

# The Carmel Pine Cone

Volume 106 No. 18

www.carmelpinecone.com

May 1-7, 2020

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## AN ESSENTIAL INDUSTRY COPEs AND COTS GET READY



PHOTOS/MICHAEL TROUTMAN, DMT IMAGING

(Clockwise from top left) Workers grooming fields near Spreckels this morning were able to maintain social distancing, and most seemed to be wearing masks. But the situation was different as broccoli was being picked at another field in the Salinas Valley, with workers standing shoulder to shoulder and some not only failing to wear masks — they didn't seem to have any. If any of them get exposed to the coronavirus, they could end up being housed at a county dorm opening tomorrow at the Monterey Fairgrounds.



## Officials upping effort to keep virus away from ag workers

■ 80 percent of county's cases are in Salinas and Salinas Valley

By KELLY NIX

A COMPLAINT this week about a bus in South Monterey County packed with farmworkers — who were clearly not social distancing — highlights the challenge that officials have in getting the word out about the dangers of coronavirus to those in the produce industry.

Monterey County health officer Ed Moreno told reporters April 24 — after claiming two days earlier he was unable to determine if there was a “peak or trend or spike” of coronavirus in any occupation or demographic — that 25 percent of the people in Monterey County infected with Covid-19 are farmworkers and others in the ag industry. More than 80 percent of the county's 200-plus cases have been in the Salinas Valley.

While industry officials in early March issued safety guidelines to help prevent the spread of Covid-19, county agricultural commissioner Henry Gonzales said Wednesday he's still getting complaints about some of the big ag companies and farmworkers not following the recommendations.

“I received a complaint about a particular company that one of their buses was full of farmworkers, and of course, it was clear they were not able to maintain any social distancing,” Gonzales said of the incident that occurred this week on Highway 101 between Chualar and the City of Gonzales.

### Staying apart on buses

The commissioner said a representative for the grower — which he did not identify — explained that certifying bus drivers is “one of the challenges for the company,” and it requires in part that drivers undergo 20 hours of training, have 20 hours of driving experience and pass an exam.

The company, in response to the incident, vowed to make multiple trips so there will be fewer workers on the bus at the same time, and that it will have “some level of social distancing,” Gonzales said.

See **FARMS** page 20A

## EMERGENCY DORMS READY AT FAIRGROUNDS

■ Places for men, women, families, transgenders — and even pets

By KELLY NIX

IN PREPARATION for what the Monterey County Health Officer says will be a very large number of people infected with the coronavirus, the Monterey County Fairgrounds will be ready Friday to temporarily house homeless people and others diagnosed with the virus who are unable to isolate themselves.

The quarantine facility, which includes partitioned rooms in the fairgrounds' existing buildings for men, women, families and transgender guests, will be able to host 135 people who have tested positive for the virus but aren't sick. It can also be expanded to host 230 people.

“We are doing this on anticipated need,” Monterey County's assistant county administrative officer, Nick Chilous, told a group of journalists at the fairgrounds Monday about the operation. “We hope we won't need it, but we want to be ready in case we do.”

### Staggering number

Health officer Ed Moreno told supervisors April 14 he projected that 33,000 county residents would be infected toward the end of May and nearly 1,000 would require hospitalization at the same time — a staggering number of patients that would exceed the number of beds at the

See **DORMS** page 26A

## Some businesses report success getting SBA help

■ For others, just frustration

By MARY SCHLEY

OVER THE course of less than a month, the Small Business Administration has loaned tens of billions of dollars to help small businesses continue operating, or at least survive, during the coronavirus crisis. But while some local owners reported success in securing funds through the SBA's payroll protection and economic injury disaster loan programs, many others expressed frustration as their applications seemed to go nowhere.

And those who were successful in securing PPP loans predominantly worked with smaller institutions like Monterey County Bank, which is known as an SBA specialist.

### Chamber numbers

Jenny MacMurdo, CEO of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce, polled businesses and got responses from 56 members, 80 percent of whom said they applied for the PPP, while 75 percent applied for the emergency loan or an SBA grant.

MacMurdo said three businesses reported getting payroll loans and three reported receiving economic injury disaster loans, while others said their applications were in limbo, their banks weren't ready, their banks were already out of funds, or they hadn't had any response at all.

Some expressed particular frustration with Wells Fargo, which had trouble accepting PPP applications and then hit its lending limit before many business owners even had a chance to ask for help, according to Pescadero and Barmel owner Gabe Georis.

“I'm definitely not going to bank with Wells Fargo anymore — they have been 100 percent unhelpful through this whole thing,” he said after the first round of nearly \$350 billion in loans for small businesses was exhausted. Last week, the president signed a bill allocating another \$484 billion for small businesses.

### Success stories

When more funding became available this week, though, Georis applied through a smaller bank and received word his loan was approved. “Pacific Valley Bank took me in, and they tell me they got an approval number from the SBA,” he said. “I'll believe it when I get the money, but supposedly in the next two weeks.” Georis still

hasn't heard anything back from the SBA regarding his economic disaster loan, but said Monday he'd been told he would know by the end of the week.

Jonathan Roberts, owner of PigWizard deli near the

See **LOANS** page 20A

## Golf courses lose as shutdown continues

By MARY SCHLEY

WHEN THE county's health officer shut down golf courses as part of his shelter-in-place order, a significant segment of the Peninsula's business ground to a halt. Pebble Beach Co. closed all its courses, including the world-famous Pebble Beach Golf Links, Carmel Valley Ranch shut its hotel and course, Quail Lodge did the same, and numerous others followed suit, including Laguna Seca Golf Ranch and Pacific Grove's municipal course.

The CEO of the company that runs those last two, Mike Sharp of CourseCo., said, “It's been crippling, not just financially, but for our employees, too.”

### ‘Hit us hard’

At the Laguna Seca and P.G. courses, Sharp said, he cut the staffing down to the minimum needed to keep the grounds maintained well enough to avoid large capital costs when they can finally reopen, to keep them secure, and to keep them clean.

“In total, we laid off more than 50 people,” he said, estimating that combined, the courses have lost more than \$500,000 in revenue in the past six weeks.

“And that will increase as we get into longer days and the event season — the higher-revenue periods of time,” he said. “It has hit us hard and has really impacted our employees.”

But Sharp said they'll be ready when the county finally lets them reopen. CourseCo. manages more than three dozen golf courses, including several in California counties that are already allowing golfers to return to the tees and fairways.

See **GOLF** page 25A

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# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Sheltering with Sophie

SOPHIE IS a little Chihuahua-something – likely more Chihuahua than something. Found wandering down an alley in Salinas, she was taken to Animal Friends Rescue Project in Pacific Grove. At best guess, she was about 8 weeks old.

Sophie's person, who admits to a soft spot in her heart for dogs who need homes, has a ritual of popping into AFRP during her daily walk from her Pacific Grove home, just to see who's there. Which is how she ended up with three previous Chihuahuas.

And then she found her fourth.

"I walked in and saw this tiny dog, and that was it," her person said. "I left with her tucked in my arms. One of my Chihuahuas had recently died, so I was thankful to have another beating heart in the house."

Sophie was named Tatiana at first, but her person felt the name was too grand for the little dog. She wanted something smaller, softer, sweeter, like the affectionate animal she'd brought home. She settled on Sophie.

The pair typically make visits to Asilomar Beach, where the tiny dog runs up to every dog and person she sees, as if welcoming them to her personal beach. These days, following Shelter-in-Place orders, they're hanging out at home, where Sophie's person has put her to work.

"I've got Sophie doing all the cooking and cleaning for us, but I had to draw the line at vacuuming,"



her person. "I was afraid that wouldn't end well for such a little dog." And when they chores are all done, they both look forward to our daily walks."

Sophie's person is grateful for the companionship Sophie provides, especially now. She's always with her, tucked in tight, with front paws bent over her person's forearm, looking out from her safe place.



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# Police: The beach is not for sitting

## ■ Woman cited for coming here to enjoy herself

By MARY SCHLEY

CROWDS AT Carmel Beach last weekend — including many people who ignored the rules of social distancing — had police officers warning people they could not sit and congregate.

“With the beautiful weather this past weekend, we clearly saw an increase in people using our beach,” Carmel Police Chief Paul Tomasi said. “Even with our efforts to reduce traffic by closing Del Mar and Scenic, and even half of San Antonio, and all of our signage pleading with people not to gather on the beach, we still had a large number of people show up.”

As a result, he assigned officers to drive one the department’s patrol SUV down on the sand and use its PA system to warn beach goers against social gathering.

“The vehicle was followed by another officer on an ATV who was contacting people to issue citations for non-compliance,” he said. “We were very successful in getting people to comply using this tactic.”

### Vacationer cited

Officers issued a citation to 43-year-old Leah Mamayev, who lives in the Central Valley and was in town with her daughter for a visit. The daughter drove past the “road closed” barricade to the beach parking lot and was warned for doing so, but police cited her mother for violating state and county shelter-in-place orders.

“Our other issue involved motorists parking along Scenic to load, unload, and watch the sunset on Friday night,” Tomasi said. Officers cited some cars and called tow trucks to remove any that were unoccupied, but none were actually towed, as the owners arrived before they were hooked up.

This week, city officials decided to ex-

tend the parking ban on Scenic and in the beach parking lot until the end of May, and officers will continue to ask people to move along as needed when on the beach.

### More serious arrests

The previous Friday night, police arrested two people, one from Monterey and the other from Stanislaus County, for violating the shelter order, along with multiple other charges, including possession of stolen property and burglary tools, drug offenses, and being a felon in possession of ammunition.

At 10:30 p.m. April 17, an officer saw a car driving into town “and noted multiple vehicle code violations,” Tomasi said. “As he approached the vehicle, it immediately pulled into a hotel driveway near San Carlos and Seventh and turned off its lights.”

Not fooled, the officer parked down the road and waited, and after a few minutes, he saw the car’s lights turn back on, and the driver headed toward Rio Road. After being stopped, the driver, 45-year-old Ceres resident Lori Hammonds, lied about who she was — perhaps because she is a convicted felon and was driving on a suspended license — and the officer found she had burglary tools and stolen property in her possession, according to Tomasi, as well as ammunition.

Her passenger, 34-year-old Monterey resident Jeffrey Walker, was found to have an outstanding warrant and was in possession of drugs and paraphernalia, along with stolen items and burglary tools.

Afterward, police sorted through the stolen items found in the couple’s car. “A number of items are believed to be from construction sites and vehicles, as we are aware of several reports in the county area surrounding Carmel,” Tomasi said. By April 27, police had located 11 victims, all outside the city limits.

And on Friday, city administrator Chip

See **ENFORCE** page 27A



**33 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

It’s time to start discussions about how our town can slowly and safely emerge once the Shelter in Place order is removed.

The Carmel Residents Association will be hosting an online program on this subject on May 6th at 2 PM.

### *Reimagining the Village: How do we Emerge?*

Our panelists include Mayor Dave Potter, Councilmember and hotel owner Carrie Theis, restaurant owner Anthony Carnazzo, Carmel Chamber CEO Jenny MacMurdo and CRA Board Member Dale Byrne.

*For more information go to:*

[www.carmelresidents.org/emerge](http://www.carmelresidents.org/emerge)

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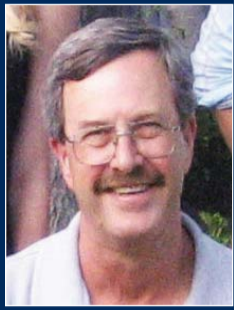
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## Police, Fire & Sheriff's Log

### Scattered mail leads to investigation

HERE'S A look at some of the significant calls logged by the Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office last week. This week's log was compiled by Mary Schley.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 14

**Pacific Grove:** Report of suspicious circumstances on Ocean View Boulevard at 0800 hours.

**Pacific Grove:** Hit-and-run on private property on Forest Avenue. Property damage only.

**Pacific Grove:** A 58-year-old male was arrested on Lighthouse Avenue for being drunk in public and violating his probation.

**Pacific Grove:** Juvenile issue. Unfounded.

**Pacific Grove:** Subject on Pacific Grove Lane was admonished for trespassing.

**Pacific Grove:** Battery on another person on Eardley Avenue at 1610 hours.

**Pacific Grove:** Vandalism on Sinex.

**Pebble Beach:** A home on Del Ciervo Road that is under construction was broken into and construction tools were stolen.

**Carmel area:** Resident on Cabrillo Street, a 25-year-old male was arrested for domestic violence against an 18-year-old female.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Unattended cell phone found in the sand at Carmel Beach and brought to the station for safekeeping.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Officers responded to a domestic disturbance on Carmelo south of 10th. Determined to be a family issue between two brothers. All involved parties were counseled.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Vehicle at Scenic and 13th at 2319 hours evaded an officer on a traffic stop.

**Pacific Grove:** Dispatched to a runaway juvenile from a residence on Prescott at 0002 hours.

**Pacific Grove:** Burglary of a residence under construction on 17 Mile Drive.

**Pacific Grove:** A female was placed on a mental health hold.

**Pacific Grove:** Theft of a bicycle on Pre-

sidio Boulevard.

**Carmel Valley:** A general manager reported a broken glass door at a rental cabin on Schulte Road.

**Carmel Valley:** Theft of tax documents from a mailbox at a Laurel Drive residence.

**Big Sur:** A male entered a store on Highway 1 and took several items without paying for them.

**Carmel Valley:** Child Protective Services referral on East Carmel Valley Road.

**Carmel area:** Deputies helped an elderly male with dementia find his way home.

**Pebble Beach:** Deputies conducted a welfare check at a residence on Sunridge Road.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Multiple items of different individuals' personal mail were found scattered around different areas of the city, including on Junipero north of 10th. Mail was later turned over to the postmaster for their investigation.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea:** An officer observed a loose dog in the area of Santa Rita and Second and contained the dog until the owner could be located. The dog was returned to the owner with a warning.

**Pacific Grove:** Theft from a vehicle on Junipero.

**Pacific Grove:** Female fell on public property on Carmel Avenue.

**Pacific Grove:** Juvenile issue on Grand Avenue.

**Carmel area:** Verbal argument between father and adult son on Corona Road. Involved parties were able to calm the situation prior to our arrival.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**Carmel area:** A disturbance was reported at a business on Carmel Rancho Boulevard.

**Pebble Beach:** Elderly female discovered several pieces of jewelry and other items were missing from her residence on Stevenson Drive.

**Carmel Valley:** Theft from a vehicle on Center Street, and credit card fraud.

See POLICE LOG page 6RE  
in the Real Estate Section



## The gavel falls

Verdicts, pleas and sentencings announced by Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni

**March 3** — Judge Carrie M. Panetta sentenced Juan Ramos Loma, 38, a resident of Salinas, to 16 years in prison for committing child molestation.

In April 2018, Jane Doe reported that Loma molested her both over and under her clothes numerous times when she was between 11 to 14 years old. These offenses occurred when other individuals were asleep in the same room as the victim. Jane Doe attempted to fend off Loma by either pushing his hands away or by making noises to try and wake up the others in the room, but she was not always successful in stopping him. Jane Doe explained that she didn't immediately report the molestation because she was afraid of getting Loma in trouble and because he told her not to tell anyone.

According to research into sexual assault victim behavior, it is very common for victims to delay reporting the sexual abuse, especially when the victim is a minor and has a close relationship with the perpetrator.

On January 16, Loma pled guilty to forcible child molestation of a child under 14 years and continuous sexual abuse of a child under 14 years. Both offenses are violent felonies and are considered "strikes" under California's Three Strikes law. In addition to the prison sentence, Loma will be required to register as a sex offender for

life. A restraining order was granted prohibiting Loma from contacting Jane Doe for a period of 10 years, the maximum term under the law.

**March 6** — Ricardo Najera, 21, was sentenced to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation today for eight years for the following felony crimes: forcible lewd acts with a child under the age of 14, using a minor for purposes of child pornography and contacting a minor for the purpose of performing sex acts.

