

The Carmel Pine Cone

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July 14-20, 2023

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Beachfront homeless encampment growing

By KELLY NIX

LESS THAN two years after a state agency cleared numerous homeless encampments and tons of garbage from its property along the Monterey Peninsula's Highway 1 corridor, an enclave composed of tents and makeshift living structures near Sand City and Seaside is thriving.

In September 2021, hazmat crews contracted by the California Department of Transportation cleared numerous homeless sites and abandoned ones along Highway

1, displacing the dozens of residents who lived there. Caltrans said at the time it would work with local agencies to help get some of them into shelters.

While those former campsites have largely remained unoccupied, an informal beachfront hamlet on state park land west of Highway 1 near the Fremont Boulevard exit has only grown.

'Cozy'

A stone's throw from the popular recreational trail, store-bought tents and abodes fashioned from plywood and other materials rest in an area locals and tourists largely avoid. Occupants use solar lights at night and tarps as privacy screens, and many use bicycles to get around town. Some of the living quarters can be seen from the highway, while others are less conspicuously nestled into coastal brush.

Forty-three-year-old Wade — one of the several dozen or more residents who live in the dunes area — built a box-like structure steps from the decommissioned rail line and the Pacific Ocean, and in view of the pricey Seaside Highlands subdivision. Composed of plywood, cardboard, driftwood, corrugated metal and other materials, it is his home.

"It's pretty cozy, to be honest with you," he told a Pine Cone reporter Monday morning. The campsite, which he shares with another man who occupies an adjacent tent, is tidy compared to many similar homeless sites.

Wade, who came to the Monterey Peninsula in 1995 and used to make pizzas at Mountain Mike's, has been on

See HOMELESS page 17A

Residents object to surveillance cameras in neighborhoods

By MARY SCHLEY

CITY OFFICIALS halted the rollout of additional traffic cameras in town after some residents objected to the cameras being placed near people's homes, while others said they worried about privacy impacts and unsightly visual clutter in areas where they've vigorously fought to keep cell towers out.

"We have put a stop to the installation of any more poles and cameras at this time," city administrator Chip Rerig said at the city council meeting Tuesday. Officials plan to meet with the representatives of Flock, the company that makes the cameras, Friday "to look at how we can mitigate impacts and whether the coverage they laid out is really necessary."

High-tech

Approved by the council in April, the new cameras would be used to capture images of passing vehicles and their license plates. Powered by the sun, the wireless cameras and technology automatically read the plates to capture the number, issuing state, date, time, location, vehicle details such as type and color, and even bicycles. Unlike the cameras installed several years ago, the system alerts police within seconds when it identifies a stolen or wanted

See CAMERAS page 27A



PHOTO/KELLY NIX

The occupants of this homeless campsite off Highway 1 near the Seaside/Sand City exit use tarps as privacy screens from passing cars and those who use the rec trail.

Assemblymember opposes power rates based on income

By KELLY NIX

THE ASSEMBLYWOMAN who represents the Monterey Peninsula is pushing back on a law that her Democratic colleagues in the Legislature approved last year which sets customers' electricity bills based on their incomes.

On Monday, Democrat Dawn Addis urged the state's Public Utilities Commission to reject what she called "excessively high" rates proposed by PG&E in response to a bill legislators passed in 2022. The bill, AB 205, calls for an income-based fixed charge to be tacked on to residential customers' bills that would be separate from, and in addition to, energy usage costs.

Proponents of the bill — which was signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom — say it will reduce utility costs

See POWER page 15A

THE KING RODE A BMW AND ORDERED PANCAKES

By MARY SCHLEY

KING ABDULLAH II ibn Al Hussein of Jordan popped in for breakfast at Katy's Place on Mission Street Sunday morning, accompanied by family members and security, according to restaurant owner Randy Burnett. On a previous visit in 2007, the king and his entourage were riding Harley-Davidson motorcycles; this time, they were on BMWs.

Burnett said the king ordered pancakes, just as he did 16 years ago, and insisted he and Burnett be photographed together before the group departed. He also gave Burnett a dagger he'd designed for his royal Jordanian special forces.

'Island of progress'

Born in Amman in 1962 and educated at Oxford University, Georgetown University and Britain's Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, King Abdullah II ascended to the throne in 1999 after the death of his father, King Hussein.

He is a 41st-generation direct descendant of the Prophet Mohammed and "has devoted himself to defending Jordan as an island of progress in a turbulent region," according to

See KING page 17A



PHOTO/COURTESY RANDY BURNETT

King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein of Jordan (left) had breakfast at Katy's Place and insisted on a photo with owner Randy Burnett.

New festival conductor made an exception to her summer rules

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

JULY IS the most precious time of year in Norway because it's what passes for summer after a long and dreary winter — a time when the sun provides warmth and light late into the evening.

This is also the month when conductor Grete Pedersen says, "No," to all festival invitations, reserving the time to go boating, relax and feel warm. Unless the invitation is to conduct the Carmel Bach Festival.

The festival, which commenced in 1935, was first conducted by Ernst Bacon and Gastone Usigli. Pedersen, only the fourth person to receive the baton since then, has come from her native country to assume the role of artistic director and conductor in the festival's 86th season.

The new artistic director and conductor of the Carmel Bach Festival, Grete Pedersen, comes from Norway. She started out as a pianist and worked in choral music. Her postgraduate studies focused on choral and orchestral conducting. She will lead the main concert on Saturday night. Photo courtesy Carmel Bach Festival.

Pedersen founded the Oslo Chamber choir in 1984 and has served as music director of The Norwegian Soloists' Choir since 1990. She never intended to become a conductor, yet she ended up studying the subject at the Norwegian State Academy in Oslo.

Shaping music

"Making the transition from so much choral work to conducting the orchestra is what I have wanted," Pedersen said. "I grew up as a pianist, yet my life path has been paved by following what people invite me to do. This has led to very interesting experiences. While it was never my plan to be a conductor, I love to shape music and its results, and to work together with people."

Pedersen visited Carmel in the 1990s, and after just two days in town, friends from Norway recognized that the "nature of Carmel" agreed with her. And so does the festival. "This is such a special place and such a unique festival,"

See CONDUCTOR page 14A



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Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Still got it

Emery is a little guy, just 13 or 14 pounds, except when he comes home from Grandma's house. Then he tends to weigh a little more. A pound puppy, his breed is unclear, but he has a Maltipoo-Havanese look about him, except fluffier with longer legs. Mostly, he falls under the category of cute.

Emery was mere months old and languishing at an animal shelter when his person and her fiancé stopped by the place on her birthday and instantly found him to be "super cute." But they overheard a gentleman who also thought so, get on the phone to his wife and say, "Honey, hurry and get here. A young couple is also looking at him."

So that young couple ran to the front desk and quickly asked to see the little dog. Once he put on his most playful and affectionate self, they quickly adopted him.

"Shelter staff must have known another couple was interested in Emery since they asked us if we might like this nice poodle over here instead," his person said, "But Emery had a ton of energy and was a little yappy at first, so we like to think the older couple would have had to bring him right back. He was a handful."

Emery, now 13, moved with his people to Monterey



last fall. His favorite activities in his new community are beach walks and hikes. He loves to explore Garland Park and, at Asilomar and Carmel beaches, he likes to climb up the rocks or run along the shoreline. But he's absolutely not down with the wave action.

"Even though Emery is getting older and his energy has simmered down, he still gets really active at the beach and hikes 5 miles through Garland Park," his person said. "He's still got it."

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Parole board votes to keep Seaside murderer in prison

By MARY SCHLEY

THE MAN who stabbed four family members to death in 1977, and who was nearly released on parole three years ago but had the decision overturned in April 2021, was again denied by the California Board of Parole July 5, according to Monterey County deputy district attorney Kellin Dunne, after his sisters pleaded that he be kept behind bars.

In August 1977, Harold Bicknell, 19, and his pregnant 14-year-old girlfriend went to his family's home in Seaside and murdered 66-year-old Josephine Smith (his grandmother), 28-year-old Suzanne Harris (his aunt), and cousins 15-year-old Renee Ferguson and 6-year-old Rachel Harris. The killing began with his teenage cousin, whose hands were bound behind her back with her own bra while Bicknell stabbed her repeatedly in the neck, nearly decapitating her.

After his aunt walked in and saw them, he chased her into the kitchen and stabbed her to death, and then attacked his grandmother. There, he also stabbed his youngest cousin, whom his girlfriend had brought into the kitchen, more than 40 times after he caught her when she tried to get away.

The grisly scene was discovered two days later, and after an extensive investigation, Bicknell was arrested on Halloween in San Diego while trying to enlist in the Navy. During his trial, he denied guilt. But the testimony of witnesses and Bicknell's teenage accomplice, the graphic

descriptions of the murders Bicknell had given earlier — and reiterated during his sentencing — as well as the evidence of his bloody boot print at the scene and blood found on his shoes, led to his imprisonment in June 1978. He has continued to insist he was under the influence of hypnosis when he confessed.

Many hearings

Bicknell became eligible for parole in October 1983 and had been denied seven times and admitted to being unsuitable for release three times, according to the California Department of Corrections, until he was told in February 2019 he'd be freed, based on his clean prison record and the fact he was 19 when he murdered his family. Parole commissioners also cited abuse they believed he suffered as a child.

"In addition, the board credited Mr. Bicknell's claim of innocence, which he argued was explained by the fact that law enforcement officers had him hypnotized during the initial investigation and implanted the story he related thereafter," Dunne said. "The victims' surviving family members were blindsided by this decision, having been under the impression that Mr. Bicknell would likely never be paroled."

However, finding that Bicknell "remained an unreasonable danger to society if released from prison," Gov. Gavin Newsom overruled the board's decision four months later.



Harold Bicknell

See **PAROLE** page 27A

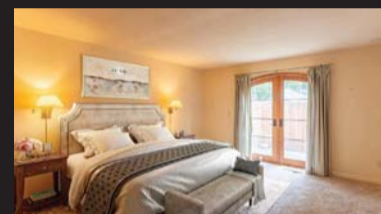
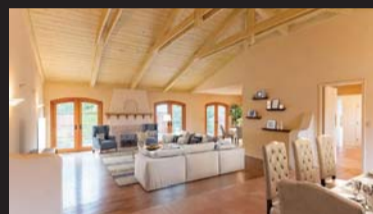


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Police & Sheriff's Log

Not-so-dynamic duo arrested

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.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Battery reported on Santa Rita Street.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Purse found on the Fourth Avenue boardwalk.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found camera lens at Lincoln and Ocean.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: In-field cite and release of a 51-year-old male on Santa Fe north of Second for driving while his license is suspended and false DMV registration. Vehicle impounded.

Pacific Grove: Burglary at an apartment on Lighthouse Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Marino Pines Road resident reported fraud from a business account.

Carmel area: Report of a juvenile issue on Lower Trail.

and 13th reported his daughter had been having difficulty swimming and was lost in the water. The daughter was found on the beach walking back toward her family and was not injured. The daughter said she had just gotten tired swimming and said she was not injured and did not need any medical assistance.

Pacific Grove: Officers conducted a traffic stop which resulted in a subject being arrested for violation of a court order, driving on a suspended license and having three outstanding warrants. The 41-year-old male was transported and booked into Monterey County Jail on charges of contempt of court, driving on a suspended license, battery, spousal abuse and child cruelty. Held on \$25,000 bail.

Pacific Grove: A wallet found at Ocean View Avenue and Sixth Street was turned in to the Pacific Grove Police Department. The owner contacted and will pick it up.

Carmel area: Online fraud was reported on Santa Rita Street.

Pacific Grove: Abandoned vehicle on Ocean View Boulevard.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A male at Scenic

See **POLICE LOG** page 8RE
in the Real Estate Section

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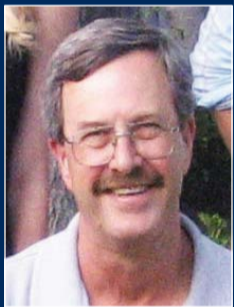
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The gavel falls

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

June 23 — Carlos Alvarez, 30, of Castroville, was sentenced to three years in state prison, the maximum term of confinement for this crime, after pleading no contest to driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a BAC of .08 or higher, and admitting two prior felony convictions for driving under the influence. This case is Alvarez's sixth conviction for driving under the influence.

On July 17, 2022, at approximately 7:30 p.m., Salinas Police Department officers responded to the intersection of John and Work streets regarding an individual who was unresponsive at the wheel. The driver, Alvarez, had the objective signs and symptoms of intoxication, including bloodshot and watery eyes, slurred speech, unsteady gait, and the odor of alcohol emitting from his breath. Alvarez refused to perform field sobriety tests. His blood alcohol content was .22 percent.

This case was prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney's Office

specialized DUI Vertical Prosecution Unit. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

June 23 — Christine Aiello, 60, a resident of Marina, has been charged with felony child abuse in violation of Penal Code section 273d(a) as well as misdemeanor child abuse in violation of Penal Code section 273a(b). Aiello is alleged to have inflicted an injury by assaulting a 2-year-old child, John Doe, on May 25, 2023, who was in her care at Miss Barbara's Child Care Center in the city of Marina. Specifically, she is alleged to have thrown the child repeatedly on a mattress. The child received scratches and a scrape.

The District Attorney's Office will have no further comment about the facts of the case until its resolution. Anyone who has information about this offense is encouraged to contact Detective Michael Ball at the Marina Police Department.



Kitties of the Week

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Rescue team treks 6 miles in the dark to help hiker who fell near waterfall

By CHRIS COUNTS

MOST LOCALS have never heard of Pine Falls, which is located along the Carmel River deep in the Ventana Wilderness. But a team of county rescue workers are now quite familiar with the site because they had to hike about 6 miles in the dark across rough terrain to get there Monday evening.

The purpose of the late-night trek was to rescue an adult male hiker who fell and was injured.

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office reported that it learned of the man's plight about 7 p.m. Its search and rescue team was deployed and set out from a campground

and trailhead along Tassajara Road, China Camp, at about 9 p.m.

Daylight helicopter ride

"The search and rescue team located the hiker at about 3 a.m." the sheriff's office reported on social media. "He had fallen and was located at the bottom of Pine Falls."

After the rescue team "provided medical aid and stabilized the patient," the injured man was moved with a two-wheel gurney "to a rock outcrop to wait for daylight." At around 7 a.m., a California Highway Patrol helicopter arrived and hoisted up the hiker, who was flown to King City Airport, transferred to a waiting ambulance, and taken to a hospital for treatment.

The sheriff's office didn't provide the victim's name, a description of the injuries or what medical facility he was taken to.

Dropping about 40 feet, Pine Falls is located near the headwaters of Carmel River and less than a mile downstream from Pine Valley, which is a popular backcountry camping area. But the terrain is very steep, and there isn't an easy or safe way to get around the waterfall.

Also last week, the search and rescue team joined hundreds of search and rescue volunteers from all over California to search for the body of 5-year-old Kyle Doan, who was swept away by floodwaters in January. The effort, which took place near San Miguel, was unsuccessful.



PHOTO/MCSO SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team tends to an injured hiker who fell near a remote waterfall in the Ventana Wilderness.

