Bay Area have forced a shipping industry icon to move its corporate headquarters to another part of the country. In an announcement made late last month, Neptune Orient Lines Limited (NOL)—the parent company of container shipping line APL and of APL Logistics—said Oakland was becoming too expensive.

NOL decided to:

- Reduce the company's global workforce by about 1,000 positions. The largest impact will be felt in North America, where the company's cost base is highest.

• Relocate the company's Americas' regional headquarters from Oakland "to a more cost-effective location" elsewhere in the United States. A decision on the location and timeframe for transition to the new regional headquarters will be announced in December.

NOL Group President and CEO Ron Widdows said: "The negative conditions we are seeing in the marketplace are unprecedented in our industry's history. This necessitates these very difficult decisions."

"Last month, we initiated capacity reductions which will significantly reduce our vessel network and operating costs," said Widdows. "Now, in view of the deteriorating market conditions, we take these additional steps. This reflects our considered view that what we are seeing goes beyond a normal cyclical downturn."

Widdows said it was anticipated that NOL's plan would lead to a restructuring charge of approximately \$33 million in NOL's fourth quarter 2008 financial results, but would deliver positive financial outcomes in future years. Additional charges are anticipated for 2009.

Cal Maritime to Create Ballast Water Facility

On a more positive note, the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo is partnering with industry, government and higher education colleagues to create a "Shipboard Ballast Water Treatment Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Facility" aboard the school's 500-foot training ship, *Golden Bear*.

The \$700,000 project is underwritten

in part by a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Sea Grant. It is designed to reduce the time and expense of testing and certifying ballast water treatment systems as compared with the current approach of using commercial ships of opportunity. Operational launch is set for the fall of 2009.

"Ships routinely load and discharge large volumes of water to optimize vessel stability," Davidson said. "This can spread non-native species to foreign waters such as the Asian mitten crab, which has burrowed into area Bay Delta levees, weakening their flood-protection capabilities." Government and private researchers are working to devise new ballast water treatment systems in advance of approaching regulatory deadlines for implementation.

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Golden Gate Transit Holiday Service Schedule



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Thursday, January 1	NO SERVICE	Holiday
Friday, January 2	Regular	Regular

Happy Holidays!

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

WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES

- Every Wednesday** **7PM - 9PM – Winter Wednesday Seminar Series, Club Nautique, Sailing School, 800-343-SAIL, www.clubnautique.net**
Learn some stuff and have some fun! Enjoy nautically themed seminars and entertainment along with other like minded sailor folks! Check out www.clubnautique.net/winterwednesdays for the full scheduled of events. Seminars will run from November through March. Reservations required. Please call to reserve your seat today!
- Every Saturday** **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.
- December 6** **7AM - 12PM – Monterey Bay Diving, Advanced Diving Technologies, 925-754-8180, www.adtscuba.com**
The winter diving season is upon us. This is the best time of the year to dive Monterey. The sea is 60 degrees, the viz averages 50 feet and yes, the Orcas and Humpback whales are down from Alaska. The majestic kelp forest is at its best as well. Join us for a 2 tank dive, only \$90. Nitrox available upon request. Sign up today.
- December 6** **9AM - 5PM – Women on the Water, Club Nautique, Sailing School, 800-343-SAIL, www.clubnautique.net**
Join other women sailors for a day on the bay on board a newer model sailing yacht. Hone your skills, enjoy the wisdom and patience of other women sailors in a non-threatening environment. \$135/Members \$180Non-Members. Reservations required. Please call to reserve your seat today!
- December 6** **9AM - 1PM – Golden Gate N Back Kayak Adventure, Sea Trek, Sausalito, 415-332-8494, www.seatrek.com**
A spectacular trip suitable for physically active beginners. We'll paddle towards the Golden Gate Bridge and enjoy dramatic views of Angel Island, Alcatraz, San Francisco and the Bridge. Guides, lesson and all equipment provided. \$75 all inclusive.
- December 6** **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.
- December 6** **12PM - 4PM – Tradewinds Sailing School & Club Open House, Richmond, 510-232-7999, www.tradewindssailing.com**
We are having an Open House at our new location in Richmond's Marina Bay. The address is 2580 Spinnaker Way, Richmond. Please stop by to check out our new facility. There will be a Bar-B-Q with hot dogs and snacks!
- December 7** **10AM - 12PM – Ocean Beach Cleanup, Surfrider Association (SF Chapter), Ocean Beach at Sloat Avenue, www.sfsurfrider.org**
Help keep our local beaches clean! Just show up at Ocean Beach at the end of Sloat Avenue and we'll provide gloves, bags and instructions. Rain cancels this event.
- December 13** **4PM - 7PM – Starlight Paddle, Sea Trek, Sausalito, 415-332-8494, www.seatrek.com**
We start just before sunset and cruise by the Harbor Seal haul out site en route to exploring Sausalito's floating home community. Then we'll watch the sunset, and the night lights come up with views of the SF skyline in the distance. Beginners welcome. Lesson, guides, gear all inclusive. \$65 per person.
- December 13** **4PM - 7PM – Moonlight Multicolored Meteor Shower Paddle, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, www.outbackadventures.com**
Navigating your kayak by moonlight is a mystical experience you won't soon forget. We will paddle leisurely while admiring the night sky and the starlight reflecting off the water's surface. On this day the Geminid meteor shower—considered by many experts to be the most active annual sky show—is going to be especially spectacular this year, astronomers predict 110 multicolored meteors an hour, we couldn't think of a cooler way to view the show then from our kayaks.
- December 13** **5PM - 8PM – Moonlight Kayaking, California Canoe & Kayak, Jack London Square, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Moonlight kayaking 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 including equipment and guides.
- December 14** **10AM - 3PM – Bair Island/Corkscrew Slough Kayaking, California Canoe & Kayak, Redwood City, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Paddle into a paddler's paradise of intimate waterways and tidal marshes in the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge! This is a fun day of easy kayaking in a spectacular, calm-water wonderland right in our own backyard! \$89 including equipment and guides.
- December 17** **6:00PM - 10:00PM – Moonlight Sail, OCSC Sailing, Berkeley, 510-843-4200, www.ocscsailing.com**
Set sail aboard one of OCSC's larger yachts skippered by a professional OCSC skipper and enjoy a relaxing night out on the Bay. You can soak in the beauty of the twinkling city lights while not lifting a finger; or pitch in and take the helm. Following the sail OCSC will serve chili, chips, salsa, snacks, and beverages.
- December 27** **10AM - 2PM – Pillar Point Kayak Tour, Half Moon Bay, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, www.calkayak.com**
Kayaking is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy the natural setting of the lovely coastside region of Pillar Point Harbor in Half Moon Bay. Get up close and personal with harbor seals, marine birds and other wildlife. \$49 including equipment and guides.
- December 28** **10AM - 2PM – 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.

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Four Parks for the Price of One

BY DAVE MATTHEWS

Angel Island State Park was created in 1954 with approximately 36 acres, just a tiny fraction of the island's land. By 1964, almost the entire island was under the management of California State Parks. Due to the incredibly rich history of the island, in a certain sense there are four completely different parks to see, each with its own identity. Here is your inside guide:

Park Number One: The Quarantine Station and Ayala Cove. In the same year that Paul Revere made his famous ride and the battles of Lexington and Concord were being fought, the first European sailed through the Golden Gate. Juan Manuel de Ayala and his crew moored in the cove that now bears his name at Angel Island. Over a century later, in the early 1890s, the Marine Hospital Service, a branch of the federal government that has evolved into the U.S. Public Health Service, needed an isolated location to construct and operate a quarantine station to protect the west coast from contagious diseases traveling with passengers on ships sailing into the San Francisco Bay. The Marine Hospital Service constructed over 40 buildings in what was then known as Hospital Cove. Today all that remains are four of the original 40 structures.

Park Number Two: Camp Reynolds. Established in September 1863, Camp Reynolds was named for one of the most beloved Generals of the Union Army and the first general to be killed at the Battle of Gettysburg. Camp Reynolds—along with Fortress Alcatraz and Fort Point—was established to protect San Francisco from invading Confederate ships in search of guns and gold. Later, the camp was used during the 1870s as a training center for soldiers fighting in the Indian Wars. Today only a fraction of the original buildings exist, and the ones that

have been protected serve as a reminder of California's sometimes-overlooked importance in the war between the states. Of the remaining facilities, the oldest structure on the island is the Bake House. Constructed in 1863, it has been restored and is used in the Living History program; the brick oven still produces loaves of fresh-baked bread!

