

**WARRIORS
BEAT JAZZ**
Golden State to play Tuesday
in Sacramento as 10th seed.
SPORTING GREEN, B1



**NIGHT MARKET
OFFERS BOOST**
Crowds at Chinatown event are fueling
area's post-pandemic comeback.
BAY AREA & BUSINESS, A5



**HER OWN
SUCCESS**
Documentarian Eleanor
Coppola dies at 87.
DATEBOOK, B9

San Francisco Chronicle

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Photos by Jessica Christian/The Chronicle
Hoover Elementary Principal Lissette Averhoff, center, leads a group during the first session of Families In Action's Lit for Literacy, a course for parents on how to read their children's test scores and report cards.

Reading the room

Oakland school enlists parents to address low literacy scores

By Jill Tucker

In the black-and-white world of standardized tests, Hoover Elementary, located a few blocks from a freeway entrance in West Oakland, is failing its 300 students.

Just 15% of them read at grade level, according to the most recent scores, including just 9% of those in the third grade. The principal and teachers are under immense pressure to bring those numbers up as students sit for the annual round of testing this month.

In real life, Hoover isn't black and white. There is laughter, bright student art tacked up across the campus, a fully stocked library with diverse books, murals, freshly painted
Literacy continues on A7



Gregory Nash greets students while encouraging parents to sign up for Lit for Literacy. Nash's grandson attends Hoover Elementary.

'Magic number' for retirement increases

Americans' "magic number" for retirement savings is at an all-time high — \$1.46 million to retire comfortably, according to responses from Northwestern Mutual's 2024 Planning & Progress Study.

Headlines on the new study caused "magic number" to trend on Google, but the rising figure may reveal more about "retire-

KELLIE HWANG
HELLA EXPENSIVE

ment anxiety than retirement planning," according to an economist quoted by the Wall Street Journal.

So what about here in California — where, as we have reported, the typical advice on retirement savings may not apply? If

this study is any indication, concern about the cost of retirement is certainly no better here — but it may not be dramatically worse, either.

California adults surveyed in the study named a slightly higher "magic" number, believing they will need \$1.47 million to retire comfortably. But that may seem a smaller than expected difference

given the state's notoriously high cost of living.

Northwestern Mutual calculated the California-specific figure for the Chronicle by analyzing the 400 survey responses it received from state residents and weighting it with data from the Harris Poll to bring it in line with actual proportions in the California population. The
Hwang continues on A8

Accusers speak out after state halts probe

Women say their fight isn't over in assault claims against former mayor

By Cynthia Dizikes

Two weeks after state prosecutors suspended their criminal investigation into former Windsor Mayor Dominic Foppoli, four of the more than a dozen women who have accused him of sexual assault stood together outside the Sonoma County Superior Courthouse in Santa Rosa, saying their fight for justice is not over.

"I went through some of the darkest times in my life when this happened," Farrah Abraham, who accused Foppoli of assaulting her in Florida in 2021, told a crowd of several dozen supporters. "If nothing is done, a rapist will repeat their behavior."

The Saturday news conference marked the first time that Foppoli's accusers have appeared together publicly since first speaking out in several Chronicle investigations, a 2021 series that led to the criminal investigation and Foppoli's ultimate resignation from Windsor's top post. In the wake of the Chronicle reports, nine of the women filed three separate lawsuits in Sonoma County, which are all ongoing.

The California Attorney General's Office said it was not moving forward with charges against Foppoli on March 28, nearly three years to the day since law enforcement first began investigating the allegations, which include rape, groping and other acts of sexual violence.

A spokesperson for the state agency said that it
Foppoli continues on A9

Arrest of beloved gardener with no home irks many

By Kevin Fagan

It was a pretty garden alongside a gurgling creek, with purple and red flowers waving out of heart-shaped planters molded from rocks. Pathways of in-laid stones crisscrossed the leafy bank, and a bald eagle made from a mosaic of rocks pounded into the dirt guarded the entrance.

Jorge Orozco built the 200-foot-long garden in the sleepy suburb of Pleasant Hill with donated tools he kept alongside the makeshift shack he slept in at the edge of the garden. Anyone walking by Orozco's one-man camp along Grayson Creek received a cheery hello, and in spare moments he swept trash from an adjacent park and nearby businesses.

Orozco, 35, was beloved. His garden at Grayson Creek was beloved. The calm he brought as his sunny presence chased out the disruptive unhoused crowd that was there before was beloved.

But that all ended recently. Crews hired by Contra Costa County pulled up at 6 a.m., and in three hours they destroyed the garden, leaving only overturned dirt and stones. Orozco's shelter under the Gold Club Road bridge was dismantled the day before by a separate crew, and by the fol-
Garden continues on A8

Giants, first coach/mother 'all trying to figure this out'

By Susan Slusser

As a new mother, Alyssa Nakken is navigating an unprecedented situation in Major League Baseball history. And everyone around her with the San Francisco Giants is, too, really. No MLB coach has ever been on maternity leave before, nor has a big-league coach had to figure out how to work feeding times around batting practice.

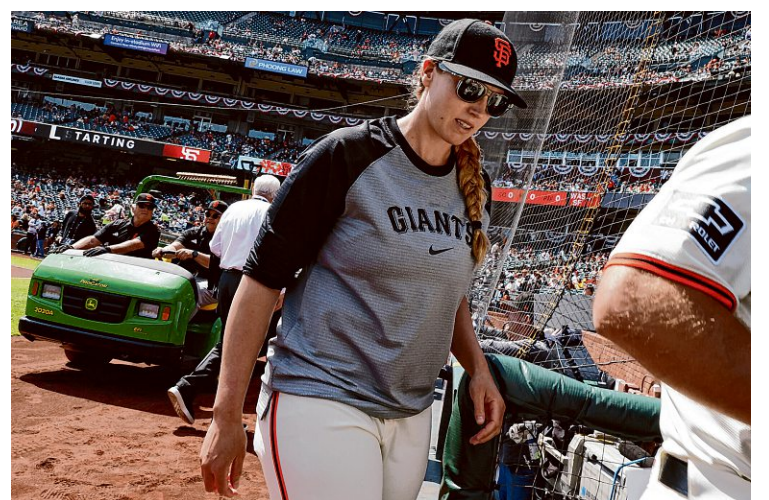
But Nakken, a holdover on

the coaching staff of new manager Bob Melvin, and all of her co-workers are figuring out this big-league first together.

Nakken is known for bringing positive energy and athleticism to her role on the Giants' coaching staff, helping the Giants' outfielders and baserunners. It turns out that she also brought those things to pregnancy and childbirth during the offseason since sharing the news publicly in August, and subsequently explaining how

she and the organization were handling a development already familiar to just about every other workplace but a big-league clubhouse.

On Jan. 21, Nakken delivered daughter Austyn after 30 hours of labor, which sounds less than ideal, but she said, "Looking back, I had a great time!" She was particularly pleased when told it was time to really get going, shrugging aside the pain like a pro. "I loved the pushing
Nakken continues on A7



Santiago Mejia/The Chronicle
Giants coach Alyssa Nakken, who gave birth earlier this year, is back at her usual post at Oracle Park, helping players on the field before games and providing support during the games.