

Holidays on the homefront



ELLIOT KARLAN / FOR THE ARK

Dressed in period garb Nov. 8, Angel Island State Park volunteers re-enact situations that would have prevailed on the holidays at Fort McDowell, also known as the East Garrison, during World War II. From left, Women's Army Corps Private Lisa Spesert shows Heron Lundeen and Azure Frost what soldiers' letters home might have been written like during a free weekend event that included writing letters to active servicemen and women along with making '40s-style Christmas decorations to take home.

Angel Lights benefit, 'adoptions' return to help island conservancy

The nonprofit Angel Island Conservancy will host its ninth annual Angel Lights Countdown Benefit from 6 to 10 p.m. Dec. 4 at San Francisco Presidio Observation Post.

Angel Island supporters have been raising money in recent years by lighting a "tree" on Mount Livermore, the peak of Angel Island, after a tradition that began more than 50 years ago to light a single light.

Tickets for the benefit are \$150 and include a live auction, dancing, beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Dress is elegant cocktail attire.

Light sponsorships start at \$1,000, but lights can be adopted for as little as \$35. Proceeds from the benefit and the light adoptions support the work of the conservancy.

To purchase benefit tickets, adopt a light or to learn more about sponsorships, visit angelisland.org or call 415-435-3972.

Angel Island Conservancy gets \$20,000 grant toward visitor hub

The California State Parks Foundation has awarded Angel Island Conservancy a \$20,000 Park Partnership Grant, given to organizations that work to operate or support the operation of underfunded state parks in California, such as Angel Island.

The funds "will enable the conservancy, in partnership with Angel Island State Park and the foundation, to continue the process of designing and planning a new visitor orientation hub to be located in Ayala Cove," according to the conservancy.

With fundraising underway, the hub project is part of a 20-year master plan to open more of the island's historical, recreational and environmental riches to the public.