Park Number Three: East Garrison of Ft. McDowell. In about 1900, the miscellaneous military bases on Angel Island were re-organized into one base called Fort McDowell—named for the Civil War General Irvin McDowell. The facilities we see today at East Garrison were constructed by military prisoners from Alcatraz Island between about 1909 and 1910. The garrison was a model military base with all the pleasures of home—including a bowling alley, movie theater, hamburger stand, barber shop and a Wells Fargo office. During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers were processed going to and returning from the Pacific theater of the war, and soldiers' letters have told us the food on Angel Island was the best they had at any base. At the peak, over 5,000 soldiers would be served breakfast, lunch and dinner in one day.

Park Number Four: United States Immigration Station (USIS) and North Garrison. In the early 1900s, the U.S. Immigration Service was looking for a remote location to move from outdated facilities located on the waterfront in San Francisco. Located on the north side of Angel Island, the USIS opened in 1910 and operated until 1940, when a fire forced the closure of the site and its return to San Francisco. During the 30 years it was in operation, over one million persons were processed on Angel Island. Sadly, the purpose of the site was to enforce the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, a law that prohibited most Chinese from becoming United States Citizens.

The immigrants who passed through

the site had deep and agonizing experiences, and expressed these emotions by carving poetry into the walls of the detention barracks. The site was dedicated as a National Historic Landmark in 1997.

After 1940, the military took over the area and named this site the North Garrison of Fort McDowell. Many new buildings, including barracks for soldiers and a new mess hall, were constructed in and around the former immigration station. During World War II, both German and Japanese prisoners of war were held temporarily at the North Garrison facility in the same detention barracks that once housed immigrants. In fact, the first Japanese prisoner of war who was captured at Pearl Harbor was taken to Angel Island before being transferred to a permanent prison in the midwest.

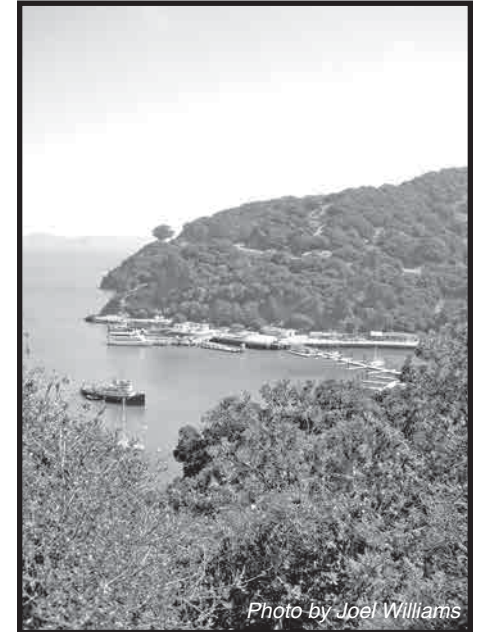


Photo by Joel Williams

In 1775, Juan Manuel de Ayala and his crew moored in the cove that now bears his name at Angel Island.

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THE BEST SAILING DAYS ARE IN THE WINTER

San Francisco Bay is quite rightly famous around the world for its strong summer afternoon winds. It's not uncommon for the wind in the Slot to reach 25 to 30 knots by mid-afternoon. Day after day, from late April to late October, one of the greatest playgrounds in the world for sailors is right here, available to all of us. People come from all over for the opportunity to experience just once what we get to enjoy almost daily for six, or sometimes even seven, months each year.

As a rule, San Francisco Bay sailors enjoy vigorous physical outdoor activity, so it's not surprising that many also ski. Skiing is a wintertime activity, of course, and most of us are constrained by limited funds and time. Hence, many people

give up sailing during the winter months. Because of that, I'm afraid they miss out on the Bay's other, gentler mood. I've often heard people say, "You can't sail the Bay in the winter. There's no wind." While it is true that the winds tend to be lighter in the winter—except during storms, but more about that in another column—I'd like to argue that some of the best sailing days of the year are in the winter.

Sure, beating to weather in 20+ knots is exhilarating. You're focused on what's happening *right now*, the phone isn't ringing, you're not thinking about the office, and the cobwebs are blown out of your head. Sailing out of Berkeley as I do, this is a very regular experience. Everywhere is upwind from Berkeley. After many months of this kind of intensity, I for one am ready for a change. Winter gives

the change I am looking for.

As I write this, I'm thinking about the sail I had on a December afternoon. The wind was from the north at about 15 knots. The boat was sailing at hull

and the air has been washed clean by two days of rain. The visibility must have been about 70 miles, because I was able to see Mt. St. Helena, up at the north end of the Napa Valley, from out on the

People come from all over for the opportunity to experience just once what we get to enjoy almost daily for six, or sometimes even seven, months each year.

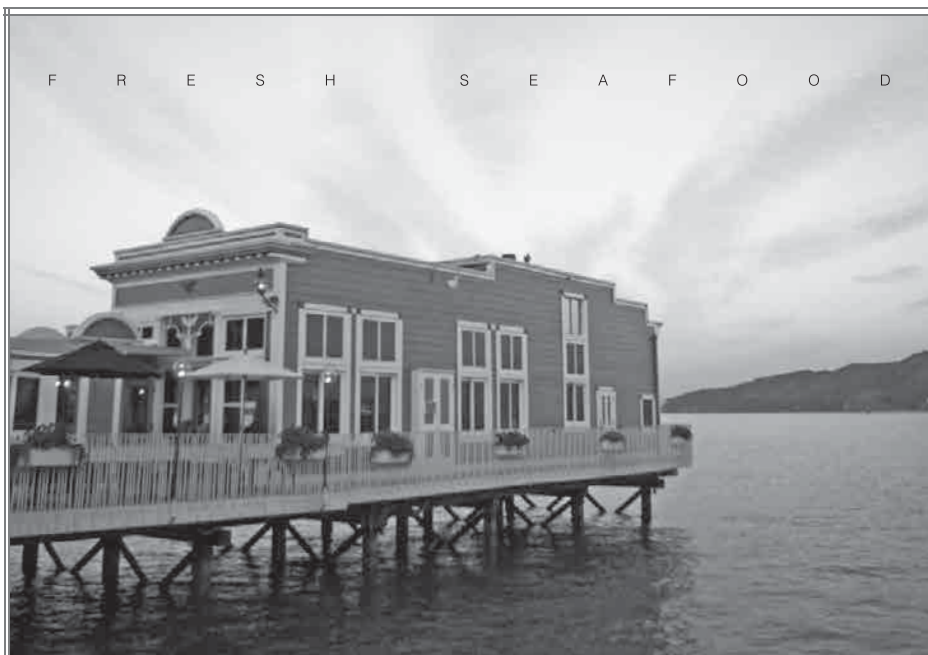
speed, the deck was dry, and I didn't need to put in a reef or wear foulies. The concentration of summer sailing has been replaced by a comfortable mellowness. The lower angle of the sun gives everything a richer hue. The fogs of summer are gone, and you can actually see the hills that surround this beautiful body of water on which we are privileged to sail. I sailed past a large flock of migratory birds, and the lighter winds allowed me to hear the marvelous sound they made when they all took off together. Among the seasonal visitors to the Bay, there is also a pair of loons. This is the fourth or fifth year that I've seen them wintering in the Berkeley Marina.

Yes, the days are shorter in the winter. It will be full dark by 1730, but, then again, the afternoon high temperature was 67 degrees. I ask you, how often do you have a day like that in the summer? It's the day after a storm,

Bay. From Berkeley today, everywhere was a reach out and a reach back.

All in all, I'd say that this was one of the best sailing days of the year!

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.



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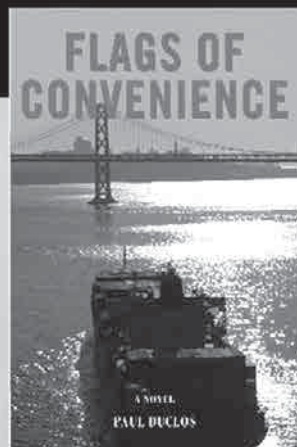
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Gemini, WETA's First New Ferry, Reports for Duty

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) recently announced the arrival of its first new vessel. Named *Gemini*, the 149-passenger ship will launch WETA's new ferry fleet and is expected to be put into use daily on one or two bay area commuter ferry runs. It will also be available for use as a spare vessel in case of temporary disruption of transit service or damage to the Bay Area highways and bridges. WETA is planning a series of activities to celebrate the arrival of *Gemini*, including an Open House for the public on Friday, December 12 at the San Francisco Ferry Terminal, Gate E from 1:30 – 3:30 pm.