On October 12, 2018, the South County Major Crimes Unit Investigation Task Force arrested Najera for meeting in person with one of two 13-year-old girls he had previously met on the internet. Subsequently, he met one victim several times at her school and transported her to a motel in the City of Soledad where he performed several sex acts upon the minor victim and recorded those acts with his phone.

The parents of Jane Doe 1 submitted a letter to the sentencing judge, the Honorable Rafael Vazquez, which stated they wanted the defendant punished according to the law because what he did has affected their family in many ways and cannot be repaired.

The defendant was ordered to register as a sex offender for life and prohibited contact with the two victims for a period of ten years.

# Monterey PD makes arrests for attempted murder, car theft

By MARY SCHLEY

CRIME IS down and police calls have been few during the county-wide shutdown to protect against coronavirus — at least until Saturday morning, when Monterey Police arrested one man for breaking into a home and attacking the resident with a shovel, and took another into custody after he barricaded himself inside a stolen car.

According to MPD Chief Dave Hober, at around 3 a.m. April 25, a woman dialed 911 from her home on Via Buena Vista near Del Monte Center after an intruder smashed a glass door with a shovel and then attacked her husband after he yelled at the man to get out. “The victim was able to fight back and repeatedly told the suspect to get out of the house,” he said. “At one point during the attack, the suspect obtained a flower vase and struck the victim in the head with it.”

Officers arrived a few minutes later to hear the husband yelling for help and rushed in to find him bleeding and struggling with the suspect, 34-year-old Salinas resident Jose Cruz Rivas, on the floor.

When they tried to get hold of Rivas, he fought back and bit one of them, according to Hober, but they overpowered him and managed to handcuff him.

While investigating, officers determined Rivas was the same man who was reported prowling outside another residence, this one on Soledad Drive, about a half-hour before the attack. In that incident, a woman saw him looking through the front windows of her house, and he “made a throat-slashing gesture with his hands and fled the area,” Hober said. Police had been at her home to investigate when the 911 call from Buena Vista came in.

The resident who was attacked was treated at the hospital for injuries and released, while Rivas was also treated and

then taken to Monterey County Jail on charges of attempted murder, burglary, battery on a peace officer, criminal threats and attempted burglary, with bail set at \$1 million, based on his “violent and unprovoked attack on one victim and threats to another.”

Hober later said he was impressed with the resident for the fight he put up against the intruder, and MPD Lt. Ethan Andrews said this week investigators are still trying to determine a motive for the home invasion and potentially fatal attack. They are also awaiting the results of drug tests.

### Not his SUV

Six hours later, officers patrolling the area of Wharf 2 recognized an SUV that had been stolen in Pebble Beach the day before and ordered the man inside, 37-year-old Jason Robbins of Fresno, to get out, according to Andrews.

But he refused, covering the windows with cardboard and foam. Officers blocked the SUV in with their cars and then tried for more than two hours to talk him into getting out, but he wouldn’t even acknowledge them. Salinas PD sent a K9 officer, but police eventually resorted to breaking a window and using pepper spray to force Robbins out, Andrews said.

After medical personnel evaluated him for exposure to the pepper spray and found him unharmed, police booked him on charges of possession of stolen property and resisting officers. The state has imposed a \$0 bail on misdemeanors and many felonies, including possession of a stolen vehicle, to help prevent coronavirus from spreading in the jails, but, Andrews said, “given Robbins’ refusal to surrender and the numerous resources used to safely arrest him,” MPD petitioned the court, and

See **ARRESTS** page 27A

## PEBBLE BEACH LIVING IN CARMEL SCHOOL DISTRICT



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# Health officer warns hotels, STRs, and defines who can stay there

By CHRIS COUNTS and KELLY NIX

AFTER THE Monterey District Attorney's Office last week warned short term rental operators they could get in trouble for renting to people who try to vacation here during the coronavirus shutdown, Monterey County Health Officer Dr. Ed Moreno issued an order April 24 extending that same restriction to hotels and bed & breakfasts.

Dr. Moreno also said who specifically can stay in short-term units or hotels during the shelter-in-place-order — the homeless, people "looking for stable housing," people who can't return home because either they or someone else in the household has the virus, people who need a place to quarantine, and those who are providing "essential services" and need temporary housing.

Those failing to heed the order face a fine of \$1,000 per violation per day, imprisonment, or both. The order is in effect until at least May 3.

### Open for business, sort of

Although they have very few visitors, more than a dozen of Pacific Grove's inns are now open for business.

Normally during spring, Pacific Grove's inns are booked at about 90 percent occupancy. Now, though, Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce president Moe Ammar

said that number is a depressing 3 percent. "Most of the inns have one or two rooms occupied, if any," Ammar said.

The scant business isn't helping innkeepers much, and Ammar said most of them are staying open to retain their employees. Innkeepers, he said, also have the burden of screening "every reservation, call and request" to ensure that guests who want to stay in their inns are indeed essential workers and not tourists.

According to Ammar, there is a consensus among innkeepers that the restrictions have gone too far. "All of them are very unhappy," he said.

The city's inns that are open include Andril Fireplace Cottages, Best Western Inn & Suites, Butterfly Grove Inn, Centrella Inn, Clarion-Wilkies Inn, Deer Haven Inn, Lighthouse Lodge & Cottages, Lovers Point Inn, Monarch Resort, Monterey Peninsula Inn and Pacific Gardens Inn.

In her message to short-term rental operators last week, Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni reported that there have been many complaints about operators renting to tourists during the shutdown.

But some in the industry, including Jan Leasure of Monterey Property Management, say they are complying with order, and are being unfairly targeted by those who simply don't like vacation rentals, or don't realize people are staying there legally.

Leasure said two of her rentals, for instance, are being occupied by essential medical personnel.

"Right now, I'm renting to two nurses," she told The Pine Cone. "One came from Louisiana, and the other came from Massachusetts."

Leasure said it's been awhile since she's even received a request for a rental from someone who was vacationing. But she's had many cancellations.

### 'We don't want a black-eye'

Dick Matthews of the Monterey County Vacation Rental Alliance — which represents about 600 local short-term rental operators — urged operators this week to comply with the order.

"Only take bookings from essential travelers in the near term," a memo to members implored. "We all must do everything we can to stop COVID-19. The order is not optional. It can be enforced — neighbors are now calling the district attorney describing short term rentals with vacationing guests."

Matthews said most operators are following the order. "We don't want to have the scofflaws giving us a black

eye," he added.

Annee Martin of Sanctuary Vacation Rentals conceded that it's possible somebody might be offering short-term rentals for vacationers, but she insisted that's not the case for the vast majority of those engaged in the business, and she asked the public to be understanding.

"This is the time to be kinder, to offer support to even strangers, and get beyond our own situation," Martin said.

### 'There must be consequences'

Among those complaining about vacation rentals is the Carmel Valley Association, whose president, Pris Walton, recently sent a strongly-worded letter Monterey County planning commissioners Martha Diehl and Kate Daniels.

"I have received several complaints about short-term rentals occurring in District 5," Walton reported. "Given that there is a mandate from the county to not use short-term rentals for vacations and that it is illegal to do so, the Carmel Valley Association believes that it is in the interest of our local residents to stop this practice immediately."

Walton said she believes that those who ignore the order should receive more than a stern warning. She suggested that those caught renting should be required to leave, and the owners should "be denied permits for any future use of the property as a short term rental." She also said those found advertising to tourists during the crisis should be fined.

"This constitutes endangering the public health of our residents," Walton wrote. "There must be consequences."

Resident Bob Danziger reported that a week after the shutdown order, not one short-term rental in the Carmel Highlands had ceased advertising to tourists, which the order requires.

While Danziger backs the order, he's concerned the county doesn't have the resources to enforce it — and officials can't say when they will. He said the order is meaningless unless it can be enforced. "Failure to enforce existing short-term rental ordinances for over five years has created these problems," he suggested.

Danziger said if every vacation rental operator in the county had a permit — and that permit number could be placed on every online advertisement, it would help make enforcement possible. He said the strategy has been successfully employed elsewhere. "A county worker sitting in an office could go online and identify those that are legal and those that aren't, making enforcement a lot easier," he added.

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*Ex Parte Arata, 52 Cal. App. 380; United States Constitution Amendment 5*

## LET'S OPEN TOGETHER ON MAY 4, 2020

*From Concerned Citizens of Monterey County*

# Reimers to seek reelection to council

By MARY SCHLEY

**JAN REIMERS**, who spent seven years on the planning commission before being elected to the city council in 2016, said Tuesday she plans to run for reelection in November. With her decision, all three incumbents — Mayor Dave Potter, councilman Bobby Richards and Reimers — have pledged to seek another term.

Reimers said several residents asked her to consider running again, and after giving it a lot of thought, she decided to heed their wishes, in spite of what lies ahead.

“It’s going to be a time that’s really challenging, and we’re not going to be able to do everything we want to do,” she said, referring to capital projects and other luxuries residents have grown accustomed to during a prolonged period of financial strength and increasing revenues. “We’re not going to have the finances for some time.”

### No money

Indeed, due to the coronavirus-induced shutdown imposed by the state and the county, the hotel and sales taxes on which the city relies for much of its budget have all but dried up, and it’s unknown when and how they will recover, given public officials’ reluctance to lighten the restrictions that have crippled most businesses as residents have been ordered to shelter in place and tourists have been told to stay away.

Maintaining a good level of city services will be a challenge, as will tackling the ever-growing problem of retirement debt — an issue Reimers has repeatedly focused on during her years on the council.



Jan Reimers

She also wants to update the design guidelines for buildings in the commercial district, a planning commission project that was kicked off awhile back but hasn’t seen much action. “The guidelines are the basis of the personality that Carmel projects,” she said, and they need to be revised to reflect current standards.

Reimers predicted flexibility will be necessary on the part of city hall in order to help the commercial sector recover from the effects of the pandemic. “I think we’re going to look at some of the ways we’ve been doing business, and for the next several months, we’ll have to be flexible and meet the needs of our community and the needs of our business community,” she said.

Similar to the governor’s willingness to relax some aspects of the Brown Act in order to accommodate public meetings via online platforms during the coronavirus outbreak, she said, “we’re going to have to look at our management and how we can be flexible enough to be help them be successful.”

Reimers said recovering will also require a lot of effort and collaboration.

“It’s going to be a challenge, and as a community, we’re up for it,” she said. “Let’s go forward, and we’ll work it out.”

# Online council meeting to tackle fees, evictions, budget and virus

By MARY SCHLEY

**AFTER ITS** maiden online voyage last month, the city council will hold its next remote meeting May 5, with a few weighty issues on the agenda.

Returning for a second go is the capital improvement plan set to be adopted as part of the 2020-2021 budget.

With the city facing a huge drop in revenues, council members spent more than two hours combing over the nearly \$3 million list of paving, construction, major repair and maintenance projects and equipment purchases proposed for the coming year, but only cut about a half-million-dollars’ worth. This month, city administrator Chip Rerig said, he plans to advise a heavier hand.

Council members are also scheduled to vote on an ordinance temporarily prohibiting evictions of commercial and residential tenants due to income loss or medical expenses related to the coronavirus pandemic. Rerig signed an order to that effect in March, but officials decided the ordinance is necessary, too.

They were set to approve it last month, but city attorney Brian Pierik requested it be taken off the agenda for some modifications.

### Fees

Just as it did a few years back, the city hired a consultant to review all the fees charged for “services,” like issuing building permits, reviewing plans, evaluating requests for tree removals, and even granting the town’s quirky high-heel permits.

At the May 5 meeting, the council will

consider the newest round of recommended changes, based on the study. Among the more notable are charges for tree removal and pruning permits, and related appeals, which will see increases between \$365 and \$940 over their current rates.

The study also suggests increases for police response to false alarms, ambulance rides (which would no longer be significantly discounted for residents), and a new \$740 fee paid by anyone who appeals a staff-level decision on an event permit or similar request to the community activities commission.

### ‘Departmental efficiencies’

But, according to the report by budgets and contracts director Sharon Friedrichsen, “the majority of fees charged for service are proposed to decrease, as the cost of providing these services is less than in prior years due to departmental efficiencies.”

Speaking of fees, the council is also set to discuss increasing the “parking in-lieu fee” — the charge to developers when their projects don’t include required off-street parking — from \$54,080 to \$105,044 per space, based on the current state building codes.

Because such costs can scuttle a project, especially in the central commercial area where property owners are not actually allowed to build off-street parking, the council will also discuss ways to lower the fee.

And, of course, Rerig will provide a report on issues related to coronavirus.

For information on how to watch the meeting, how to dial in to comment or submit written comments, and for a full agenda, go to [ci.carmel.ca.us](http://ci.carmel.ca.us).



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# CMS eighth-grader succumbs to cancer

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER BEING diagnosed with a brain tumor more than two years ago and undergoing more extensive treatment last fall after an MRI revealed the cancer had spread to her spine, 13-year-old Carmel Middle School eighth-grader Kiara Hinze died on April 22.

“Since joining the CMS family in sixth grade, Kiara has been a shining light and an inspiration to staff and students,” school principal Dan Morgan said in an email to parents last week. “Together, we have marveled at the strength and courage she displayed throughout her personal battle with cancer.”

When she returned to class last November, her schoolmates and CMS staff donned “Team Kiara” T-shirts and greeted her with signs and banners. “They have without question made an incredibly difficult time manageable and always do their best to support my daughter,” her mother, Brenda, said at the time. “It’s no wonder that when asked, Kiara will tell you her favorite place to be is school.”

### ‘A gift’

Last week, Morgan said, “Kiara’s presence on campus was a gift that brought us closer together as a school community, and we are forever grateful to have had Kiara in our lives. Kiara will be remembered in our hearts, for years to come, as a hero and inspiration.”

On Friday, city administrator Chip Rerig described her as “a courageous and inspiring young lady,” and recalled her two visits to talk to the city council about the nonprofit Jacob’s Heart, which helps sick children and their families contend with the

inevitable emotional, practical and financial challenges that accompany cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Last week, her mother told The Pine Cone, “As hard as it is to be without her, it does my heart well to know she’s in peace.”

Because they cannot gather to bid farewell to Kiara due to restrictions imposed by the county because of coronavirus, Hinze said, “our family and friends have begun painting rocks as a memorial for her,” and leaving them on the porch of the family’s home.

“It’s a way her peers and her brother’s peers could honor her around our SIP orders with Covid-19,” she said.



PHOTO/BRENDA HINZE

In her 13 years, Kiara Hinze made a lasting impression on many. Diagnosed with a brain tumor in sixth grade, the eighth-grader died last Tuesday.



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SPICY TOFU TACOS 14  
pan seared seasoned organic non-gmo tofu, taco slaw, sundried tomato pesto aioli

BANH MI TACOS 15  
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# It's not a horror movie, but dark, empty houses are haunting PacRep

By DENNIS TAYLOR

‘THE SHOW must go on’ is a battle cry of the entertainment industry dating (at least) to the mid-1870s, but as the Covid-19 pandemic crept across the United States, Carmel’s Pacific Repertory Theater leaned into something Shakespeare wrote for one of his classic characters: “The better part of valor is discretion,” declared Falstaff in “Henry IV Part I.”

On March 12, when Gov. Gavin Newsom first issued an order prohibiting gatherings of more than 250 people, PacRep founder and executive director Stephen Moorer made a painful but unavoidable decision. He shut down the only year-round professional theater in Monterey County — most likely for the season.

### ‘I knew we were sunk’

Moorer — an actor, director, and producer, himself — understood the impact the closure was likely to have on the local theater community, some of whom depend on PacRep not only for income, but for their source of creative release.

“We were the very first local industry to shut down, and we did it before there had been much real talk about shutdowns,” said the man who created GroveMont Theatre in 1982, then renamed it Pacific Repertory 12 years later, after his nonprofit group acquired the Golden Bough Playhouse. “As soon they started talking about limiting group gatherings, I knew we were sunk. And I have to say it was a shock.”

