

A solar spectacle

Whether it's your 17th total solar eclipse, like Bill Kramer, or just your first, we've got ways to watch in the Bay Area. A10

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Leah Mills / The Chronicle

State monuments' protection at risk

5 sites in Trump review await decision on status from interior secretary

By Carolyn Lochhead

WASHINGTON — From the revered giant sequoias of the southern Sierra to the unbroken vistas of the Mojave Desert's historic Route 66, five national monuments in California await a verdict by Thursday from President Trump's interior secretary on whether they should be left alone, shrunk or eliminated altogether.

Visitors hit the water at Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in Yolo County. The California monuments have been swept up in an unprecedented review — ordered by Trump in April — to determine whether their protected status inhibits potential commercial use. They are among more than two dozen monuments nationally being scrutinized by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

Across the U.S., there are 129 national monuments designated by presidents dating to Theodore Roosevelt under the 1906 Antiquities

Interior continues on A17

California monuments under review



Foster care shelter slow to improve conditions

Kids' supervision lacking despite promise of reforms

By Karen de Sá, Cynthia Dizikes and Joaquin Palomino

Questionable arrests and poor supervision of traumatized children have continued at a foster care shelter in San Joaquin County, months after county leaders pledged new training and policies would fix conditions that led to hundreds of youth being booked at the local juvenile hall for minor misbehavior. In June, state officials found mental health services lacking for a boy who attempted to hang himself twice in one week at the Mary Graham Children's Shelter outside Stockton. The incident led to two state citations, including a rebuke reserved for only the most serious health and safety violations.

And while there have been far fewer arrests at Mary Graham in 2017 than in previous years,

Foster continues on A18

CHRONICLE INVESTIGATION FOLLOW-UP

District 6 new 'testing ground' for S.F. politics

By Rachel Swan

Take a walk east from the gold-plated cupola of San Francisco City Hall and the landscape transforms into the Tenderloin, a patchwork of residential hotels, small delis and social service clinics that cater to the poor. It winds into the city's main tourist corridor, and, farther along, a glossy cluster of condominium towers where upper-story penthouses cost millions. These symbols of extreme poverty and prosperity are wedged together in District Six, which serves both as a portal for visitors and a cauldron where San Francisco's most pressing political issues simmer.

For 20 years, District Six voters have reliably concluded that the solutions to those issues

District continues on A18

Kerr kicks back during offseason as he readies to defend NBA title

DEL MAR, San Diego County — Every summer for the past three years, Steve Kerr has left part of his heart in the Bay Area and come down here to the place he and wife, Margot, call home. The Golden State Warriors' head man loves Northern California, but he is a son of the sun, a beach boy at heart.

Kerr is a serious coach — he has a pile of busted clipboards to prove it. But he's also the guy who can laugh in the heat of battle, who will put a friendly hand on the shoulder of a ref, who demands that his players have fun. His personal vibe is in tune with San Diego, where people are serious about kicking back.

Kerr strolls into a restaurant that is a stone's

Ostler continues on A16



Carlos Avila Gonzalez / The Chronicle

Coach Steve Kerr draws up a play during an April game against the Timberwolves.

INSIDE

Travel

Make a trip to SFO an adventure in itself. **F1**

Insight: Special Report

How can we dig out of state's housing hole? **E1**

Datebook

Country music is booming in Bay Area.



GUIDEBOOK

SUITE SPOT



Las Alcobas photos

LAS ALCOBAS, ST. HELENA

Although St. Helena's new Las Alcobas hotel reflects the best of Napa Valley — pastoral mountain and vineyard views, locally inspired dining, and chic contemporary-rustic design — hotelier Samuel Leizorek also added something of his native Mexico to the mix: *sobremesa*. "It's the feeling that you have when you're sharing the table with dear friends and family, and you start having this conversation that goes and goes, and before you know it, you're in the following meal. And this feeling creates a cherished memory that will bring you back."

Setting: On a hill at the northern end of St. Helena's Main Street (Highway 29), Las Alcobas overlooks Beringer Vineyards' grapevines and leafy estate, with numerous wineries within a mile's walk or drive. The Culinary Institute of America at Greystone lies a half-mile north, downtown St. Helena a half-mile south.

The appeal: Adults-only oasis for oenophiles, gourmets and all-purpose luxuriators. Chef Chris Cosentino's Acacia House restaurant and bar, in the restored 1907 farmhouse, has quickly become a destination for local vintners as well as guests. But lounging in the large, neutral-toned rooms is also a delight: Most have wide decks with sofas and fire pits, and some even have outdoor soaking tubs, in addition to the indoor roomy rain forest showers with separate tubs. Atrio spa provides a soothing enclave for treatments with custom-blended essential oils.



Insider's tips: At Acacia House, don't miss two tasty homages to Las Alcobas' Mexico City roots: a delicious margarita topped with salty foam or — at the complimentary, made-to-order breakfast — savory chilaquiles.

Good to know: Children 16 or younger are not permitted. The vineyard-view pool is heated, but there's no hot tub. Six rooms are above Acacia House restaurant, closer to Main Street. Las Alcobas is part of Starwood's Luxury Collection; rates drop in late November.

Details: 1915 Main St., St. Helena. (707) 963-7000, www.lasalcobasnapavalley.com. From \$599 garden view without balcony, \$713 garden view with balcony and \$912 vineyard view with balcony, including 14.06 percent occupancy tax.

— Jeanne Cooper

ESSENTIALS

Wheeled duffels

Hard-shell suitcases may be optimal for protecting your gear, but just try taking one along on a safari or other adventure where the outfitter requires soft-sided bags. And while duffels are incredibly convenient, they're not always easy to haul around. These wheeled duffels are good solutions.

— Jill K. Robinson

Eagle Creek No Matter What Rolling Duffel

What we liked: The bag is constructed with abrasion-resistant, water-repellent Bi-Tech fabric, with protective storm flap shields to keep your gear dry when you're out in the elements. When not using, roll and stash the duffel (wheels and all) in its stuff pouch.

Not so much: Bright colors are more likely to show scuff marks, so if you like to keep your bags pretty, keep that in mind.

Vitals: Eagle Creek No Matter What Rolling Duffel (29-inch version), \$140 from www.eaglecreek.com.



High Sierra Ultimate Access Wheeled Duffel

What we liked: Carrying duffels for long distances or while taking public transportation can be tedious. This bag includes backpack straps as an additional way to carry it.

Not so much: While the added backpack straps (stored behind bottom panel) can help, the harder bottom makes it uncomfortable to carry the bag this way for long.

Vitals: High Sierra Ultimate Access Wheeled Duffel (30-inch version), \$120 from www.highsierra.com.



The North Face Rolling Thunder

What we liked: With Bomber Base Camp material (1000D polyester with TPE lamination) and plastic bumpers on wear points, this duffel is durable enough to drag along on your more extreme adventures. External compartment to stash dirty shoes and keep them well away from your clean clothes.

Not so much: This bag is extremely durable, but it also comes with a higher price tag and a little more weight than similar bags.

Vitals: The North Face Rolling Thunder (30-inch version), \$289 from www.thenorthface.com.