WETA Board Chairperson Charlene Haught Johnson was elated at news of the ship's arrival. "The arrival and launch of *Gemini* is one of our proudest moments and culminates seven years of planning, fundraising and reaching consensus with environmental and other stakeholders. This partnership will enable WETA to build a Ferry system with the highest level of reliability, passenger comfort and safety in an environmentally responsible fashion," Johnson said.

Gemini set sail from Whidbey Island, Washington, on November 24, where she was constructed by two Washington state boat builders—Nichols Brothers Boat Builders (NBBB) and Kvichak Marine Industries. She passed under the San Francisco Bay Bridge on November 25 on her way to Alameda, where Bay Ship and Yacht Company will be performing a haulout for hull cleaning and final survey before *Gemini* is put into service.

Crediting the Bay Area's innovative mindset, Mary Frances Culnane, WETA's Marine Engineering Manager, commented, "Local support for ferries allowed WETA to push the technology envelope. The result is a vessel that is the most environmentally responsible ferry boat ever built, surpassing WETA's emission mandate of 85 percent better than EPA emission standards for Tier II (2007) marine engines." Other innovative measures to protect the bay and marine



Photo courtesy of WETA

WETA's new ferry Gemini left Whidbey Island, WA on November 24th and arrived in her new Bay Area home midday November 25th.

life include low-wake, low-wash hulls, solar panels, operating on a blend of biodiesel and Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel fuel, and forward searching sonar for avoiding whale strikes. *Gemini* also includes space for 34 bicycles.

Gemini and her sister ship, *Pisces*, which will follow in March 2009, are being built at a cost of \$16 million under one contract with the Nichols Brothers/Kvichak Boat Building Team. The total cost of the first two vessels is being paid with local toll-bridge funds. Kvichak is also building two additional 199-passenger vessels for WETA that will be delivered in late 2009. In total, these four vessels will eventually be put into service on either the new South San Francisco Ferry Route or the proposed Berkeley/Albany ferry route, and will greatly improve the ability of waterborne transit to move people in the aftermath of a disaster.

For further information go to www.watertransit.org. or contact Shirley Douglas at Douglas@watertransit.org.

**We Need Your Voice
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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!

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BAYKEEPER

S.F. Plans Historic Green Makeover

BY BILL PICTURE

A green makeover is being planned for San Francisco's historic Civic Center area, thanks to a partnership forged by the City with the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI). The brainchild of former President Bill Clinton, CGI brings together leaders from communities around the world to come up with solutions to global challenges.

The City and County of San Francisco, a CGI member, responded to the organization's call for ideas to address global climate change with a three-year proposal to transform the area surrounding City Hall into the country's first civic center sustainable resource district. The "Commitment to Action" calls for significant reductions in water use, energy use, wastewater discharge and carbon emissions, and specifies that 35 percent of the energy used during peak hours must come from renewable sources.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom believes that, by transforming the City's municipal and cultural heart into a showcase for resource conservation, the City



San Francisco's City Hall will be one of the first municipal buildings to get a green makeover as part of the City's partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative to create the country's first green civic center.

can inspire communities around the world to follow suit. "Civic Center sits at the core of one of the most visited cities in the world," he told reporters at a September press conference.

"What

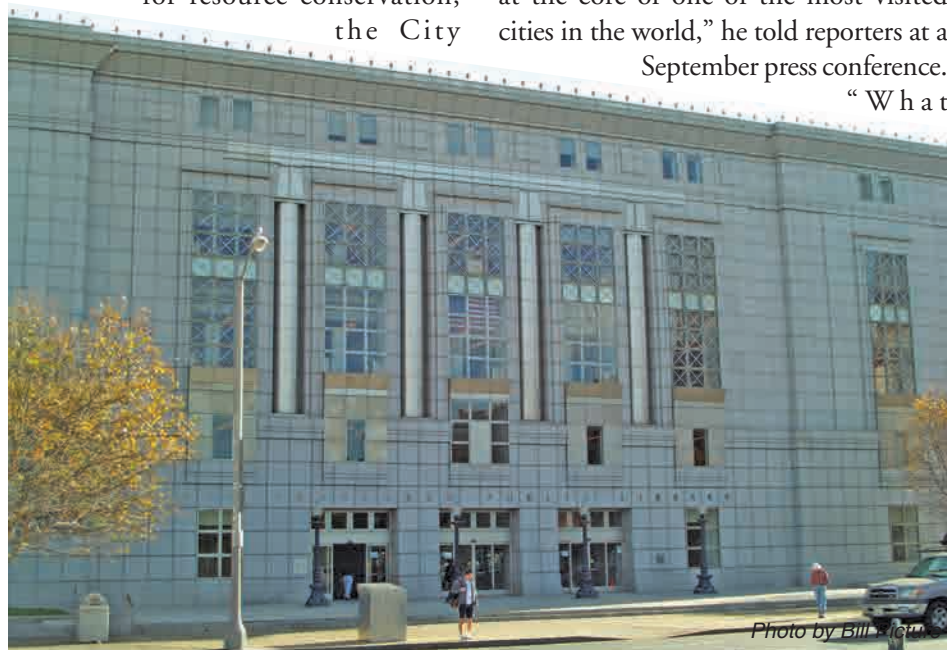
better way to educate the world on sustainability than by transforming that core to showcase how we can use water more efficiently, promote food security and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. Now, it will stand as a global model for how we achieve a more sustainable future."

"We believe that San Francisco's commitment shows government leadership in addressing global climate challenges and provides measurable and replicable results for cities worldwide," adds Astrid Haryati, Mayor Newsom's Greening Director.

The goals set forth in the Commitment to Action were established by the City itself based on preliminary resource conservation studies of principal buildings, public right-of-ways and open spaces in the area. While the project will focus on city-owned property, Haryati says she intends to approach state and federal officials as well to discuss retrofitting their Civic Center-adjacent properties.

City Hall and the neighboring main branch of the San Francisco Public Library are at the top of the City's "to green" list, with other principal public buildings to follow. Both City Hall and the Main Library are currently undergoing engineering evaluations to determine where immediate resource-efficiency improvements can be made. Among the proposed "quick fixes" is the installation of water-conserving plumbing fixtures. The solar-panel capacity of both buildings is also being determined. If all goes well, these initial projects should begin sometime next year.

"Living roofs," like the one atop the new California Academy of Sciences, are also being considered. Living roofs—roofs planted with turf, shrubs and plants—provide better insulation than standard roofs, reduce rainwater runoff, and provide a habitat for birds and insects.



Solar panels will be installed next year atop the main branch of the San Francisco Public Library. As part of its Commitment to Action, the City intends to meet more than one-third of Civic Center's peak-time energy demands with renewable sources.

r for Civic Center

Out in the open

When it comes time to green signature public spaces—such as Civic Center Plaza, the Fulton Mall (Fulton Street, between Hyde and Larkin Streets) and United Nations Plaza—the public will be encouraged to add its two cents. The “program development process” for these high-visibility areas will include community dialogue to help identify and prioritize specific future projects.

Haryati believes the public will play a key role in shaping a vision for Civic Center, and expects that the final plan will include not only buildings and outdoor spaces, but also the streets and sidewalks that connect them. “We expect to see a full array of green strategies demonstrating sustainable power, water and wastewater,” she says. “However, the specific manifestation of this vision will still need to be detailed during the program development process.” Among the many ideas being considered for outdoor areas is a working garden to promote urban agriculture.

Naturally, visitors will be afforded better visual access to the green features in outdoor public areas than they will be to those in and/or on buildings. Still, Haryati says that no opportunity to educate and inspire visitors will be missed. When visual access is limited or impaired, interpretive signage will be used to share the program’s educational message. “That is part of our commitment—educating the public about sustainable concepts,” she explains.

