**San Francisco Chronicle**

**ADJUSTING APPROACH?**
Killed: Shuhanan, gun need to be more adaptable

**SPORTING GREEN,** A1

**S.F. SUPERVISOR SEeks ANSWERS**
City College Board of Trustees is asked to explain inflating and sanctions.

**BAY AREA & BUSINESS,** A3

**RAMBLIN’ RESPECT**
Sharon Ely, tribute honors folk music icon Jack Elliott.

**DAtEBooK, B7**

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**Winter skies alight with blazes of color**

By Jack Lee

Bay Area residents have witnessed stunning skies this month, with the sunsets ablaze in vibrant streaks of red and orange. This time of year brings clouds catching light, “amazing sunset,” said photographer Jeff Lewis of landscape-dont during California’s December rain in Daly City.

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**San Mateo County approves homeless plan**

By Jordan Parker

San Mateo County approved a controversial proposal to spend $146 million over the next three years on a “sensory housing” model that aims to “encourage” homeless residents to attend illegal encampments to acquire belongings to be charged with a misdemeanor.

The county Board of Supervisors unanimously passed the "Hopeful Homelessness" ordinance, which would allow authorities to charge people living in encampments on public property with a misdemeanor after a person is given two written warnings and if a person fears their belongings will be removed. Officials said that individuals who accept shelter will have their belongings returned to them for 90 days and a bed would be held for them for 12 hours. Supervisors hope that enforcement of the ordinance will be “a rare and final step” taken after outreach teams engage with encampment residents to get them to voluntarily comply, the county said.

By Megan Fan Munce

What really makes for an amazing sunset, according to landscape photographer Jeff Lewis of landscape-dont during California’s December rain in Daly City.

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**Berkeley students earn high share of A’s**

Inflation attributed to grade policies, higher GPAs for incoming freshmen

By Nami Sumida

Nearly two-thirds of all grades given to undergraduates at UC Berkeley were A’s or A-minuses in 2022, representing a significant increase from a decade ago.

Data published by UC Berkeley shows that while grade inflation accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is a prolonged trend, with average grades at Berkeley inching higher each year over the past decade.

About 64% of grades given to undergraduates were A’s or A-minuses in 2022 (which includes the spring and fall semesters). While the share of A’s is lower than its pandemic peak of 70% in 2020, it’s up 13 percentage points from 10 years ago.

The pandemic-induced surge in A’s is primarily a result of changes in the school’s grading policies during this period, according to UC Berkeley’s O’Reilly, vice president for undergraduate education and a mechanical engineering professor at Berkeley. Students could opt for a pass/fail grading system instead of receiving letter grades in most classes, and they were able to make that choice at any point during the semester.

The trend that students failing classes could opt into the pass/no-pass grading system midway through the course. It also allowed students...

By Shira Stein

WASHINGTON — Laphonza Butler will serve just 13 months in office, but she is defying expectations that she would simply keep California’s Senate seat warm.

Butler, a Democrat appointed to the Senate by Gov. Gavin Newsom in October to replace Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who retired after more than a decade in office, has largely been a low-key figure in the U.S. Senate. She has not been a part of the infighting and sanctions that has defined the 117th Congress.

Butler has been a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Budget Committee. She has been a strong advocate for social justice issues, particularly for women and people of color.

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**Community members unite in grief one year after Half Moon Bay tragedy**

Jennifer Portillo, left, and Tió Alvarez listen to musician Sandy Li close the Corazón del Campesino memorial Tuesday.

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**San Francisco Chronicle**

**COMMENTS**

**WEATHER:** Low clouds, then sun.

**HIGH:** 54-64° Low: 45-53°

**Adrian Feliciano Special to the Chronicle**

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**MORE INSIDE**

Families shaken by mass shootings seek help.

Marin and Mandarin speakers share messages of hope and resilience but no translation was needed in the quiet moments, where each other’s languages fill the souls.

With the Asian community, the only small detail was the language, but it wasn’t a barri-

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**DATEBOOK, B7**

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