A big part of the shock was that the cast and crew of PacRep’s production of “Matilda” were, at that moment,



The Golden Bough Theater (above left) and other PacRep venues have gone dark, most likely for the rest of the year, impacting many of its performers, crew, and employees, including costumer Ziona Goren (right), who also had to close two small businesses she’s been running for 40 years.



revving up for its final weekend.

“Our closing performance was scheduled for Sunday, March 15. On March 12, as the whole cast was getting ready for the first performance of closing weekend, I had to send out an email saying we were done,” Moorer said.

At the same time, a separate cast and crew was in the final stages of preparation for “Marjorie Prime,” a one-act play that was scheduled to open March 25 at PacRep’s intimate Circle Theater.

“What our audiences love about the Circle Theater is that they’re actually within breathing distance of the actors,” said Moorer, who immediately drove over to rehearse to break hearts in person.

Perhaps the hardest notification of all went to the all-kid cast of “Babe the Sheep Pig,” where more than 30 child actors were gleefully waiting to be fitted into their animal costumes.

“When this whole thing came to a screeching halt, I was about 80 percent finished with those 38 animal costumes that I began working way back around Christmas,” said Ziona Goren, PacRep’s resident costumer, who, at the time, was also putting the finishing touches on the costumes for “Marjorie Prime.” “The kids kept saying, ‘Are they done yet? Are they done yet?’ But they never even got to try them on.”

### Taking a hit

Meanwhile, technical director and scenic designer Patrick McEvoy was finishing the “Marjorie Prime” set, and was about to start on “Babe” when PacRep went dark.

Like people in all industries whose income stream has been interrupted, many in the PacRep family are taking a hit.

Rhett Wheeler, a professional singer and actor, performs on cruise ships, at Disney parks around the world, and tours the country performing in theaters. All of those

See PACREP page 26A

“God is love.”

“In Him is no darkness at all.”

— The Bible

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Dr. Spain completed her residency in Diagnostic Imaging at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Soon after, she became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. We are excited to welcome Dr. Heather Spain to Pet Specialists of Monterey starting February 2020!



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# Marking death and celebrating life with compassion — and no virus

By ELAINE HESSER

THE MONTEREY Peninsula has avoided the high death toll coronavirus has brought to many cities, but the pandemic has changed the way funeral homes do business.

Nick Bermudez, owner of Bermudez Family Cremations and Funerals in Monterey, said the main changes he's seen are in how funerals must be handled because of social distancing.

Bermudez said he hasn't had any instances of families waiting to have a loved one's body buried or cremated. Instead, they've scaled down memorial services so that no more than 10 people at a time are present, and so far, everyone's been very understanding.

Paul Nelson, general manager of Mission Mortuary and Memorial Park, which has locations in Monterey and Seaside, said that people who want to pay their respects maintain the 10-person limit by scheduling mourners in small groups that wait in their cars until the preceding group leaves.

An alternative solution, he said, is a graveside service, where people can more easily practice social distancing. Mission Mortuary maintains its own cemetery at the top of Ord Grove Avenue in Seaside as part of its essential business activities.

### Small but meaningful

One unexpected change both men mentioned is that people are discovering that intimate services can be more meaningful than large funerals with hundreds of mourners. "Things have changed quite a bit, but Covid has not taken away what is important, and that's for people to express their feelings and grieve," said Nelson.

And for those people who still want to hold a large celebration of life, usually because the deceased was well known

in the community, Nelson and Bermudez said families are saving them for the future, when everyone can get together safely.

### Being careful

As far as safety in handling human remains is concerned, Nelson said funeral personnel have used medical-type precautions for years. That means they treat all bodies as if the person had an infectious disease, whether they pick them up in a medical facility or from someone's home.

"If there are hospice workers, they can inform us ahead of time if the person had Covid," he added, which would allow any of his employees who felt the need to take additional precautions.

Since seeing gloved, masked people removing their loved one's body could add to the trauma of the death, Nelson said, "we may ask the family to be in another room when we take the person into our care."

Funeral homes encourage pre-planning — buying caskets and gravesites, and planning services long before they're needed — and some people may be paying more attention to that because of the pandemic. Nelson applauds those who want to think ahead, but is focusing on "educating" potential clients rather than selling to them.

"We don't want to appear to be taking advantage" during this time of heightened tension, said Nelson. Instead, he and his employees provide information on burial plans to those who ask, answering questions and helping them to understand their options.

The same is true for Bermudez, who, like Nelson, has been in the business for decades. He said "pre-arrangements are important, but not critical," to his operation, and for now, he wants to reduce or eliminate the need for people to spend time

See FUNERALS page 26A



Last fall, we held a contest for a local artist to create a mural in honor of our artistic heritage. We fell in love with a design by Marie-Clare Treseder Gorham, the Carmel Shell. Her unique and thoughtful design pulls in motifs found throughout our village. While COVID-19 has delayed the painting of the mural, we wanted to share it with you during this challenging time as a symbol of our community's creativity, caring, and resilience.

*Directions: This is a simplified version of the Carmel Shell. Cut out the shell. Color or decorate it! Make it your own! Then place it in your window to let us know you are shell-tering in place, and as a sign of strength, solidarity and love for our community.*



# Tests still show few have antibodies, lab sets up shop in South County

By CHRIS COUNTS

A WEEK after new testing at ARCpoint Labs in Monterey revealed that only a small number of locals are carrying coronavirus antibodies, which indicates a previous infection, a larger number of test results are confirming the same thing.

Besides reporting test results, laboratory director Spencer Smith said his lab started doing antibody testing in Greenfield on Thursday, testing about 60 people.

He also addressed the skepticism some have about antibody testing.

Seven days after reporting that 120 people were tested and seven were found to be carrying the antibodies, Smith said the lab has now tested about 800 people — and only identified about a dozen with antibodies. “We don’t see any evidence that it has spread here,” Smith said.

Responding to concerns about the tests, Smith confirmed that they are not approved by the FDA, but noted

no other tests are, either.

“The FDA approval process is a long one, taking on average more than a year for a given new test to be reviewed and approved,” he explained. “As a result, the FDA has issued emergency guidance in the coronavirus epidemic that antibody tests do not need to go through the normal approval process in order to be offered.”

### Specific to virus

Smith also addressed concerns that the test he’s using isn’t specific to the virus behind the current epidemic.

“This test is specific to SARS-CoV-2,” the lab director said. “There may be some cross reactivity with other closely related coronaviruses such as SARS and MERS; however, the cross-reactivity is minimal. There is no detected cross-reactivity with other virus families like influ-

enza, HIV, etc.”

ARCpoint Labs began testing mostly first responders and medical personnel about four weeks ago with a finger-prick method made in China. Although the tests were cheap (\$68) and results were quick (by the end of the day), they were replaced two weeks ago by a test made in the United States. The new test costs \$175 and requires that blood be drawn. The sample is sent to a lab in Florida, and the results are available in three days. The lab has also expanded testing to anyone who wants it.

Located near York School, the lab specializes in drug testing, alcohol screening, DNA and clinical lab testing, corporate wellness programs and employment/background screening. But now the lab is focusing about 90 percent of efforts on coronavirus antibody testing, and additional staff have been hired to help keep up with the demand.

## Memorial Day, July 4 celebrations canceled


PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE CITY of Carmel has canceled this year’s Memorial Day ceremony and Independence Day party, both of which usually take place in Devendorf Park, due to the ongoing threat of Covid-19, community activities director Ashlee Wright announced Wednesday.

While the city generally “seeks to encourage and support the interaction of neighbors, friends, families and visitors through the shared experience of special events, programs, and gatherings which bring the community together safely,” she said, people’s safety is also “paramount at all times, and is especially so during this time.”


As a result, public officials decided to cancel the May 25 Memorial Day ceremony, which is held in partnership with American Legion Post 512, and the July 4 gathering, which Wright described as “a good old-fashioned gathering with live music and food provided by local community groups.” The Independence Day celebration usually draws hundreds of people to the park over the course of the day.

“Car Week events in Carmel-by-the-Sea have also been canceled,” she said.



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# Reclamation project shouldn't be expanded, board in charge of it decides

By KELLY NIX

A PROPOSAL to expand a Monterey Peninsula reclamation project so it can serve as a backup to Cal Am's proposed desalination plant was killed Monday by the board of directors for Monterey One Water in part over concerns about water rights and the project's impacts on the Salinas

Valley.

The Monterey One Water board decided not to certify an environmental document for Pure Water Monterey, a requirement the agency needed in order to pursue an expansion of the project. It has already been OK'd to produce 3,500 acre-feet of water per year, and an expansion would have allowed it to produce an additional 2,250 acre-feet. The expansion proposal failed on a 11-10 weighted vote.

## 'Harms Salinas Valley'

The decision by the board came after the City of Salinas and several public agencies expressed concern that the project would use agricultural wastewater as one of its sources — a source Salinas said it intends to use to support farmers, ranchers and the agriculture industry.

Monterey One Water "does not have any approval or authorization from the City of Salinas to use the city's agricultural wash water for the expansion project," Salinas Mayor Joe Gunter said in a letter to the agency Monday.

Also opposed were the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, the Castroville Community Services District and the Monterey County Farm Bureau, which contend the environmental review failed to analyze the impacts it would have on saltwater intrusion in the Salinas Valley aquifer.

"Salinas Valley farmers have always maintained that

the Peninsula should solve its own water problems and not use the resources of other communities or water basins," farm bureau director Norm Groot said in a letter Monday.

Advocates, however, say an expansion wouldn't affect the Salinas Valley's water supply and that it's environmentally sound.

"The source water is secure. It is contractually secure," Public Water Now managing director Melodie Chrislock said at Monday's meeting. "I don't know how this could be answered any more clearly. There is no significant impact on Salinas Valley's water."

Dave Stoldt, general manager of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, a public agency partnering with the sewer agency on the project, said Monday that the modifications to Pure Water Monterey "are feasible and would represent a shovel-ready project on the shelf to potentially serve water supply needs for others in the future."

Proponents also noted that even with certification of the environmental report, it would require a water delivery agreement between Monterey One Water and California American Water, and approval by the board.

"The expansion of Pure Water Monterey is a backup plan and it must be ready to go in the event that Cal Am's desal plant is delayed or never built," Carmel resident Anna Thompson told directors in a letter.

## Ulterior motives?

The Monterey One Water board has said that a "potential expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project was a backup plan to, and not as an option in the place of, the Cal Am desalination project." However, some water activists and others opposed to Cal Am have seized on the idea that the reclamation project could replace the utility's desal plant altogether.

In September 2019, Stoldt released a water supply report indicating the reclamation project, by itself, could provide enough water until 2043 if it was expanded. Cal Am and others maintain that an augmentation of the project would still not produce enough water for future demand for the Monterey Peninsula.

Also at Monday's meeting, Rene Boskoff, with the Monterey County Hospitality Association, said it was "unconscionable" that anybody could "be advocating for future supply without desal," based on what he said was Stoldt's "highly manipulated supply and demand report."

See **PROJECT** page 26A



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# Hiker: Closing backcountry trails make us less safe

By CHRIS COUNTS

MANY IN Big Sur applauded the move by the United States Forest Service two weeks ago to close eight local roads and nine trails in response to the state's stay-at-home order and the persistence of visitors who were using them.

But some have pushed back against the closure, including Leor Pantilat, an avid hiker and part-time resident who suggests public lands like those in Big Sur can help people stay safe during the coronavirus crisis.

"Open spaces and wilderness are vital to people's physical and mental health, even more so in a pandemic," Pantilat wrote in a letter to local forest service official Tim Short, Congressman Jimmy Panetta, Monterey County 5th District Supervisor Mary Adams and others. "People will seek safe spots for fresh air. It is well understood that outside air is much safer than indoor air. The physical and mental benefits of exercise are undeniable, especially considering that lack of exercise contributes to high risk factors for complications with Covid-19."

Pantilat's letter suggested that allowing outdoor activity on public lands could actually make people safer from the virus.

"Indeed, this closure may actually make the problem worse," Pantilat said. "By forbidding people to enter the national forest, where they are unlikely to encounter other people, a closure order will further concentrate people in the outdoor spaces that remain open, undermining the goal of social distancing."

While Pantilat is opposed to the forest service closing trails, he agrees that some limits need to be placed on visitation, especially now.

"Restrict roadside parking near otherwise closed developed recreation sites such as Sand Dollar Beach, where visitors

have apparently been parking outside the closed parking area along Highway 1 en masse," he suggested. "Consider a targeted approach to closing the most historically crowded trailheads like Salmon Creek and Kirk Creek."

Like Pantilat, the Ventana Wilderness Alliance supports keeping backcountry trails open. The nonprofit backs a temporary ban on staying overnight outside of designated campgrounds, and they want to see funding increased for the federal agency so it has enough personnel to manage its lands and enforce laws.

"Our organization advocated for a measured approach that would have allowed local residents to continue practicing safe social distancing along at least some backcountry trails," VWA executive director Mike Splain told The Pine Cone. "Diminished access to nature at a time when we need it most is a deeply unfortunate loss for our community."

### 'Just stay home'

While Big Sur resident Butch Kronlund concedes the topic of closing trails "isn't a straight forward issue," he believes the timing isn't right for opening up the backcountry to hikers due to the risk of travelers spreading the virus.

"Just stay home," suggested Kronlund, executive director of the Community Association of Big Sur. "That's the spirit the stay-at-home order is trying to convey."

When the order closing local trails finally expires — and public officials declare hiking safe — Kronlund urged them to be careful to open all trails at once, so none are overrun by a concentration of visitors. If one site were to attract too many visitors, "it would create a nightmare for enforcement."

See TRAILS page 27A



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**P**eter grew up alongside beautiful Monterey Bay, and made the peninsula his life-long home. His loving, hard working Sicilian parents, Frank and Rose, must have had their hands full with three boys! Peter loved his two younger siblings, Anthony and Frank, and his tales of growing up in Monterey, and the Spaghetti Hill area are to be envied.

He attended local schools, enlisted in the National Guard, returned to the peninsula, and held a variety of jobs in the restaurant industry.



To know Peter was to know someone who had the gift of gab. He was loved by many. Known as a sweet guy, he liked telling a joke, and always spoke up. He brought many gatherings to life with his candid manner, and enjoyed a stimulating debate. So, he told things straight up, "straight up" like many a martini he poured while working as a bartender at Carmel's Hog's Breath Inn back in the '70s, '80s, and '90s.

Peter's prowess as an athlete also is admirable. An award in high school for high-diving, a Rancho Cañada golf tournament that he took the trophy for, and lord help the stray tennis ball that tried to get away from him. He would run them all down!

His spouse, Becky, extends her heartfelt thanks to Hospice of the Central Coast which has too many angels to name, as well as Brookdale

Manor who took such great care of him the last few months.

No services are pending, but a prayer from all who knew him would be a blessing of immense value.

It is suggested that any donations in memory of Peter be directed to the Parkinson's Foundation or The First Tee of Monterey County.

A video tribute and online condolences  
may be found at  
[www.bermudezfamilyfunerals.com](http://www.bermudezfamilyfunerals.com)



## SPCA seeks donations for pet food bank

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

**M**ANY OF those in Monterey County who have lost and will lose their jobs and businesses because of the coronavirus are pet owners, and the SPCA for Monterey County said the need for donated pet food and supplies is greater than ever.

The nonprofit animal welfare organization accepts dog, cat and other pet food and supplies — such as play toys, food bowls, leashes, etc. — for those who have lost their jobs or can't pay for the items because of other reasons.

Though the SPCA accepts donations at its facility at 1002 Monterey-Salinas Highway in Salinas (across from Laguna Seca), it also offers an easy way to shop from home, through online retail giant Amazon [[spsamc.org/amazon](http://spsamc.org/amazon)].