Tracking change

If San Francisco is to inspire other municipalities to follow its green example, it must be able to prove that its strategies are working. So the City will work closely with the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) to come up with quantitative proof. CCI’s globally-accepted measurement methods will be used to track energy savings and greenhouse gas emission reductions. Results will be published in an annual report.

Check, please!

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is footing the bill for most of the already-identified building retrofits, including the installation of the solar panels on the roofs of City Hall and the Main Library. The cost to retrofit the other city-owned buildings and public spaces will not be known until a list of projects for those properties is finalized. Once that list is completed and expenses tallied, the next step will be finding the money to

cover those projects, some of which may extend beyond the initial three-year deadline.

CGI is not a bank and does not provide funding; the organization can, however, help its members find funding. And San Francisco will likely take advantage of that service.

Leaving room for more

The “framework plan” being developed by the City will serve as a guide to follow, but it is not set in stone. Harvati says that, in order to ensure that Civic Center 2.0 is as green as it can be, plenty of bending room is being left in that framework to allow for new technology that may come online over the course of the next three years to be utilized.

“As a district that is envisioned to be a global center for education and an incubator for innovative concepts, the framework plan will provide a clear overarching vision while also providing flexibility for emerging technologies and concepts.”

The country’s first ‘green civic center’

San Francisco’s plan for an energy- and water-efficient civic center is intended to transform the City’s municipal and cultural heart into a global education center on sustainable concepts.

The goals of the sustainable resource district are:

80% potable water use reduction

45% wastewater discharge reduction

35% peak power demand met by renewables

33% annual energy reduction

2,225-ton reduction in greenhouse gas emissions



Photo by Bill Picture

More working gardens, like this temporary one in front of City Hall, could be sprouting up in Civic Center, say city officials. The gardens help promote urban agriculture, and help reduce the City’s carbon footprint.



Photo by Bill Picture

Living roofs, like this one atop a Civic Center bus stop, are one of many green features being considered for city-owned properties. Living roofs provide better insulation than traditional roofs, reduce rainwater discharge and provide a habitat for birds and insects.

We Wish You a Beery Christmas

BY JOEL WILLIAMS

Editor's Note: After a fine three-year run covering almost every brewpub in the area, the Brew Review column is being retired with this issue. Joel will return occasionally to report on developments in the Bay brew scene.

Yet another reason to love the holiday season is the annual emergence of seasonal holiday beers offered at most local breweries. In order to report on some of the more unique brews that will be available this year around the Bay, I contacted several of the local breweries to see what they would be serving. Expect most of these beers to be big and bold,

with lots of flavor and higher alcohol content than normal. Many breweries also integrate holiday spices or assorted fruits in their seasonal offerings, making it by far the most interesting time of the year to be a craft-brew connoisseur.

Available in bottles throughout the Bay Area are the annual seasonal offerings from Anchor Steam and Pyramid Brewery. Dark, rich and full of flavor, Anchor's 2008 Christmas Ale marks the 34th annual release of this spiced holiday ale. Each year's top-secret recipe is slightly different, as is its label. Also available is Pyramid's Snow Cap Ale, which is a rich, full-bodied winter warmer crafted in the British tradition of holiday beers. This deep mahogany-colored brew balances complex fruit flavors with a refreshingly smooth texture.

Moylan's Brewery & Restaurant in Novato recently released its holiday seasonal, Moylan's White Christmas Spiced Winter Lager, in both bottles and draft. A crisp, clean lager with just a touch of spices, this Christmas beer is a nice brew, perfect for getting beer lovers warmed up for the holiday season. Brewmaster Denise Jones is very pleased to continue her work on perfecting Moylan's holiday release and introducing a new dimension to the recipe. She has produced, without a doubt, a fine holiday offering.

This winter, Thirsty Bear will be pouring its 2007 Bearly Legal Barleywine, aged with biscuit notes and featuring a dry, sherry-like finish at 10 percent ABV. Thirsty Bear also has the new Winter Blasphemy, a dark, fruity and malty Belgian-inspired ale currently fermenting but expected to finish at 8.5 percent ABV sometime in late December.

The holiday brew at San Francisco Brewing Company is called Christmas Cheer; it's a dark, porter style ale brewed with a wide variety of hops and malts that give it a robust, spicy character, but with no spices other than hops.

The Calistoga Inn Restaurant and Brewery will be once again serving its annual holiday offering, Blitzen IPA. It is a smooth IPA landing at 7.3 percent ABV, with abundant amounts of Cascade hops and East Kent Goldings in the finish. They are also serving a new Belgian-style Saison, which will be immediately followed by a Belgian Dubbel that will go on when the Saison finishes up.

Beach Chalet's Brewmaster Aron Dorsey told me that he is working on a concoction with a working title of "It's the Great Pumpkin Wheat." This special holiday brew will be a wheat ale with roasted pumpkin, honey, cinnamon and nutmeg.

In keeping with a time-honored tradition, Magnolia Pub & Brewery is



Moylan's White Christmas Spiced Winter Lager is available in stores throughout the Bay Area now.

celebrating the arrival of the holiday season with the release of its 2008 Winter Warmer. It's an uber-traditional expression of an English strong ale, showcasing imported Maris Otter malt over spice. The 2008 edition is 7.8 percent ABV, deep mahogany in color, and very rich and malty with nice residual sweetness. The pub only has 200 gallons to get to Christmas, so hurry and try some before it's gone.

This is in no way a complete list of all of the holiday beers available in the Bay Area, but it should serve as a nice starting point. Also, because these special beers are always made in limited quantities, be sure to call in advance to verify the availability of holiday beers. Some of these special beers may not be ready to serve yet, while others can go faster than you expect. However, if you plan ahead or just get lucky, you are likely to find some of the best, freshest and most unique beers presented this year. And let me be the first to wish you a very Beery Christmas and a Hoppy New Year!

Joel Williams was a professional craft brewer for over seven years at several breweries. He earned a diploma in Brewing Sciences in 1996 from the world-renowned Siebel Institute of Technology in Chicago.



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JACK LONDON SQUARE

32nd Annual Lighted Yacht Parade

The 32nd Annual Lighted Yacht Parade will take place Saturday, December 6 along the waterfront of the Oakland/Alameda Estuary. Each year on the first Saturday in December, the Lighted Yacht Parade kicks off the holiday season. Bay Area boat owners share in the holiday spirit by decorating their boats and participating in the parade. Hundreds of spectators gather along the waterfront at specified viewing areas or at restaurants that afford them a view of the estuary. Last year 35 boats participated in the parade, and this year's organizers expect even more.

The parade will begin just after sunset (around 5:30 p.m.), and this year's theme is "An Old Fashioned Christmas." Similar to past years, the parade partners with The Oakland Firefighters Random Acts and the Alameda County Community Food Bank. Participants and spectators are encouraged to donate food, new unwrapped toys, or money at the designated drop sites located at each organizer's facility. These donations go a long way toward providing food and toys to deserving kids and families during the holiday season.

The Lighted Yacht Parade is sponsored and organized by the Encinal Yacht Club, the Oakland Yacht Club, and the Marina Village Yacht Harbor. The organizing committee is excited to announce that this year John Beery Yachts, Fast Imaging, KTVU, and Port of Oakland have joined as event sponsors. The additional sponsorship will enable the committee to expand promotion, increase participation, improve participant prizes, and generated more charitable donations.

Spectators can watch the parade from any waterside restaurant along the estuary. Public viewing areas will also be available at Wind River Park in Alameda and Jack London Square in Oakland. Interested parade participants can find enrollment information and entry forms at the parade website: www.lightedyachtparade.com.