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Cabins vs. campgrounds at Pfeiffer Park

By CHRIS COUNTS

A PLAN to install nine cabins at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park was unanimously approved by the Monterey County Planning Commission Wednesday — but not without a debate over whether it would have made more sense to simply create more campsites because they would accommodate more visitors.

The planning commission approved a plan by California State Parks to place the nine cabins on a site near the park's softball field. Measuring between 195 and 259 square feet, the units would be made of wood and mounted on wheels so they could be moved. A 1,331-square-foot restroom and shower building would be built nearby, and 13 protected trees would be cut down to make room for the cabins.

'Demand is infinite'

While planning commissioner Martha Diehl ultimately supported the plan, she questioned why the state parks agency wasn't adding campsites instead of cabins, kicking off a lively conversation.

"The demand for campsites in Big Sur is infinite," Diehl said. "The philosophy of the Big Sur Land Plan is heavily weighted toward campgrounds. We're giving up capacity in favor of something fancier — this is glamping."

'Glamping'

Diehl conceded the cabins, which will be rented out for about \$100 a night, will be affordable by Big Sur standards. "You can rent a chicken coop in Big Sur for \$1,000 a night," she suggested.

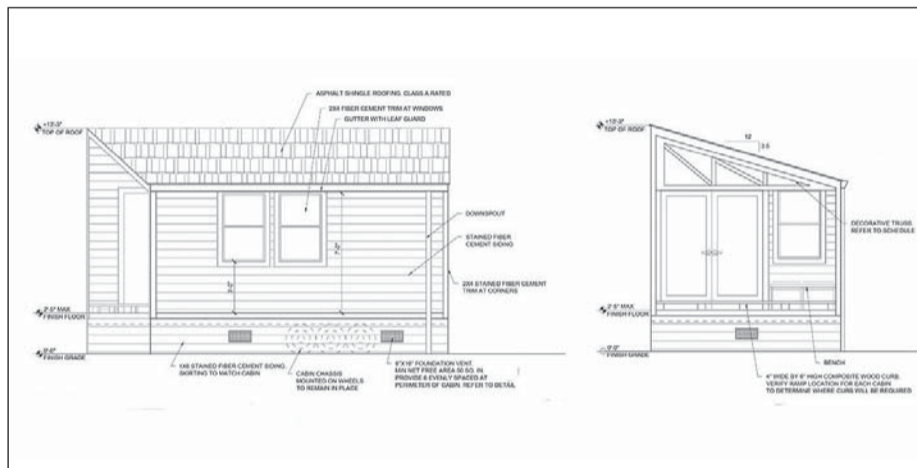
The planning commissioner, who lives in Big Sur, also observed that campsites only go for about \$35 a night, making them a far more affordable option.

But planning commissioner Paul Getzelman said he likes the idea of the park offering cabins.

"I'm an old person who doesn't like to sleep on the ground," Getzelman said. "I certainly appreciate a roof over my head."

Planning commissioner Amy Roberts said she enjoys camping, but she

See **CABINS** page 26A



Architectural elevations show what the new cabins at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park will look like. The cabins will provide an affordable alternative for those who prefer not to camp.



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Chamber launches parking survey

By MARY SCHLEY

IN ANTICIPATION of a consultant's presentation to the city council on paid parking in September, the Carmel Chamber of Commerce is trying to determine what businesses think of the concept and this week released a survey seeking their feedback.

"On Sept. 12, the Carmel-by-the-Sea City Council will hear the findings and recommendations from Brian Uhler on the topic of introducing paid parking in downtown, replacing the current two-hour free parking policy," the chamber's new executive director, Lance Wills, said in an email to members Monday. "It is important for us to get your feedback on issues that impact our local business community."

Uhler, the former acting police chief who stepped in after Chief Paul Tomasi retired in October 2021 to oversee security at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, left that position to make way for Alan Ward, who stayed on the job for seven months and was then put on paid leave pending an investigation before he "retired" last month. The city retained Uhler as a consultant to study paid parking at the behest of the council, which decided to explore it as a means of raising money and mitigating parking congestion downtown.

The survey, which can be found at lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/K2Si8B2/CarmelPaidParking, takes a few minutes and includes simple questions. It asks for

See **SURVEY** page 27A

OPOSSUM FINDS HOME ON WHEELS

By CHRIS COUNTS

MARSUPIALS that typically come out at night, opossums commonly co-exist with people. But a female opossum that lives in Salinas gave her human neighbors quite a shock this week when they discovered where the animal was living.

"A client in the Salinas area called the Urban Trapping team in the about a large opossum that had snuck inside the trunk of their car when it was left open," Urban Trapping Wildlife Control posted on its Facebook page. "Upon arrival, we found a healthy adult female opossum hiding in some spare tires."

Urban Trapping had quickly discovered the opossum was a she. "We could see that she was actually a mother opossum with a pouch full of 'joeys,'" the company said, using wildlife experts' term for the tiny babies she was carrying.

The company found the mom a new home nearby. "We carried her and her offspring to a more secluded part of the property and released her," the post continued.

Good neighbors

While some see opossums as just another four-legged pest, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History suggests that they can be good neighbors.

"Opossums are great for gardens, as they eat snails, slugs and beetles," according to the museum's website. "They also keep rats

and cockroaches away by competing with these smaller creatures for food or killing them when found in their territory. Additionally, opossums are Mother Nature's sanitation workers. They have an unusually high need for calcium which causes them to eat skeletons of rodents and roadkill."

Perhaps more than anything, opossums are known for "playing possum," or pretending that they're dead to deter predators.

"Opossums roll over, become stiff, close their eyes or not blink, and secrete a foul-smelling fluid from their glands," the museum added. "Opossums can continue to 'play possum' for up to four hours to deter predators."



PHOTO/FACEBOOK

An opossum doesn't seem too thrilled at the idea that she's being evicted from the trunk of a car in Salinas.



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SELDOM-SEEN SPECIES OF BEAKED WHALE

By KELLY NIX

A GROUP of whales that prefers to live deep underwater was spotted on the surface of Monterey Bay last week in an “incredibly rare sighting,” a local whale-watching business reported.

Monterey Bay Whale Watch said it came across the pod of Cuvier’s beaked whales on July 5 while hosting a tour on its 70-foot vessel, the Sea Wolf II, in the bay.

“This morning on our 10 a.m. trip, Captain Liz and the crew on the Sea Wolf II found a pod of four to six Cuvier’s beaked whales,” the business said. “We were very fortunate to get a look at this group as they were traveling very fast and can dive for 40 minutes to depths of over 3,000 feet.”

The business posted a few photos online, including one of a whale swimming along the surface, its back and dorsal fin evident.

While Cuvier’s beaked whales are one of the “most frequently” seen types of beaked whales in the world, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, they are not often found

in Monterey Bay, Monterey Bay Whale Watch said.

Cuvier’s beaked whales also rarely breach or show other displays of “active behavior,” making it less likely they’ll be seen by whale watchers.

Elongated snouts

Responding to comments on Facebook about the presence of beaked whales in Monterey Bay, the tour company said “Cuvier’s are the most rare to see, but we have also seen Baird’s beaked whales,” including several sightings of that species in May.

Beaked whales are so-called because of the presence of “beaks,” or elongated snouts, similar to dolphins, which they’re sometimes mistaken for.

The Cuvier’s variety can be 15 to 23 feet long, weigh 4,000 to 6,800 pounds and have a lifespan of 60 years. Found in most oceans around the world, they usually eat squid and octopus and other cephalopods, but sometimes feed on fish and crustaceans, NOAA said. Threats to the species include fishing gear entanglement.



This seldom-spotted whale, called a Cuvier’s beaked whale, was seen in Monterey Bay last week, a whale-watching company said.

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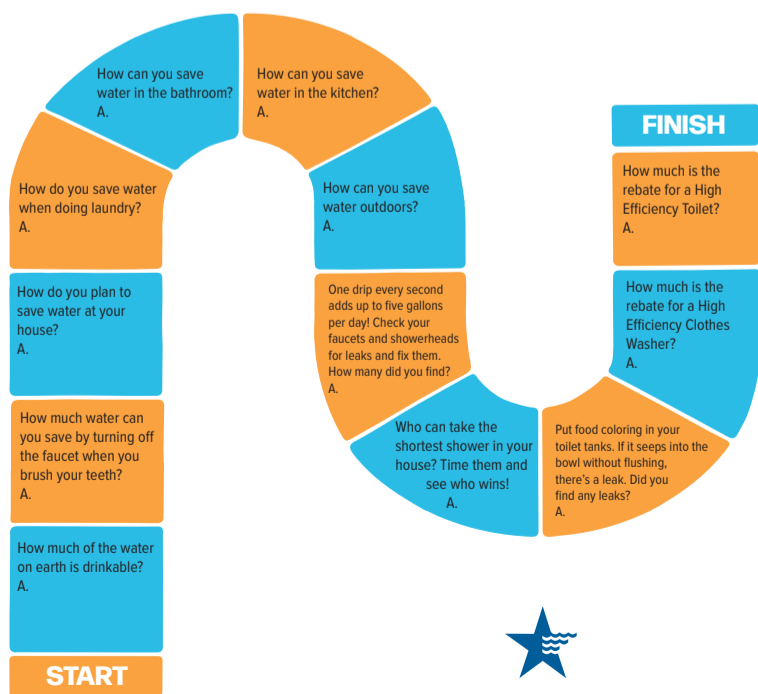
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Council takes nothing off table in state-mandated housing plan

By MARY SCHLEY

WHILE COUNCILWOMAN Alissandra Dramov continued to encourage the city to push back against the state mandate calling for a plan to accommodate 349 more homes over the next eight years, a majority of the city council made few changes to the updated housing element Tuesday during its first look at the document.

"I'm not comfortable with the whole thing," Dramov said toward the end of the council's discussion. "I really feel that we as a city should do more to fight this."

Joining in her indignation was resident Neal Kruse, one of the founders of the Carmel Preservation Foundation. "I'm frankly shocked — I guess I'm the only person who's not happy with this, the only person in all of Carmel, because I'm the only person I've heard say this is insane what we're doing," he said during the public comment period at the July 11 meeting. Acquiescing to the state just paves the way for its depriving the city of more rights in the future, he argued.

Resigned to the fact

But most speakers and the rest of the council showed little interest in fighting the housing allocation and continued working on the plan to handle it. The update of the housing element, which is part of the city's general plan, is due by the end of the year.

At a cost of nearly a quarter-million dollars, all of it funded by taxpayers, the planning department has been working with consultants to come up with ways to encourage developers to pursue housing projects that will satisfy the state's demands. The first draft of the plan was released in June, with comments collected during the month-long runup to the July 11 meeting.

During her presentation, principal planner Marnie Waffle reminded the council and the public that the city has no choice but to draft and approve a plan, lest it lose its control over the design and construction of housing projects here. And even though the city has little water to allocate to housing and the state has imposed a moratorium on new water hookups, she said, if and when a viable water supply comes online, the city should be prepared to deal with the

development that could follow.

Generally, the housing element identifies potential for more residences through a variety of measures, including increased density, incentives for affordable units, converting hotels and motels into multifamily complexes, encouraging the conversion of upstairs spaces downtown into affordable apartments, and other measures. It also lists public and private properties that could be developed further.

Among the more contentious issues Tuesday was a proposal to design pre-approved plans for accessory dwelling units, which the state requires cities and counties to allow as long as they meet some basic requirements. Having shelf-ready plans would make building them easier and less expensive.

Representing the Carmel Residents Association, David O'Neil said the group's board unanimously voted to oppose pre-approved plans for ADUs, because the "duplication would harm the diverse streetscape of Carmel."

Dramov also disliked the idea, and Mayor Dave Potter said that unless ADUs are deed restricted as affordable rentals, he wouldn't support it, either.

"I think they are being used as second bedrooms," Potter said.

But councilwoman Karen Ferlito, who with councilman Bobby Richards serves on the ad hoc committee overseeing the update of the housing element, pointed out that ADUs can accommodate family members, workers, caregivers, single parents and others in search of less expensive places to live. Planning staff has said that however they're used, ADUs count toward the city's housing goals.

"We have a lot of people who are house rich and cash poor," Ferlito added. "If they could build an ADU, it could give them some income."

Planning director Brandon Swanson suggested avoiding the cookie-cutter phenomenon by designing pre-approved "shells" so a property owner could pick the exterior finishes. The concept will be revised for the council to consider next month.

Council members also debated the development of "objective design standards" — basically, rules that flatly

state what can and cannot be done — for a handful of projects that would receive automatic approval if they contain at least 20 percent affordable units. Some 17 properties that were listed as potential development sites in the previous housing element update are eligible, according to Waffle.

"If an application was submitted for a housing project that had 20 percent of units deed-restricted as affordable, they would be subjected to the objective design standards if we adopt them — or it would be a free-for-all," with developers doing whatever they want, she said. "We cannot exercise discretion," on whether to approve such projects, "so the way to ensure the design fits within our village would be to adopt objective design standards for those projects and those projects only."

All others would be held to the usual design guidelines, some of which are objective and many of which are subjective, depending on the building site, the specific design, the surrounding area, and sometimes the whims of the planning commission.

Vacancy tax stays

The majority of the council also decided to keep part of the plan that encourages construction of affordable apartments in upstairs space downtown, including the use of "mezzanines" that in essence provide a third floor while retaining the outside appearance of a two-story building. The height limit in the commercial district would remain unchanged at 30 feet.

And while Dramov objected to the housing site list's inclusion of several properties with parking lots, other council members assured her anything built there would have to retain the number of spaces, whether in an underground garage or by some other means.

Finally, the council was divided over a potential vacancy tax on vacation homes that would generate funds for an affordable housing trust.

Dramov objected, calling the tax an infringement on property rights and "big brother keeping track of people," and Richards agreed with Waffle's recommendation to

See HOUSING page 15A



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PUC TO HOLD FORUMS ON EXTENDING LIFE OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

By KELLY NIX

MORE THAN two months after environmental groups filed lawsuits to force the closure of California’s only nuclear power plant, the state Public Utilities Commission announced it would hold two forums later this month about extending operations at PG&E’s Diablo Canyon Power Plant.

With the state’s energy grid under constant stress, California’s two nuclear reactors, both at Diablo Canyon, are licensed to operate until Nov. 1, 2024, and Aug. 26, 2025. But after that, anti-nuclear advocates want them closed.

“The public forums will begin with a brief overview of the proceeding, and then the PUC will then take comments from the public,” the agency said Monday.

The online-only meetings will be held July 25 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. For information on how to participate or watch, go to cpuc.ca.gov/pph.

While Democratic lawmakers in California have been ardent in their support for wind and solar, but not nuclear power, that’s changing. On Sept. 2, 2022, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 846, allowing for the extension of operations at Diablo Canyon of up to five years after the current licenses expire, a decision that has delighted some — including state Democratic Sen. John Laird, who voted on a bill last year to extend the plant’s life — but has angered anti-nuclear groups that say the reactors pose a danger to the public.

Law suits

Regarding the online forums, the PUC said it “welcomes attendance and comments at the public forums, as public comments help the PUC reach an informed decision.” A PUC law judge is scheduled to issue a decision on Diablo Canyon by the end of this year.

