



Happy Tuesday, Villagers

Please [send along](#) your suggestions for materials to add to the daily tips. We're always looking for good content. And visit our [website](#) for more information about our organization and programs.



**Tuesday:** [GROUP WATCH: FIRESAFE MARIN VIDEO "HOW TO SURVIVE A WILDFIRE". 10-11](#)

**Tuesday:** Ted Talk. TBA

**Wednesday:** [IMPORTANT MEETING FOR SV MEMBERS: FIRE EVACUATION ZONES AND ROUTES. 4-5:15](#)

**Thursday:** [CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM HOSTED BY AGING ACTION INITIATIVE AND LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS. 4-5](#)

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[Fire Safe Marin](#)  
[AlertMarin.org](#)

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**Reminder: Sausalito Village Member Emergency Preparedness Meeting on  
Evacuating during a wildfire scheduled tomorrow at 4 pm.**  
RSVP for Zoom Link or How to Listen by Phone [sausalitovillagersvp@gmail.com](mailto:sausalitovillagersvp@gmail.com) or call  
**415-332-3325**



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**CARSS (Call A Ride for Sausalito  
Seniors) can help you**

**VOTE**

Concerned about mailing your ballot?  
Here are two alternatives:

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- OR Volunteers will pick up your ballot at your door and take it to the Ballot Box in Marin City. For it to be counted on election night, it must be in the Ballot Box 3 days before.

**RESERVE your CARSS ride or ballot pick up at:**  
**415-944-5474 or [infocarss4you@gmail.com](mailto:infocarss4you@gmail.com)**

**More general voting info: [Click Here](#)**

CARSS (Call A Ride for Sausalito Seniors) is a City of Sausalito Age Friendly Program managed by Sausalito Village. This program is free to all residents 60 and older or younger with a disability. [www.carss4you.org](http://www.carss4you.org) [www.sausalitovillage.org](http://www.sausalitovillage.org)

# Praktikos

## Deep Meditation



***Chanting ➤ Singing Bowls ➤ Inner Silence***

**↓ Tonight 7:00 p.m. Sign-in 6:50 to 7:05 ↓**

Richard Pavek is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87116773950?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87116773950?pwd=empld05ubU5vM1NobUllanJON29vZz09&from=msft)

[pwd=empld05ubU5vM1NobUllanJON29vZz09&from=msft](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87116773950?pwd=empld05ubU5vM1NobUllanJON29vZz09&from=msft)

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Meeting ID: 871 1677 3950

Passcode: 101562

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kclLs2xgeK>



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EDITORIAL On the Coronavirus Pandemic's Toll

## Even worse than we thought

Having passed 60,000, eclipsing every other country's losses as well as our casualties in Vietnam, the known count of U.S. coronavirus deaths is high by any measure except, perhaps one: the actual toll. The evidence is mounting that many more Americans have died of coronavirus complications than we know. It's the grimness of many unknowns about the pandemic whose spread could accelerate again as the president and some state and local officials push to resume business as usual.

California's deaths have exceeded projections by 9% this year, according to a Los Angeles Times analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data released last week. That amounts to about 4,500 so-called excess deaths in the state, more than four times the CDC's count of coronavirus deaths and more than twice the total from local reports reflected in The Chronicle's tracker as of last week.

Seven other states with high numbers of infections saw deaths exceed expectations by still more in the early weeks of the pandemic, with 15% to 72% more fatalities than projected in March and early April. Four of the states had at least twice as many un-

expected deaths as were attributed to the coronavirus at the time, suggesting a total of 9,000 uncounted fatalities at that point. Federal statistics also show a recent surge in pneumonia deaths not attributed to COVID-19, though the disease is likely to be a cause of many such cases.

Such questions were at the heart of a recent back-and-forth between the United States and Belgium, of all places, after President Trump displayed a chart showing that a few European countries have suffered more coronavirus deaths per capita than the United States. Even for Europe, Belgium has recorded an extraordinary number of deaths partly because it

counts suspected but unconfirmed coronavirus deaths, particularly at nursing homes.

The additional U.S. deaths may not be entirely or directly attributable to the coronavirus. The pandemic's tendency to overwhelm hospitals and other health care providers — while discouraging people from seeking care for other illnesses — could lead to more deaths from other causes. But while excess deaths are an inexact measure, they are often considered a more accurate gauge of the true toll of a natural disaster, especially in the presence of significant doubt about official reporting.

That is certainly the case here. Santa Clara County officials recently found that the coronavirus was responsible for a San Jose woman's death in early February, weeks before any previously known U.S. fatality from the epidemic. That indicated the contagion was spreading undetected in the Bay Area soon after the year began.

That's not surprising given that California and the country are still struggling to mount the testing capacity that has allowed countries such as South Korea to detect and contain new cases. Given the paucity of testing and prevalence of asymptomatic cases, the gap between known and actual infections is thought to be even greater than the discrepancy in deaths. Preliminary studies have estimated that the number of U.S. infections may be 10 or more times the number reported.

Unlike the uncounted deaths, the unknown infections have encouraging aspects. They mean the virus is less deadly as a proportion of those infected, and they could put the population closer to the level of immunity that can slow a virus' spread.