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

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Golden Gate Ferry							
LARKSPUR *							
Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Depart Larkspur	Arrive SF	Depart SF	Arrive Larkspur	Depart Larkspur	Arrive SF	Depart SF	Arrive Larkspur
5:50am	6:20am	6:25am	6:55am	9:40am	10:30am	-----	-----
6:35	7:05	7:10	7:40	11:40	12:30pm	12:40pm	1:30pm
7:10	7:40	7:45	8:15	1:40pm	2:30	2:40	3:30
7:50	8:20	8:30	9:05	3:40	4:30	4:40	5:25
8:20	8:50	9:10	9:45	5:30	7:00	7:15	8:00
9:15	9:50	10:10	10:45	One-Way Ferry Fares			
10:10	10:45	10:55	11:30	LARKSPUR SAUSALITO			
11:10	11:45	11:55	12:30pm	Daily		Daily	
11:40	12:15pm	12:25pm	1:00				
12:40pm	1:15	1:25	2:00	Adult Cash Fare \$7.45 \$7.45			
2:15	2:50	3:00	3:30	Frequent Rider Ticket (Book of 20 Tickets) \$4.70 \$4.00			
2:50	3:25	3:35	4:05	Youth / Senior / Disabled \$3.75 \$3.75			
3:40	4:15	4:25	4:55	Children 5 and under FREE FREE			
4:15	4:45	4:55	5:25	Children ages 5 and under travel free when accompanied by a full fare paying adult (limit two youth per adult).			
-----	-----	5:20	6:05				
5:10	5:45	5:55	6:25				
5:35	6:10	6:20	6:50				
6:35	7:10	7:20	7:50				
7:20	7:55	8:10	8:40				
8:10	8:45	8:50	9:20				
8:50	9:25	9:35	10:05				

*On weekdays, with the exception of the 5:20 pm San Francisco departure which is operated by a 715 passenger Spaulding vessel, all other trips are operated by high-speed catamarans. Weekend service is provided by a 715 passenger Spaulding. Also, direct ferry service is provided to most Giants games at ATT&T Park.

SAUSALITO							
Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Depart Sausalito	Arrive SF	Depart SF	Arrive Sausalito	Depart Sausalito	Arrive SF	Depart SF	Arrive Sausalito
7:10am	7:35am	7:40am	8:10am	-----	-----	10:40am	11:10am
8:20	8:45	10:15	10:45	11:20am	11:50am	12:00pm	12:30pm
10:55	11:25	11:35	12:05pm	12:45pm	1:15pm	1:25	1:55
12:15pm	12:45pm	12:55pm	1:25	2:10	2:40	2:50	3:20
1:55	2:25	2:35	3:05	3:50	4:20	4:45	5:15
3:20	3:50	4:00	4:30	5:35	6:05	6:30	7:00
4:45	5:15	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	---	---
6:10	6:35	6:45	7:10				
7:20	7:50	7:55	8:20				

INFORMATION CONTACTS 511 (toll-free) or 711 (TDD) E-mail/Comments to ferrycomments.goldengate.org For Larkspur and Sausalito website:www.goldengate.org

HOLIDAY SERVICE: Larkspur & Sausalito
In effect on Martin Luther King, Presidents', Memorial, 4th of July, Labor Day, modified Holiday service is operated on the Day after Thanksgiving.

NO SERVICE: Larkspur & Sausalito
No ferry service on New Year's, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

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WETA



ALAMEDA/OAKLAND				ALAMEDA/OAKLAND			
Weekdays to San Francisco				Weekends and Holidays to San Francisco			
Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Pier 41	Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Pier 41
6:00am	6:10am	6:30am	-----	10:00	10:10	10:30	10:45
7:05	7:15	7:35	-----	11:30	11:20*	12:00 pm	12:15pm
8:10	8:20	8:40	-----	1:45pm	1:30*	2:20	2:35
9:15	9:25	9:45	10:00	4:15	4:05*	4:45	4:55
11:00	10:50*	11:30	11:45	5:45	5:35*	-----	6:25
12:45pm^	12:35pm*	1:15pm	1:30pm	7:10	7:00*	-----	7:50
2:30	2:20*^	3:00	3:10	Weekends and Holidays from San Francisco			
4:40	4:30*^	5:10	-----	Depart Pier 41	Depart Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland
5:50	5:40*^	6:15	-----	9:15	9:25	10:10	9:55
6:20	6:10*	-----	7:00	10:50	-----	11:20	11:30
6:55^	6:45*^	7:20	-----	1:00pm	1:10pm	1:30pm	1:45pm
7:55^	7:45*	9:20	-----	3:30	3:45	4:05	4:15
8:55^	8:45*	-----	9:25	5:00	5:15	5:35	5:45
				6:30	6:40	7:00	7:10
Weekdays from San Francisco				No Alameda/Oakland Weekend Ferry Service Available between January 3, 2009 through February 22, 2009			
Depart Pier 41	Depart Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland				
-----	6:30am#	7:15am	7:05am				
-----	7:35#	8:20	8:10				
-----	8:40#	9:25	9:15				
10:15	10:30	10:50^	11:00^				
12:00pm	12:15pm	12:35pm^	12:45^				
1:45	2:00	2:20^	2:30^				
3:45	4:10	4:30^	4:40^				
-----	5:20	5:40	5:50				
5:20	5:45	6:10	6:20				
-----	6:25	6:45	6:55				
-----	7:25	7:45	7:55				
-----	8:25	8:45	8:55				

* To S.F. via Oakland # To Alameda via Oakland
^ Departs immediately after loading

FARES:	One Way	Round Trip	10Ticket Book*	20Ticket Book*	Monthly Pass
Adult (13+)	\$6.25	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$90.00	\$170.00
Child (5-12)	\$3.50	\$7.00			
Child under 5**	FREE	FREE			
Senior (65+)	\$3.75	\$7.50			
Disabled Persons*	\$3.75	\$7.50			
Active Military	\$5.00	\$10.00			

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.

Seniors must show valid I.D., Regional Transit Connection, or Medicare Card. Military personnel must show Military I.D.

Schedule information harvested online. Schedules are subject to change.

Blue & Gold Ferry

BAY CRUISE		SAUSALITO			
Leave PIER 39		FISHERMAN'S WHARF, PIER 41			
Weekdays	Weekends and Holidays	Weekdays			
10:45am 12:00pm 1:15 2:30 4:00	10:00am 2:30pm 10:45 3:15 12:15pm 4:00 1:15 4:30 2:00	Depart Pier 41	Arrive Sausalito	Depart Sausalito	Arrive Pier 41
		11:00am 12:15pm 1:35 2:45 ----	11:40am 12:55pm 2:10 3:35 ----	11:50am 1:05pm 2:20 3:40 8:00	12:10pm 1:25 2:35 4:00 8:20

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 \$23.00 Junior (12-18) \$19.00
Senior (62+) \$19.00 Child (5-11) \$15.00
Special Rates On Line

ANGEL ISLAND - SF/DAILY			
Weekdays			
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Pier 41
10:00am	10:20am	3:20am	4:00

Weekends			
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Pier 41
10:35am	11:00am	11:05am	12:20
----	----	3:50	4:55

ANGEL ISLAND - ALAMEDA/OAKLAND			
Weekends ONLY			
Depart Oakland	Depart Alameda	Arrive Angel Island	
9:00am*	9:10am*	10:10am	
Depart Angel Island	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland	
3:10pm	3:45pm	3:55pm	

ANGEL ISLAND - VALLEJO			
Weekdays			
Depart Vallejo	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Vallejo
7:45am	10:05am	2:00pm 3:25pm	4:30pm 5:30pm

Weekends			
Depart Vallejo	Arrive Angel Island	Depart Angel Island	Arrive Vallejo
8:10am 10:00am	10:10am 12:10pm	2:55pm 4:15pm	5:00pm 6:30pm

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	Pier 41 SF Ferry Bldg	Alameda/Oakland	Vallejo
Adult	\$15.00	\$14.50	\$32.50
Senior (65+)	\$15.00	\$14.50	\$23.00
Child	\$8.50(age 6-12)	\$8.50(age 5-12)	\$23.00
Child	FREE(5 & under)	FREE(4 & under)	FREE(5 & under)

*All prices include State Park Fees

Baylink Ferry

VALLEJO/SAN FRANCISCO		
FERRY BLDG./ FISHERMAN'S WHARF		
Weekdays		
Depart Vallejo	Depart Ferry Bldg.	Depart Pier 41 Fisherman's Wharf
5:30am 6:30 7:00 7:45 8:45 10:00 11:30 2:00 3:20 4:05 4:45 5:35	6:35am 7:35 8:10 8:55 9:55 11:10 12:40pm 3:30 4:30 5:15 6:00 7:05	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- 11:30am ----- 3:10pm ----- ----- ----- 6:45

Weekends and Holidays		
Depart Vallejo	Depart Ferry Bldg.	Depart Pier 41 Fisherman's Wharf
8:10am 10:00 11:30 1:00pm 2:30 3:00 4:00 5:35 6:00 6:35 8:20	9:20am 11:10 12:40pm 2:10 3:40 4:30 5:10 6:45 7:30 7:45 9:50	9:45am 11:30 ----- ----- 4:00pm 4:10pm 5:30 ----- 7:10 ----- 9:30