## JANET S. DAVID

DAVID, Janet S., of Carmel Valley, CA and Lexington, MA, devoted wife of John Stayn of Lexington, MA, loving mother of Angela Hopper (David Hopper) of Redwood City, CA, and Christian David of Oakland, CA. Adoring "Nana" of Nicholas and Ginger Hopper, Tristan David of Hawaii, and Chelsea Valladares of Santa Clarita, CA. Cherished sister of Edward Sullivan (Mona) of Tucson, AZ, Peter Sullivan of Santa Monica, CA, Dana Starson of Carmel Valley, CA. Cousin to many in the MA and CA areas. Predeceased by parents David C. Sullivan and Dorothea F. Sullivan, by sister Mardi Marans, and by husband Thomas David. Fondly remembered by John's children Susan and Mark, Alissa, Heidi and Matthew, and Joshua and Rachel, and their families. Graduate of Weston High School, Stephens College, and Cal State Northridge.

A member of the Mother Church in Boston and the First Church of Christ Scientist in Carmel, Janet dedicated her life to service as a Christian Science Practitioner, supporting with loving prayer those who sought or needed healing and providing spiritual sustenance and leadership to her church. For nearly twenty years she also assiduously undertook the completion of her late husband's real estate development project in Carmel Valley.

A loyal and unswerving friend to many, her major focus was on her family, sharing her wisdom and love with her husband, her children, grandchildren, siblings, and cousins; celebrating life cycle events; and lovingly helping husband John through retirement, illnesses, and family occasions. Janet appreciated good art, classical music, and the culinary offerings of her favorite restaurants, as well as walks along her immediate neighborhood and Carmel Beach.

Given current restrictions on travel and gatherings, memorial services expressing gratitude for her life will be held at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Janet's name may be made to:  
[togetherrising.org/projects/](http://togetherrising.org/projects/),  
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[www.ninelivesfoundation.org/](http://www.ninelivesfoundation.org/)

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## Gemma Cervellin Ajoux

(1934 – 2020)

Gemma Ajoux, of Pebble Beach, California, peacefully departed this world on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.

Born in Alba dans l'Ardeche in 1934, while young, Gemma moved with her family to the department of Savoie in France. There, in the French Alps, she met and married Pierre Ajoux in 1955, started her own family with a son, Jose, in 1956, and then in 1957 boldly emigrated to California, settling to a new life in Pebble Beach.



Through hard work and genuine talent, Gemma forged a 30-plus year career at The Beach and Tennis Club of Pebble Beach, ultimately rising to manager. Her attention to detail, commitment to top quality service, and naturally positive disposition earned her the appreciation of staff, prestigious members, and owners alike, and upon her retirement she was honored with a lifetime membership.

Accomplished in her domestic talents as well, Gemma could cook and host a full course meal for 4 to 40 dinner guests with calm and perfection. She took time for the things she loved to do, volunteering for San Carlos Church, dancing, and

especially cultivating her beloved rose garden.

A devoted wife of 64 years, Gemma shared with her Pierre an appreciation for culture and beauty of home and country, spending time traveling between their precious Pebble Beach retreat and mountain chalet in France. She was active, enjoying the winter sports of skiing and later snowshoeing, as well as the warmer weather exercise of hiking and mushroom hunting.

Gemma was a woman of impeccable quality, at ease in high society or on a mountainside picnic. She will be missed by her grandchildren, Jessica and Philippe, by her relatives in France, and by all who knew and loved her.

Services will be private. Those who wish to honor her memory are invited to make a donation to the San Carlos Cathedral Restoration.

**Au Revoir, dearest Gemma.**

## Runners bring marathon home

■ Main event canceled, but the show went on

By ELAINE HESSER

IT TAKES a lot of determination to run 26.2 miles, but participants in the Big Sur International Marathon usually have, as its website boasts, the “ragged edge of the Western world” to inspire them. Thanks to Covid-19, however, Sunday, April 26, came and went without pre-dawn bus rides to the starting line, a grand piano serenading bedraggled runners at Bixby Bridge, or a roaring crowd at the finish. The marathon has been rescheduled for Nov. 15.

But that didn't stop 12 dedicated local runners from doing their own “backyard marathon” — as they called it — on the

original race day. Tom Burns, a member of the Monterey Bay Wednesday Night Laundry Runners, organized the event for the group's members.

“I'm one of the young ones in the club,” said Burns, 34. “It's been around since 1965. The older members are walkers now.” Burns ran in Big Sur last year and finished in 4:53:43, which he conceded was not his best time.

This year, he did 26.2 miles in 3:41:17. “It was a much flatter course than Big Sur, and having the comfort of an aid station in my driveway every seven-tenths of a mile was very nice,” he explained.

All runners stayed within a half mile of home, which for Burns is in Marina. He completed 36 laps around his neighborhood of about 3/4 mile each. About half-way through, he said his neighbors noticed him repeatedly passing their houses and came out to cheer his efforts.

His girlfriend, Shannon Cronin, helpfully drew a picture of Bixby Bridge in chalk at the end of the couple's driveway, and when Burns reached the 13.1-

See RACE page 27A



After dozens of laps around his Pacific Grove neighborhood, Ryan Cronin finished his backyard version of the Big Sur Marathon.

## Foundation's 70th birthday didn't turn out quite the way they planned

By ELAINE HESSER

LAST WEEK the Carmel Foundation quietly marked its 70th anniversary. There was supposed to be a gala to celebrate, but it had to be put on hold because of Covid-19. Still, said president and CEO Holly Zoller, the group is staying as active as it can, supporting its more than 3,000 members through the pandemic.

According to the foundation's history, the idea was first raised in 1948, when a “small group of men and women who met in the home of Mrs. Sidney Trevvett on Scenic Road,” expressed concern for elders in the community. Two years later, in the spring, that kernel of an idea — helping seniors — became the Carmel Foundation.

Said Zoller, “I'm fascinated by the fact that some of our popular programs, like the Wednesday talks, woodcarving group and crafts group, have been around almost from the beginning.”

Despite the virus, which has temporarily closed the organization's facilities at Lincoln and Ninth, some groups found ways to con-

tinue meeting online, and everyone's staying in touch. Zoller said, “We're calling every member and every volunteer,” just to check in. The kitchen crew is forgoing the four lunches a week usually available to members, and instead is focusing on meals to be delivered to those who are housebound.

Illia Thompson, age 85, teaches the popular memoir-writing class at the foundation. By combining it with a few similar groups, she teaches around the Peninsula,

See FOUNDATION page 27A



PHOTO/COURTESY CARMEL FOUNDATION

Carmel Foundation trips haven't always been on buses. Here, members are on a European tour, likely during the 1960s.



### Cheryl Pasquier

1943 • 2020

Her life personified that of a self-made woman. Born in Charleroi, PA, she was a coal miner's daughter when at 3 years old her father passed away. As a child born into a poor world, she learned to deal with adversity after attending more than a dozen elementary schools and seven high schools as her adopted father Erich worked in the defense industry. Before the age of 7 she had traveled by car back and forth across the country 11 times.

After graduating from high school, she attended cosmetology school, a trade which she soon mastered at a Nordstrom cosmetic counter in Bellevue, Washington. Within months she was recognized as the top salesperson at Nordstrom and was immediately hired by Estee Lauder in their Clinique division. Within a year she was promoted to having her own territory and given the position of Account Executive, a position held exclusively in those days by men. Over the next five years she expanded sales dramatically and was named the first woman Regional Account Manager overseeing a \$10 million region with 250 employees.

At the height of her career, while on a business trip to Portland Oregon, she was the victim of a violent attack in a hotel hallway where she held off her attacker for 45 minutes. The attack changed her life as she was fired from her job for taking too long to recuperate.

In 1980 she married Roger Pasquier, a broadcast executive, and eventually moved to Los Angeles where she oversaw an extremely successful roll-out of the fragrance “Obsession” for Calvin Klein. In 1986 she moved with Roger to Pacific Grove, California, where they owned and operated Oldies 105.1 KOCN, a radio station that became the No. 1-rated station in the Monterey/Salinas/Santa Cruz market. During their ownership of KOCN, Cheryl was an active member of Soroptimist International of Carmel Bay and was named Philanthropist of the Year for the Monterey Peninsula. In 1997, they sold KOCN to Clear Channel Communication and semi-retired in Pacific Grove until they moved back to Washington State to be with family and friends in 2015.

Cheryl is predeceased by her mother, Mary Jane Herzog; father Erich and brother, Kim. Cheryl is survived by her husband, Roger Pasquier; brother Rick Herzog; daughter Stacey Howard and two sons, Tom and Todd Falcone, along with 5 grandchildren, Ben, Brianne, Gianni, Joey and Roman. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center.

### Lynda Lee Corson Metzler

December 25, 1949 - April 15, 2020

Lynda Metzler, 70, passed away peacefully surrounded by family at her home in Pacific Grove, California on April 15th, 2020. For the last two years, Lynda battled cancer and even had it nearly beat for a time. Just as she lived her life, she gave the fight her all. She will be forever memorialized in the hearts of all she interacted. A celebration of her life will be planned for later this summer in Kansas City, Missouri, please contact [celebrate@lyndametzler.com](mailto:celebrate@lyndametzler.com) for updates on event details.

Lynda was born December 25, 1949, to Ernest and Charlotte Corson who were then stationed with the Air Force in Virginia. It was a childhood spent living in memorable places. She often spoke fondly of their time in the small English village of Middleton Cheney before her family finally settled down on the family farm up in Hesper, Iowa for Lynda's high school years.



She married David Martin Andrew Metzler of Atherton, Missouri on June 5, 1971, and they raised three boys, Christopher, Timothy and Anthony, in the Kansas City area. Soon after David's passing in 2003, Lynda completed her master's in education and saw her youngest off to college before relocating to

Richland, Missouri. Once she moved to the Ozarks, she transitioned from classroom teaching to specializing as a speech implementer. She served in the field of education for over 30 years and then retired oceanside to be near family in Pacific Grove, California.

Lynda was an always loving mother, nana/grandma, wife, teacher, lifelong student, believer, gracious host, gregarious introvert, and thoughtful adventurer. She was an enduring teacher and mentor to those around her. Lynda was the first to lend a hand, support someone in a time of need, or promote an optimistic view of the world. She was an active and dedicated Baha'i since joining the Faith in 1969, always teaching children's classes or promoting the Cause. Her comforting and giving nature has ensured that she will live on, happily, in the memories of not only her family, but also the myriad of people whose hearts she touched. The world is a better place as a result of her life.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, her family (sons Christopher Metzler, Timothy Metzler, and Anthony Metzler; daughters-in-law Nadja Mark-Metzler, Jennifer Redner, and Andrea Jordan; and grandchildren Keanu Ramos, Dylan Metzler and Zahra Lynda Mark-Metzler) request that you follow Lynda's example by helping someone else (family, friend, neighbor, or stranger) in whatever ways you can. Live the life you want, with others in mind, but do so always with hope, a genuine kindness, and of course, love. That was Lynda.

To sign Lynda's guest book and leave messages for her family, please visit [www.thepaulmortuary.com](http://www.thepaulmortuary.com)

## Coronavirus cancels '20 Bach festival, search starts for next conductor

FOR THE first time since World War II, Carmel will go without its beloved Bach Festival this summer, due to the coronavirus crisis.

Celebrating “the works, inspiration, and ongoing influence” of composer and mu-

meanwhile, turned the conversation toward next year's gathering.

“The festival's legacy is distinguished by resiliency, prodigious community support, and transformative music performed by great artists,” Yansouni said. “These qualities, along with a sense of joy and collaboration, will endure and propel us toward an exceptional 2021 season.”

The 2021 Festival is set for July 17-31. Because the gathering will be Paul Goodwin's last as artistic director and conductor, he will be honored.

### Feeling the financial strain

Festival officials say they have some money stashed away, but it won't be nearly enough.

“Increased attendance, community support and prudent financial management,

especially during the years 2017 to 2019, enabled us to accumulate some reserve funds, but not enough to fulfill the needs arising from the pandemic experience,” officials said. “At this time, we believe it is especially important to make a personally meaningful investment in the family members that have the greatest needs: our musicians and artistic members, who have been among the hardest hit, and our staff, who require adequate working capital to plan and prepare a fantastic 2021 season and maintain essential administrative functions.”

Goodwin, meanwhile, will step down after next summer's gathering, it was announced in April.

“It has been an honor and a pleasure to lead the much-loved Carmel Bach Festival for more than a decade,” said Goodwin, who gave up a career as an oboist to become a conductor. “I will leave with immense pride — the time is right for me to seek new artistic challenges and opportunities.”

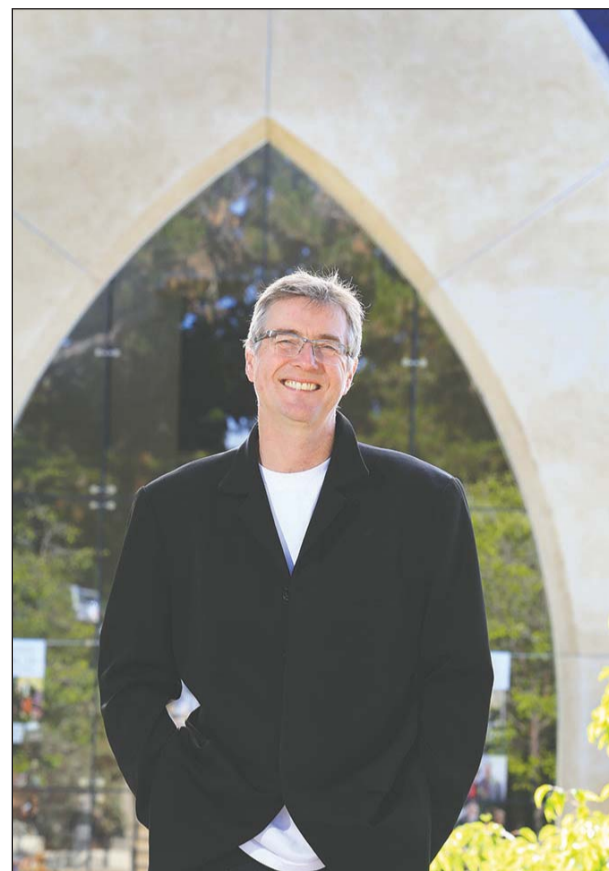
A search will begin soon for the next artistic director — only the fifth in its history.

Founded in 1935 by Dene Denny and Hazel Watrous, the festival began as a four-day series of concerts at the Sunset School Auditorium and the Carmel Mission Basilica. It grew to as long as three weeks before organizers settled on today's two-week schedule of events.

Those who have bought tickets have three options, including returning them as a donation, applying them toward future tickets, or getting a refund. For more details, email [julie@bachfestival.org](mailto:julie@bachfestival.org).

### ■ ‘Bringing joy, peace and good vibes’

Those who have ventured out on the Monterey Bay Rec Trail during the coro-



The artistic director and principal conductor of the Carmel Bach Festival, Paul Goodwin will step down after next year's festival. This year's gathering has been cancelled due to the coronavirus shutdown.

navirus shutdown have been treated to a musical surprise — a serenade from local mandolinist David Holodiloff.

At a time when nearly every stage around here is empty and off-limits, Holodiloff has somehow managed to find one.

Several times each week, Holodiloff can be found busking near Custom House Plaza. He plays an eclectic assortment of music, including bluegrass, jazz and folk music from the Balkans. “I'm also taking requests,” he told The Pine Cone.

While some might contend Holodiloff isn't providing an essential service according to the shelter-in-place order, others will likely disagree.

“I'm bringing joy, peace and good vibes,” he explained. “I don't think there's a law against music.”

While having a more conventional stage

See MUSIC page 20A

## On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

sician Johann Sebastian Bach, the festival was set to start July 18.

When festival official Scott Seward made the announcement this week, he said he was doing so with “great sadness.” But he said it had to be done because federal, state, county and city rules and regulations will likely “prevent large gatherings for the near future.”

