

# San Francisco Chronicle

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CONTAINS RECYCLED PAPER

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## Storms part of historic record

State has endured periodic deluges, but Great Flood of 1862 ranks at top

By Jack Lee, Sriharsha Devulapalli and Janie Haseman

A tropical jet stream ferrying intense Pacific moisture has been ushering in a historic se-

ries of storms to California. Since Dec. 26, seven atmospheric river storms have dumped on the state, bringing with them gale-force winds that leveled homes in places like the Santa Cruz Mountains.

At least 19 people have died in California, including a 2-year-old in Sonoma County. Two more storms are forecast to pour rain in the coming days, bringing fresh risks to regions already battered by recent weather.

“California is soaked and even an inch more of rain can bring catastrophic impacts like flooding and mudslides,” Gov.

**Inside:** Soggy Bay Area endures another wet weekend. **A2**

**Online:** More graphic and data analysis. [bit.ly/HistoricStorms](https://bit.ly/HistoricStorms)

Gavin Newsom said at a news conference in Capitola last week.

Rainfall on New Year's Eve in **Historic continues on A12**

## S.F. balks at permits to carry concealed firearms

Ruling will force city to change approach

By St. John BARNED-SMITH

The first time private investigator Andrew Solow applied for a permit to carry a concealed gun in public, some 30 years ago, he thought he had a strong case: He'd been attacked by gang members with baseball bats not far from his home in the Mission District, and only survived, he said, thanks to two cans of pepper spray.

But his application was denied. A few years later, he tried again, with the same result.

His experience is hardly unique. For decades, San Francisco has routinely turned away applications for concealed-carry weapon permits, known as CCWs, by citing a requirement that residents show “good cause” to need a gun for self-defense. And in San Francisco, where the last gun store closed in 2015, no cause has been judged good enough.

Now the city must change its approach, much to the distress of gun control advocates, after a U.S. Supreme Court decision in June that found good-cause requirements violate the Second Amendment. Places with

**Guns continues on A8**



Victoria Christian, the photographer's mother, calls her landlord as she pets her dog, Sheba, in her flooded bedroom in Sunol.

# SEEING DISASTER THROUGH NEW LENS

Chronicle photographer spent years covering catastrophes — then storms hit her hometown

Story and photos by Jessica Christian

Sunol, a tiny, unincorporated town of about 800 people in the East Bay, is the place my family has called home for four generations.

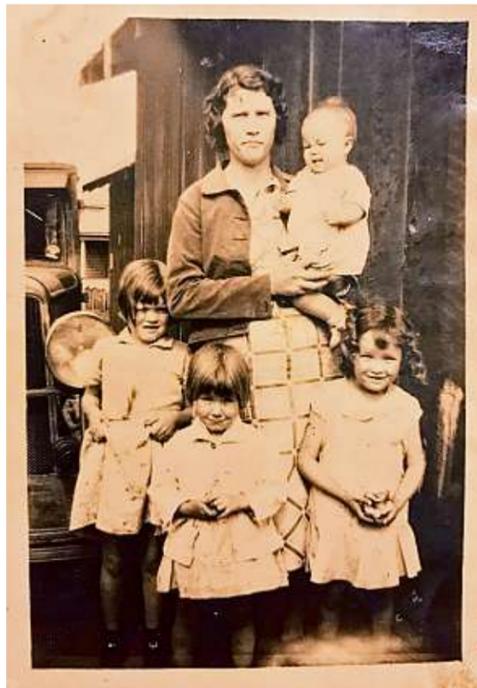
My grandparents owned a cabin on Kilkare Road along Sinbad Creek for almost 60 years, where they raised my mom and uncle. I spent many summers playing in the creek, chasing king snakes as they slithered through the water underneath slippery rocks and catching tarantulas during their fall mating season. My mom now lives with my stepdad and grandpa in a quaint house near the railroad tracks parallel to another stream, the Arroyo de la Laguna.

The town hasn't changed much over the years, but that's a good thing. It remains a strong constant for me, a comforting old friend that I've always counted on to be there just the way it's always been.

For decades, Sunol has been a secret valley of natural beauty seemingly untouched and unknown by the rest of the Bay Area. Its unincorporated, secluded status is what attracts those who have built lives there, but it also means it gets overlooked. Though it is part of Alameda County, it doesn't have its own police department, fire department or local government organization to provide resources to those who need it in times of emergency. Sunolians know that if they need things to get done, they're going to have to count on their neighbors for help.

On New Year's Eve, Sunol was blindsided by the devastating effects of the atmospheric river that drenched the entire Bay Area.

**Sunol continues on A14**



Provided by Victoria Christian 1941

Jessica Christian's great-grandmother Sylvia Davis holds her daughter Sandy while surrounded by her other daughters, Norma (left), Joyce (Christian's grandmother) and Wanda, outside their home in Sunol in 1941.

## Year later, a fentanyl tragedy grinds on

Dealers clustered at Seventh and Mission streets, openly selling drugs. At their feet, people smoked fentanyl off tinfoil while others nodded off. Tents dotted the sidewalks. Piles of food scraps, trash and feces

**HEATHER KNIGHT**  
ON SAN FRANCISCO

filled the gutter. Pedestrians, including a woman pushing a baby in a stroller, nearly swerved into traffic on Seventh Street to get past.

Laurie Steves, 57, stood amid the commerce and the chaos, waiting.

Her daughter, 35-year-old Jessica Didia, whose addiction to opioids has shattered her life, lives at the corner in a large gray Coleman tent placed under the awning of the shuttered Good Hotel. The hotel's website still brags that its location “brings the best of the city to your doorstep,” but if that was ever the case, it sure isn't now.