The PUC hearings come after activist groups filed lawsuits against PG&E and a federal nuclear regulatory agency.

On April 11, Friends of the Earth alleged in a complaint that it forged a contract with PG&E in 2016 to “retire Diablo Canyon upon the expiration of current operating licenses” in exchange for the group dropping legal challenges over environmental and public safety concerns surrounding the nuclear plant, but that the utility violated the terms of that legal agreement.

Now, “PG&E is seeking the keys to continue operating its outdated nuclear power plant, situated near three dangerous seismic faults, for an indefinite period of time beyond the agreed-upon closure dates,” the lawsuit says. “PG&E acts as if it has no remaining contractual obligations, including to prepare in good faith to retire the nuclear power plant by the agreed deadlines.”

‘Safe’

Later in April, the activist group joined San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace and the Environmental Working Group to file a petition in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit against the federal government and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s March 2 order exempting PG&E in submitting license renewal applications for Diablo Canyon’s two reactors.

The commission’s decision allowed PG&E to continue operating the power plant with its current license, but also gives the utility until the end of this year to submit an application for renewal of those licenses. The exemption, the agency said, would “not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security.”

See **NUCLEAR** page 26A



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BOL for aggressive sea otter

By KELLY NIX

SHE'S ONLY 5 years old and cute as a button, but she's on the lam for theft, and authorities from local, state and federal agencies are doing everything they can to capture her.

A sea otter dubbed "Otter 841," who has a penchant for hijacking surfboards and kayaks in Santa Cruz out from under their owners, is wanted for being too aggressive around humans.

"Due to the increasing public safety risk, a team from California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Monterey Bay Aquarium trained in the capture and handling of sea otters has been deployed to attempt to capture and rehome her," U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Ashley McConnell told The Pine Cone Wednesday.

Born in captivity at UC Santa Cruz and later taken to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the otter was released into the wild in June 2020.

The otter "went a full year without an incident, just living a great otter life," aquarium spokesman Kevin Connor told a TV reporter Wednesday. The otter's mother displayed similar behavior, he said.

But in 2021, there were reports of an aggressive otter taking over kayaks and surfboards. While the otter hasn't bitten anyone, she's had her way with a surfboard or two, biting chunks out of them during the successful thefts. Photographer Mark Woodward, who has taken dozens of shots of Otter 841, caught her on camera riding a wave on one of her stolen surfboards.

'Highly unusual'

The otter was spotted last weekend stealing surfboards in three separate incidents, the New York Times reported.

McConnell said that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allowed her capture after so-called hazing techniques to keep her away from humans was only temporarily effective.

If caught, officials will find a long-term home for the animal, which is already tagged.

"Upon capture, the sea otter will be examined by the experienced veterinary staff at Monterey Bay Aquarium," McConnell said. "While this otter's behavior is highly unusual and the exact cause for its behavior is unknown, aggressive behavior

See **OTTER** page 25A



Because this naughty otter has a habit of stealing surfboards and kayaks from their human operators, officials have ordered her to be captured.

PHOTO/MARK WOODWARD,
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CONDUCTOR

From page 1A

Pedersen said. "It is something that permeates the whole village."

Born in Sarpsborg, Norway, Pedersen, a pianist and organist, was the only musician in her family until her son, Eivind Helgfrød, came along. He became a drummer in Oslo, focused primarily on pop and jazz. Pedersen received her undergraduate education at the Norwegian Academy of Music, where she is a professor of conducting, before pursuing postgraduate studies in choral and orchestral conducting.

"Grete Pedersen is a phenomenal musician. Over the past three decades, she's built a world-class ensemble," said festival associate conductor Andrew Megill. "She is a deeply collaborative conductor, committed to exploring the human impulse behind any great work of art and to creating an atmosphere in which each artist is empowered to express themselves fully."

Starting again

The theme of this year's Bach Festival is "Beginnings," not simply referring to Pedersen's arrival, but showing composers are "innovative, creative and affirming," she said.

She was a guest conductor for last summer's festival and has decided to launch

her inaugural season here by leading a colossal program called "Mozart, Rehnqvist, Mahler: Breaking the Ice."

"What fascinates me as we present Mahler in a Bach Festival is that his symphony is the whole universe in one entity," Pedersen said. "There are so many different colors and sounds; it's fantastic. He was so brave to bring in so many melodies and sounds, to which people said, 'No,' but he was such a good conductor and knew how he would do the instrumentation effectively so that the music feels, in a way, very modern."

She added, "It is possible to perform their work 80 times and still find something different."

The orchestra will play on gut strings, not modern strings, she said, so the audience will hear the music the way Mahler heard it.

"It is a tradition of the Bach Festival to get in touch with how the music would have been performed when it was composed, which offers a more intimate sound," she said. "Our audience will hear the nuances of the music in a different way. I just love this, so once I start talking about it, I can go on and on."

Women of Bach

Pedersen is not the first woman to helm the Carmel Bach Festival, but it's been a while. You have to reach back to classical pianist Dene Denny and designer Hazel

Watrous, whose dedication to the arts led them to establish the Carmel Bach Festival. Violinist Carol Weston was the conductor before the first festival, when Denny and Watrous were forming its orchestra.

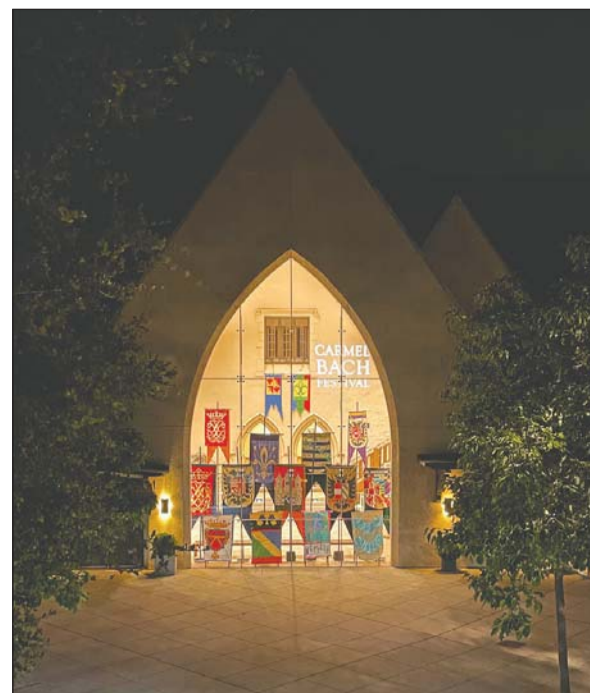
"From the very beginning, the Carmel Bach Festival has had a strong feminine influence," said 30-year festival veteran David Gordon, who has written a comprehensive history of the event. "The festival was closely run by Dene and Hazel until 1956, when it became a nonprofit organization. They were the managers. It was their gig for the first 20 years, so this is a wonderful completing of the circle of very avant-garde women."

Pedersen has said she feels very fortunate to be coming into the Carmel Bach Festival at what she believes is the right time.

"I like taking on challenges as they come. I like risk. Not unlike the festival founders, I can say I've worked quite hard with wonderful musicians and composers I've met along the way. I am looking forward to learning more about the Carmel

Bach Festival. I have learned about Dene Denny and Hazel Watrous and what they brought to this community. They were innovative. This is their legacy."

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit bachfestival.org.



PHOTO/MEENA LEWELLEN

The Carmel Bach Festival enters its 86th season with a new conductor and artistic director, Grete Pedersen of Norway.

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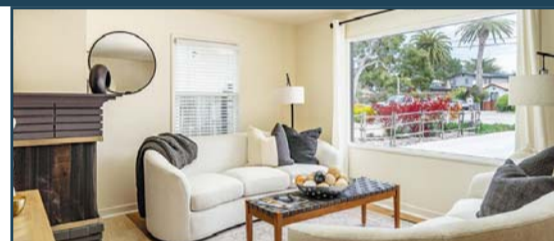
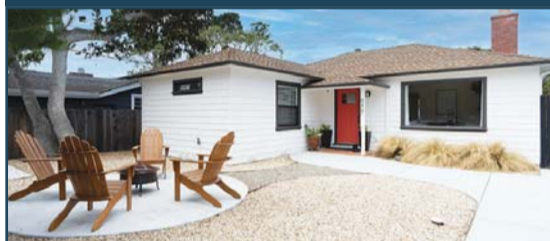
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POWER

From page 1A

for low-income customers and encourage adoption of clean energy solutions. But Addis and others contend the fixed charges will unfairly harm the middle class and discourage energy conservation.

In her letter to Public Utilities Commission President Alice Busching Reynolds, Addis called the proposal “alarming.”

“The provisions that relate to fixed energy charges will have profound impacts on residential energy customers of all income brackets,” said Addis, who was elected in November 2022 after the Assembly voted on the legislation earlier that year. “This requires additional scrutiny.”

The Assembly bill requires the fixed charge to be established on an “income-graduated basis” and directs the PUC to approve the amount of the charges by July 2024.

‘Well meaning’

While average electricity rates will be lowered per kilowatt hour for all customers (low-income customers will see the most savings), Addis said constituents have said the fixed charges are too high.

“Many customers have expressed legitimate concerns that the proposed rate schedules skew toward incredibly high charges on the middle class,” Addis said. “There is a vast difference between a household that earns \$180,000 and a household that earns \$1 million. For example, the proposed fixed rates would treat a two-teacher household the same as a billionaire. This is clearly unfair.”

She asked the PUC to adjust rate schedules in ways that make the distinction between “a working-class household and a household of true wealth.”

Per PG&E’s proposal, those who earn \$28,000 or less would pay a fixed charge of \$15 monthly, while a household earning \$28,000 to \$69,000 would pay a \$30 fixed fee. Those in the \$69,000 to \$180,000 income brackets would be charged \$51 every month, while those earning \$180,000 or more would be required to pay \$92 a month.

Addis called the legislation “well meaning,” but said its contents are “far reaching on several fronts.”

Assemblyman Mark Stone — who used to represent the Monterey Peninsula — and every other Democrat in the state Assembly and Senate, voted to OK the bill. Only three Republicans, all members of the Assembly, supported it.

‘Harms middle class’

Critics say that customers should be charged by how much power they use and not how much they earn, and that the new law will disincentivize energy conservation and dissuade homeowners from performing energy-efficiency upgrades, such as installing solar panels.

PG&E spokeswoman Marlene Santos said the company’s proposal to the PUC “aims to help lower bills for those who need it most and improves billing transparency and predictability for all customers. As California rapidly advances to a future of electrification, this proposal will help to limit the impact on disadvantaged communities, as Californians transition to electrification in support of the state’s clean energy goals.”

Addis requested that the state agency “provide guidance to the Legislature and the Newsom administration about how policymakers can change the law to provide more manageable rates for a broader array of ratepayers.”

“While there are merits to an income-graduated rate

system, we must spread rates in a way that does not harm the middle class,” she said.

Addis noted that the final version of the legislation was introduced, OK’d by the state Legislature and signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom all within 96 hours “in the waning days of the 2021-2022 legislative session.”

“There is ample time for reflection and adjustment,” the assemblywoman said. “It’s crucial that we get this right.”

The bill also applies to California residents who get electricity from San Diego Gas & Electric and California Edison.

Energy costs in California are among the highest in the country.

While other investor-owned utilities in the United States include a fixed rate for customers, none of them uses income as a factor.

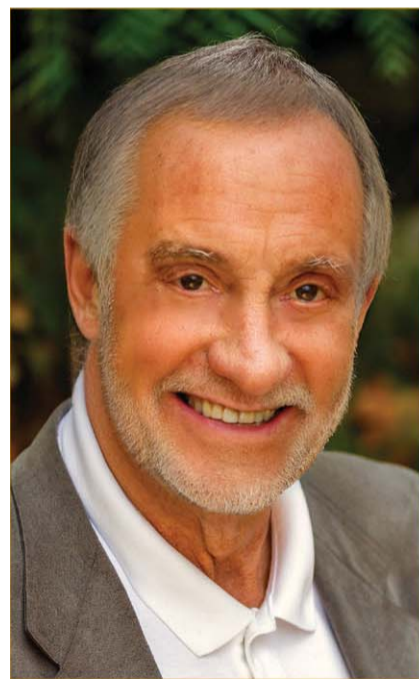


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HOUSING

From page 10A

remove it, but others argued for keeping it, saying that doing so doesn’t mean the tax will actually be imposed.

The proponents also focused more on using the tax to force people to live in their homes here full-time than on the fact it would ostensibly raise money to pay for affordable housing. Potter sided with those who wanted to include the tax.

After refining the draft and incorporating the council’s feedback, Waffle will present a new version for a final vote by the council at its Aug. 1 meeting. The document will then be sent to the state for its 90-day review.



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KING

From page 1A

his bio, including “investing in the immense human capital of his people, combating the scourge of terrorism and extremism within a holistic approach, and working tirelessly to protect and expand the prospects for peace in the Middle East.

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HOMELESS

From page 1A

the streets for eight years and has lived in the dunes for about four. He wants to work again but admits having a job is challenging.

“The work isn’t too hard,” he said. “But you have to get there and show up, you know? That’s the hardest part for me.”

Wade gets food stamps and said he doesn’t go hungry, but he also welcomes local nonprofit homeless service providers who stop by roughly twice a month to hand out food and supplies.

Leftover garbage and junk that would be considered appalling at Carmel Beach is prevalent at the enclave’s numerous deserted campsites.

Nestled between carpets of iceplant, one fire-scorched sandy area contained dozens of food cans, bottles, mattress springs, shoes, a computer hard drive and lots of other trash that appeared to have been set on fire by a previous occupant.

Several propane tanks, plastic cups and bottles, and other garbage were also strewn around the site.

Different jurisdictions

Caltrans spokesman Kevin Drabinski told The Pine Cone that the state agency manages property between Highway 1 and a chain-link fence adjacent to the rec trail. The agency did a sweep of the campsites on that property last month.

“Caltrans, along with our hazmat vendor and the California Highway Patrol, closed the encampments within our right of way on June 12 and again on June 21,” Drabinski explained.

As of July 5, Drabinski said a Caltrans supervisor said that the agency’s side of the fence was clear, with the “exception of a few shopping carts.”

Seaside Police Chief Nick Borges said that the area from the old train tracks west to the ocean — where most of the encampments, including Wade’s, are located — is on California State Parks property. An agency official could not be reached Wednesday, but Borges said his department has reported the encampments to state parks numerous times.

“Within days of being cleared out, they’re built right back up,” Borges said.

It’s not clear what homeless agencies are doing to try to get some of the dunes’ residents into shelters or permanent housing, and what’s being done to clean up the deserted sites, if anything.

King Abdullah II has strived for peace and harmony between Muslims and Christians, and the United Nations General Assembly in 2010 unanimously adopted his proposal for a World Interfaith Harmony Week, which is observed annually in the first week of February. He also wrote, “Our Last Best Chance: The Pursuit of Peace in a Time of Peril,” in 2011 to share Jordan’s vision for resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Adventurer

His affection for motorcycles is no surprise, considering he is also “a qualified frogman, pilot and a free-fall parachutist,” who enjoys automobile racing, water sports, scuba diving, and collecting ancient weapons and armaments.