Festival president Cyril Yansouni,

## Drummer released from CHOMP



PHOTO/COURTESY OF CHOMP

After spending more than three weeks at CHOMP battling coronavirus, including 10 days on a ventilator, jazz drummer Andy Weis (left) of Monterey was released from the hospital early Monday afternoon. His friend and fellow drummer, Dr. Davis Morwood (right), was there to greet him. “Who is that masked man?” Weis joked about himself on social media. “There sure is a lot of love around here.” In response, hundreds celebrated his successful battle against the virus with well-wishes. Before he became ill, Weis played regularly at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach.



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# FOOD & WINE

## Pasta for your palate, a gift for Mom, a chef's garden, and how to make jam

**NOE CANO**, the man whose shop, Pasta Palate, has been providing fresh noodles and ravioli to restaurants and the public for more than 35 years, remains open for business and is now, with so many restaurants shut down, largely surviving off his retail business.

Located at the back of the Stonehouse Terrace complex on San Carlos south of Seventh, the small store is Cano's home base, and he is there daily turning out spaghetti, capellini, fettucine and pappardelle in various flavors, along with ravioli that he makes and freezes. He also sells pesto, marinara sauce and parmesan cheese.

Flavors include plain, garlic-basil, lemon-pepper, and spinach, among others. While sold dusted in flour, gently coiled, bagged and refrigerated, the noodles can be

this time. So, I put my thinking cap on to come up with something for all the 'hero-moms' out there that are holding their families together with love and smiles."

To order a gift box, call (831) 659-0400 by May 6. Baum & Blume, which is located at 4 El Caminito, is also providing take-home meals, so also be sure to ask what's on offer. Visit [baumandblume.com](http://baumandblume.com) for more details.

### ■ Brandon Miller's garden

Chef Brandon Miller, who in "normal" times is busy turning out spectacular food at tiny Il Grillo restaurant on Mission north of Fifth, is using some of his downtime to produce YouTube videos in his backyard. Miller, who lives in Salinas with wife Marci Bracco and a French bulldog or several, grows herbs, vegetables, citrus, apples and other plants — even hops, since he enjoys making beer.

So far, he's released four "In the Garden with Chef Brandon Miller" videos, each only a few minutes long. He talks about the herbs he grows and how to tend them and use them, shows one of his favorite recipes for savory bread pudding, and mentions a few handy ingredient substitutions — like using lemon juice in place of vinegar in salad dressing — for times when people can't (or really don't want to) get to the store. And he talks about the lemons, limes, oranges, kumquats and other citrus he grows, and how to use them, including making simple syrup for cocktails, curds for cakes and tarts, and juice just for drinking.

Find the videos by searching for "In the Garden with Chef Brandon Miller" on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com).

### ■ Happy Girl's new book

Jordan Champagne, who owns Happy Girl Kitchen in Pacific Grove with husband Todd, is set to release a book May 12 and is selling pre-ordered signed copies at [happygirlkitchen.com](http://happygirlkitchen.com). "It Starts With Fruit" describes the best methods and recipes for preserving and canning.

"Ever since I started teaching workshops 13 years ago, I have been asked to write this book. I am so happy to share with you all the simple tricks and tips to make preserves with fruit," she announced

this week. "I teach you the techniques, so you do not have to follow recipes if you do not want to." Recipes run from 10 minutes to two days — though the longer ones "include a lot of tender loving neglect."

Before Covid-19 shut down the world, Champagne had lots of parties and talks planned to celebrate the release of her book. With all of them postponed, she suggested, "we can all get the party started by you pre-ordering your book now."

### ■ Aubergine to go

To raise money to help unemployed L'Auberge Carmel workers, and to keep some of them a little busy in the kitchen, Aubergine Restaurant is offering dinners to go on weekends, with the menu changing weekly. Last week, for instance, executive chef Justin Cogley presented 32-day dry-aged rib eye with herb butter, bacon-fat-roasted fingerling potatoes, and asparagus, with rhubarb crème brûlée for dessert, for \$65. A vegetarian meal was also offered, as were make-it-at-home flatbread, soup, and stir fry. Reheating and other instructions are included with each order, and wine is available to go, too.

"As has been our mission from the beginning of this program, 50 percent of the proceeds and 100 percent of any additional gratuity will go directly to assist our staff who is unable to work at this time," the restaurant's management announced.

Aubergine is located in the hotel at Monte Verde and Seventh. For the latest menu, find Aubergine on social media or go to [auberginecarmel.com](http://auberginecarmel.com) and scroll all the way down to subscribe to the email list.

### ■ Hula's reopening May 1

After being closed for several weeks due to the coronavirus shutdown, Hula's on Lighthouse in Monterey is set to reopen Friday with a takeout-only menu that features its most popular cocktails, pupus, burgers, sandwiches, tacos, bowls and wraps, sides and desserts.

Fans who have been craving sweet potato fries, spicy edamame, Duke's Luau Pork Plate and ahi wasabi bowls, not to mention large mai tais, are now in luck.

Hours for ordering and pickup are 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday and noon to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Call (831) 655-4852.

## Soup to Nuts

By MARY SCHLEY

frozen at home if they won't be used in the next few days. Raviolis include artichoke, butternut squash, three cheese, and others.

If any of Cano's products sound familiar, it's because they can be found on menus all over the Peninsula, and where an easy home dinner is concerned, pasta and sauce from Cano's place will far surpass anything found at the grocery store.

Pasta Palate is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call (831) 625-6508.

### ■ Baum & Blume for moms

The usually ubiquitous and decadent Mother's Day brunches aren't happening this year, thanks to coronavirus, but Deborah Wenzler at Baum & Blume announced that her family business in Carmel Valley Village is selling Mother's Day Tea for Two gift boxes. For \$39.50, the box includes handmade dried cherry-butter milk scones, lemon curd, springtime petits fours, fresh organic strawberries, European cookies, and a dozen freshly made tea sandwiches — as well as tea.

"Throughout the slowdown, we have been creating special surprises to give folks something to look forward to each week," she said. "It is very rewarding for us to be able to share our craft with others during



Il Grillo chef Brandon Miller may not be cooking in the restaurant's kitchen for the time being, but he's been busy in his backyard garden. A handful of short YouTube videos show how.



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## CALENDAR

**May 6 – Deadline to order a Mother's Day "Tea-For-Two" giftbox!** A made-with-love "pick-me-up" Mom will cherish! Freshly baked scones, lemon curd, tea sandwiches, petits fours, strawberries, handmade cookies and tea! Baum & Blume Take Out & Catering, 4 El Caminito, Carmel Valley. Orders: (831) 659-0400. Open noon-5 p.m.

Tues.-Sat. Celebrate life. Celebrate love.

**May 12 – The Women's Fund Lunch of the Community Foundation for Monterey County is now virtual!** Join us for "Courageous Leadership During Difficult Transitions" Free. For info or to RSVP [cfmco.org/womensfund](http://cfmco.org/womensfund).

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# LOANS

From page 1A

Coast Guard pier, worked with 1st Capital Bank to secure a PPP loan. Bank president Clay Larson “specifically said that he wanted to help people like Nicole and me,” Roberts said, referring to his wife. Roberts’ loan was part of the first round. He filed his application April 8, and after not hearing anything, followed up with the bank’s operations manager, who checked the lists and found he’d been approved. He signed the documents last Tuesday and received the funds the following day. “It’s kind of incredible,” he said. “I never expected to get it, which is why I hustled so much harder to stay solvent and open the last few weeks. And it worked, I’m current on all my bills without the loan, including rent.” The loan will enable him to continue to cover payroll and even to pay himself, which he hasn’t been doing.

### A tip from a friend

After hitting multiple dead ends on the SBA loan front — including with Wells Fargo — Carmel Food Tours owner Staci Giovino received a tip from a former client that she should contact a small bank in Oakland that was helping businesses with payroll loans. She submitted an application online, and after follow-up calls from Gateway Bank representatives on Sunday and Monday seeking more information, she received an email Wednesday telling her the loan was approved and she would have funding in five days.

“In the scheme of things, it’s not a change-the-world amount, but it’s a lifeline for my business for the next

two to three months,” she said. “Once business is moving again, this bank will see every cent of my money. They are amazing with follow-through and hand-holding.”

Another downtown business that didn’t want to be named also succeeded in getting a PPP loan through Monterey County Bank.

Monterey County Bank President Charles Chrietberg said the PPP program “has really been a challenge,” because the system was overloaded, particularly when the initial funds were made available in early April.

“We got 65 percent of our applications in the first round but ended up with a backlog of 50 to 60 that we had ready to go whenever the program opened up again, and since then have taken new applications,” he said.

The SBA made it easier for small banks to get in on the action when the second round of funding came online, according to Chrietberg. The administration delayed the larger banks, which had dumped hundreds of applications into the system as soon as it opened and therefore got much of the funding during the first round, from applying.

“We made the decision early on that we were just going to take care of our existing customers,” Chrietberg said. “Otherwise, we knew we were going to be swamped.”

Once things got rolling, his bank was able to get all its loan applications in, Chrietberg said, which was “a couple hundred.” Some were approved within an hour.

One of those was a PPP loan for The Pine Cone, which publisher Paul Miller called a “godsend,” especially since the newspaper’s revenue has fallen by 50 percent, while expenses have remained about the same.

“I haven’t laid anybody off and I absolutely do not want to do that,” Miller noted. He credited Chrietberg and his staff with handling his PPP and making it possible for him to remain fully staffed.

But getting The Pine Cone and hundreds of other local businesses help took a lot of hard work on the part of his staff, Chrietberg noted.

“I had six people who were working all night” to be ready to submit the loan applications for the second round of funding as soon as they could the next day. The smallest loan was for \$1,000, while the largest was for \$600,000, and several were for customers who had never had to borrow money before.

According to statistics provided to Chrietberg by the SBA Wednesday afternoon, more than 960,000 PPP loans totaling nearly \$90 billion had been issued by more than 5,300 lenders since the new funds came online. Small banks, defined as having less than \$10 billion in assets, led the way, with more than 587,000 loans providing more than \$43 billion for small businesses. Medium-sized banks with \$10 billion to \$50 billion in assets issued more than 206,000 loans totaling more than \$20 billion, and large banks wrote 167,000 loans for more than \$25 billion.

### Still hopeful, or not

Gary Munsinger, owner of the Wine Trolley, said this week he will have to file bankruptcy, since he was unable to get anywhere on his efforts to get help from the SBA. “We will have no choice but to default on our retail lease in Carmel Valley Village. We will also find it necessary to lay off our two employees and stop operations of our beloved Wine Trolley. It was a good 16-year run that supported our friends and families in the local wine industry,” he said. “It will be a very painful 2020 losing our business, our good credit and possibly our home.” He blamed the SBA, local banks and politicians for his inability to secure funding, despite his hard work and best efforts.

Holly Horner, whose family owns Thinker Toys, also reported having terrible experiences with Wells Fargo — which had been their bank for 20 years — regarding her PPP application and has not heard back from the SBA regarding the application for an economic injury disaster loan. When the second round of funding became available for the PPP, though, she said Quickbooks opened an online portal, and she applied and received follow-up phone calls, at least. “Now, we keep waiting,” she said.

Kent Torrey, owner of the Cheese Shop, also reported struggling with Wells Fargo — which last communicated with him 16 days ago to say his application was “still in the queue” — and said Thursday he is trying to find a smaller bank with which to pursue a payroll loan.

And Geoff Malloway, who owns a fly-fishing shop in Carmel Valley, has had no luck finding out if the SBA is processing his disaster loan application, or even where it is in the system.

# FARMS

From page 1A

The grower also installed “plastic curtains between the workers” while working with crop harvesting machines to help maintain social distancing, and also has employees “skipping rows,” so that they’re more spread out while picking fruits and vegetables.

Though Gonzales doesn’t have the authority to penalize companies for not following basic measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus, he said “a little bit of peer pressure and a little bit of a coercive effect of having the ag commissioner call you directly can sometimes help” get the message through.

Monterey County chief administrative officer Charles McKee lauded the industry’s efforts “to enable the safe production of agriculture.” An early measure was the March 4 release of the Advisory for Agriculture Worker Protection During COVID-19 Crisis, which details what agriculture companies and their employees are and should be doing to protect the workforce. The Grower-Shipper Association of Central California, the Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association and others collaborated on the document.

“We were the first county to issue this type of a document, and it’s being followed widely throughout the state,” Monterey County Farm Bureau executive director Norm Groot told The Pine Cone.

### Reaching out

As the bus incident highlights, though, county officials and the ag industry are still having trouble getting their message through to workers, many of whom work and live in close quarters and don’t speak English. There are hands-on efforts to help farmworkers understand the virus, however.

Sally Tirado, co-director of community medicine for Natividad Medical Center, called agricultural workers the “first line of defense against this virus,” but said “many of

them are among those most at risk.”

She’s leading a group that’s teaching farmworkers about the “science of the virus,” including the importance of social distancing, basic sanitation, including handwashing, wearing masks, and broader questions about quarantining and self isolation.

“We are talking to them about how to avoid contaminating each other and where to go for resources,” Tirado explained.

“What do I do if I think I have the symptoms? If I have the virus, how do I know when I can go back to work? Those are the kinds of questions we are getting from them,” he added.

Tirado said medical professionals are also trying to help farmworkers overcome their fear of the virus and the social and economic repercussions that could follow if they become ill.

“They’re scared to admit they have symptoms, they are concerned about what that might mean for their families,” she explained. “They are concerned, if they do get help, where would they go? Will their jobs be at risk?”

Despite some hesitation, Tirado said that some workers have come up with their own coronavirus “action steps,” including dividing work groups on the job, a proposal to take the temperatures of employees before work, taking staggered breaks, and the idea that one person would be assigned to disinfecting the portable toilets.

“I know that not all those things they’ve come up with can be integrated into the workplace, but some of them can,” she said.

Meanwhile, even as it becomes apparent that the tens of thousands of people the Monterey County Health Department predicted would be ill with coronavirus will not come to fruition, Moreno on April 24 stood by the University of Pennsylvania model his agency used to come up with its projections, saying it was the “most appropriate” model for the county.

He also said the county’s epidemiologists would “repeat” the model when the “increase in cases is large enough that we might expect different outcomes from the model.”



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# MUSIC

From page 18A

might be nice, Holodiloff enjoys doing street concerts.

“I just love playing music,” he said. “I’ve busked all over the world. I was busking in Italy this past winter. I was supposed to be in Peru right now.”

Holodiloff said passersby seem to be enjoying the impromptu performances — and they’re maintaining safe-distancing practices.

“Everybody seems to be enjoying the music,” he added. “So far, I’ve gotten nothing but love.”

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# Amazing speed, great coordination and a Ph.D. in neuropsychology

TWO DECADES later, we're still waiting for "the next Katie Denny" on the Monterey Peninsula, and it's time to consider the possibility that we'll never see another.

By the time she graduated from Stevenson School with the Class of 2000, she stood 6-foot-1, ran the basketball

a very challenging experience," she said.

A big upside? She channeled much of that stress and frustration into her academics at the university, and ultimately found her career path.

"I got really interested in understanding performance under pressure, not only in athletics, but also in academics, as a student-athlete," said Denny, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology at Stanford, and a Ph.D. in clinical neuropsychology from the University of Miami. "How do we perform at the free-throw line with two seconds left, down by two points? And how do we juggle athletics and academics, manage all of the day-to-day stressors, and develop a sense of self when we're 20 years old?"

In 2014, while doing post-doctoral studies and teaching at UC Davis, Denny reconnected with former Stanford

football player Michael Macellari. They married in 2017 and held the reception on the Stevenson campus.

### 'Endless fascination'

Today they're enjoying life with their two daughters (Emma, 2, and Addie, 5 months) in Southern California, where he is doing his residency in internal medicine in Loma Linda, intending to specialize in sports medicine, and she teaches at UC Irvine, where she also conducts clinical studies of the brain functions of people with epilepsy and student-athletes who have suffered concussions.