TIBURON			
San Francisco PIER 41			
Weekdays			
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Tiburon	Depart Tiburon	Arrive Pier 41
11:00am 12:15pm 1:35 2:45 4:05 -----	11:20am 12:35pm 1:50 3:05 4:45 -----	11:25am 12:40pm 1:55 3:10 ----- 7:45	12:10pm 1:25 2:35 4:00 ----- 8:20

Weekends and Holidays	
Depart Pier 41	Arrive Tiburon
10:35am 12:30pm 2:00 3:20 5:15	11:20am 12:55pm 1:05pm 2:30 6:20

TIBURON COMMUTE			
DOWNTOWN S.F., FERRY BLDG.			
Weekdays			
Depart Tiburon	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Depart Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Tiburon
6:00am 6:50 7:50 8:45 ----- 5:00pm 5:50 6:40	6:20am 7:10 8:10 9:05 ----- 5:20pm 6:10 7:00	----- 7:15am 8:15 ----- 5:25 6:15 7:15	----- 7:35am 8:35 ----- 5:45 6:35 7:35

* Friday ONLY
Recommended to Ferry Building Farmer's Market & To Ferry Building via PIER 41
^ Via Angel Island
> Via Sausalito
All Weekend departures make additional stops before reaching destination.

ANGEL ISLAND FERRY			
ANGEL ISLAND/TIBURON			
Monday - Friday			
Weekends			
10am	11	1pm	3pm
Please contact up regarding any questions. Our website contains all current information (www.angelislandferry.com)		FARES Adults (13 and over) \$13.50 Children (6 - 12) \$11.50 Children (3 - 5) \$3.50 Bicycles \$1.00	

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
6:30am 7:30 8:30 ----- 5:05pm 6:05 7:05	6:55am 7:55 8:55 4:30pm 5:30 6:30 7:30	7:00am 8:00 4:35pm 5:35 6:35 7:35	7:25am 8:25 5:00pm 6:00 7:00 8:00

No service on weekends

FARES:

Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry passengers can purchase Ferry tickets, passes and books on board our ferries. Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry accepts cash, checks, Visa, Mastercard and Commuter Checks as payment for ferry tickets.

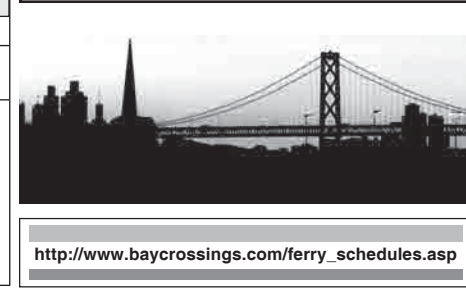
Fare:	
One-Way Adult.....	\$6.50
One-Way Juniors (5-12).....	\$3.25
Children (under 5)	Free
One-Way Seniors (62 & over)	\$3.75
Disabled	\$3.75
Active Military	\$5.25
One-Way Commute (book of 10).....	\$55.00
One-Way Commute (book of 20).....	\$100.00
Monthly Pass (book of 40).....	\$185.00
Free MUNI and AC Transit Transfers Provided	

Red & White			
BAY CRUISE SCHEDULE			
PIER 43 1/2			
Monday through Sunday			
Oct 20 - Dec 31			
10:00am	12:00pm	2:30pm	Fare:
10:45*	1:15	3:00	Adult\$22
11:15	1:45	3:45	Youth (5-17) ...\$16
		4:15*	Child (under 5)Free

* Weekends Only

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Unique Holiday Gifts from Richmond's Shores

It's that time of year again, when the malls become parking lots and the major department stores require hand-to-hand combat skills to get the latest and greatest popular gift that everyone just has to have. However, some of the most unique and thoughtful gifts are found in out-of-the-way places. When you do your annual holiday shopping this year, consider the wonderful and one-of-a-kind products that are available or made along Richmond's waterfront, including Point Richmond, one of its prized neighborhoods. Point Richmond is well known for its extensive artist community, which is quite evident when you stroll the streets of this hidden oasis of distinctive shops and galleries. Furthermore, several manufacturing companies located along

Richmond's shoreline produce popular items that are readily available online or at local retailers.

Step into **Guillermina Oriental Arts and Antiques** shop and you will find yourself surrounded by exotic objects

from Japan, China, the Philippines, Burma, Thailand and beyond. The antiques are impressive and the trinkets are delightful, while the jewelry and adornment objects of art can't be found anywhere else. In addition to her buying

antiques is sure to impress the most discerning collector, whether it's a Chinese wedding bed or Japanese tansu to create a focal point in your home, or perhaps a charming Kokeshi doll or netsuke to bring a smile to your favorite person's face. The shop also boasts a wide variety of unusual and charming "budget friendly" items and, especially for this holiday season, a collection of gifts priced at under \$10.

Looking for distinctive and affordable gifts? **The Art Lounge** in Point Richmond offers an unusual range of gifts from all over the world at below-wholesale prices everyday. The store features jewelry made of the hottest trends like Murano glass from Italy and magnetic Hematite as well as freshwater pearls, U.S.-made porcelain dolls, beaded bags, oil burners, Swarovsky hair clips, fashionable hand-painted

This year, you're sure to find something delightful and affordable in Richmond.

sure to please every personality. Point Richmond resident Guillermina LaFever has traveled the world, bringing Asian antiques and collectibles back home to her shop on West Richmond Avenue. In the trade for over 25 years, LaFever has personally selected an array of treasures

trips overseas, LaFever has acquired items from private collectors that haven't been on the market for decades. Her loyal clientele are always eager to reunite with her after her latest journey to see what new treasures she's brought home.

Guillermina's collection of Asian

Art Lounge

145 Park Place
(510) 232-0084

www.rcvb-ca.com/artlounge.htm

Designer gifts at closeout prices, carrying handmade items from around the world with gift items to delight every age and gender.

Cohn-Stone "Glass Blowing" Studios

560 South 31st Street
(510) 234-9690

www.cohnstone.com

Hand blown glass works of Michael Cohn and Molly Stone. Featuring award-winning designer vases, decorative pieces and one-of-a-kind works of art.

The Grace Baking Company

3200 G Regatta Blvd
(510) 231-7200

www.gracebaking.com

Artisan bakery committed to providing a wide variety of innovative, quality breads. Grace's products are available in 250 restaurants and grocery stores.

Guillermina Oriental Arts and Antiques

109 West Richmond Ave.
(510) 237-0036

www.guillermina.com

Rare and exceptionally beautiful objects collected from Japan, Burma, Cambodia, China, India, Korea, Philippines, Thailand and Himalayas.

Hydrangea Flowers & Gifts

145 West Richmond Ave.
(510) 215-4530

Fresh flowers, gifts and cards for all occasions. Delivery available.

Incurable Collector

140 Washington
(510) 234-7611

Fine custom jewelry and repair plus antiques and unique crystal and silver gift items.

Mona's Murals

(510) 236-2254

www.monasmurals.com

Custom painted original murals for homes and businesses.

Mountain Hardware

1414 Harbour Way South
Ford Point, Suite 1005
(800) 953-8375

www.mountainhardware.com

Manufacturer of innovative and technologically advanced outdoor gear including sleeping bags, tents outerwear and accessories. Order online at website above.

Name the Occasion Gift Baskets

15501 San Pablo Ave #G301
(510) 275-3451

www.nametheoccasion.com

Gift baskets for every occasion.

NIAD (National Institute of Art and Disabilities)

551 23rd St
(510) 620-0290

www.niadart.org

Innovative visual arts center assisting adults with developmental and other physical disabilities. Artwork and gift items available at gallery and gift shop.

The Nova Studio

24 West Richmond Ave.
(510) 234-5700

www.thenovastudio.com

Unique classes taught in areas including making soaps, candles and natural bath and body products. Gift certificates are available.

Outback in the Temple of Venus

139 West Richmond Ave.
(510) 237-1199

www.befearlesschooselove.com

Clothing outlet specializing in designer and high-end lines but also offering products at all price points including unique gift items, cards, art and other unusual eclectic pieces.

Steve Hurst Clocks

38 Washington, 2nd Floor
(510) 233-5393

www.stevenart.com

One-of-a-kind and limited edition handmade clocks.