On June 28, the king left Jordan to visit the United States, including participating in an economic forum in Sun Valley, Idaho, to “hold meetings with international political and economic leaders, as well as top executives of major U.S. and international companies.”

He may have been referring to the Allen & Co. conference, dubbed the “summer camp for billionaires,” set for July 11-14 this year. The conference typically draws top executives and officials in tech, media, entertainment, finance, sports, food and politics.



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

King Abdullah II of Jordan and his then-teenage son, along with their entourage and security, visited Katy’s Place in 2007.

His visit to Katy’s — the third, according to Bennett — also coincided with the MotoAmerica motorcycle races at Laguna Seca. Bennett said the king hasn’t told him why he’s so fond of Bennett’s longtime Carmel breakfast spot.



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PHOTOS/KELLY NIX

These tents and makeshift abodes are on property owned by state parks near Seaside and Sand City. The man who occupies the dwelling in the top photo calls it “cozy.”



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Sailor from P.G. finishes second in solo race from California to Hawaii

By CHRIS COUNTS

COMPETING AGAINST 17 others, Michael Polkobla of Pacific Grove last week finished second place in a race where contestants sailed solo from San Francisco to Hawaii — a distance of more than 2,200 miles.

“I’m very proud of him and I’m very relieved,” his wife, Michelle, told The Pine Cone.

Presented by the Single Handed Sailing Society — which is dedicated to solo sailors — the Transpacific Yacht Race began June 25. Battling strong winds, Polkobla arrived at the finish line in Hanalei Bay on the island of Kauai 12 days later in the middle of the night.

Started sailing at 12

Making Polkobla’s second-place finish even more impressive is the fact that this was the first time he has sailed solo from California to Hawaii. The sailor who won race has made the trip about 20 times.

Now 62, Polkobla was just 12 when he took up sailing and began taking lessons at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club. Fifty years later, he’s still at it. An environmental scientist and biochemist, he took a two-and-half-month sabbatical from work to train and get ready for the race. “He’s been preparing for his whole life to take this journey,” his wife suggested.

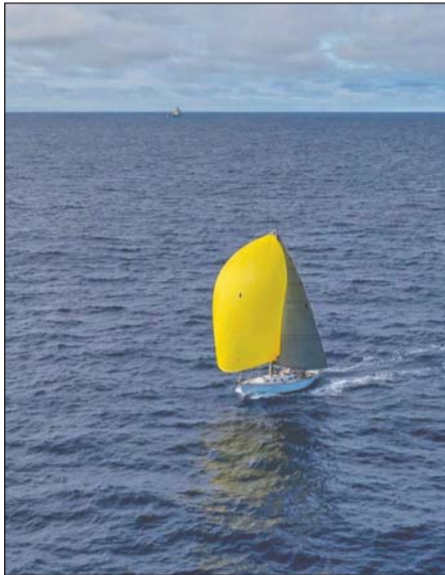
Polkobla’s sailboat is a 40-foot 1963 Cal-40 named “Solstice,” and it was the oldest in the race. He made sure it was in tip-top shape for the journey. Race officials inspected the boat to make sure it could withstand the voyage.

Despite the precautions and Polkobla’s experience as a sailor, his wife said she was concerned about him.

“I was worried, of course,” she said. “When you get on boat with Michael, he

says the first rule is to stay on the boat. The second rule is that the boat wants to kill you at all times. Mother nature is relentless, and she always wins.”

It wasn’t surprising that Polkobla encountered strong winds on his voyage — his wife described the weather as “intense” — but he did have an unexpected encounter with a pair of large trawlers that appeared to be on a collision course with him. He contacted one of them, and it turned out



PHOTO/COURTESY TOBY HARRIMAN

This striking drone shot of “Solstice” was captured by a National Geographic photographer.

they were collecting plastic garbage that was floating at sea. The boats were dragging between them a mile-long net.

He ended up making friends with the nautical trash collectors, as well as a National Geographic cameraman who was aboard, and the crew told Polkobla every

See HAWAII page 25A



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TWO WATER POLO TEAMS HEAD TO JUNIOR OLYMPICS IN ORANGE COUNTY

TIDES ARE turning at Monterey County high schools, thanks in part to a high-level youth water polo club, just 5 years old, with a blueprint to compete on an even keel with the biggest fish in Northern California and the state.

Monterey Bay United, founded in 2018, qualified two teams — its 14-and-under girls and its 16-and-under boys — for the 2023 USA Water Polo National Junior Olympics, which begin Saturday in Orange County.

The club's 14U girls earned its spot at nationals with a 13th-place finish at the Pacific Zone qualifying tournament, where 21 teams competed — the third consecutive year MBU has sent its 14U team to the biggest club water polo showcase in America.

And MBU's 16U boys emerged from a 40-team competition with a 17th-place ranking, grabbing the last national qualifying spot from the Pacific Zone, regarded as the most competitive among the five zones in talent-rich California.

Growing confidence

"We have a lot of players on this year's team who got experience playing at this level last year, and we're all really excited about that, because this year's team already has done better," said former CSU Monterey Bay player Kylie Whent, head coach of all of Monterey Bay United's



PHOTOS/KERRY BELSER

Jack Balas (left) looks for an opening as he's defended by teammates River Lyon and Laird Welch as MBU's 16-and-under boys team prepares for its first National Junior Olympics tournament, which begins Saturday in Orange County. Coach Kylie Whent's 14-and-younger girls team, (right) led by Beatrice Woltman, left, Charlotte Morrow, center, and, Colette Duarte is headed to Junior Olympic Nationals for the third straight year.

three goals in their final game of the Pacific Zone tournament, a victory they had to have.

"That game was a fight for the last national-qualifying spot — we had to win — and the elation we felt when it was over was off the charts," said head coach John Norall, another CSUMB alum who helped found the university's club water polo team. "It was very validating for a team from our area to prove they can compete with some of the top teams and best athletes in the country. It showed that all the grinding, training and preparing — all the work we've done through the winter, spring and summer — was worth the effort."

From Splashball to nationals

Monterey Bay United plays year-round (with the exception of late August through early November, when the high school season is in progress), attracting players from the Monterey Peninsula and Salinas to learn the game in USA Water Polo's 12-and-under, 14U, 16U, and 18U age groups. The club also offers Splashball, a playful, introductory division that might be compared to T-ball in a baseball league.

The club was launched in 2018 by Jon Burke, who won 10 consecutive Central Coast Section girls water polo championships at San Jose's Sacred Heart Prep before

becoming head coach at Stevenson School in Pebble Beach. Since 2019, Burke has guided the Pirates to three consecutive Pacific Coast Athletic League championships (a combined 26-1 league record in those years). His 2022 team won the CCS Division II crown, then placed second at the NorCal Division 3 tournament, losing 11-10 in the finals.

Stevenson's success and noticeable competitive gains by other local schools can be at least partially attributed to players who have learned the game and built upon their skills playing year-round club polo against powerhouse competition from the San Francisco Bay Area, where the schools and clubs tend to be larger, more experienced, and tradition-rich.

Among this year's top players for MBU's 14U girls team are Charlotte Morrow and Colette Duarte — both incoming freshmen at Stevenson. Both played at Junior Olympic Nationals last summer.

Dedicated players

Morrow, the team's top scorer at 2-meter center, and Duarte, a utility player, have all-around skills and insatiable hunger for improvement, Whent said.

See **SPORTS** next page

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

14U national teams over the past three summers. "To see how far we've come over the past year is pretty amazing, and that was noticeable at the qualifying tournament. Our kids walked onto that pool deck feeling confident, knowing what to expect and what they were going to do."

MBU's 16Us became the club's first-ever boys national qualifier in dramatic fashion, defeating Diablo Alliance by



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SPORTS

From previous page

“Charlotte lives and breathes water polo, and she’s going to be an incredible player by the time she’s a senior,” the coach said. “She has great ball-handling skills, an amazing shot, and she’s knowledgeable about almost every position in the pool, including goalie.”

“Colette actually writes things in her journal after every game, making notes to herself about things she needs to improve,” Whent said. “She’s also a player who pumps up all of her teammates, always in a positive way. Those things are a coach’s dream.”

A third team leader, center Myla Avila, has a calming presence on her teammates and plays with great awareness, the coach said. Avila, a sophomore-to-be at Monterey High, was not part of last year’s Junior Olympics squad.

Others making their second trip to nationals include Beatrice Woltman (“strong shooter, good communicator, loves to defend,” said her coach), Adelyn Smith (“plays both goalie and in the field, very competitive, good long-distance passer”), along with Anna Bates, Gabriella



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Beatrice Woltman, left, Colette Duarte, and Charlotte Morrow are among multiple teammates who will play in the National Junior Olympics for the second time on Saturday.

Jackson, and Lila Honegger, and Ava Waroff.

Rivals become teammates

MBU’s 16U boys roster includes players from Carmel (where Norall is varsity head coach), Pacific Grove, Stevenson, Palma and Salinas — rivals in the fall who have bonded as club teammates.

Leadership comes from P.G.’s River Lyon, a shooter, Stevenson’s Laird Welch, a sprinter, and Carmel utility player Jack Balas — all 2022 varsity standouts at their high schools.

Other key components include Palma’s Henry Vetter, an ambidextrous utility player who can shoot effectively with either hand, Carmel’s Boston Fisher, a stalwart defender who plays 2-meter guard, Pacific Grove’s Kenji Gonzalez, a strong shooter and backup 2-meter guard, and Stevenson’s Beckett Heywood, a solid defender.

“We started training to qualify for this year’s Junior Olympics three weeks after the 2022 high school season ended. It’s a really long process, and very competitive,” Norall said.

“Seven or eight of our kids player together (with MBU) during our winter session, but a lot of our guys compete in high school swimming during the spring. So they’ve actually been together as teammates for less than three months.”

Earning a national-qualifying slot figured to be a difficult challenge. About one-third of the teams in the Pacific Zone are among the best in the U.S., and only 17 go to nationals, but the journey, itself, promised to pay long-range dividends.

“A major benefit of playing club polo is it prepares your body to play high school polo. I expect to see some pretty awesome improvements in the high school teams in our area, thanks to guys who played a 30-game summer,” Norall said.

Interest is swelling

“We’re seeing the talent grow in our area, and we’re becoming very competitive now with those strong



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

From the left, rivals who became teammates for Monterey Bay Union’s national-qualifying team include Jack Balas of Carmel High, Laird Welch of Stevenson and River Lyon of Pacific Grove.

programs in the San Jose and Santa Cruz areas,” Whent said. “Interest in water polo is growing here: This year’s team is the largest I’ve taken to nationals over the past three years, and it’s the first team I’ve had to hand-select. In past years, our roster for Junior Olympics basically included anyone who was interested.”

Around 200 teams are expected to travel to Orange County (considered the mecca of USA club water polo) from all over the country — from the East Coast to as far west as Hawaii — to compete at nationals in four age divisions (10U, 12U, 16U, and 18U).

Session 1 is scheduled Saturday through Tuesday at multiple locations (the biggest venue is the William Woollett Aquatics Center in Irvine, home of three 50-meter pools). Half will advance to Session 2 (Thursday through next weekend), where they’ll be separated into a Championship Division (the best) and Classic Division (the rest).

MBU’s teams will be guaranteed eight games over the next four days — more if they advance to Session 2.

Schedules and results from the tournament can be followed online at usawaterpolo.org.

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

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Editorial

The land cost dilemma

YOU MAY think of skyscrapers as a big-city phenomenon, but understanding the economics of very tall buildings can be quite helpful when it comes to figuring out how Carmel can conform to state housing mandates without bringing itself to ruin.

If you Google, “Why build skyscrapers?” you’ll be presented with a host of reasons — everything from boosting civic pride, to attracting tourists, to shortening commutes. But the No. 1 reason, especially when it comes to residential skyscrapers, is to reduce the cost of land per apartment or condo to a level that makes them more affordable than they would be if they were built at low densities.

A standard Manhattan subdivided parcel is just 1,800 square feet, but even at that tiny size, a single parcel in a prime location could easily be worth \$5 million — a value reached because so many people want to own New York City real estate. If one of those \$5 million parcels were built with a single-family home, the land cost per unit would also be \$5 million. Add in the price of permits, taxes, and construction for a nice townhouse, and you’re talking many millions just to build one modest-sized home.

Similar economics apply in upscale communities around the world — including places like Pebble Beach and Carmel where, just like Manhattan, land costs are extremely high. And where land costs are high, low-density housing is *ipso facto* too expensive for all but the wealthy to buy.

But all that changes if, instead of building one or two units per lot, you build dozens by stacking them on top of each other. Construction costs are much higher for taller buildings than for low-rise ones, but higher costs for things like steel and concrete can be more than offset by lower costs for land — which explains why tall buildings can be a cost-effective way to create affordable housing, and are the only way to do so where land is very expensive.

Obviously, Carmel won’t be approving any 50-story buildings any time soon, and not even the most aggressive housing advocates in the state Legislature would try to make that happen. So what are the city’s options?

Carmel’s standard lots are 4,000 square feet, and pretty much anywhere in town a vacant lot with water is worth at least \$1.5 million. Even if you put four homes on a \$1.5 million parcel, those homes will be unaffordable except to people with very substantial incomes. In fact, at densities like four units per lot — or even 10 — when you add in permit costs, construction costs and property taxes, there’s no way to offer homes the middle class could afford when land costs per unit are \$150,000 and up. It just does not work.

Which explains why “inclusionary” housing was one scheme California’s political leaders came up with to try to provide affordable housing in upscale communities. “Inclusionary” means “rented or sold at a discount,” with the property owner and the people who buy market-rate housing in a new development footing the bill for subsidizing the housing offered to low-income residents. This hasn’t had any impact on the overall price of housing in expensive parts of the state because there hasn’t been enough new housing in those areas to create more than a handful of inclusionary units.

Another way to make housing more affordable for the middle or lower class in an expensive area would be to offer direct, taxpayer-funded subsidies, thereby offsetting the high cost of land. This hasn’t been tried much, probably because the cost for taxpayers would be more than they could stomach. Rental housing vouchers are handed out by the millions in California, but they only end up being used in areas where housing prices are already low.

Which brings us back to Carmel. High-density housing is out of the question. Inclusionary units won’t happen either, except in a very few, isolated cases. And direct subsidies to put people into \$5,000-per-month apartments or \$2 million homes aren’t even on the table. Even the vaunted “accessory dwelling units,” assuming they are built in any significant number, will just end up being expensive because they’ll be so much in demand.

The bottom line is that in a place like Carmel, you’d need free land to build housing that would be affordable to the middle or lower class, but unless someone’s about to offer 5 or 10 acres they have lying around, we don’t see that happening, either.

Sure, a trickle of affordable units is possible. Otherwise, there doesn’t seem to be any way to make them happen.

BEST of BATES



Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. Letters cannot exceed 350 words, and must include the author’s name and home town. We reserve the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication and to edit for length and clarity.

The Pine Cone only accepts letters to the editor by email. Please submit your letters to mail@carmelpinecone.com

Have we asked them?

Dear Editor,

The passage of Senate Bill 9 and other like-kind legislation forces every county and city in California to produce a plan for “affordable housing.” Draconian measures are promised if we do not comply with these mandates. The state determines whether the plans submitted to the state are adequate by some mysterious criteria. One size fits all, no local control allowed.