For Denny, neuropsychology is an endless fascination, but being a mom is a passion she couldn't have imagined. "Oh, my gosh, becoming a mother changed everything."

See SPORTS page 24A

## Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

floor like a greyhound, dribbled and passed like a point guard, and rebounded like a power forward. She could drive the lane or shoot from deep space. She played great defense.

By the end of her freshman season (1998-1999), Denny was already on the radar of college basketball scouts. As a ninth-grader at Stevenson (where her mom, Sue, is a long-time science teacher), she had averaged 12.7 points and 5.9 rebounds, making the all-league and all-county teams.

### Showtime

The following year, she became a superstar. The San Jose Mercury News named her Sophomore of the Year, the Mission Trail Athletic League made her Most Valuable Player, and she was all-league, all-county, and all-state after leading coach Shawn Evans' Pirates to the Central Coast Section Division IV championship and the semi-final round of the NorCal tournament. On a talented, senior-dominated roster, she led the team in scoring (17.6 points) and rebounds (6.3).

By the time her junior year ended, the big-time college basketball scouts were jockeying for position. Denny had averaged 22 points and 10 rebounds, repeated as league MVP, was Monterey County's Player of the Year, and made Cal Hi Sports' Division IV all-state team.

And then, it was showtime. With recruiters from Stanford, Duke and Arizona elbowing each other in the bleachers, Denny blew up to 29.1 points and 8.9 rebounds, and also dealt 3.1 assists in her senior year. She scored 52 points in a game at Carmel — still the all-time record for Stevenson and Monterey County.

"Playing basketball at Stanford had been my dream since the eighth grade," she said. "My dad was, and still is, a professor there. It was the closest large university with a great women's basketball program." She had also grown up watching the Cardinals play.

"I looked very seriously at Duke (her dad's alma mater) and Arizona, so Stanford wasn't a shoo-in by any means, but that's definitely where my heart was," she said.

Of course, even the fondest hearts can break.

The player who had rarely left the court at Stevenson was marginalized at Stanford. She saw precious little playing time as a freshman, averaging 1.0 point and 0.3 rebounds in 21 games. Her best game was against Washington State, when she scored 7 points, all from the free-throw line.

### It's complicated

She got into 24 games the next year, averaging 2.2 points and 0.7 rebounds, with an 8-point, 3-assist best game, again against Washington State.

Denny opened her junior year with the best game of her collegiate career, scoring 18 points and grabbing seven rebounds against Princeton in the first round of the Stanford Invitational, but the promise of a breakout season was short lived. She missed eight games with a sore knee and two more with a broken hand, and finished with averages of 2.0 points and 1.6 rebounds.

She averaged 5.6 minutes, with 16 points and 16 rebounds in 21 games, in her senior season.

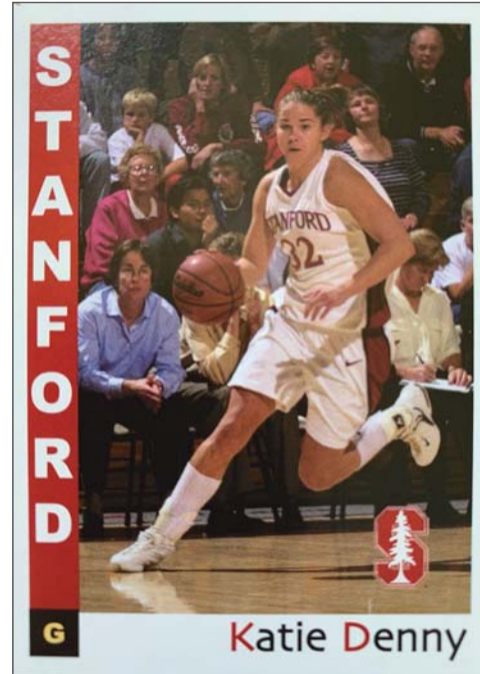
"It can be a complicated relationship when you come into a basketball program like Stanford's as an 18-year-old," Denny said. "Basketball is so much of what you love and who you are, and what you discover is college sports is a business and it's competitive. So you work as hard as you can, and do the best you can."

"For me, and for many of my friends who also played at Stanford, it was a blow to my confidence in a pretty significant way. I'm honored to have competed there, but it was



PHOTO/COURTESY DENNY FAMILY

Stevenson alum Katie Denny and husband Michael Macellari are raising two young daughters in Southern California. The 2000 graduate was — and is — a legend among local high school athletes. She also played at Stanford, where she earned bachelor's and master's degrees.



Katie Denny

*Worship*

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[www.carmelmission.org](http://www.carmelmission.org)

**We invite you to visit our website during this time of uncertainty caused by the coronavirus.**

**There you will be able to join us for the streaming of the Holy Mass each Sunday.**

**In compliance with County, State and Federal directives our Mission and Offices remain closed for the foreseeable future.**

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Morning Prayer ~ Weekdays 9 a.m.  
Centering Prayer ~ Thursdays 5:30 p.m.  
[www.allsaintscarmel.org](http://www.allsaintscarmel.org) Email: [info@allsaintscarmel.org](mailto:info@allsaintscarmel.org)

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**Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church**  
Services: Saturday Vespers from 5 p.m.  
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Lincoln and 9th Street, Carmel by the Sea (entrance from Lincoln).  
(408) 605-0621 or [fatherion@gmail.com](mailto:fatherion@gmail.com)  
Full schedule: [www.stjohn-monterey.org](http://www.stjohn-monterey.org)

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So Little Time

## Editorial

# It's not greed

FROM SOME of the letters to the editor we've received, not to mention the "not for publication" emails that crowd our inbox, you'd think that anyone who's calling for the economy to reopen as soon as possible is not just inadequately sensitive to the health and safety concerns of society's most vulnerable, they are actually hostile to them — and greedy to boot.

But is anyone who thinks the economy also matters really acting like a hybrid of Charles Manson and Ebenezer Scrooge? Hardly. Please let us explain.

The population of the United States is about 320 million. Last summer, the number of people in this country with full-time jobs hit an all-time high of 132 million, or about 41 percent.

Since a country's entire wealth is its current productivity plus whatever's left over from the productivity of the past, it is no exaggeration to say that the workforce generates a very large portion of the income enjoyed by everyone in the country, whether they work or not. Which means that last summer's 132 million fulltime workers (plus people who worked part-time) supported not only themselves, but everyone around them.

But what happens if people stop working? We don't have to wonder, because that's what's happening right now, as new unemployment claims reach 30 million because of the coronavirus shutdown — a collapse of employment that U.S. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell says means Americans are "facing the worst economy in history."

And by "worst economy" what Mr. Powell means is, "We will all be a lot poorer."

Sure, the most immediate suffering when someone loses their job is felt by the victim and his family, and it can be easy under those circumstances to say, "Just go on unemployment and wait for the virus to go away." But unemployment payments are just somebody else's productivity transferred to you. Same thing with all the other rescue dollars flowing into the economy.

Meanwhile, when you aren't productive because you're unemployed or you had to shut your business down, the wealth your work would have generated is not only lost to you, it's lost to the whole economy. And when you multiply that by 30 million or 40 million people, pretty soon you're talking about mucho dinero.

In other words, a recession like we're suddenly experiencing is not only a disaster for the unemployed, it's a disaster for everybody.

And that is the reason to do everything possible to let people get back to work — not only for their sake, but for yours.

Of course, this must be done safely, by starting with parts of the economy that involve the least risk of spreading the virus and are done with social distancing in mind. Golf would be a perfect place to begin, along with landscaping, construction and non-emergency medical procedures. Soon after should come retail stores and offices. And then places like restaurants and gyms.

Are you a full-time worker? Congratulations, because you're one of the people who make this country go. And the sooner you can get back to it, the better off everyone will be.

## BEST of BATES



"Your plans are OK, Mr. Jeffers. But we still need an EIR."

## Letters to the Editor

### More fatal than the virus?

Dear Editor,

National averages today report approximately 1 million Americans have been detected to be infected by the coronavirus, while 30 million people in the United States have applied for unemployment insurance.

To date, Monterey County has 206 cases of the coronavirus reported, with five fatalities. Hospitals are laying off staff due to not being able to fill beds. Elective surgeries have been forbidden.

The number of businesses closed, events canceled and people suffering has been costing Monterey County incalculable pain.

Restrictions are tightening; not loosening. Unfortunately, the results of this severity and treating Monterey County and its citizens as "one size fits all" is at a huge expense. The outcome has resulted in its own creeping "virus." Paralysis has come to this once vibrant community. Continuing this pattern may prove much more fatal than the coronavirus itself.

Harriet Lynn, Carmel

### Golf should be encouraged

Dear Editor,

I completely agree with your recent editorial, and have to seriously fault Dr. Moreno's analysis, and therefore his justifi-

cations, to halt safe activities in the county.

One example is golf. The idea that stopping people from playing golf on their local (possibly private) golf courses, walking, observing social distancing, and not touching anything but personal property they carry with them as they walk is far less appropriate than the crowds of people that are allowed to visit a Walmart store for shopping purposes. We are allowed and encouraged to walk in the fresh air. So it is not unreasonable to prevent people from walking in the fresh air separated from others and happen to play a game in the process? Many folks from Carmel are driving two hours south to Paso Robles and playing golf. Why not here?

He is also off base by restricting single/individual gardeners tending to client properties. Other than inflicting inconvenience and injury to workers, it is allowing for fire danger to grow in our neighborhoods.

I don't understand where Moreno's head is at. The forecasts he provided to prove his point are ridiculously far from reality. He forecasts large numbers, but the charts he presented show unrealistic numbers as his starting point. Why does this unelected official have so much power?

Rick Thau, Carmel Valley

### 'Uncharted territory'

Dear Editor,

Some countries are reopening with a degree of safety thanks to their Covid-19 tests. Our administration has tossed testing back to the states, which are scrambling to test people. Lacking testing ability, states

See LETTERS page 24A

■ **Publisher** ..... Paul Miller (paul@carmelpinecone.com)  
 ■ **Production/Sales Manager** ... Jackie Miller (jackie@carmelpinecone.com)  
 ■ **Office Manager**..... Irma Garcia (274-8645)  
 ■ **Reporters** ..... Mary Schley (274-8660), Chris Counts (274-8665)  
 ..... Kelly Nix (274-8664)  
 ■ **Features Editor**..... Elaine Hesser (274-8661)  
 ■ **Advertising Sales**..... Real Estate, Big Sur - Jung Yi (274-8646)  
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 .....Meena Lewellen (274-8655)  
 Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, Sand City ..... Jessica Caird (274-8590)  
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 ■ **Ad Design & Obituaries** ..... Anne Papineau (274-8654)  
 ■ **Office Assistant**..... Megan Richards (274-8593)  
 ■ **Circulation Manager** ..... Scott MacDonald (261-6110)  
 ■ For complete contact info: www.carmelpinecone.com/info.htm

  
**The Carmel Pine Cone**

www.carmelpinecone.com

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. 106 No. 18 • May 1, 2020

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 A California Corporation

734 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove, California 93950

Mail: P.O. Box G-1, Carmel CA 93921

Email: mail@carmelpinecone.com

or firstname@carmelpinecone.com

Telephone: (831) 274-8593

**The Carmel Pine Cone**

was established in 1915 and is a legal newspaper for Carmel-by-the-Sea, Monterey County and the State of California, established by Superior Court Decree No. 35759, July 3, 1952

# Bixby Bridge cliffside restaurant: There's nothing left but colorful stories

ON TRIPS to Big Sur, I often heard about the Crocodile's Tail, a once-popular restaurant that was cliffside at Big Sur's Bixby Creek Bridge. Many longtimers told me it fell into the ocean. As I looked into that story, I learned the Crocodile's Tail was only the last name of the restaurant that operated at that scenic spot, and it didn't actually fall into the ocean.

As the state was completing the Bixby Creek Bridge in 1932, Howard and Frida

their bedroom.

The Sharpes discovered a large raft of sea otters below the Stone House. Otters were then believed extinct, so it was quite a find. The news brought hundreds of tourists, who dined and paid 10 cents to look through the Sharpes' large telescope.

Soon after the otter incident, Howard and Frida separated. He moved to Southern California. Frida kept nearly 30 acres on the coast, including the Stone House, which she expanded and renamed Bixby Inn. She continued to operate it until World War II closed the highway in 1942. She then moved to Carmel. Willy enlisted in 1942, became a

bomber pilot, and was killed over Germany in 1944. When the highway reopened after the war, Frida Sharpe did not have the heart to go back into business at the Stone House, especially as the building had been vandalized and the furnishings stolen.

### Gallatin's

Sharpe instead leased it to 37-year-old Navy veteran Albert Gallatin Powers, the son of Carmel's co-founder, Frank Powers, and Jane Gallatin. Powers rehabilitated and expanded the structure in early 1946 and, in June, opened the restaurant as Gallatin's. An early ad read, "It is an easy 20-minute drive from Carmel halfway down to the Big Sur on Highway 1. There you will find a charming redwood dining room with tables in front of the fireplace and large plate glass windows through which you can see for miles up and down the coast."

"Gal" and his wife, Lucille, were popular hosts and the restaurant flourished. Powers' success in Big Sur likely influenced his sister, Lolly, and her husband, Bill Fassett, to buy land in 1947 where they later built Nepenthe. Powers' first experience as a restaurateur, however, turned tragic in 1948.

See **BIXBY** page 24A

## History Beat

By NEAL HOTELLING

Sharpe were building their Stone House on the cliff side of the new highway, just north of the bridge. It was literally on the western edge of the former 300-acre Gilkey Ranch, which the couple had bought in 1919. Howard was a retired Army officer who had married Frida in 1911 when he was stationed at the Presidio of Monterey and she was a local schoolteacher.

The old ranch was located about 18 miles south of Carmel, along the Old Coast Road at Mill Creek, now known as Bixby Creek. He was 38 and she was 29 when they moved to the rustic setting with their infant daughter, Rosalind. They modernized the old seven-bedroom ranch house with indoor plumbing and promoted it to travelers as Rainbow Lodge. From 1920 to 1925, Rainbow Lodge also served as the area's post office and library. Frida was postmaster and librarian.

### Heartbroken

When the new highway opened, the road to the Rainbow Lodge fell out of use, so the Sharpes turned the Stone House into a simple restaurant and store. Howard and their son, Willy, who was born in 1923, then slept on the dirt floor of the cellar, and Frida and Rosalind converted an office into



PHOTO/COURTESY PAT HATHAWAY

In 1946, Gallatin Powers extended a dining room that perched precariously atop the cliff next to the Bixby Creek Bridge.

# A PAGE FULL OF NOTES AND A BLANK CANVAS SUIT HER EQUALLY WELL

THREE YEARS ago, at her 50th high school reunion, Kathleen Ebright Tarp's former classmates reminisced about watching her climb onto a picnic table as a fourth-grader to do impressions of Ed Sullivan introducing Tallulah Bankhead and Teresa Brewer.

By that time, performing for an audience had already become second nature to Tarp, whose mother had been shouting, "Sing, Kathleen!" at every party and public

graduated with a degree in sociology," Tarp said. "I had always wanted to be a social worker, and that's what I did until my girlfriend and I decided to take a 90-day trip around the United States in her MG sports car."

When they returned, Tarp read the want ads in the San Francisco Chronicle and saw, "Female vocalist wanted for world-famous traveling singing group."

"That was on a Sunday," she said. "I called on Monday, went to San Francisco to audition on Tuesday, and on Thursday I was gone forever, living out of a suitcase, on the road with the Serendipity Singers."

At 23, she was a member of an American folk group that had been famous since the mid-1960s, after their debut single, "Don't Let the Rain Come Down (Crooked Little Man)," became a chart-topping hit that placed them in the same stratosphere with The New Christy Minstrels, the Back Porch Majority, The Kingston Trio, The Brothers Four, and others of the genre.