Unfortunately, even the highest estimates of the extent of the contagion suggest it's significantly more deadly than seasonal flu and that most of us remain vulnerable. We know enough, that is, to proceed cautiously.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Submit your letter at [SFOChronicle.com/letters](mailto:SFOChronicle.com/letters)

## We must act now on plastic pollution

It should be apparent to you that the coronavirus crisis will have many mirrored circumstances to that of an impending problem down the road: pollution.

Our response to COVID-19 should serve as a lesson to act sooner and more responsibly rather than later to avoid the worst consequences. Single-use plastics infiltrate our oceans, water and food.

Marine life ingest often bright colored plastic that they mistake for food, it sits indigestible in their stomachs, piling up, causing them to starve to death. The plastic problem reverberates back to us as fish become too poisoned to eat and as natural fisheries that we rely on become destabilized.

By the year 2050, there will be more plastic than sea life in our oceans. We need to ban this type of unnecessary plastic use by passing SB54 and AB1080.

Bijan Ashiani-Eisemann, Santa Cruz

### Hypocritical decision

California's fight against COVID-19 has been a valiant one. I wholeheartedly support the sacrifices required by shelter in place. However, I ask Gov. Gavin Newsom for consistency in his treatment of outdoor activities, most notably with his recent push to close beaches to surfing.

Shelter-in-place has exemptions related to activity and exercise but why is running, walking or biking any different than surfing? The surfing lineup at Ocean Beach is hardly as dense as the running path on Marina Green in the afternoon.

### Compassion in the Time of Corona

With these slender threads  
Of love  
We touch each other  
With infinite acts  
Of kindness  
The threads are spun  
The threads embrace  
Weaving an exquisite tapestry  
Of caring and compassion  
Protecting us  
With its warmth  
And succor  
Like silk  
The threads are strong  
They endure

Connie Latch, Sausalito



Jack Orman / Sacramento Bee

Furthermore, the argument against surfing because it puts health workers in danger is hypocritical given the allowance of road hiking, which claims more hospitalizations than surfing. I understand the need for sacrifice, and if closing the beaches are necessary to stop people from dying, then I will lay down my board and hang my suit eagerly. However, the hypocrisy in the decision to close this but open that is what leads to frustration.

In this time, we can all benefit from the mental mantra that lingers on the sandbars from Lincoln Way to Sloat Boulevard.

Adam Pellegrini, San Francisco

### Focus on primary goal

Bay Area health officers are adding unnecessary preconditions for stepping back from shelter-in-place orders. Keeping hospitalized coronavirus infections at or below 50% of the hospital capacity is appropriate, but we should stay focused narrowly on this endpoint and do this in the least restrictive and costly way possible.

This can be done by titrating policies

specifically to hospital admission rates and local carrying capacity for COVID-19 care (e.g. dedicated 50% of acute care beds).

Hospitals should be working and acting as a regional whole under mutual support agreements. Early warning indicators like daily case rates and emergency room visits can now be correlated with hospital demand. Arbitrary numbers for testing are not warranted. Increased testing and contact tracing is essential for high-risk populations and caregivers, but achieving our primary goal does not require universal testing and contact tracing in all places.

Rajiv Bhatia, Menlo Park

### An emergency situation

Anyone who has raised or cared for a toddler when told "no" recognizes the behavior of the shelter-at-home protesters about going to the beach. These orders are not an affront to anyone's constitutional rights. They are emergency public health decisions.

Such declared emergencies can, and should, take precedence over short-

term, meaningless desires or personal recreation.

Bruce Kraus, San Francisco

### Pause on payment date

Regarding "S.F. limbo on when property taxes due" (Business, May 1): Why are landlords still forced to pay property taxes if they can't receive any income from their tenants?

The city of San Francisco and the surrounding counties are just greedy if they are attempting to force landlords and homeowners to pay property taxes during this time. Property taxes should be due when the economy reopens and people return to their jobs.

Ben Malin, San Francisco

### Real leadership on guns

Last week, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada announced that effective immediately, the sale of assault-style weapons in that nation will be banned. Unlike our president, Trudeau is putting his money where his mouth is.

Al Comolli, Millbrae



# Compassion in the Time of Corona

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Of love  
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Of kindness  
The threads are spun  
The threads embrace  
Weaving an exquisite tapestry  
Of caring and compassion  
Protecting us  
With its warmth  
And succor  
Like silk  
The threads are strong  
They endure*

***Connie Latch, Sausalito***



"The secret to finding  
the deeper level in the other  
is finding the deeper level in yourself.  
Without finding it in yourself,  
you cannot see it in the other."

—Eckhart Tolle



eckhart  
teachings

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### [This 89-Year-Old Billionaire Finally Achieved His Goal of Going Broke After Years of Secret Donations](#)

A humble man who boasted not of his own achievements, but of those he helped.



### [Struggling to Stay Positive? Experts Say Don't Fight It](#)

You have permission to stop sprinkling sunshine.



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if you answer  
the phone with  
"Hello, you're on the air!"  
most telemarketers  
will quickly hang up...

we are A  
Community

***For information about emergency  
preparedness and COVID resources, visit the  
recently updated Sausalito Village [website](#).***

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