The assumption is that low-income people will then be able to afford renting in Carmel, where they could then live without a commute to work. Sounds nice. However, on closer look, not so practical.

First, no parking requirements or plans exist for most of these 349 units in Carmel, of which 20 percent must be affordable. We already have parking problems, so one can only imagine what this development would create.

Any low-income family housed in

Carmel would need at least one car, not necessarily to get to work, but to shop for almost anything. Plus, the cost of goods in Carmel reflects the high property values. Second, do low-income families want to leave their extended families, churches, and communities to squeeze into small units in Carmel?

Low-income individuals who work in Carmel typically commute from Seaside, Marina, Sand City and Salinas, where property values are lower and the possibility of owning rather than renting a home is more realistically within reach.

If we are truly concerned about reducing the need for commuting, an efficient door-to-door public transportation system seems more sensible. There are many other reasons the misdirected state senate bills do not work, but to assume low-income individuals would prefer living in Carmel if they work in Carmel is an assumption that should not be made before polling these people to see what really works for them.

Lindamarie Rosier, Carmel

MPWMD deserves credit

Dear Editor,

As stated in your recent story, “Wet winter did wonders for Seaside Basin storage,” this year’s winter storms brought a great amount of water to the Aquifer Storage and Recovery program capturing runoff from the Carmel River. But this is not due to Cal Am’s excellent readiness. In fact, despite bragging about it, Cal Am was

See LETTERS page 26A

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Churchill gave the family a ‘proper perspective on the Empire’

WHILE I was enjoying the U.S. Women’s Open at Pebble Beach last week, I took the time to reflect back to the news that followed the first USGA foray to Pebble Beach the week of for the U.S. Amateur in September 1929. While the sports pages covered the tournament, North American newspapers were following the travels of

— Winston’s 18-year-old Randolph and John’s 20-year-old namesake. Churchill wanted his son and nephew, students at Oxford, to have a “proper perspective of the Empire.” He was possibly also reflecting on his own youth, when at age 19, he was disappointed to be left behind in England while his parents, Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill, visited North America in 1894. Lord Churchill was 45 when they left England in late June for what was to be a restful trip around the world.

The parents’ travels included a long weekend on the Monterey Peninsula. At Hotel Del Monte, Lady Churchill praised the beauty of the gardens in a letter, while Lord Churchill wrote to Winston from the hotel on Aug. 21, 1894, chastising him for planning to alter the military career he had prepared for him.

Health declines

Sadly, Lord Churchill’s health continued to decline. From California they traveled to Japan, Singapore and Bombay, by which time Lord Churchill’s health had worsened severely and the doctor ordered an immediate return to England. In October, during the return trip, the elder Churchill fell into a coma. He died in London in January 1895.

Winston Churchill’s travels in 1929 were not as traumatic. He and his entourage crossed Canada at a leisurely pace. Churchill’s primary goal was “rest and change and to fulfill a long-cherished ambition to see the great Dominion.” Along the way, he gave a few public addresses for the benefit of the National Council of Education, mostly avoiding party politics. He arrived in Vancouver on Sept. 2, and from there stayed briefly at Victoria, reaching Seattle on Sept. 7.

After crossing the border, a reporter asked Churchill his opinion on America’s prohibition on alcohol, which was still in force but losing popularity. The former

See **HISTORY** page 25A

History Beat

By NEAL HOTELLING

Winston Churchill across Canada as he prepared to make his first visit to the West Coast of the United States.

Today, we mostly remember Churchill for his leadership as prime minister of the U.K. during World War II, but in 1929, Churchill was 54 years old and had already been very active in the political affairs of Great Britain. He was first elected to Parliament in 1900 and in the years immediately prior to this trip, Churchill had served as Chancellor of the Exchequer (similar to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury) under Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin from November 1924 until June 1929. When Parliament returned the Labour Party’s Ramsay MacDonald to the role of prime minister, Churchill was without a job.

Change of plans

Just days after the election of MacDonald, the June 8, 1929, Montreal Gazette reported that Churchill “intends to leave England shortly on an extensive tour of Canada, the United States, countries of Latin America, thence proceeding to Japan.” Two months later, Vancouver’s The Province wrote: “Winston Churchill, the most dynamic and brilliant personality in the public life of England today, sails for Canada on Saturday.” In a change of plans, he would spend August in Canada, most of September in California, and then travel back across the United States, sailing for home from New York on Oct. 30.

Churchill’s traveling companions were his brother, John, and their sons



This photo from Winston Churchill’s September 1929 visit to Pebble Beach appeared in a few newspapers of the day and delivers the best of the limited documentation of the future Prime Minister’s only visit to the Monterey Peninsula.

PHOTO/COURTESY JULIAN P. GRAHAM PHOTO / PEBBLE BEACH CO. LAGORIO ARCHIVE

Don’t miss “Scenic Views” by Jerry Gervase — every week in the Real Estate Section.

California, the colorized state

SOMEWHERE OVER the rainbow, an artist’s life waited for Sarah Leonard, who grew up on a bleak landscape in Kansas with a mother named Dorothy, watching tornadoes blow past her tiny hometown.

Hutchinson, Kan. — known historically for its salt mines, the Santa Fe Railway and the Kansas State Fair (be sure to try the chocolate-dipped corn dogs) — was built on a windblown prairie, where miles of flat, utterly straight highways and rural roads dissect the cornfields and wheatfields that qualify as scenery.

It bears little resemblance to Munchkinland. Indeed, like those early scenes of “The Wizard of Oz,” it might best be represented in black and white, which might explain why Leonard’s childhood artform was mostly drawing and sketching. The color came later.

“Art was always my trajectory, but I had no idea what to do with it,” said Leonard, who will be a featured artist (along

see them watching me, like, ‘What in the world is she doing in there?’”

What she’s doing is painting impressionist-style renderings of the picturesque landscapes, seascapes, Monarch butterflies and wildlife (otters are a favorite subject) she sees as she embarks on daily walks and wanderings with Waldo.

“Every time I’m on a walk, I see something I want to photograph, because I paint from photographs,” she said. “I still love to draw, so I’ll always do a sketch first, but after I start painting, I’ll often stop referring to the sketch because I’m so excited to move on with the painting process.”

Mentored by Marie Massey

Leonard credits much of her artistic reawakening to classes she began taking eight years ago from Peninsula artist Marie Massey, who introduced her to the concept of painting in layers — applying two layers of underpainting, using colors that will be complementary to the ones she’ll add to create the subject images.

“I’ve modified Marie’s method for my own purposes, but I just love the look of it, and I’ve always

been fascinated with the technique,” she said. “I worked with Marie for about three years, until the pandemic forced her to stop teaching indoors in person.”

Although she never really jettisoned her creativity, Leonard pushed her own artwork aside for long periods, when life presented other priorities.

“Art, for me, was just a hobby — I wasn’t producing enough to make any real money — and I think I had always wanted to teach,” said Leonard, who was a student at the University of Kansas when she met her future husband, who was studying to become a mechanical engineer.

“Carl wound up working for Standard Oil for a while, but always wanted to go to law school,” she said. “When he did that, I went to UC Berkeley for a year-and-a-half and got my teaching certificate.”

Four years teaching art

Leonard taught art to San Francisco Bay area sixth graders for three years, fifth graders for one more, and loved her job, but stepped away in 1968 to start her own family.

“Carl was well-established as a corporate lawyer by then, so we bought a home,” she said.

Their daughter, Jennifer, was born in 1970, and their son, Michael, came along in 1974. When Jennifer was in middle school and her brother was in grade school, Leonard began teaching hands-on art classes, art history and letterpress printing to middle-school kids through the newly christened Lafayette Arts and Science Foundation.

“When we taught ancient history, I told them the story of Lascaux Cave in France, which was discovered by a dog named Robot and two teenagers who followed him into the cave,” Leonard said of the

See **ARTIST** page 37A

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

with Dee Steiner and Craig Lauterbach) at Monterey’s Venture Gallery throughout the month of August. “I didn’t start painting on canvas until about 13 years ago.”

Door to a brighter world

That change opened a door to a colorful new world for an artist who, at 81, is deeply devoted to oil painting in the space she created in the garage of the 1,600-square-foot cottage she shares with her husband, Carl, near Spanish Bay. That’s where her personal yellow brick road led in 2004.

“We have a den, a guestroom and a master bedroom, but no room for an art studio — I can almost vacuum my entire house from the same wall outlet,” she said. “So I took over the tool bench, which is probably 12 feet long and 2 1/2 feet wide. I had two skylights put in. Our labradoodle, Waldo, comes out and curls up in his day bed. I move my car outside so I can stand back and look at my painting.

“If it’s a nice day, I’ll open the garage door and watch the people walk by. I’ll



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Venture Gallery artist Sarah Leonard, a lifelong sketcher, began painting on canvas 13 years ago.



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Instead of 'miles of heartaches,' her stage career led to true love

JEAN SCHOLEFIELD fell deeply in love just as she was meant to be murdered. Sure of her lines, she felt cool, confident, pretty and primed to portray the ingenue in Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians." That was until she saw her assailant, "Justice Wargrave," played by Wilfred (Bill) Scholefield, just about the most dashing man she'd ever laid eyes on.

Since he was supposed to murder her on Sunset Cen-

Great Lives

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

ter's stage, she couldn't very well act coy when she was supposed to be deathly afraid. Instead, they spoke after the rehearsal in a moment worthy of any romcom. It was 1968.

"I fell madly in love with Bill the first time I saw him," the longtime local actress said. "He was my 'Auntie Mame — Beauregard Burnside' experience. He opened doors for me I didn't know existed, exposing me to the opera and other fine things — the world, really."

Two years after they met, Bill Scholefield turned 50 and said, "We cannot marry. All of my family has died at 60 or younger. At best, we'd have only 10 years together."

She told him perhaps, but they'd be 10 wonderful

years. Two years later, in 1972, the Scholefields were married.

"Bill lived to be 98. He was 70 till he turned 95. Then he became his age. Still, we went on a cruise when he was 96 and traveled again, a year later. On cruises, we always sat at a table for two so we could focus on each other."

They parted company twice during their marriage. In 1992, the couple had been at sea for 100 days when he'd had enough. He decided to disembark in port and fly home, promising to collect her when the ship docked, six days later. Then, in 2017, after nearly 44 years of marriage, he died — and she still wasn't ready to let him go.

Without a lollipop

Jean Scholefield was raised in Texas as an only child, which made her the darling of her extended family. Her father taught her to be kind, to be generous, to share with others in case one day, she was the one without a lollipop.

Her grandmother inspired her to act, allowing her to re-create plays in a big garage with a door that went up like the curtain on a stage. Scholefield wrote, cast and directed her plays, in which she always was the star.

It became her goal to go off to Northwestern University, with its reputedly fantastic drama department. Her parents, who considered the campus too far from home, enrolled her at Texas Christian University. She found it daunting and asked her father to let her come home. He gave her two options: She could return to the comfort of her childhood home and get a job as a car hop — a roller-skate waitress — at the Tradewind Drive-in, or buck up and get her college education at Texas Christian. She graduated in 1957 with a degree in drama.

"After graduation, I went to Dallas, where I taught drama at an elementary school by day and started working in theater at night, mostly so I could afford to go shopping at Neiman Marcus," she said. "Soon, I got my equity card and was cast in 'Bottoms Up', a comical farce that got more suggestive as the evening went on. My mother was not amused."

A difficult drawl

In 1962, Scholefield and three girlfriends, determined to "see the world," came to California in her red Chevy Nova convertible. Resolved to remain in the Golden State, she thought she'd get a job until it became clear her Southern drawl was a barrier to employment. "They won't care how you talk in elementary education," her mother said, so she enrolled at San Jose State, where she earned her teaching credential and, later her master's degree in early childhood education with a concentration in literature.

Scholefield received her first job offer at Marina Vista Elementary School and later moved on to Laurelwood Elementary in Salinas, where she thrived as if on stage.



PHOTO/COURTESY JEAN SCHOLEFIELD

Actress and teacher Jean Scholefield says her life belongs in a novel, and that she enjoyed the classroom and stage equally.

She played operatic music in the classroom, served finger sandwiches, and elevated all literature with dramatic readings. Her students showed up and leaned in. Yet, as much as she loved teaching, she missed the stage. So, she gussied up in her best impression of an ingenue — complete with fox-fur stole — and attended open auditions at Sunset Center for "Ten Little Indians." It was the beginning of a dramatic life by the sea.

She went on to perform in many plays and musicals over the years in the Circle Theater at the Golden Bough and the former Studio Theatre, a lovely little dinner theater next to the Tuck Box. Among the shows were "Mary Stuart," "Someone Waiting," "The Ice Man Cometh," "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" — she played Mrs. Mitty — and her favorite, "Life with Father," in which she starred as Mother.

For years, Scholefield has told people who ask that she's 85, just to enjoy their astonishment at how good she looks. A year from now, that will be the truth, so she's thinking of increasing the number by a few more.

"Theater is a million miles of heartache if you're trying to make it to the big time," said the Mid Valley resident. "Teaching drama was good for me and a wonderful role to play. But so was acting on stage. My life belongs in a novel or maybe a series. But for now, it's a story whose intrigue lies as much in the telling as it did in playing it out."

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PHOTO/COURTESY JEAN SCHOLEFIELD

In 1970, Jean Scholefield played Dolly Fabian in "Once More With Feeling" at the Studio Theatre in Carmel. Milton Hayes played her husband, Victor Fabian.

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HISTORY

From page 23A

Chancellor of the Exchequer declined to comment other than noting that in Britain “we realize \$100,000,000 pounds sterling a year from our liquor taxes — which, I understand, you give to your bootleggers.”

Leisurely drive

After continuing south through Portland, Ore., on Saturday, at Grant’s Pass, Churchill and his family met with British Counsel General Gerald Campbell, who had driven up from San Francisco. Campbell led a leisurely weekend drive south along the Redwood Highway. On Monday, they reached Napa Valley for a lunch hosted by Georges de Latour at his Beaulieu Vineyard. During Prohibition, de Latour was allowed to produce sacramental wines, and no doubt retained some for his personal use and entertaining visitors.

From Napa, the Churchills traveled to “New Place,” the Hillsborough home of William H. Crocker, president of Crocker Bank. They stayed with the Crockers for

a few days while seeing the San Francisco area sights. The visit included lunch at the Bohemian Club, dinner at the Pacific Union Club, and a visit with UC Berkeley President W.W. Campbell at the Lick Observatory.

On Sept. 12, Winston Churchill and his group toured the Monterey Peninsula and visited the 17 Mile Drive home of Cecilia Tobin Clark, whose brother, Richard Tobin, was then the United States Minister to the Netherlands. Their father was a founder of Hibernia Bank. Oddly, although the Churchills’ trip was widely covered across the nation, neither The Pine Cone nor the Monterey Peninsula Herald mentioned it, and few details of his time on the Peninsula are known.

S.F.B. Morse, the head of Del Monte, had gone to New York right after the U.S. Amateur to capitalize on the fame the event brought his resort. We know from Morse’s memoirs that he never met Churchill, but greatly admired him. I share the following passage.