Laurie, a nursing home cook outside Seattle, had

**Knight continues on A10**

Bay Area & Business .....E1 | Insight.....J1 | Obituaries .....F1 | WEATHER: A bit of afternoon rain. Highs: 53-56. Lows: 44-50. **A16**

Food + Wine .....H1 | Jobs .....J4 | Sporting Green.....B1



### Free Appraisal Event

Wednesday, January 18, 2023  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Our specialists will give you verbal auction estimates on your Asian Art, Fine Art, Jewelry, Decorative Art, Furniture, Coins and much more. This is a complimentary service with consideration for consigning. Limit of five items per person please.

To learn more about this event, please call (510) 227-2530 or email: [tammie@michaans.com](mailto:tammie@michaans.com).

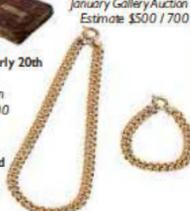
All lots were consigned at an Appraisal Event!

Group of Five Assorted Folding Fans, Including Chinese Export Fans. Sold for \$1,353



Three Police Mug Books, Early 20th Century California. January Gallery Auction Estimate \$3,000 / 15,000

MARC CHAGALL (French/Russian, 1887-1985) "Le Jeu des Acrobates." January Gallery Auction Estimate \$500 / 700



14k Yellow Gold Jewelry Suite. Sold for \$2,460

Chinese Famille Verte Porcelain Brush Holder. January Gallery Auction Estimate \$400 / 600

### IMPORTANT PROPERTY DEADLINE DATES

February Gallery Auction | Jan. 20th  
March Gallery Auction | Feb. 24th

IMPORTANT AUCTION DATES  
January Gallery Auction | Jan. 20th  
February Gallery Auction | Feb. 10th

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# Home Guide

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE AND SFCHRONICLE.COM | Sunday, January 15, 2023

GETAWAY

## Enjoy island living at Montage Cay's Hibiscus Residence

By Jordan Guinn

CENTRAL VALLEY NEWS-SENTINEL

The crystal waters of the Sea of Abaco shimmer beyond the back door of the Hibiscus Residence at Montage Cay in the Caribbean.

Set within a private island resort community, the \$16 million seaside residence boasts five bedrooms, five-and-a-half bathrooms and more than 2,100 square feet of exterior covered space. The 6,619-square-foot interior offers a refined material palette and open floor plan.

Robert C. Glazier and Gensler Architects conceptualized the spacious residence, which includes a pair of primary suites, each with spa bathrooms and garden showers.

A 14-foot vaulted ceiling shelters the great room, a voluminous, welcoming space with floor-to-ceiling glass walls overlooking the sparkling sea. SKS Landscape Architects designed the exterior spaces that includes an infinity pool, sprawling patio, native plantings and an outdoor kitchen.

Montage Cay, spread across 53 acres, is a private island resort and residential community in the Bahamas. A mile from the coast of Marsh Harbour, the luxury community will include 50



MONTAGE CAY

The Hibiscus Estate Residence is a luxurious beachfront home built by Robert C. Glazier and Gensler Architects, and designed by DesignAgency.

*Hibiscus continues on L2*



# GETAWAY

## Details

**Address:** Hibiscus Estate Residence, Residences at Montage Cay.

**Price:** \$16 million.

**Features:** Five-bedroom, five-and-a-half-bathroom waterfront villa boasting more than 6,600 square feet of interior living space and more than 2,100 square feet of covered outdoor living areas. There are a pair of primary suites, each offering a spa-caliber bathroom and garden showers. There's an infinity pool, as well as a lounge area for entertaining and relaxing.

*From page L1*

all-suite accommodations, as well as a 46-slip marina. The deep-water marina will be able to accommodate vessels of up to 110 feet in length. The scenic setting allows residents incredible access to world-class fishing, boating and aquatic sports.

The Hibiscus Residence enjoys a stylish chef's kitchen, complete with a Wolf range and Sub-Zero refrigerator. A stone-topped island anchors the kitchen, which segues into a living area with a fireplace and retractable glass walls opening to a covered patio.

All five bedrooms enjoy en suite bathrooms, and the home boasts a total of more than 8,500 square feet of living space. Each bedroom also features access to outdoor spaces. The nature-inspired design enables it to blend seamlessly with the island's surroundings.

The resort will host a Montage hotel with all the luxury amenities, services and upscale cuisine expected from Montage. There will also be the signature Spa Montage and turnkey and fully furnished residences.

Like other residences at Montage Cay, the Hibiscus residence is fully serviced and managed by Montage International. As a



PHOTOS BY MONTAGE CAY

**Above:** The luxurious beachfront home boasts an open floor plan sheltered by a 14-foot ceiling. **Below:** The primary bedroom suite features sliding glass doors that open to a covered deck.

bonus, purchasing in the Bahamas comes with many tax advantages as there is no income tax, capital gains taxes or inheritance taxes. Buyers investing more than \$750,000 U.S. in Bahamas real estate are eligible to apply for permanent residency.

Sterling Global Financial serves as the developer for the community, while Montage International acts as operator. Montage Hotels & Resorts are famous for personalized service, inviting accommodations and residences, award-winning cuisine, stylish destinations, world-class spas and an elegant, welcoming ambiance.

The resort is remote, yet readily accessible. It's found less than a mile from the shore of Marsh Harbour, roughly halfway down the 120-mile-long Abaco chain of islands. About 170 miles east of Florida's Palm Beach, Montage Cay is near the second-largest airport in the Bahamas, allowing residents and guests to easily reach the area from both Europe and America.

Learn more at [www.montagecayresidences.com](http://www.montagecayresidences.com).

**Contact:** Montage Cay Residences, 800-780-0405, [inquiry@montageresidences.com](mailto:inquiry@montageresidences.com).

