

## SFFD RESCUES INDIVIDUAL NEAR PACIFIC OCEAN

By Kayla Blevins

SAN FRANCISCO—On October 21, at 1:30 a.m. the San Francisco Fire Department safely conducted a “surf and cliff rescue” after an individual got trapped in a boat in the Pacific Ocean near Battery Crosby near the Presidio. Lt. John Baxter of the San Francisco’s Fire Department’s Community Affairs and Media Relations Department, recorded a video that was a little over a minute long. In the video, a man in a large red canoe

is seen paddling close to the sea cliffs.

Officials received a call from 911 about an individual rescuing assistance. There was a misunderstanding as to the number of people in trouble. According to Lt. Baxter, the SFFD thought they had to rescue five people – one person trapped in the canoe and four people missing. There was only one person trapped inside the canoe.

First responders used technology

known as Flare Technology during the rescue mission. According to FireRescue1’s website, which is a website that provides firefighters with information and resources that they need to perform well at their jobs, Power Flares were invented by a police officer. The flares look a lot like a hockey puck, and they are used by police, firefighters, EMTs, and all rescue respond teams. According to the website, Power Flares use LED

lights to provide “10-mile 360-degree visibility.”

Once first responders were able to get to the individual to a boat they had in the water a short distance away and he was evaluated by paramedics, after 5 a.m.

It is not known why the person was in the water near Battery Crosby, a part of the Batteries to Bluffs Trail, which is a part of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.

## CITY ALLOWED TO PARTIALLY OPEN OUTDOOR STADIUMS FOR SPORTS

By Allison Havermale

SAN FRANCISCO—As part of a new phase of reopening, health officials announced on October 20 that San Francisco, Alameda and Santa Clara counties will be allowed to partially open outdoor stadiums for sporting events.

According to new rules in the plan, the decision means that Levi’s Stadium in San Francisco could hold up to 14,000 people out of its 36,500 total available seats.

However, Santa Clara County, home of the San Francisco 49ers, issued a statement in response that denied the new plan, saying

“audiences at professional sporting events will not be allowed anytime soon.”

During a news conference on October 20, Santa Clara county executive Dr. Jeff Smith said:

“This is the worst thing in the world to be doing. At a time when California is beginning to see some light, this amounts to another step backward. WE’ve already done steps backwards in California that have cost tens of thousands of lives and this is another risk to do this.”

Although these venues would be held out-

doors, county officials have pointed out that it still does not guarantee that the virus won’t spread, as fans would still be using shared spaces such as restrooms, entrances/exits, and concessions. Not to mention that fans would be screaming and yelling during the game, which is known to increase transmission.

Following the new announcement, the 49ers released a statement that said they welcomed this news from the state but also said that the team “will continue to collaborate with local public health officials to imple-

ment a plan that ensures a plan that protects the health and wellness of the team, its employees, and the public.”

It still remains unclear if the state will allow college football sporting events to resume, which are still scheduled to resume in January. It is also unknown what types of sporting events will be held following the new allowance. The new phase of reopening in the designated counties is dependent on how they fare with the virus over the next coming weeks and months.

## CHOCOLATE SHOP RELIES ON ONLINE BUSINESS DURING PANDEMIC

By Raven Nichols

SAN FRANCISCO—Owners of the Chocolate Heaven, John Naylor and Terry Friedkin saw a significant decrease in tourism as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and have turned to online business to keep the company afloat.

Chocolate Heaven has been a staple at Pier 39 in San Francisco since 1980. The store works with over 100 vendors, selling well-known European brands, such

as Lindt, and supporting local chocolate businesses. During the pandemic, the couple relied on their daughter, Jennifer Blumenfeld, to redesign the online store for the business.

Blumenfeld decided to offer a subset of the store’s inventory, mostly the best-selling items, with a focus on what local and other American customers might want as opposed to international tourist.

They began shipping throughout the country.

“Jen has that rare combination of quantitative perceptions and artistic talents,” Naylor told The Jewish News of Northern California. “She also a mensch, and retail is all about people. In a way, she’s been training for this for a long time.”

Blumenfeld is now a full partner in the

online aspect of the business and her parents are thinking about an exit strategy.

“There is a saying that one of the worst things you can do is hold on too long and not let the next generation come into their powers,” Naylor said. “I want to support Jen’s growth and strengths, and part of that process is stepping back, maybe stepping forward only when needed.”

## LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER PREVENTS ATTACK ON TOURIST

By Kara McKeon

SAN FRANCISCO—Kevin Chan, co-owner of Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Factory in Chinatown, exercised his second amendment rights outside his shop to prevent a tourist from getting attacked by a local.

On Saturday, October 17, video surveillance released by ABC7 SF News

captured a man yell at a tourist and aggressively pushed him in front of the Cookie Factory’s store. Chan revealed a hidden firearm to deescalate the situation after the altercation got physical.

According to the store owner, the altercation happened at around 3:15 p.m. after he got back from a meeting. In an in-

terview with Bearingarms.com, Chan said that the San Francisco local had told the tourist he was staring at him two blocks over, and that he followed him over to the Chinatown storefront.

Chan indicated he carries a concealed weapon, as a means of protection for his business. Footage from the shop shows

Chan lifted up his shirt to reveal the weapon and the resident walked away. In the interview Chan said, “he was scared and he didn’t want to go any further.”

Authorities were called to the scene, but no reports were filed because the tourist had left the store once they arrived. Chan chose not to press any charges.

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