“The man whom I feel was the greatest statesman and perhaps really the greatest man of our century I saw once, but I didn’t meet him, was Winston Churchill.



Cecilia Tobin Clark hosted Winston Churchill during his brief stay at Pebble Beach September 12-13, 1929. Her oceanside estate on 17-Mile Drive, built in 1919, was a little north of Pescadero Point and offered stunning views of Point Lobos in the distance.

PHOTO/COURTESY JULIAN P. GRAHAM PHOTO / PEBBLE BEACH CO. LAGORIO ARCHIVE

He had everything, great physical courage, inexhaustible energy, and the highest order of intelligence accompanied by profound learning. I can’t think of anyone else actually in his class and he was certainly good in every branch. He was an excellent soldier, statesman, and a splendid painter, as well as writer. He could handle the English language as no one else could in his generation. To me, Churchill stands out above all the rest.”

It was likely when they were both at New York in October 1929 that Morse saw Churchill.

Hearst, Barrymore

Before going to New York, Churchill spent the rest of September in California. From Pebble Beach he spent the weekend with William Randolph Hearst at San Simeon. From there he proceeded to Los Angeles, where he visited with movie

stars John Barrymore and Charlie Chaplin, attended the premier of “Cockeyed World” at Grauman’s Theatre as the guest of Marion Davies and was feted by Louis B. Mayer at a luncheon banquet on an MGM soundstage. On a sailing trip to Catalina, Churchill landed a 188-pound marlin, then capped off his California venture with a trip to Yosemite on Sept. 27.

After a stop at the Grand Canyon and four days in Chicago (Oct. 2-5), the Churchills spent the rest of October in the East, largely in New York. He did, however, find time to travel to Washington, D.C., meet with President Herbert Hoover, and tour some of the Civil War battlefields around Richmond. Churchill left New York at the end of October with a much greater appreciation of Canada and the United States, an appreciation that served him, England and the United States well during his later years as prime minister.

Free taxi vouchers for seniors

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

IN COLLABORATION with the Monterey County Regional Taxi Authority and participating cities, Monterey-Salinas Transit distributes a limited number of free taxi vouchers to residents who are at least 65 years old and live in Carmel, Carmel Valley, Del Rey Oaks, Marina, Monterey, Pebble Beach, Pacific Grove, Sand City, Salinas or Seaside.

Seniors in Carmel, Carmel Valley and Pebble Beach can pick up the vouchers

at The Carmel Foundation at Lincoln and Eighth, while Pacific Grove residents can get them at city hall, the Sally Griffin Senior Center and the P.G. Library. Monterey residents can find them at the Scholze Park Center at 280 Dickman Ave. The free vouchers are worth \$14 in fare, and riders must provide proof of age and residency. They must also cover a \$3 co-pay per ride.

For rules of use and other information, including a list of participating cab companies, go to mstmobility.org/taxi-vouchers.htm or call (888) MST-BUS1.

OTTER

From page 12A

in female southern sea otters may be associated with hormonal surges or due to being fed by humans.”

The otter was seen with a pup in the Santa Cruz area in May 2022, she explained.

While there have been no confirmed reports of injury, due to the highly unusual behavior of this otter, kayakers, surfers, and others recreating in the area should not approach the otter or encourage the otter’s interactions,” McConnell said.

Officials in Santa Cruz erected signs warning swimmers and others to keep away from the “aggressive sea otter,” cautioning them to “enter the water at your own risk.”

HAWAII

From page 19A

time they pulled their nets from the sea, they contained tons of plastic.

The cameraman captured some impressive drone shots of Polkobla and Solstice — 800 miles from shore.

Home sweet home

Acknowledging the risks of sailing solo over vast distances without another person in sight, race officials required contestants to call in on their radios every day with a status report. “They’re called ‘proof of life’ checks,” his wife explained.

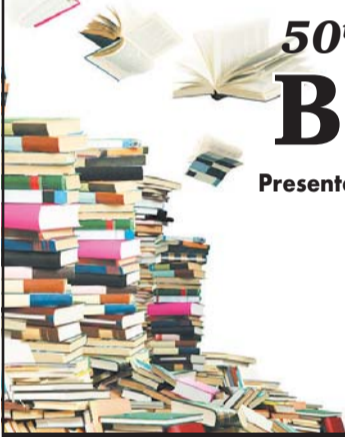
As of late this week, Polkobla and his boat were still on Kauai. He plans to sail back home soon with the help of another

local sailor, Austin Book, but first, his boat needs some repairs. When he returns to the Monterey Peninsula, Polkobla plans to celebrate his successful race with a reception that will raise money for the Surfrider Foundation. The event is set for Sept. 7 at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club. The reception starts at 5:30 p.m., and a talk by Polkobla will follow at 6.

On Thursday morning, The Pine Cone finally had a chance to speak with Polkobla, who has been busy tending to his boat. He conceded he was weary from his journey.

“People ask me what it was like,” he said. “It was a very physical thing to do, but it was also mentally taxing. I was fighting fatigue and a lack of sleep, the conditions were very harsh.

There were times I had to dig deep — and on top of that, dig deeper still.”



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LETTERS

From page 22A

an impediment to having a banner year for collecting water. Due to its delay in infrastructure completion and testing their new pumps for Carmel Valley and Forest Lake, the company actually limited the amount of water that was captured.

Cal Am should have built dedicated extraction wells for Pure Water Monterey water years ago, but they didn't. Instead, Cal Am chose to use its two ASR injection wells to extract Pure Water Monterey supplies. This is another example of incompetent management and ratepayers being charged high rates for inadequate service and infrastructure completion.

Due to Cal Am we lost 1,172 acre-feet of river water that could have been captured and stored. To brag that they were ready when the rains came is patently false. We really should be thanking the Monterey Peninsula Management District for having its two ASR wells ready to capture all that water.

Susan Schiavone, Seaside

No credit to Cal Am

Dear Editor,

Your story, "Wet winters did wonders for Seaside Basin storage," should not be crediting Cal Am for the project's success. While the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and Cal Am are partners in the Aquifer Storage and Recovery program that captures excess river flows, Cal Am did not do its part this year, which resulted in much less water being captured and stored.

Originally the ASR program was MPWMD's project. All four ASR injection wells were going to be theirs, but in 2009 Cal Am needed a small water project to comply with state requirements. To help Cal Am, the general manager of MPWMD at the time allowed Cal Am to develop and own the last two ASR wells.

After the completion of Pure Water Monterey over three years ago, Cal Am

knew they needed more extraction capacity for PWM. New extraction wells should have been built at that time. But instead, Cal Am chose to use the ASR wells for PWM extraction.

So, when the rains hit, Cal Am was still tying up two of the four ASR wells needed to inject the excess flows from the river into the Seaside Basin. Hundreds of acre-feet were lost because of this.

On top of that, Cal Am had not bothered to power up or test the new Carmel Valley and Forest Lake pump stations. In addition, when the river flooded, some pumps had to be shut down and there were no backup wells to offset them.

The needed PWM wells were finally approved earlier this year. Is Cal Am planning to build them soon?

Yes, the ASR program stored over 1,600 acre-feet. But due to Cal Am, we lost 1,100 acre-feet that could have been stored. This is not the fault of Cal Am's local crews. This is about decisions made at the management level to maximize profit.

It's laughable to print Cal Am's claim that they were ready. With only two injection wells available and the new pump stations not online, they were not even close to ready. We lost over one thousand acre-feet of water because Cal Am was not ready. Cal Am deserves the blame here, not the credit.

If you're going to report on water, please report the whole story.

Melodie Chrislock,
Carmel

Bike lanes on CVR

Dear Editor,

There are dedicated bike paths and bike lanes to connect communities for recreation and facilitate car-free sustainable transportation in towns all over the country and the world. Yet, the primary and most direct vehicular artery between Carmel Valley Village and Carmel remains a cyclist death trap.

Rather than seeing improvements, even with a Monterey County Carmel Valley Road Advisory Committee, the bike lane continues to deteriorate. Oddly, cyclists

must operate under the same vehicle code regulations as automobiles, but long stretches of the Carmel Valley Road east and west bike lanes are narrowed by debris and vegetation and don't even have a visible white line to distinguish the bike lane from the car lane. The painted "Bike Lane" identifier is either nonexistent or badly faded.

The sewer line project from Carmel Valley Manor is amplifying the hazard for cyclists right now and it would be worth the risk if Monterey County got up to speed and planned to use this opportunity to improve cycling safety during the rehabilitation of the roadway. Surely Monterey County residents deserve to ride and drive safely on Carmel Valley Road with adequately maintained bike lanes and permanent markings as commonly used in other heads-up communities.

Linda Mullally,
Hacienda Carmel

16 bathrooms?

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed the drone view of the former Feather house on 17 Mile Drive in The Pine Cone last week. The Feathers owned the home from 1972 until the recent change of ownership. Over the past 50 years, the home was constantly under some type of (discrete) construction, eliminating elements that would be of historic value.

The ocean views became unavailable to the neighbors, cyclists, pedestrians and people who paid to see 17 Mile Drive. One complaint from paying guests is that so many homes that line the ocean portions of the drive have solid walls obscuring the ocean and Cypress views, they rarely mention missing the "view" of the house/castle.

While a realtor said wanted the five consecutive (castle) homes to remain, saying people "want to see" these house/castles when they come to Pebble Beach, the demolition has shown that more people are interested in the new views.

The new owners have given back incredible views within a quarter mile of the. While the aerial view was pretty, the views from the street are already greatly enhanced and now can be shared with anyone nearby.

The other "historic" project north of the Feather home has been under "historic" construction for more than 10 years. This

has not been a view to appreciate for a long time and a nearby property sale may be impacted.

While having 16-19 bathrooms may have been of historical importance 50 years ago, current issues of water, land, housing and the mantra about "climate change" demand a more balanced approach to "historical" not "hysterical" value for the future residents and tourists who support the community of Pebble Beach.

Kathleen Papenhausen,
Pebble Beach

NUCLEAR

From page 11A

But the activist groups say otherwise, arguing that the power plant, which began operating in 1985, is outdated and poses a danger, especially from earthquakes. The groups have requested that a judge "review, reverse, and vacate the exemption order."

"Rules around nuclear power are there for a clear reason: to protect people and the planet from another tragic Fukushima or Chernobyl disaster," Hallie Templeton, legal director at Friends of the Earth, said.

PG&E maintains that the power plant can withstand earthquakes and flooding from tsunamis. By itself, Diablo Canyon provides 17 percent of California's no-carbon electricity and nearly 9 percent of its total electricity supply, the utility said.

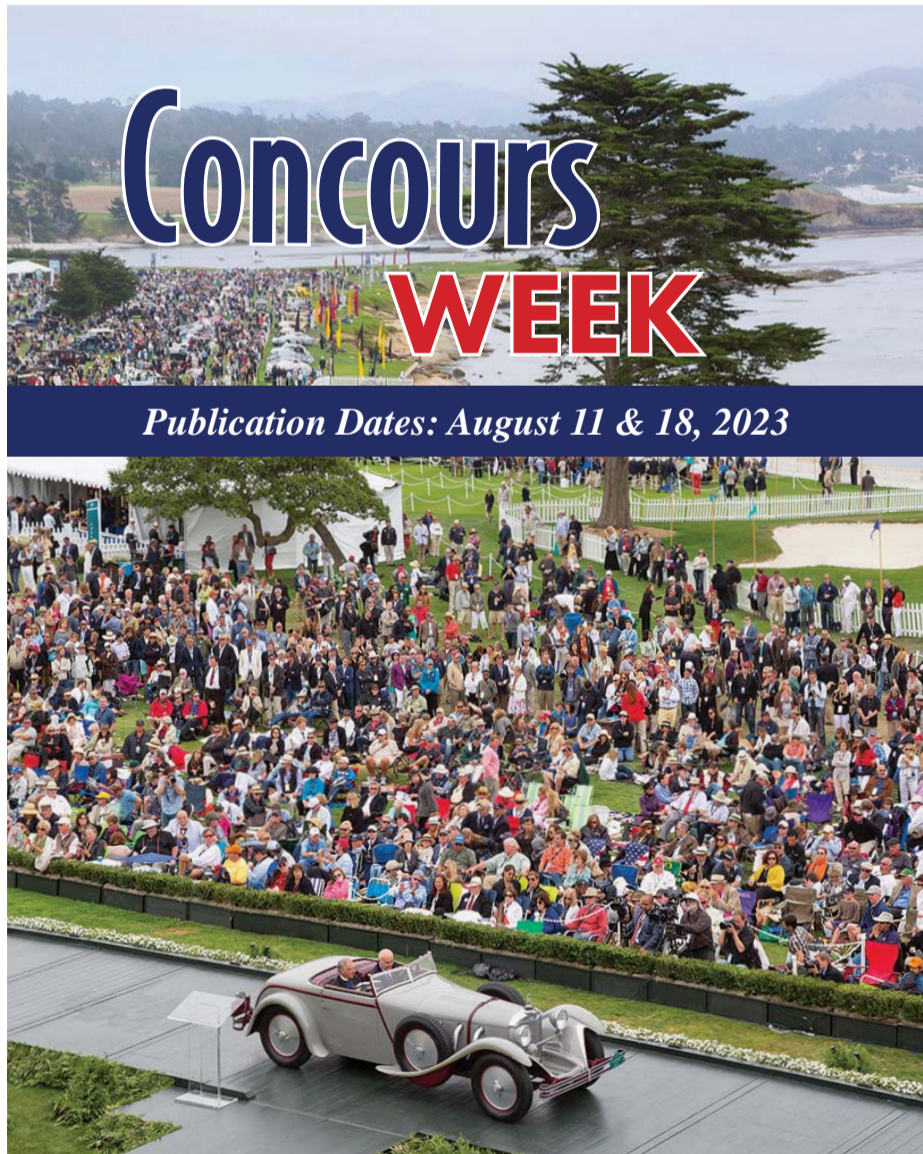
CABINS

From page 6A

understands it's not for everybody. "I think camping is the greatest thing on earth, but it can be really overwhelming," she said.

State parks maintenance chief John Hiles pointed out that the park already has one cabin available for overnight stays, and it's a "hot commodity." He also said that the cabins will help the park provide accommodations for "an aging population."

"Alternatives to camping is a need," he said. "The visiting public has a desire for something other than a campsite."



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PUBLIC NOTICES



CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, CALIFORNIA

NOTICE INVITING BIDS FOR FOUR FACILITY RENOVATION PROJECTS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea is soliciting bids from qualified Contractors for work including but not limited to:

- 1. City Hall Roofing Replacement:** Remove and replace existing roof with cedar shingles, or one of two deductive alternate asphalt shingle options. Remove (recycle) and replace copper gutters, downspouts, and flashing with new metal components.
- 2. Sunset Center (two separate building sites)**
 - a. Exterior painting of north wing:** Asbestos and lead paint abatement and monitoring. All paint colors to match existing.
 - b. Cottages windows repair:** Asbestos and lead paint abatement and monitoring; removal and replacement of exterior window trim components, not glass. All paint colors to match existing.
- 3. Harrison Memorial Library**
 - a. Exterior painting:** Asbestos and lead paint abatement and monitoring. All paint colors to match existing.
 - b. Additive Bid Item:** Interior painting. Includes moving and storage on site of furniture and art work. Asbestos and lead paint abatement and monitoring. All paint colors to match existing.