Title Nine

Ford Point Building
(800) 609-0092

www.titlenine.com

Women's sports clothing and accessories distribution center. There are several local retail outlets, see website for more information.

Zoe's Cookies & Other Delights

1080 Marina Way So.
510-237-2490

Wholesale bakery specializing in homemade cookies, brownies, pies, fruit bars, etc.

reader glasses and handmade earrings. Plus men's silk ties and leather wallets are 75% off retail prices everyday. The Art Lounge only buys handmade and handcrafted merchandise directly from the manufacturer on a clearance or liquidation basis in order to bring the best discount price to the customer. Many of the items are bought directly from small villages to the store, offering a unique range of items every month. The Art Lounge is a unique retail environment that provides rare customer service in an intimate casual setting. There are hundreds of items priced at only \$5 to choose from, and they even offer quantity discounts.

Outback in the Temple of Venus is a newer Point Richmond clothing outlet, but the store has actually been in business for about 28 years. It originally opened in Berkeley, then relocated to Emeryville for several years before moving to quaint Point Richmond last year. Owner and designer Devi, who loves her new location, says that "living in Point Richmond and then opening this shop here has been such a blessing" adding, "somehow Point Richmond has stayed under the radar, but this is the Bay Area's best-kept secret with its yummy international restaurants, cool shops and other amenities." Devi's "Temple Store" is a clothing outlet that passes the savings on to its customers. It specializes in designer and high-end lines, but also offers products at all price points including unique gift items, cards, art and other unusual eclectic pieces.

If you are looking for something completely different for the person who has everything, consider creating a handmade gift yourself with the help of **The Nova Studio**. Lori Nova began making natural bath and body products in her kitchen in 2000 as a way to make family and friends homemade, practical gifts. Shortly thereafter, it only seemed natural to combine her passion for the new hobby with her training and love for teaching, so she opened The Nova Studio in Point Richmond to great success. The Nova Studio features classes in making soaps, bath and body products, perfumes and candles. According to Nova, "My goal is to provide a creative space that encourages both students

and teachers to find and share their passions with the community."

So when considering where to go this year for your holiday shopping needs, don't forget the unique and wonderfully exceptional shops located

along Richmond's beautiful shoreline. We have also included a list of numerous additional locations in Richmond that can provide unique, high-quality gift ideas. This year, you're sure to find something delightful and affordable in Richmond.



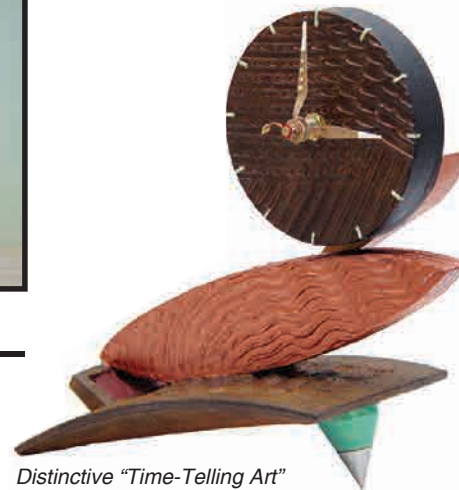
Create your own gifts this year like these handmade soaps from The Nova Studio.



Left, Guillermina's Oriental Arts and Antiques shop features an extensive collection of Asian antiques and collectibles.

Right, The Art Lounge offers an unusual range of gifts from all over the world.

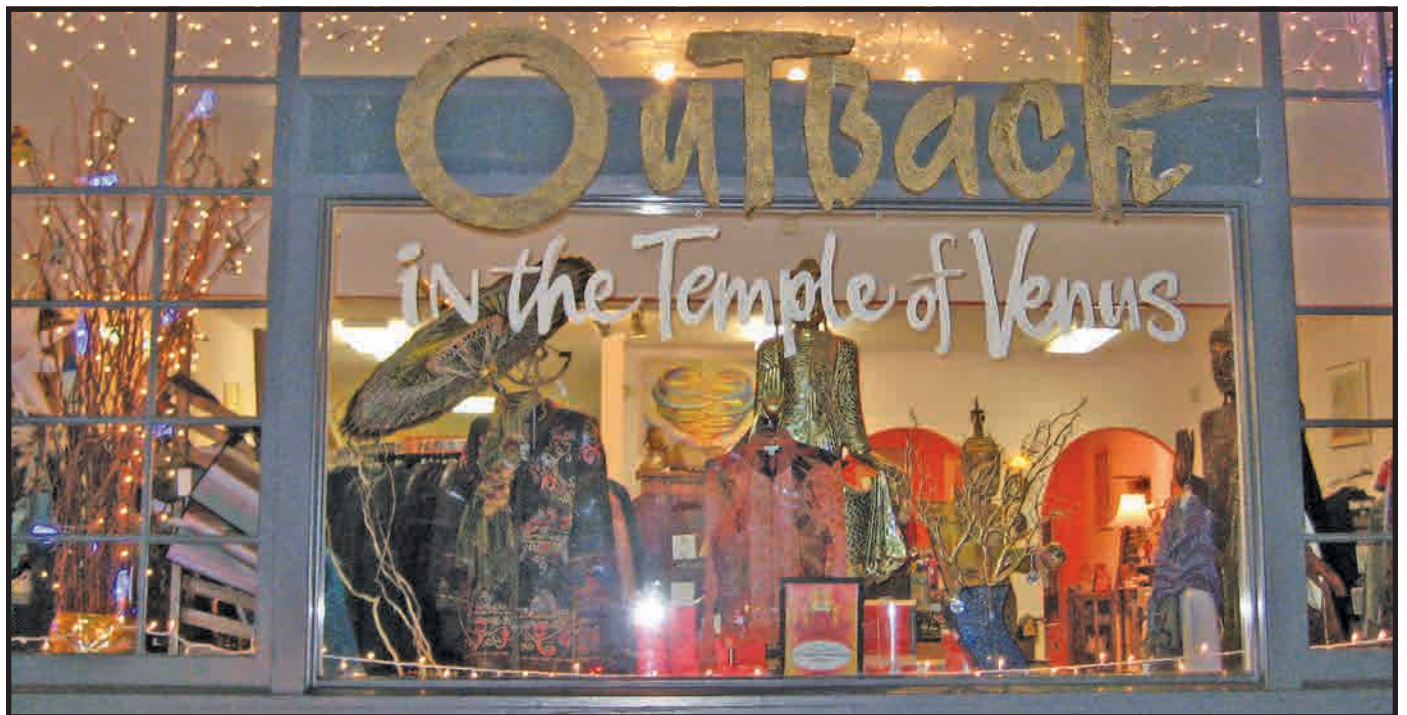
Below, Outback in the Temple of Venus is a clothing outlet that passes the savings on to its customers.



Distinctive "Time-Telling Art" from Steve Hurst Clocks.



A popular holiday basket available from Name That Occasion Gift Baskets.



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

AROUND THE BAY IN DECEMBER



Photo by Mark Leet

Mission Dolores Basilica Choir

17th Annual Candlelight Christmas Concert

On Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 p.m., the Mission Dolores Basilica Choir will perform its 17th Annual Candlelight Christmas Concert, a stirring and inspiring experience that promises to be the perfect way to usher in the Christmas season. The beautiful acoustics of the Basilica will enhance the sounds of the internationally renowned choir, the resident community choir of Mission Dolores. Under the direction of conductor Jerome Lenk, the concert will feature John Rutter's Gloria, Medieval chants, and carols from Russia, Venezuela and the Philippines. Mission Dolores Basilica is adjacent to Mission San Francisco de Asis, one of the twenty-one California Missions established by Father Junipero Serra in the 18th century, and the oldest building in San Francisco. Tickets are \$25 reserved, \$18 premium general and \$15 general admission, and are available at Mission Dolores, by calling (415) 621-8203 or by visiting www.missiondolores.org.

