

Santa Rosa winery’s field of dreams



Photos by Stephen Lam/S.F. Chronicle

The Old Timey Baseball Event is held on June 28 at Balletto Vineyards’ Dream Field in Santa Rosa.

Balletto Vineyards in Sonoma is drawing a younger crowd with rustic baseball diamond

By Jess Lander

More than 20 years ago, a farmer set aside four acres of precious land to build a baseball field. The field, however, isn’t in Iowa, and the farmer isn’t played by Kevin Costner. Set in the middle of a vineyard, this baseball diamond is at Balletto Vineyards in Sonoma Wine Country. Yet, just like James Earl Jones’ character predicted at the end of the 1989 film “Field of Dreams,” people came: Last Saturday, nearly 500 people gathered at Balletto in Santa Rosa to watch some baseball. Er, base ball. These players were dressed in vintage uniforms, abided by rules dating back to 1886 and played with old-school gloves (small) and bats (extra large). They had cheeky nicknames in-

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Sam “Badger” Hoffman of the Barbary Coast vintage baseball team delivers a pitch against the San Francisco Pacifics.

Bar opens in apartment but not for long

By Elena Kadvany

It was set to be Oakland’s coolest new cafe and bar: an acclaimed chef serving top-tier coffee and snacks during the day, then wine to a soundtrack of vinyl records until 2 a.m. It looked like a residential apartment. That’s because it was one. In early March, chef Andres Giraldo Florez opened Upstairs in the second-floor

unit above his popular restaurant, Snail Bar, at 4935 Shattuck Ave. Customers poured in on opening day, posting Instagram selfies while sitting among mismatched pillows on couches and dancing with glasses of wine as the sun set. Five days later, city officials abruptly shut it down, citing a lack of permits. For weeks leading up to the closure, Florez, city staff

“We were just trying to open and then fix things as we go.” Andres Giraldo Florez, chef and owner

and neighbors had been clashing over the unusual proposal to turn a residential apartment into a bar.

City staff wrangled with complications such as an ice machine in a bedroom closet and a “problematic” bathtub, according to emails the Chronicle obtained under the Public Records Act. Depending on who you asked, the challenges of Upstairs represented another example of city bureaucracy hampering a small business — or an owner with a history of

Bar continues on A9

ICE fears dampen turnout at events

Activities for Latinos canceled, postponed after immigration raids

By Sarah Ravani

A field trip for farmworkers to Alcatraz. A rodeo in Wine Country. Fourth of July events in Southern California. Over the past few months, organizers of events throughout the Bay Area and state have been canceling or postponing activities for Latino residents due to increased fears that federal immigration agents could target them. The cancellations come as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has ramped up detainments of immigrants nationwide amid the Trump administration’s promise to reach arrest quotas of 3,000 people per day. ICE has begun targeting immigrants who have been vetted and given a legal status to stay in the country, versus focusing on only those with criminal histories. To reach the administration’s arrest quota, ICE has begun targeting workplaces, Home Depot parking lots and events. Last month, federal immigration agents showed up to a Dodgers game in Los Angeles and tried to gain entry to the parking lots, but they were denied. Rumors of ICE sightings and pending raids have spread wildly among immigrant communities, resulting in many staying away from public

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Trump tax bill to have impact on California

By Jessica Roy

Congress passed its version of the massive Republican tax cut and spending bill, just ahead of President Donald Trump’s July 4 deadline. Trump signed the legislation Friday. The bill passed 218-214 in the House on Thursday, with Republican Reps. Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania voting no, along with all 212 Democrats. An analysis from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found that the bill would add at least \$3.3 trillion to the federal debt over the next decade. And a CBO analysis of the House version estimated that the wealthiest American households would see a \$12,000 increase in income from the legislation and that the bill would cost the poorest people \$1,600 a year, mainly due to reductions in Medicaid and food assistance. There will be many effects felt by Americans at an individual level, including some provisions especially impactful for California and Bay Area homeowners. Here’s what you need to know about the con-

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Haight landmark seeks transformation

Preservation group needs financier for former crash pad of Dead, Joplin

By Sam Whiting

Seven years after it inherited the historic Doolan-Larson Building that was central to the Haight-Ashbury counterculture scene in the 1960s, San Francisco Heritage has finally figured out what to do with the three-story cornerstone: turn it over to someone else. On Aug. 1, the preservationist nonprofit that owns the Haight Street building will take the first step toward leasing it out or forming some other partnership arrangement to create a

“public-serving cultural facility,” according to a website launched for this project. Called a “request for concept proposals,” this phase will invite ideas for how best to use all or portions of the 7,500-square-foot property, which consists of six ground-level storefronts with two floors above. “At this point we want someone who can preserve the building while offering dynamic programming, and being a model of good governance,” said co-project

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Yalonda M. James/S.F. Chronicle

The nonprofit that owns the historic Doolan-Larson Building, the famed 1960s hippie hot spot at the corner of Haight and Ashbury streets in S.F., soon will seek proposals to turn it into a “public-serving cultural facility.”