The contract and bidding documents are available at <http://ci.carmel.ca.us> (under the tab "I Want to Submit a Bid or Proposal").

See Part V: Specifications, Divisions 01 through 20, and Project No.2022-065 drawings titled CITY HALL ROOFING REPLACEMENT PACKAGE; SUNSET CENTER BUILDING EXTERIOR PAINTING PACKAGE; SUNSET CENTER COTTAGES WINDOW REPAIR PACKAGE; and HARRISON MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUILDING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PAINTING PACKAGE, dated 4/24/23 by Ten Over Studio, Inc. This project will be managed by Ausonio, Inc. Construction Managers under contract with the City. City buildings are historic and will be occupied during the project. Contractor parking and laydown areas will be available off-street in some locations, but not all. At locations where on-street parking and laydown are required, parking passes will be provided at no cost to the Contractor.

A Mandatory Site Tour is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 starting at Sunset Center on San Carlos Street, followed by meeting at Harrison Memorial Library at the corner of Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Street, and concluding at Carmel City Hall, on the East side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and 7th Avenues, Carmel-by-the-Sea. This conference will allow bidders to receive an overview of the Contract. Failure to attend and arrive on time may result in your bid being deemed non-responsive resulting in rejection of your bid.

Questions regarding this solicitation are to be directed to Diane Miller, Project Manager, at diane@ausonio.com. All questions must be in writing, submitted via email by Friday, August 11, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Responses will be posted by Addendum on the City website at <http://ci.carmel.ca.us> by 5:00 PM August 17, 2023.

Bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall Council Chambers, located on the east side of Monte Verde Street between Ocean and Seventh Avenues, at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, August 22, 2023. Bids received after the stated deadline will be returned unopened. Bids must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) bid bond, certified check, or cashier's check payable to "City of Carmel-by-the-Sea." Bid bonds shall be in original form and executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety. At the time of the Bid opening, the successful Bidder must be legally entitled to perform Contracts requiring a Class B General Building Contractor's License.

Per Sections 1725.5, 1771.1, 1771.3, and 1771.4 of the Labor Code, this project is subject to prevailing hourly rate of per diem wages for this locality and project and compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. All Contractors and Subcontractors shall be listed in the bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, and shall be currently registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the Labor Code

Publication date: July 14 & 21, 2023 (PC714)

CAMERAS

From page 1A

vehicle by automatically running the numbers through crime databases. Acting Police Chief Jeff Watkins has said the cameras don't record people's faces.

Several of the new cameras have been installed downtown, including near

Devendorf Park, Seventh and Dolores, and Mission and Ocean, but residents expressed alarm after the poles and cameras began appearing in their neighborhoods, too.

"We're looking for more transparency on the rollout of those cameras — where they're going to be placed and how they'll really work," Carmel Residents Association board member Nancy Twomey said during the public comment period Tuesday.

PAROLE

From page 3A

The panel met again in July 2020. "Surviving family members of the victim wrote letters opposing his release, and many appeared during the hearing for the first time, now with the understanding that the person who brutally killed their loved ones could in fact be released," Dunne said. Regardless, commissioners again voted to let him out.

But the governor intervened once more in November 2020 after the district attorney's office "discovered a tape in archives which proved that no facts of the case were related during an attempt — unsuccessful in the opinion of the participants — to hypnotize Mr. Bicknell during the original investigation in 1977," according to Dunne.

In April 2021, at Newsom's insistence, an en banc panel of three commissioners along with Dunne, Bicknell and his lawyer, and several of the victims' relatives, participated in a virtual hearing. After reviewing the extensive files in the case and the prior panel's decision, and hearing testimony that included a fairly weak defense from Bicknell himself, commissioners unanimously decided to rescind his parole.

Fight goes on

That didn't affect his eligibility for future release, however, and in November 2021, Bicknell again sought release. Dunne said his late son — the child his pregnant girlfriend had been carrying when she aided Bicknell in the killings — had been adopted and grew up to become a law enforcement officer who spent years "dedicated to ensuring his father remained in custody." He died in June 2021, but three of Bicknell's sisters have continued to lead the effort to keep their brother in prison, testifying at the November 2021 hearing and again last week.

"They begged the board of parole to deny Mr. Bicknell parole," Dunne said. "They pointed out they did not feel they would be safe, nor family members of theirs, as Mr. Bicknell's triggers appear to be female family members."

They also reiterated that his lies and implausible denials "made it impossible to deem him no longer a danger to society," she said, and the panel agreed, voting to keep him in prison for another three years.

"Despite multiple confessions, in varying environments, to include detailed testimony under oath at juvenile proceedings against his co-participant, Mr. Bicknell claims to be innocent," Dunne said. "However, the commissioners found the denial implausible."

The 65-year-old had been at the California Correctional Institution, a supermax prison in Tehachapi, but is now at San Quentin. San Quentin is the state's oldest prison, having opened in 1854, and houses all of the state's male inmates who are on death row, though Newsom banned executions in 2019.

SURVEY

From page 8A

the zip code where the business is located and whether the respondent is an owner or an employee. It inquires whether the person is a resident in the city and seeks an up or down answer on paid parking. The only written answer it prompts is an explanation of that opinion.

The survey then asks if the participant drives to work, whether the two-hour limit on free parking should stay or go, and if the current system causes "a negative impact on your business because customers are leaving town after two hours rather than moving their cars."

The council identified paid parking as one of its priorities a few years ago.

She also sent an email to Watkins and other officials raising concerns about privacy and aesthetics, and questioning the logic behind placing them on neighborhood streets that aren't access points. She asked that the rollout be halted while these issues are resolved.

"We want the cameras — it's just a matter of how they're going to be deployed and what they do," she told the council July 11.

Doesn't like fear

Carmel Preservation Foundation founder Karyl Hall criticized the program, describing it as fear-driven, much like some residents' desire to cut down tall trees around their homes because they worry about them falling during storms or catching fire.

"The fear of crime has encouraged a plan to spread tall poles with solar panels and cameras around town, not just at ingress and egress points," she said. "A police state comes to mind."

Cell tower opponent Christy Hollenbeck said she was "shocked to find a large black pole with a solar panel and camera next to a home at Monte Verde and Eighth," and asked why more public input on their locations wasn't sought.

Resident Janice Bradner said she was surprised to see one across from her house at Junipero and 10th, having assumed the equipment would only be installed along the perimeter of town.

"We don't need them all over the place in the village, especially in residential areas," agreed Melanie Billig, who said she was also shocked to find them in the neighborhoods. "This kind of proliferation of junk, which is what I call it, in the residential areas totally takes away from the character of Carmel."

Following their comments, Rerig confirmed the new cameras will replace those installed a few years ago at major access points, including Ocean and Carpenter, Carpenter and First, Camino del Monte and Pico, Dolores north of Stevenson Lower School, Rio at Atherton, and San Antonio north of Fourth near the Pebble Beach gate.

He also said he and Mayor Dave Potter discussed appointing two council members, one of them being Alissandra Dramov, "to work with us so we can get all the information out and answer the questions the public has asked before proceeding."

"I want to thank everyone from the public who spoke with their concerns about the cameras," Dramov said. "I do worry that this is a slippery slope. As you know, I ran for office on beautification, protection of our character and preservation of our village character, and certainly also public safety, so I would like to find a way that we can come together with staff and find how we can make these fit in our community and certainly not be visual clutter and a visual eyesore."

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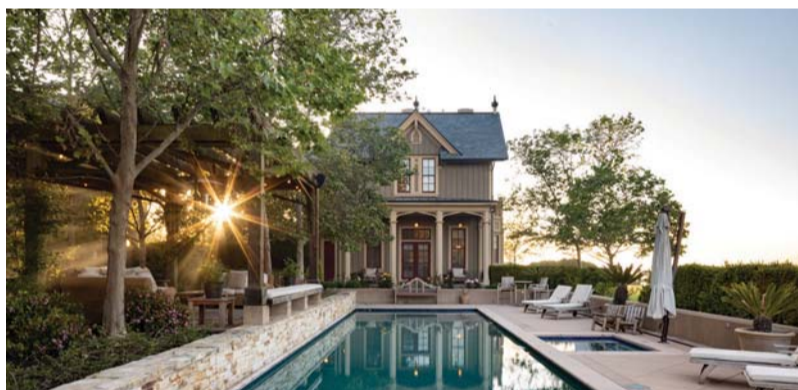
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**CARMEL
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FESTIVAL**

86th Season

July 15-29, 2023



A musical celebration with deep local roots greets a season of new 'Beginnings'

By ELAINE HESSER

THIS YEAR'S Carmel Bach Festival has chosen "Beginnings" as its theme, in no small measure because it's officially welcoming new artistic director and principal conductor Grete Pedersen of Norway. Pedersen's career (see p. 1A) has been marked by a passion for vocal music and productions that embrace diverse musical styles. In this year's festival brochure, she refers to the "spark" that began here in 1935, the festival's inaugural year.

She said she hoped to draw on the spirit, energy and intensity that were there at the beginning. "I want us to be reminded of that enthusiasm and love — to be grateful for the music that's here."

That music will include a wide variety of performances that officially kick off Saturday night with a fitting Bach Festival favorite — Franz Joseph Haydn's "The Creation." The music continues through July 29. You can order tickets and view the full program at bachfestival.org.

Life-affirming appeal

As always, main concerts from Saturday through Friday repeat in the festival's second week, so, for example, you can hear "The Creation" on July 15 or 22. Except for Sunday performances of "Father and Son," at Sunset Center at 4 p.m., and Wednesday main concerts, which start at 8:30 p.m. at the Carmel Mission Basilica, all main concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. at Sunset Center.

"The Creation" is Haydn's self-proclaimed "masterwork." The oratorio leans heavily on the biblical account of the world's beginnings in Genesis, and draws on John Milton's "Paradise Lost" and the book of Psalms, as well. It will be performed by the festival chorale, chorus and orchestra, with soloists Clara Rottsoik, soprano, Thomas Cooley, tenor, Jesse Blumberg, baritone and Enrico Lagasca, bass-baritone.



PHOTO/RANDY TUNNELL

The Bach Festival's symphony, chorale and chorus will launch this year's event Saturday night with Haydn's "The Creation."

Program notes refer to the "ubiquitous humanist and life-affirming appeal" of Haydn's composition, with Pedersen commenting, "Haydn's 'Creation' is universal. This music is for everyone."

Sunday night's main concert, "Father and Son," juxtaposes the music of C.P.E. Bach with that of his father, Johann Sebastian Bach, under the baton of Andrew Megill, the festival's artistic advisor and director of choral activities. Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach was the fifth of his father's children, and most of his impressive body of

work was composed in the era bridging the Baroque and Classical music periods.

The festival chorale and orchestra will perform C.P.E. Bach's "Magnificat" and his "Introduction to Credo," along with his father's "Credo from Mass in B Minor." George Frideric Handel's brief aria, "I know that my redeemer liveth" from "The Messiah," provides a transition between the Bach works.

See **BACH** next page

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B A C H F E S T I V A L

BACH

From previous page

The early part of the week holds fast to the Bach brand, with concertmaster Peter Hanson conducting Monday's "Concertos & Coffee," with works by Vivaldi, Handel and J.S. Bach, including the latter's "Coffee Cantata," which the program describes as a "miniature comic opera." Pedersen returns to the podium Tuesday to lead the orchestra and chorale in "Bach Dialogues," weaving together works by Bach, Gustav Mahler and Franz Schubert with Jan Dismas Zelenka's baroque "Miserere" and modern composer Helmut Friedrich Lachenmann's "Consolation II" from 1968.

Copland, Mozart and Prokol Harem

Wednesday and Thursday performances bring intriguing changes of pace. Megill will take the baton Wednesday for "American Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs," a collection of works that will be familiar to many listeners. With Aaron Copland's "In the Beginning" as the centerpiece, audiences will get a very different interpretation of Genesis' seven days of creation from that envisioned by Haydn.

Other pieces will include traditional numbers like

"Ain't-a That Good News," "Elijah Rock," and "My Lord, What a Mornin'," as well as "Peace I Leave With You," by Amy Beach (1867-1944), a widely respected American composer and pianist who performed her own music in the United States and Germany.

Thursday, Fire and Grace — a duo comprising violinist Edwin Huizinga and guitarist William Coulter — takes the stage for "The Human Voice." The highly regarded San Francisco Girls Chorus Premiere Ensemble (part of the San Francisco Girls Chorus, which has singers from ages 5 to 18) will also perform.

An eclectic sampling of works from J.S. Bach is shaken together with selections including a little Georg Philipp Telemann, some Gabriel Fauré, and "Mille Regretz" by Renaissance-era composer Josquin des Prez. Stir in some haunting works by Prokol Harem, Leonard Cohen and Paul Simon, whose hymn-like "American Tune" continues to find relevance nearly 50 years after it was written, and you get a program Huizinga predicted will be "joyous and transcendent."

Friday's "Mozart, Rehnqvist, Mahler: Breaking the Ice" rounds out the week as Pedersen takes her audience on a journey to someplace even chillier than Carmel in summer with Karin Rehnqvist's "Breaking the Ice" from "Arktis Arktis!," a work inspired by a trip to the Canadian tundra in 1999.

In addition to the main concerts, there's a wide selec-

tion of chamber programs, Tower Brass performances, cantatas, an all-Bach organ recital, pre-concert talks, the Virginia Best Adams Master Class open sessions, and a few not-to-be-missed performances that have become part of the Bach Festival's traditions. They're sprinkled around town at various locales — check the brochure for times, locations and descriptions.

Sunday evening at 8 p.m., for example, is the popular candlelight concert at All Saints' Episcopal Church, featuring Adriane R. Post and Johanna Novom on violin, Kyle Miller on viola and Paul Dwyer on cello. They'll be playing music by Bach, Haydn and Caroline Shaw, whose "Punctum" was inspired by Bach's "St. Matthew Passion."

Organist Andrew Arthur will give an all-Bach recital on both Mondays at 11 a.m. in the Carmel Mission. Among many impressive items on his resume, Arthur is the director of music at Trinity Hall in Cambridge, England. He'll also accompany Bach Cantatas at All Saints' on July 19 and 26, and play the harpsichord in "Twilight in the Cathedral" on Thursdays, July 20 and 27 at San Carlos Cathedral in Monterey.

Listening to history

If old-school instruments are your thing, you should also take note of the Monday fortepiano recitals on July

See **CONCERTS** next page



PHOTOS/RANDY TUNNELL

The exceptional collection of talent that is the Bach festival orchestra shares the stage with soprano soloist Clara Rottstolk (center) and numerous other gifted musicians as they perform works from the Baroque period through the modern era. (Right) Kids are the target audience for the continuing adventures of Leonard and Rasmus at this year's family concert.

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B A C H F E S T I V A L

CONCERTS

From previous page

17 and 24 in Sunset Center’s foyer, where festival keyboardist Dongsok Shin will present works by Mozart, J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach and Johann Christian Bach. If you want to fully geek out, “First to Print: The Beginning of Music Publishing in 16th-Century Italy, Spain and England” will feature festival lutenist Daniel Swenberg on the archlute, “exploring the development of lute music through the lens of a music historian.”

