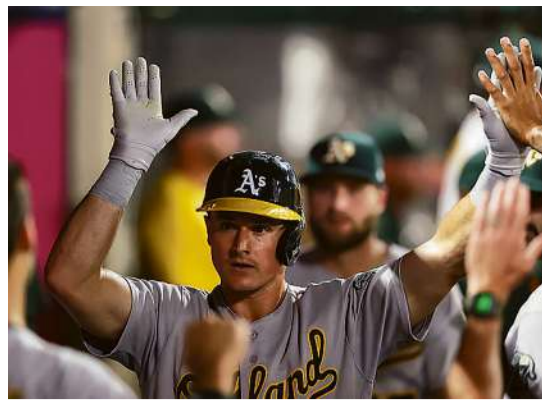


Datebook

Ethan Russell and his camera had best seat in the house for rock shows for years. **D1**

Bay Area & Business

Breed introduces law that would ban motor vehicles on JFK. **C1**



Sporting Green

Killion: A's trade of Chapman a wake-up call for Oakland fans? Not really. **B1**

Ostler: 3 Bay Area teams don their dancing shoes for NCAA tourneys. **B1**

San Francisco Chronicle

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Bombings decimate Ukraine

'Why? Why? Why?': Shellings, mass graves sink Mariupol into despair

By **Mystyslav Chernov** and **Evgeniy Maloletka**

MARIUPOL, Ukraine — The bodies of the children all lie here, dumped into this narrow trench hastily dug into the frozen earth of Mariupol to the constant drumbeat of shelling.

There's 18-month-old Kirill, whose shrapnel wound to the head proved too much for his little toddler's body. There's 16-year-old Iliya, whose legs were blown up in an explosion during a soccer game at a school field. There's the girl no older than 6 who wore the pajamas with cartoon unicorns, among the first of Mariupol's children to

Mariupol continues on A5



Evgeniy Maloletka / Associated Press

Mariana Vishegirskaia, who survived an airstrike on a Mariupol maternity hospital, lies in a hospital bed after giving birth.

'We need you': Zelenskyy urges Congress to supply more weapons, sanctions

By **Andrea Rosa**

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian forces destroyed a theater in Mariupol where hundreds of people were sheltering Wednesday and rained fire on other cities, Ukrainian authorities said, even as the two sides projected optimism over efforts to negotiate an end to the fighting.

The air strike ripped apart the center of the once-elegant building, where hundreds of civilians had been living since their homes had been destroyed in the fighting, Ukraine's foreign ministry said in a statement.

Many people were buried in the rubble, the *Ukraine continues on A5*

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC *Two Years In*



Photos by Santiago Mejia / The Chronicle

Michael Garcia has in his San Jose home a jar of at least 200 masks he has used during the pandemic. "It represents a lot of days, and a lot of days that were largely unpleasant in a lot of ways," he says.

Totems of a time that blurred days

By **Annie Vainshtein**

For many of us, the past two years of the pandemic have been something we don't want to be reminded about. It's been a period of time filled with death and dread, isolation and adaptation.

Since the Bay Area's first shelter-in-place orders on March 16, 2020, the experience of living in this region has shifted. Work has become remote. For much of the past two years, the restaurants and art performances people lived for became hazardous due to virus spread. Housing costs remained elusive for many. And so has the concept of time — which has been skewed and disorienting: sometimes painfully slow, sometimes overwhelming in its acceleration, sometimes too de-

Amid the murk of COVID-19, some grasp for mementos

spairing to even fully experience at all. Time can feel impossible to distill — too opaque, too varied — but often we find ourselves holding on to things that become talismans, totems to mark a certain period of our lives.

There are many things representing this pandemic period we'd like to forget. But there are also some we can't let go of. The Chronicle talked to people in the Bay Area about the objects they've found themselves holding

on to during the 24 months of pandemic life. These are the mementos that have resisted moves and decluttering projects, and sometimes are so private and personal they haven't been seen by anyone outside of their keeper.

They remind us of all we've been through during one of the most trying periods of our lives.

Toward the beginning of the pandemic, Michael Garcia was primarily wearing cloth masks out of concern about the waste generated by disposable masks. But a little over six months into shelter-in-place, his company supplied its employees with N95 masks, and Garcia started wearing those.

Instead of throwing them away, something compelled him to start *Pandemic continues on A7*

Oakland A's waterfront ballpark hits setback

By **Sarah Ravani**

The Oakland A's plans to build a waterfront ballpark and development hit a setback Wednesday after a state committee recommended against eliminating maritime use at the Howard Terminal site to make way for the team's \$12 billion plan.

The Seaport Planning Advisory Committee's decision came after 4½ hours of discussion and public comment. Some committee members said they were concerned that the port would give up valuable space used for freight and truck parking — particularly if cargo usage at the port increases. Six members voted against recommending eliminating maritime uses, and three voted in favor of it. One member abstained.

Some of the committee members said they needed more information from the A's and the port to understand how the proposed development would not impact maritime operations.

Dave Kaval, president of the A's, said the decision is a "major setback" in getting the necessary approvals for the waterfront ballpark.

At stake is one of the largest developments in *Ballpark continues on A6*

St. Mary's coach Bennett found home in Moraga

By **Ron Kroichick**

Twenty-one years later, after all the 20-win seasons, NCAA Tournament appearances and sneaky-good standout players, a relevant question hangs in the air as Randy Bennett prepares to lead his St. Mary's basketball team into March Madness yet again.

Why on earth is he still in Moraga?

This doesn't happen in college hoops, at least not outside of places such as Durham, N.C., East Lansing, Mich., and Syracuse, N.Y. Coaches at high-profile, blueblood programs — Duke (Mike Krzyzewski), Michigan State (Tom Izzo) and Syracuse (Jim Boeheim), respectively — might set up camp, but schools like St. Mary's typical- *St. Mary's continues on A6*

► **Fines delayed:** S.F. restaurants and bars that built parklets to stay afloat get more time to resolve violations. **C1**

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Today: Top Japanese food

Where to find the best Japanese restaurants in the Bay Area, whether you want ramen, izakaya fare or haute cuisine. And there many good choices.

Weather



Cloudy, then sunny. Highs: 55-72. Lows: 36-48. **C6**