### Presidential hello

For Tarp, it was a seven-year thrill ride, during which she shared stages with Bob Hope, Lou Rawls, Victor Borge, Trini Lopez, Donald O'Connor, Helen Hayes, Glenn Ford and Henny Youngman.

In 1976, Tarp and the group sang in Boston for the nation's 200th birthday celebration, flew to Bend, Ore., for a Fourth of July performance on a floating river stage, then rented a motor home and drove to Anaheim to sing for 45,000 people at a fundraising event for the re-election of President Gerald Ford.

"President Ford was an hour-and-a-half late, so we just kept singing," she remembered. "Other people started coming onstage with us — John Wayne, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Hugh O'Brien, Peter Graves ...

"The president finally got there and came down the line, shaking hands. I was at the very end, right next to John Wayne, and when Ford got to me I said, 'OK, Ger ... just where the hell have you been?'"

Tarp and two other members of the Serendipity Singers eventually split off to form their own group, which toured the United States, Canada and Asia until 1984, when at 35 she left the road life and settled in Los Gatos, unsure of what to do next.

She took a sales job with the Ralston Purina Corp., which sparked an entrepreneurial brainstorm. She noticed that the people doing food demos in supermarkets were mostly women. College campuses were

See **TARP** page 24A

## Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

gathering since she was 4.

The longtime Carmel Valley resident is a professional artist, showing her work in the galleries at the Monterey Peninsula Art Foundation and Carmel Valley Art Association, but at 71, Tarp said she feels like she already had "lived a million lives" before she had reached her mid-30s.

She was 17, enjoying her junior prom at San Carlos High (between San Jose and San Francisco), when somebody pulled her away from her dance partner to take a breathless phone call from her mother. It was, of course, an emergency: The teenager had been selected to play the lead role in "Cinderella" at San Carlos' famous Circle Star Theater, a 2,600-seat theater in the round whose stage bears the DNA of Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Jack Benny, James Brown, Dionne Warwick, Ella Fitzgerald and Ray Charles, to name just a few. The musical drew standing-room crowds. Very big deal.

### Folk star?

That same year, she was invited to sing with Broadway star John Raitt (Bonnie's father) and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra.

"Then I went to San Jose State and



PHOTO/BILL TARP

Kathleen Tarp performed with the Serendipity Singers, created and sold a successful company, then became a painter.

Don't miss "Scenic Views" by Jerry Gervase — every week in the Real Estate Section.



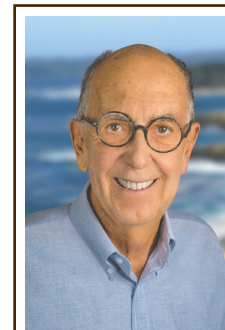
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# TARP

From page 23A

teeming with handsome, charming young men eager to make a buck. Who would moms rather buy from?

"Our whole premise was to bring some sex appeal to the supermarket," Tarp said. "We sent a little brochure pitching the concept to 20 large companies, and three days later I got a call from the VP of marketing at Hormel Foods."

"Can you girls do all of Northern California three weeks from now?" he asked Tarp, who had zero employees other than her partner.

"Sure!" she said.

"Then, I hung up and said, 'Ohhh, my God!'" she remembers.

## Elevator pitch

She threw a card table into her car with a sign that said, "Guys ... easy money ... talk to me!" and drove to nearly every campus in Northern California to recruit handsome employees for \$8 an hour — good money for a college kid in the 1980s. The Hormel gig was a success, word spread, and within six months, they had 600 employees working every weekend.

Then Tarp pitched her concept to the president of Lucky Supermarkets during an elevator ride, and got an exclusive contract. Quality Demonstrations Inc. employed 1,500 employees by the time she sold her half of the company six years later.

In 1989, at 40, she fulfilled a longtime dream and

# SPORTS

From page 21A

It's wonderful — the absolute best," she said. "I want my daughters to do whatever makes them happy, and I want them to fall in love with the things they get to do. I'd also love to see them become involved in sports — whatever they enjoy. And if turns out to be basketball, that would be wonderful."

## 15 Seconds of Fame

The older we get, the better we were — that's just a natural fact — and, at some point, the sun shines on everybody. Isn't it way past time to remind every Pine Cone reader about the most glorious moment of your otherwise inglorious athletic life?

Did you beat the star athlete at your elementary school in a push-up contest? Did you almost win a demolition derby in your dad's old Studebaker? Did you strike out your idiot boss in the company softball game?

In 600 words (give or take), tell us the story of your "15 Seconds of Fame." Name names if you want, exaggerate if you must, be descriptive (brownie points for local flavor), and provide us with a photo, vintage or otherwise, if you can. Send it to Dennis Taylor at scribelaureate@gmail.com.

moved from Los Gatos to the Monterey Peninsula. That same year, at a lecture, she met a Salinas grower, Bill Tarp.

"I asked him what he enjoyed, and he said, 'I like to take my kids to museums, and I like to read Shakespeare,'" she said. "It was love at first sight. I married him four months later, moved to Carmel Valley, and we still love each other almost 31 years later."

His son and daughter, 6 and 9 at the time, became the lights of her life, and also inadvertently inspired her transition into art.

"One summer, we went to a cabin at Lake Alpine. It rained and rained, and I was wondering how to entertain the kids," Tarp said. "I finally got out paper plates, pencils and crayons, and said, 'Let's draw!' I drew a picture, too, and it looked pretty good. I could draw a tree ... a lake ... rocks! It came out of nowhere."

She subsequently took workshops from renowned local artists Mark Farina and Dick Crispo, among others, paint-

ed frequently with gaggles of plein air painters, and honed a colorful, impressionistic style. She favors landscapes, seascapes, floral scenes, and portraits, often of musicians.

"I listen to jazz while I paint, because it's so freeing and there are no mistakes," she said. "For me, it's really true that it's not about the end result, it's about the journey. I sink into my zone and it feels like magic."

Also magical is life on the Monterey Peninsula, which she calls "the jewel of the universe, the place where everybody else wants to be."

"I feel so blessed every day to be where I am," said Tarp, now a two-time grandmother. "Everywhere you look, there's a painting."

Tarp's artwork can be seen on the websites of the Monterey Peninsula Art Foundation (mpaf.org) and the Carmel Valley Art Association (carmelvalleyartassociation.org).

Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.com.

# BIXBY

From page 23A

Powers commuted from the Peninsula, but some of his Filipino kitchen staff lived in rooms below the restaurant. In the late hours of Aug. 5, 1948, the workers were engaged in "a heated session of Chinese dominoes." When the headwaiter arrived the next day to open the restaurant, he discovered the gruesome site of five dead workers who had been beaten and shot many times. One busboy was missing.

He was finally found and arrested in January 1949. After admitting to the five murders, he was sentenced to life imprisonment at San Quentin.

Powers closed his restaurant and reopened Gallatin's in 1950 in the Stokes Adobe on Hartnell Street in Monterey. The restaurant at Bixby Creek Bridge was then leased to Ralph and Betty Ann Gilman, who named it The Crocodile's Tail.

## Shirley Temple

Gilman, then 34, was a Berkeley native where he was a star swimmer and made the 1936 U.S. Olympic team that went to Berlin. He had worked at Trader Vic's in Oakland before striking out on his own. He had also studied eastern Indian food and culture, and when the new restaurant opened in June 1950, it specialized in authentically prepared Indian food.

The restaurant received national publicity when former child star Shirley Temple dined there after her Dec. 16, 1950, marriage to Charles Black in Pebble Beach.

Nevertheless, the Crocodile's Tail at Bixby Creek closed after less than two years. On Jan. 16, 1952, the cliff-side support failed. The restaurant didn't fall into the ocean, but large cracks in the structure caused its closure. The

Gilmans removed and stored the fixtures and inventory as they contemplated what was next.

As luck would have it, the Monterey Airport was completing a new terminal and wanted a restaurant there. The Gilmans kept the Crocodile's Tail name and opened at the airport on April 1, 1952.

In June of 1952 they were given a dance permit and looked forward to a great future. But again, the life of the Crocodile's Tail was short lived. The challenge of starting two restaurants in two years left them overextended, and the Gilmans closed the restaurant and filed for bankruptcy in February 1953. He was an assistant manager at Gallatin's until October 1955, when he rolled his car on the Holman Highway and was killed.

As for the old restaurant, Sharpe was able to sell it to the state in July 1953, and they dismantled the structure. There is nothing left but a bit of the foundation, the memories, and perhaps dreams of what a scenic place it must have been to enjoy a meal.



PHOTO/COURTESY PAT HATHAWAY.

(Top) This late-1930s postcard shows the original Stone House with a wooden expansion added by the owner, Frida Sharpe. (Above) An ad for the restaurant from the June 1950 Game & Gossip magazine

# Fire escapes burn pile

A BURN pile at Lucia was left unattended April 28 and ignited nearby brush. Although it was quickly extinguished by volunteers from Big Sur Fire, the incident underscored the fact that burn season ended this week, and that fire season is quickly approaching.

A resident reported seeing smoke shortly after 11 a.m.

Big Sur Fire Chief Matt Harris told The Pine Cone that only about a quarter-acre burned before the flames were put out. Besides the local volunteers, state and federal firefighters arrived on scene.

# LETTERS

From page 22A

will need to decide how much risk they are willing to take when reopening.

I agree with Monterey County Supervisor Mary Adams' letter to The Pine Cone last week that we are in uncharted territory. Much remains unknown about Covid-19. I appreciate the actions taken by Gov. Gavin Newsom, the Monterey County supervisors and Health Officer Edward Moreno. The officials' actions have kept Californians from being slammed by the pandemic. Maybe the model Moreno used to predict the possible number of local cases was not the best one for here, but so far the county has avoided overwhelming our hospitals and health workers dying from the virus as has happened in other parts of our nation.

The small antibody test on locals who thought they had had Covid-19 you reported on last week showed only 7 of the 120 people tested were positive. If the tests were accurate, this suggests the virus has not hit our local population with any intensity. Although a small sample, it serves to debunk a popular theory that many of us have had the virus.

Many second homes in Carmel usually unoccupied now have two cars in their driveway. Residents of these homes probably arrived from many areas of the U.S. With movement like this in our country, the virus will continue to travel, too.

It's a new day and way of being. We are all feeling our way, including government officials and the man or woman on the street. When walking in my neighborhood a couple chastised me for not wearing a mask. Hoping to avoid another such an encounter, I wore a mask when walking on the Scenic Road path above the beach. An older man breezed by me passing within a foot or two, smirking as he asked, "What are you afraid of? The fresh air?"

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# MORE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND THE UNEMPLOYED

By MARY SCHLEY

THE U.S. CHAMBER of Commerce is providing \$5,000 grants for a little short-term relief for business owners, the county and an organization called Cal Coastal are issuing microloans up to \$25,000, and self-employed people and independent contractors began applying for federal help through the new Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program Tuesday.

## Emergency microloans

Monterey County and the California Coastal Rural Development Corporation are collaborating on an emergency microloan fund to issue low-interest loans up to \$25,000,

Lee Takikawa, president and CEO of Cal Coastal, told the county board of supervisors last month. The county's economic development department is using part of its federal loan funds for the program, which provides five-year loans with payments deferred for up to nine months.

With less than \$700,000 in federal tax dollars available, the program will help as many as three dozen businesses among the thousands that are making little to no income during the shutdown. It's first come, first served, and to be eligible, businesses must be located in the county, and have two to 10 employees and annual revenues that don't exceed \$2 million. They have to have been operating for at least a year and have filed 2018 tax returns. Eligible borrowers must also present a recovery plan.

Takikawa told The Pine Cone last week that he had received six applications and approved two loans for \$25,000 each — one for a well established dog-training business and one for legal services. "There are \$611,000 in funds remaining," he said, with \$200,000 reserved for South County businesses until May 15.

"Once we receive a complete loan application with supporting documents, we can approve and fund the loans within five to 10 business days," he said. Go to calcoastal.org or call (831) 424-1099.

## U.S. Chamber grants

Corporations and philanthropists have created the Save Small Business Fund, which is distributing \$5,000 grants through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to member businesses. The cash is available to businesses with three to 20 employees operating in "an economically vulnerable community" — which is pretty much everywhere, these days. Visit savesmallbusiness.com.

## The other unemployed

While traditional unemployment benefits are available to the 30 million people across the United States who have filed for them in the past few weeks, many others who are out of work due to the coronavirus shutdown did not qualify because they were self-employed, worked as independent contractors, or had insufficient work histories. But they, as well as those who have already exhausted their regular benefits, can now file for pandemic unemployment assistance, made available through the \$2 trillion CARES Act.

Retroactive to a person's last day of work or to Feb. 2, whichever is later, the minimum weekly benefit amount will be \$167, but payments could be higher, depending on proof of prior earnings. Unemployed workers will get an additional \$600 per week between March 29 and July 25. The benefits run for 39 weeks, and the program ends Dec. 26. Go to labor.ca.gov/pandemic-unemployment-assistance-pua-program.

# New county shutdown order coming Friday

By KELLY NIX

MOST MONTEREY County residents are now required to wear face coverings while buying groceries and in certain work situations, according to an order by Monterey County Health Officer Ed Moreno that went into effect April 30. But that same day, Moreno said he would issue yet another modified shelter-in-place order May 1.

The next revision of the isolation order, which will be unveiled Friday at 10 a.m., extends the current shelter-in-place order that was set to expire May 3. The revision will be in effect for an unspecified amount of time but also includes a "lifting of restrictions on some low-risk activities for residents as well as lifting restrictions for some industries to allow segments of the community to return to work," Moreno's office said.

The mandatory face-covering order requires residents to wear masks when they enter a business, such as a restaurant or market, are in a hospital or clinic, or are riding on public transportation, such as a bus. It also applies to

workplaces with more than one employee present.

The order recommends — but does not require — people wear masks outside while walking, hiking, bicycling or running or other recreation.

"Each person engaged in such activity must comply with social distancing requirements including maintaining at least 6 feet of separation from all other people to the greatest extent possible," according to Moreno's order.

Children 12 years and under and those driving alone or with other members of their family or household are also not required to wear face coverings. Masks should not be worn by anyone who has trouble breathing or "is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance," the order says.

Face coverings can be made from cloth, factory made or hand sewn, or improvised using bandannas, scarves, T-shirts, sweatshirts or towels, and should cover the nose and mouth.

Go to mttyhd.org to read the order and what the county says are frequently asked questions.

# GOLF

From page 1A

"By following the stringent rules and protocols we've developed, we can keep our guests and employees safer," he said. "So once we get the green light from Monterey County, we'll be ready to implement these protocols."

Sharp said he's been in talks with county officials, pleading with them to let people return to golf courses, which offer good opportunities for outdoor activity and recreation. He noted that just during the past week, Napa, Placer, San Joaquin, Ventura and other counties have opened their courses.

"Maybe people will realize golf can be played safely," he said. "There are several studies that talk about the health benefits of getting outside."

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# DORMS

From page 1A

county's four hospitals.

The fairgrounds facility cost \$450,000 to set up and will have about \$265,000 per month in operating costs, Mike Derr, the county's contracts and purchasing officer, said.

The federal government is footing three-quarters of the bill through its Covid-19 response plan, but county staffing costs are not reimbursable.

The "alternative housing site," as it's called, will have medical staff, armed security, and management on scene 24 hours a day. The facility is necessary, the health department contends, to slow the spread of the virus. Prospective Covid-19 patients will be referred through the county health department by hospitals or medical providers.

## Can't leave without permission

Those eligible for the housing are those with the virus who live in aggregate living situations, such as farmworker housing or homeless camps, and are unable to isolate themselves. The guests will wear wristbands to let staff know which dorms they're assigned to.