A Celebration of Chocolate

Chocolatier Blue is hosting "A Celebration of Chocolate: The First Annual Chocolatier Blue Chocolate Festival" on Sunday, December 7 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Chocolatier Blue parking lot. This tasty event will showcase premium-quality chocolate truffles, drinks and desserts offered from outdoor tables, and there will be live musical entertainment. All Festival edibles will be prepared by Christopher Blue, the chef/owner of Chocolatier Blue and a protégé of renowned chef Charlie Trotter. Chocolatier Blue creations begin with Amedei chocolate from Tuscany, Italy, recognized as being among the world's best dark chocolates. Blue is the only chocolatier in the United States working with Amedei. Another noteworthy Chocolatier Blue

ingredient is Five Star brand organic butter which has the highest fat content of any butter in the world. Only about a dozen chefs worldwide are able to purchase this butter. Cooking techniques such as sous vide, grilling, and roasting are used to make the fillings for Chocolatier Blue truffles, which contain no artificial flavors, extracts, compounds, preservatives, or pre-made purees. Chocolatier Blue is located at 1964 University Avenue in Berkeley. The cost of admission will be \$15 with tickets sold at the door. Additional information can be obtained by calling (510) 805-8800 or by visiting the Chocolatier Blue Web site at www.chocolatierblue.com.

San Francisco Girls Chorus Annual Davies Hall Holiday Concert

The 26th annual Davies Hall concert, entitled "Stars of Wonder" will be held on Tuesday, December 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Davies Syphony Hall. Three hundred voices from ages 6 to 18 will ring out in a program featuring organ, chamber orchestra, the Sonos Handbell Ensemble and harp in the world premiere



Photo courtesy of San Francisco Girls Chorus

San Francisco Girls Chorus

of Christmas Morn by Eleanor Daley, plus works by Pergolesi, Mendelssohn, Holst, Pavel Chesnokov, Joan Szymko, Ko Matsushita, Adolph Adam and others as well as an audience-wide sing-along of favorite traditional carols. The three-time Grammy Award-winning San Francisco Girls Chorus is recognized as one of the world's most respected vocal ensembles. Its level of training, performance, quality, range, passion and leadership in commissioning music for treble voices are lauded by musicians, critics and audiences. Ticket prices range from \$20-\$50. For more information contact Naho Yoshida at (415) 863-1752 or visit www.sfgirlschorus.org.

Hanukkah Hootenanny

Judd's Hill Winery is hosting its second annual Hanukkah Hootenanny on Sunday, December 7 from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the winery, 2332 Silverado Trail in Napa. The event will be a lively celebration of the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah focusing on the winery's limited production of award-winning wines. There will be entertainment by *Meshugga Beach Party*, who play traditional Jewish folk songs in an instrumental 'surf music' style. There will be, in Judd Finkelstein's words, "a latke bar unlike any other," with normal accoutrements such as sour cream and applesauce and other exciting toppings created by Pat Burke, the winery's award-winning chef and national BBQ champion. All are welcome to join the festivities. The event is free for Judd's Hill Wine Club members and \$40/person for non-Wine Club members. There is no charge to join The Wine Club. To sign up, visit www.juddshill.com. People can join The Club on the day of the event and receive the preferential Club price. To purchase tickets for The Hootenanny, call the winery at (707) 255-2332. All of Judd's Hill's current release wines will be available as well as library selections. Guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped (in the box) toy with a value of \$10 or more which will benefit Toys for Tots. Guests can also bring cans of non-perishable food, which will be donated to Napa Food Bank, or lightly worn shoes, which will be donated to Soles For Souls.

Christmas at Sea

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park presents a special holiday celebration on Saturday, December 13 called "Christmas At Sea!" featuring live music, refreshments, ornament-making, costumed characters from 1901, and a special visit from Santa Claus. The Dogwatch Nautical Band starts the festivities aboard the historic ferryboat Eureka at 3:00 p.m. performing traditional sea chanteys with a holiday twist. Their spirited maritime music is popular with adults and children, and audience participation is definitely encouraged! Kids of all ages will enjoy the popular ornament-making activities and refreshments and, as the band concludes its performance, a park ranger will read a popular holiday story. Santa arrives at 4:20 p.m., and will listen to children's wishes until the afternoon portion of the program ends at 4:45 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., the park's costumed Living History Players will take you back to Christmas 1901 where you will meet and talk with the captains, wives, and crews aboard the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier. With the lights of San Francisco twinkling in the background, the historic ships and characters offer a memorable holiday experience. Reservations are required for the 6:00 p.m. portion of the program. Please call (415) 447-5000 for reservations and information. Admission to Christmas At Sea is simply the regular admission fee to board the historic ships: \$5.00 for ages 16 and up, and free for ages 15 and under with adult supervision.

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.

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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.

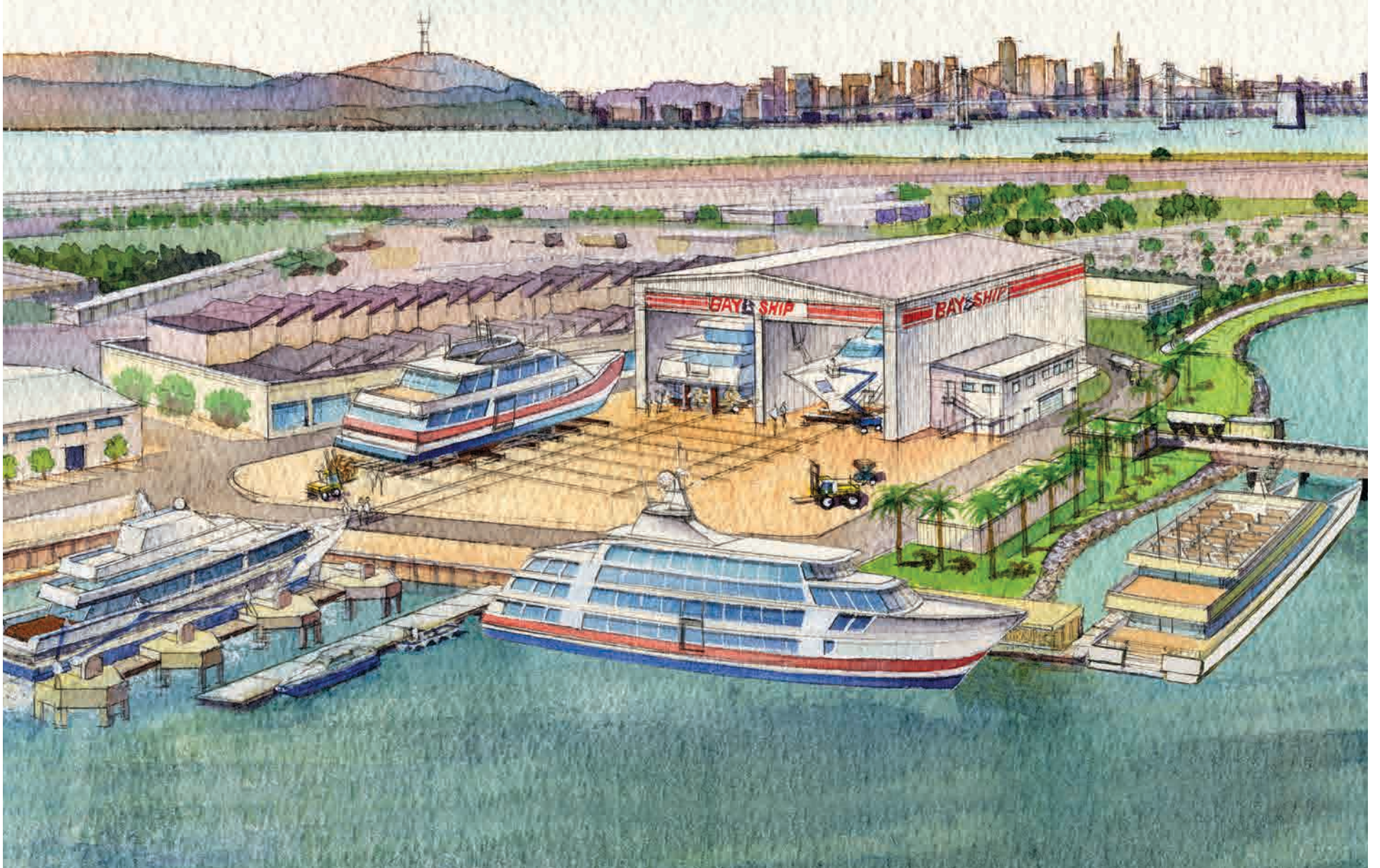
Vallejo Sail to Vallejo, a waterfront community that includes the city's Heritage District, Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum and family-friendly Six Flags Discovery Kingdom theme park.

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

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