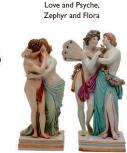
510.227.2530 to schedule. Wednesday, October 22nd; 9 am - 12 pm Wednesday, November 5th; 9 am - 12 pm

November Gallery Auction

Friday, November 14th; 10 am **Preview:** Sunday, November 9th; 10 am - 5 pm Thursday, November 13th; noon - 5 pm Friday, November 14th; 9 am - end of auction

November Annex Auction Monday, November 10th; 9 am Tuesday, November 11th; 9 am Wednesday, November 12th; 9 am







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# San Francisco Chronicle

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S.F. cardiac doctors treating more young people struggling with deadly heart infection caused by injecting narcotics

## Drug crisis' growing risk



Story by Maggie Angst STAFF WRITER

Photos by Gabrielle Lurie STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ustin Draper leaned back against a thin hospital pillow, gazing over at the clear liquid dripping into his "To think that I did something to myself to require all of this is scary," the 35-year-old said in After spending six weeks tethered to an IV line of antibiotics, Austin, who was now sober after years of drug use, was about to leave the hospital — but not without fear of what waited outside. anxious about what's gonna happen," he said. "Am I just gonna go back and start using again? If I did, I'd be

Warning: This story includes images of explicit drug use and discusses addiction.

While relatively rare, cardiac doctors in San Francisco see it again and again: young people hospitalized with a deadly heart infection caused by injecting drugs. And given limited health care resources and the relentlessness of addiction, doctors often have to decide between performing demanding surgeries or refusing to operate, knowing that without care, the person could die from the infection.

Austin, an empathetic young man with a creative spirit who's been lost in a cycle of opioid addiction for more than a decade, knows the condition better than

In the past four years, doctors have diagnosed Austin with the infection, called endocarditis, six Crisis continues on A16



Austin Draper hugs his friend Mary Howe of the Homeless Youth Alliance, who came to visit him in the hospital during a six-week stay.

TOP: After using fentanyl, Austin Draper lies on the bed in his apartment on the edge of San Francisco's SoMa. He has suffered from recurring endocarditis, a heart infection caused by his injections of drugs.

### High-performing schools facing painful cuts

By Sarah Ravani STAFF WRITER

For 50 years, families flooded into the East Bay's Tri-Valley region for spacious homes and good schools. Districts scrambled to build school campuses fast enough to keep up.

Dublin, for example, built eight new schools to meet demand as its school population nearly doubled from 2010 to 2020. The most recent addition is Emerald High School, a \$374 million campus that opened last

school year and boasts eight tennis courts, three basketball courts, a \$30,000 3D printer and 28 Advanced Placement classes.

The amenities and high-quality programs at Emerald aren't unique. Dublin High School is renowned for its engineering

biomedical academies, which prepare students to pursue both fields in college. Parents have brought speakers from Tesla and NASA to talk to kids at Emerald.

> While that programming has Schools continues on A13

### **Benioff** changes course amid uproar

Salesforce CEO retracts support for Guard in S.F.

By Sara Libby, Laura Waxmann and Joe Garofoli STAFF WRITERS

It was supposed to be a good week for Marc Benioff. The Salesforce CEO would be joined by tens of thousands of his software's devotees descending on San Francisco for his beloved Dreamforce conference. There would be performances by popular comedians and a charity concert by Metallica at Chase Center benefiting the children's hospital bearing his name.

But rather than having his place as a great benefactor of the city celebrated, by Friday, the CEO of San Francisco's largest private employer found himself criticized so heavily that he retracted comments he made to the New York Times in support of sending the National Guard to the city.

"Having listened closely to my fellow San Franciscans and our local officials, and after the largest and safest Dreamforce in our history, I do not believe the National Guard is needed to address safety in San Francisco," he wrote on X. "My earlier comment came from an abundance of caution around the event, and I sincerely apologize for the concern it caused."

Benioff did not respond to requests for comment from the Chronicle on Friday.

The reversal came only after Benioff had been deserted by a close friend, upbraided by a parade of local Benioff continues on A15