The women's dorm is in the Salinas Room, which fairgoers recognize as the building used to display the county's top produce every year. There's nothing posh about the 10-foot-by-10 foot accommodations, which include Army Green cots, linens, blankets and plastic folding chairs on mostly concrete floors, though Derr said they are "probably more comfortable" than what some residents are used to.

The male dorms are set up in the King City Room, and a transgender unit is in the fairgrounds crafts building and is equipped with eight beds but can be expanded to 12. There are also dorms for parents with children, but fathers and mothers will be separated. Each parental dorm has 12 beds but can be set up for 17.

While there are not enough buildings to offer accommodations for families with Covid-19 to live together, the county had planned to house them in some of the 100 trailers the state promised Monterey County. On Wednesday night, though, county office of emergency services manager Gerry Malais told The Pine Cone that the 15 trailers the county has received are all it will get.

The guests will be free to roam much of the fairgrounds but won't be permitted to leave the property until the health department OK's their release.

"If for some reason somebody needs to leave for medical reasons, or just insists they don't want to be here any longer, the county will transport them back to where they originally lived," Derr said. However, those who leave must arrange somewhere where they can isolate themselves.

"They don't have to remain in the dorms and they don't have to stay separated," Derr explained. "They can actually come out here and be out in the sunshine together" but will still have to maintain social distancing and wear masks during their stay.

WiFi won't be available, but there will be limited entertainment in the form of board games, and movies shown on a screen set up on the Garden Stage, "so that people don't come here and feel like they are in prison," he said.

When it comes time to eat, they will have staggered times for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and will pick up food at a vendor station next to the Garden Stage where fair food is normally sold.

## Laundry available

A 53-foot mobile laundry trailer provided by the state and at least one portable shower trailer, with four stalls for females, and four stalls for males, and another for disabled guests will be available. The county, Derr said, also had to install fire extinguishers and emergency exit lighting in all of the dorms — improvements which will remain in the buildings once the guests leave.

There are also dorms — which have

essentially the same accommodations as the residents — for staff who need to stay overnight.

Food preparation is being handled by a company that provides food at county-owned Laguna Seca, the electric work was done by a nearby electrician, and the sanitation company is also based in Monterey County.

"We've tried to use as many local vendors as possible to keep them employed," Derr said.

Malais noted that Moreno also predicted April 14 that we would have "many, many more people infected at this point than we do now." Though the county is spending a lot of money on the alternative housing sites, Malais also said "we are really hoping this is all for naught."

## Cats and dogs, too

Officials are also coordinating with the SPCA for Monterey County for an area near the fairgrounds' main stage where as

# PACREP

From page 10A

venues have gone dark until the pandemic dissipates. Wheeler, a Carmel native and Stevenson School alumnus, opted to accept a lead role in "Matilda" instead of traveling to Japan for a Tokyo Disney gig.

"Last year I worked for Tokyo Disney the entire year, and under normal circumstances, I'd be headed back there now, or going to New York for theater auditions, or going to Florida to audition for Disney jobs," he said. "But the entire live-theater industry is shut down, so those opportunities aren't there, so unfortunately my line of work is indefinitely on hold.

"I'm fortunate that Disney treats me pretty well as a lead singer, so I'm not living paycheck to paycheck at the moment, but it's frightening," Wheeler said. "I'm quarantining with my family right now, so I'm not paying rent or utility bills — just helping out in other ways. But the idea that I might be without a steady income for the foreseeable future is very scary."

Goren, the costume designer, is a professional electrologist and massage therapist whose four-decade-old business on Sixth Avenue near Lincoln closed due to the pandemic on March 17.

"That was the day I saw my last client, and I haven't earned a cent since," she said. "And I've made the costumes for probably 95 percent of the PacRep productions over the past nine years, so that's also a huge part of my life in so many ways, financially and otherwise."

Business manager Julie Hughett, who handles payroll, contracts, and other tasks for PacRep, is still drawing a paycheck, but said she has far less to do nowadays.

"Fortunately, we have a board of directors that is trying to keep us working, and Stephen has been able to secure a small-business loan for us," said Hughett, who also was part of the "Marjorie Prime" cast. "And we've been able to keep our School of Dramatic Arts and summer camps going by shifting all of that online, so there are some rays of sunshine."

## Big deficit

Susanne Burns, a drama teacher at Monterey Peninsula College, is dealing with the challenge of converting PacRep's drama school and camps for children to an internet setting, a new experience for her.

"The whole technology thing is a learning curve. It's not a natural thing for me," said Burns, who was director of both "Matilda" and "Babe." "I just finished an online class with a small group of girls, ages 8 to 11. We're teaching them how to act for the camera. We still play theater games, we're reading scripts, doing monologues. They love it, but it's bizarre for me. I'm such a hands-on teacher, and it's very different to teach to students who are in little boxes on my computer screen."

Still on the schedule for Pac Rep are "The Addams Family Musical" (Nov. 12-Dec. 20), and "The Beat Goes On Tribute Concert" (Dec. 31-Jan. 10), all at the Golden Bough, "Death and the Maiden" (Sept. 3-20) at the Circle Theater, and a Forest Theater show, "Othello" (Oct. 1-18).

But Moorer said he's braced for the

many as 45 pets will be housed while their owners stay there. SPCA employees will set up a kennel facility for dogs and cats.

"We are supporting the operation with pet food and supplies, but we are not physically going to be on-site," SPCA spokeswoman Beth Brookhouser told The Pine Cone Monday afternoon.

Those with small dogs or cats might be able to have their pets with them in their dorm in a portable kennel, but requests would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, Derr said. For pets that can't be housed at the fairgrounds, the SPCA will take in those animals and care for them while their owners are away.

The county is also setting up quarantine operations in King City and Salinas, along with a massive alternative care site at the Marina airport for Covid-19 patients who need hospitalization. That 55,000-square-foot facility will be able to handle an overflow of 250 to 300 patients who can't be treated at one of the county's hospitals.

worst-case scenario and believes the likelihood is high that all will eventually be canceled.

"The good news is that we went into the pandemic with strong financials which gives us the ability to borrow. We're also hoping to get some money from the Payroll Protection Program," he said, referring to the federal government's loans for small businesses.

Also helpful: Many loyal theatergoers have opted for ticket credits, rather than refunds, for the canceled shows, and some have made generous donations to PacRep during the pandemic.

Moorer said he has been reassessing his budget every two weeks, and expects a deficit of between \$110,000 and \$200,000 by the end of the year.

"That's a lot — this definitely has thrown our financial stability into the wind — but we made it through the recessions of 2001-2002 and 2008, and we know we can do it again," he said. "PacRep will survive."

Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.com.

# FUNERALS

From page 12A

on his premises.

Finally, Nelson noted that May is a "big month for cemeteries," with Memorial Day and Mother's Day bringing in people to remember and honor loved ones. Because he's a little short-handed, Nelson has been out mowing the lawn and whacking weeds himself, keeping the graves and surroundings neat and dignified.

He and Bermudez have been pleasantly surprised by their clients' attitudes — during a national crisis and at one of the worst times in their personal lives — with Bermudez describing them as cooperative and understanding, and Nelson characterizing them as gracious and kind.

# PROJECT

From page 14A

Monterey One Water board member and retired Monterey County Superior Court Judge John Phillips took aim at Stoldt's supply projections and accused him of having "worked behind the scenes with the coastal commission to promote the expansion at the expense of the desal project."

Cal Am maintains its desal plant is necessary to provide a drought-free water supply to the Monterey Peninsula and allow the utility to comply with a state order to stop pumping most of its water from the overpumped Carmel River.

Meanwhile, Monterey One Water also reported that an engineering team it hired to examine two small sinkholes at the base of one of Pure Water Monterey's wells in Seaside at the end of March is still evaluating the issue. The experts are expected to determine soon whether the holes can be shored up or if another well needs to be drilled somewhere else.

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## RACE

From page 17A

mile point, she blasted some classical music to substitute for the live piano concert he'd normally hear there.

The winner of Sunday's virtual race was Adam Roach, 36, of Pacific Grove. He won the Big Sur Marathon in 2018 and placed second last year. His time for 39 laps around his neighborhood near P.G. High School was 2:34:24, making him the only person to finish in under three hours.

"My best marathon time was 2:27 and my slowest was 2:35, so it's right in there. It's always so much easier to go faster on race day with the energy of the crowd. Just going out your front door is not the same." He mapped out his route to avoid major intersections, and neighbors and friends cheered him on from an acceptable social distance.

Overall, he found the backyard version of the race therapeutic. "It's the first time I've been able to do something that feels normal," he said.

Ryan Cronin (Shannon's brother) also ran in Pacific Grove, crossing or nearly crossing paths with Roach and two other runners from the club. He decided to do what's called the Boston 2 Big Sur Challenge, combining the 123-year-old Boston Marathon with the local race, with just six days in between.

### Reuse, recycle

The Boston competition was originally set for April 20 (it will be held Sept. 14), so on that morning, Cronin did a .47-mile loop more than 50 times. But he ditched that route in favor of a .9-mile course for Sunday's "Big Sur" event, which he finished in 3:22:14, about 20 minutes off last year's Big Sur time of 3:01:43. He ended by running through a toilet paper "tape," and was not ashamed to say that he re-spooled the paper for its intended use.

Cronin said that while he was running on Monday, Glenn Reis, also a club member, came out after Cronin ran by his house

a few times and asked, "Are you doing Boston?"

Reis, at 70, was the oldest to complete the race. He came in at a somewhat disappointing 5:25:40, after a 2019 time of 4:30:18 in Big Sur. "It's my slowest one by a longshot," he said, and only the second time it took him more than five hours. "Since they announced the thing was canceled a month ago, I stopped training," he explained.

### Bringing the kids

Nevertheless, after finishing 10 2.63-mile laps that zig-zagged all over his neighborhood around Congress and Laurel, he took a nap, then walked down to Pepper's, where he bought a celebratory take-out enchilada and margarita.

While P.G.'s runners were within waving distance of each other, out in Carmel Valley, land surveyor Kathy Nitayangkul — the sole woman in the race — ran what she described as a "really peaceful" 26 laps around her neighborhood above Bernardus Lodge.

"It was nice and shaded, and there was a little buck running ahead of me for a while," she said. As happened in other places, folks who live nearby became curious about this woman who kept running by their houses and came out to cheer her on. They even set up what Nitayangkul called "makeshift aid stations" with water, fresh-cut oranges and bananas.

Three of her five children took turns running or riding their bicycles with her. She mentioned she was pregnant with her youngest — Ethan, 13 — during her first Big Sur Marathon back in 2006, so this was technically his second time running with her. Her time was 4:45, a little slower than last year at Big Sur, when she finished in 4:25:40.

Thanks to Burns' efforts, friends and family from all over could watch the runners on Zoom starting at 8 a.m., and not only didn't they have to squeeze through crowds at the finish line, they could check in on all the runners throughout the race, which of course would be impossible on the normal route.

about the havoc the virus is causing, she said the pause in her normal routine was "an unexpected vacation. I didn't realize how much I was doing until it stopped."

### Lonely but proud

If it's a warm slice of banana bread you've been craving, seek out Connie Georis, who lives at the north end of town. At 86, she loves to knit and loved meeting with the foundation's Crafty Ladies group every Tuesday, then staying for lunch.

"I'm so active at the foundation and the hospital," she said, referring to her volunteer job at CHOMP, handing out magazines to patients. Now she's occupying herself with baking and making soup, not to mention "gardening and cleaning and knitting," she said.

When this is all over, Georis and hundreds of others who rely on The Carmel Foundation for social contact, lifelong learning or just a decent bowl of hot soup, will no doubt come flocking back.

"It's lonely here without the people," said Zoller. "I admire the kindness and generosity of members. They're all calling and asking how they can help. They want to volunteer, and it makes me really proud of so many of them."

## ARRESTS

From page 5A

arrest him," MPD petitioned the court, and Robbins' bail was set at \$50,000.

This week, both men remained in Monterey County Jail, which has seen its number of inmates drop by more than 200 during the past six weeks, due to local and state officials' efforts to reduce the risk of coronavirus. Monterey Sheriff's Cmdr. John Thornburg said this week the jail and the sheriff's office remain coronavirus-free.

### Stop partying and go home

The evening of April 13 around 6:30, Monterey police checked on a car parked near the Naval Postgraduate School and found 20-year-old Salinas resident Samuel West and two juveniles inside drinking, according to MPD Lt. Michael Bruno. Officers cited West for possessing alcohol, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and violating the shelter order, while the two kids — whose genders and ages were not released — were cited for possession

## TRAILS

From page 15A

Kronlund also noted that the forest service doesn't have adequate staff to manage all of its land, and he called for the federal government to increase funding so the agency can hire enough people.

While the forest service has a manpower shortage, sheriff's deputy Jesse Villaseñor reported law enforcement agencies are working together "to increase the effectiveness" of the order.

Big Sur Fire Chief Matt Harris said the brigade's volunteers can't cite those who ignore the order, "but can offer education as a deterrent."

### Order set to expire May 15

Even when the order expires and campers return to Big Sur's distant public roads, they likely will be unable to make campfires. "It's that time of year when we ratchet up fire restrictions," Andrew Madsen of the forest service said. "Our intention is to have an order prohibiting campfires in effect by next week."

The order closed Tassajara, Milpitas, Nacimiento-Fergusson, South Coast Ridge, Plaskett Ridge, Baldwin Ranch,

of alcohol, public intoxication and violation of the order.

Also during the second week of April, in response to multiple complaints about non-essential businesses staying open in spite of the order, detectives posed as customers and went shopping, according to Bruno. They visited more than 30 businesses and found all but one qualified as essential and were following the rules for social distancing and other precautions.

Twisted Roots, a clothing store and smoke shop located at 482 Alvarado, had already been warned once and was found to still be violating the order, he said, so the owner was cited on April 15.

Uniformed Monterey officers in marked cars, as well as those in unmarked vehicles, are patrolling areas where businesses are closed to ensure they are not targeted by criminals, and Bruno encouraged owners to keep their alarms activated and lights on.

"The MPD will use the same tactics to enforce the shelter-in-place order, to ensure the imminent threat and menace to the public health is minimized," he said, because those who choose to ignore the order are endangering the community, especially since they can carry and spread coronavirus without knowing it.

Los Burros and Sycamore Canyon roads. Besides offering access to campers, the roads also make it possible to reach a number of trailheads. The order closed the Boronda, DeAngulo, Kirk Creek, Prewitt Loop, Cruickshank, Soda Springs, Buckeye, Salmon Creek trails, as well as ones that offer access to Sand Dollar Beach and Jade Cove.

This week on social media, numerous locals complained about the tourist traffic down the coast and the large number of cars parked at trailheads.

## ENFORCE

From page 3A

Rerig said he had received reports of people using the tennis courts, playing basketball at Forest Hill Park, and breaking into the Forest Theater, "all of which violate the shelter-in-place order," he said. "Someone is also stealing toilet paper from our park restrooms. This week, we again locked up the tennis courts, removed the basketball hoops, and fixed the Forest Theater fence."

And police cited several more people over the weekend, including at a couple of construction sites, for violating the shelter-in-place order.

## FOUNDATION

From page 17A

she's been able to continue leading weekly sessions for about 18 students online.

"I've been teaching at the foundation for 30 years. I'm still working and it's exciting," Thompson said. She noted that she'd barely finished moving from Carmel Valley to Hacienda Carmel when the shelter-in-place order came. She's still unpacking and planning what may be the mother of all housewarmings for when it's allowed. "I want to give everybody a hug," she said.

Food in some form or another has been offered nearly since the foundation's beginning, whether as potlucks, meal delivery, afternoon teas, or just a snack and a cup of coffee in the cozy onsite Field Café.

One member, 74-year-old Adrienne Shimoda of Monterey, said she misses lunches at the foundation. She also volunteered as a cashier for the midday meals. Like many members, she usually lends a hand to other community groups, including PacRep Theatre. She's also involved in her church, Calvary Chapel, which continues its ministries online. Although she's not happy



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