Saturday, July 22 (one performance at 11 a.m.) marks the most recent installment in “The Epic Adventures of Leonard & Rasmus.” The kid-centric concert has sprung once again from the fertile, pun-filled imagination of Youth Music Monterey’s executive director Suzanne Mudge. Leonard — a precocious youngster — and his magical stuffed horse, Rasmus, will head out on their annual fanciful journey, accompanied by music, scenery and narration to delight children and adults alike.

Past performances have included a visit from an astronaut, a voyage to the bottom of the ocean with a mermaid, and an episode of time travel. This year, the horse and his boy travel through “The Hidden Forest,” with music that celebrates “trees and the theme of rebirth and renewal.” Composers will include Antonin Dvorak, Haydn, and Edvard Grieg.

The Young Artists’ Showcase (one performance, Sun-

day, July 23 at noon) features local music students strutting their stuff on Sunset Center’s stage, an experience that has to be equal parts thrilling and terrifying. Past performers have included a 3-year-old violinist and pianists so young that their feet didn’t reach the floor — and the exceptional instrumental and vocal skills of these artists are well worth

seeing and hearing.

The two-week musical bacchanalia closes, as always, with “Best of the Fest” on July 29 at 7:30 p.m., a sampling of the artists’ and audiences’ favorite pieces from the preceding two weeks. It’s followed by a reception on Sunset Center’s terrace to toast the end of the 86th festival.



Local music students share their gifts at the Young Artists’ Showcase.

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This Week

Live Music,
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‘Music in the Forest’ returns, lineup headlined by McCartney’s guitarist

UNDER THE shade of towering pines, five musical acts take the stage at the Forest Theater Saturday and Sunday. Titled “Music in the Forest,” the two-day gathering is the fourth installment in local promoter **Steve Vagni-**

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

ni’s ongoing concert series at the iconic theater, which is located at Santa Rita and Mountain View.

Paul McCartney’s longtime guitarist **Rusty Anderson** and singer and guitarist **Cindy Alexander** play Saturday at 5 p.m., while **The Whiskey Wasps**, singer and guitarist **Parthenon Huxley** and singer and guitarist **Katherine Lavin** perform Sunday at 3 p.m.

Anderson, who has toured with McCartney for more than two decades, has four solo albums, including 2005’s “Undressing Underwater,” which features the Beatles’ front man on bass and backing vocals.

Based in Southern California, Alexander has a new album out titled, “Messy.”

The Whiskey Wasps are an indie folk duo featuring singer **Rachel DuVall-Schmidt** and singer and multi-instrumentalist **Billy Schmidt**. Based in Carmel, the duo is moving soon to Florida, so Sunday’s show will be their last one locally for some time.

Huxley is a one-time member of the Electric Light Orchestra who has released 12 solo LPs, while Lavin is a local singer and guitarist who is just 15.

Tickets are \$32 for Saturday’s show and \$27 for Sunday’s concert.



Singer and guitarist Rusty Anderson, shown here with Paul McCartney, plays Saturday, 5 p.m., at the Forest Theater.



Lovers and Strangers celebrates singer Ray Bertolino’s birthday Saturday at Cuz’s Sportsman’s Club in Seaside.

■ Bach returns

Celebrating its 86th year, the Carmel Bach Festival kicks off Friday with a busy schedule of concerts, recitals, master classes, lectures, and open rehearsals through July 29. The festival takes advantage of a variety of venues that include Sunset Center, Carmel Mission, Carmel Presbyterian Church, All Saints’ Episcopal Church, San Carlos Cathedral, the Church in the Forest, and Wave Street Studios in Monterey.

For more details, see The Pine Cone’s special coverage beginning on page 29A.

■ Blues in the Park

Seaside’s 36th annual Blues in the Park music series continues Sunday at 1 p.m. when singer and harmonica player **Mark Hummel** and a local band,

Rollin’ & Tumblin’, perform in Laguna Grande Park.

The series also includes shows by singer **Kay Bohler** and singer and guitarist **Chris Cain** (July 23), **Red Beans & Rice** and **The Laurie Morvan Band** (July 30) and **The Chicano All Stars and Pride & Joy** (Aug. 7).

The concerts are free. The park is located at 1249 Canyon Del Rey Blvd.

■ Live music July 14-20

Bernardus Lodge & Spa in Carmel Valley — pianist **Michael Culver** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Anne Sibley** (Saturday at noon), pianist **Martan Mann** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist

See MUSIC page 36A

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FOOD & WINE

Hacienda loves community, new Michelin honors and summer tomatoes

IN 2019, Chris and Jo Ann Olow saddened many residents when they hung a “Closed” sign on their landmark business, Hacienda Hay & Feed, at 7180 Car-

mel Valley Road. From the mini-zoo that starred Sidney the emu, to baby chicks galore, to a variety of supplies for farmers and ranchers, neighbors weren’t sure what would happen to the property after the

Olows retired to Oregon. The location — which had been in the Wolters family at least since it was a market that bore their name in the 1940s — went up for sale.

Veteran Carmel Valley realtor and lifelong resident Doug Steiny had the listing for the 3.5-acre farm, but he and his wife, Lisa, decided to buy it instead.

Now, the store has reopened and locals can still buy hay and feed there. The critters — Sidney, a pig named Oriole and some goats and tortoises — all found happy homes.

Meanwhile, the business has become much more than a feed store. Managed by the Steinys’ nephew, Nile Estep (who also runs the Thursday farmers markets in Devendorf Park), it’s grown to become a hub of eclectic activities and a nice spot for an outdoor lunch.

Big red truck

From the road, it looks much as it did when Estep took it over in 2022. It’s a smallish storefront situated between the entrance to Baja Cantina and Earthbound Farms Farmstand. A big, red vintage pickup truck with signs listing special events marks the entrance.

Around the back, however, is a large event venue. Estep said he prefers “community event venue,” because while he has nothing against fancy weddings, his vision is to have family-friendly gatherings that bring together a variety of people.

About a dozen rustic picnic tables are grouped around and

under a large canopy (with room for dancing, which we’ll get to shortly). There’s a beer and wine concession, some solid options for food, play areas for the kids, fire pits and a flatbed trailer that serves as a stage during some of the events held there each week.

If you’re just stopping in to wet your whistle, there are beers from Other Brother Beer in Seaside and Alvarado Street. As far as aged grape juice goes, quaffs from Joyce Winery dominate the current list, including a pinot, two rosés, a sauvignon blanc and an albariño. There are also nonalcoholic selections.

Hungry? Try one of the sandwiches — an Italian herb prosciutto and salami sandwich, a chicken pesto or a grilled veggie — all of which can be heated in the panini press. If you like your chocolate-chip cookies big and crunchy, the house-made version is waiting for you, along with a selection of pastries from Sweet Elena’s.

The small grocery/farm stand adjoining the food counter carries prepared items, local honeys, jams and preserves, treats from the Super Natural Foods Co., Revival Ice Cream (which would go great with one of those cookies), selected goodies from Happy Girl Kitchen, Straus Dairy organic milk, olive oils and a variety of other choices.

Estep said that he’s growing tomatoes, flowers, lettuce and beets on the farm out back, and is also nurturing 75 fruit trees



David Pasculli’s new sandwich business, Sammich’d, features items like this seasonal offering of heirloom tomatoes, truffle burrata, basil, saffron gastrique and nasturtiums on sourdough.

(apple, plum, pomegranate and apricot) and a pumpkin patch. He noted that the shop will carry those items as they become available, and he’s looking forward an event (date TBA) later in the summer to celebrate the tomato harvest.

But it’s not as if those picnic tables will sit idle until then. Last Sunday afternoon, while cars jammed the roads en route to the U.S. Women’s Open, several families gathered to dine on paninis and toss basketballs at hoops mounted at a kid-friendly height. There’s plenty of space for the little ones to run around and work off some excess

See **FOOD** next page

Soup to Nuts

By ELAINE HESSER

mel Valley Road. From the mini-zoo that starred Sidney the emu, to baby chicks galore, to a variety of supplies for farmers and ranchers, neighbors weren’t sure what would happen to the property after the



Only someone who’s never been here in summer could designate July as the month to celebrate ice cream, but that isn’t stopping Café Carmel from offering a special bonus for frequent scoopers.

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FOOD & WINE

FOOD

From previous page

energy without bothering other guests, too.

During weekly events, food vendors provide additional options. What events, you ask?

Line dancing classes alternate between Friday and Saturday nights for those 16 and older. For \$25 at the door, you can learn to kick up your boots from 6:30 to 9-ish.

Thursday trivia brings in a competitive but fun-loving crowd. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the quiz starts at 6:30. Pre-register your team (two to eight people), or they'll hook you up with one when you get there. It's \$25 a person and usually lasts a couple of hours.

For creative types, there are ceramics and pottery classes and introductory painting classes. And, in a nice nod to the site's history, there are blacksmithing classes. Sundays, sign up for a ritual yoga class from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. with "a blend of meditation, mindfulness, strength and restorative yoga."

Reservations for all of these options and more are at haciendavc.store, or you can call (831)293-8133. The store and grounds are open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



When Hacienda Hay & Feed closed in back in 2019 (that's B.P. — before the pandemic), it's likely nobody imagined its transformation into a space where friends and neighbors would gather for a sandwich in the sun or evenings filled with trivia quizzes and line-dancing lessons.



■ Michelin recognizes Maligne

This week, the Michelin folks awarded Maligne in Seaside the coveted Bib Gourmand. The unassuming spot at 600 Broadway owned by Klaus Georis is one of just four "San Francisco Bay area" restaurants newly added

to the list. "Since 1997, our best value for money restaurants — offering a three-course meal at a reasonable price — have been pointed out using a special award: the Bib Gourmand," says the Michelin website. Recipients are distinguished by a "simpler style of cooking, which is recognizable and easy-to-eat," the group adds.

Georis said "It's nice to see your hard work recognized," but added, "I think that being accessible and serving the neighborhood is more important" than his desire to one day earn a Michelin star. "I'm excited to see what this will do for us, and, more importantly, the surrounding area."

Maligne is open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Visit restaurantmaligne.com or call (831) 601-1302 for more information or to make reservations.

■ No moo, same yum

Lula's, the local chocolate factory run by Scott Wonka — er, Lund — is now turning out vegan candies. The new nut clusters are crunchy and delicious, and you won't miss the dairy products as almonds, macadamias, cashews and pecans are accented by silky dark chocolate. You can pronounce all the ingredients (cocoa beans, cocoa butter, sugar and nuts), and they're also soy- and gluten-free. Visit lulaschocolates.com.

See **WINE** next page

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F O O D & W I N E

WINE

From previous page

■ Mezzaluna menu tweaks

Mezzaluna Pasteria & Mozzarella Bar, the shrine to homemade pasta run by Chef Soerke Peters and Amy Stouffer, has some new menu items that promise to warm you up on a foggy summer night with sweet and savory seasonal flavors.

First up are three new cocktails. The Watermelon Spritz and Watermelon Margarita, both described as “fresh and lively,” promise all of the juicy, ripe flavor without the annoying seeds. A Lavender Gin and Tonic adds “floral, herbal and evergreen scents” to complement the juniper flavor from the gin.

Tomatoes from Swank Farms are at the heart of Pomodoro con Burrata. Peters oven-dries them to concentrate their flavors before serving them over creamy Italian cheese on thick pieces of country toast for a shareable starter.

The pasta special is malfadine (think lasagna noodles, but skinnier) with salmon, morels and asparagus, but you should also consider the lobster with saffron linguine. Mezzaluna, at 1188 Forest Ave. in Pacific Grove, is open Wednesday through Sunday from 5 to 9 p.m. Go to mez-



Mezzaluna is offering lobster with saffron linguine as part of its seasonal menu. The restaurant uses its own homemade pasta to complement sustainably sourced ingredients.

zalunapasteria.com or call (831)372-5325; you can also make reservations through Open Table.

■ A screaming good month

The typical American eats around 13 pounds of ice cream a year. If you haven't been getting your share, Café Carmel on Ocean Avenue is celebrating National Ice Cream Month with some scoops from Marianne's, a family creamery just up the road in Santa Cruz.

The best part? Customers who purchase 10 cones during July will get an 11th one free. The Café's summer hours are 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Call (831) 624-3870 for more info.

■ Chasing the perfect sammie

David Pasculli has had a passion for cooking since childhood, often watching food shows instead of cartoons. Raised in Monterey and Salinas, his culinary journey began at age 18 as a prep cook at Earthbound Organic Farmstand in Carmel Valley. Over the years, he gained experience at places like The Sardine Factory, Restaurant 1833, The Bench at Pebble Beach, and Saltwood Kitchen and Oysterette in Marina.

In 2021, he launched his own sandwich-focused business, Sammich'd, which puts a creative spin on sandwiches using high-quality local ingredients. For now, you'll have to journey to Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare Certified Farmers' Market held Fridays in the hospital parking



For more than 15 years, Lula's Chocolates has been turning out truffles and other sweet bites. Now the Monterey-based company has something for vegans, too.

lot at 450 E. Romie Lane, where, starting July 21, his pop-up menu will feature options like the Hash-Slinging Slasher (hash brown patty, Baker's Applewood Smoked Bacon, avocado, truffle aioli, Monterey Jack, sliced sourdough bread) and Le Artichaut Grilled Cheese (caramelized onion-artichoke dip, Baker's Bacon, spinach, aged cheddar, Monterey Jack, Otto's sourdough bread).

Keep your eyes peeled, because Pasculli said he wants to bring those and other high-end sandwiches to the Peninsula just as soon as he can.



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at St. Mary's



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CALENDAR

July 14-16 – Del Monte Kennel Club All-Breed Dog Shows, Obedience and Rally Trials. See a variety of champion canines 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Carmel Middle School, 4380 Carmel Valley Road. Pre-entered dogs only. Parking \$10. To learn more: www.DMKC.org



July 15-30 – Peninsula Potters 20% Off Summer Sale is back! Our gallery is brimming with ceramics; all inspired, handcrafted and one-of-a-kind. Twelve artists, displaying remarkable talent Open everyday 12-4, located at 2078 Sunset Dr. in the Russell Service Center.

July 19 – The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) will present a dinner / lecture, 6:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 Aguajito Road, Monterey. Topic is “India, Russia and the United States: The War in Ukraine and Changing Alliances,” by Professor Anshu N. Chatterjee, Naval

Postgraduate School (NPS). Visit <http://www.wacmb.org> for event details.

July 20-23 – Galerie Rue Toulouse welcomes works by famed French painter Marc Clauzade. Reception for the artist 6 to 10 p.m. July 22. Amuse Bouche Winery of Napa will be pouring its 2021 Napa Valley Red Blend. Gallery is on Ocean between Dolores and San Carlos, Carmel-by-the-Sea. Details: (831) 625-3456 or www.frenchart.net

July 20 – The Prostate Cancer Self Help Group of the Central Coast sponsors a free support group meeting and presentation on “Stress and Pain Management,” by cancer survivor/psychologist, Dr. Larry Lachman. Event is set for 5 to 6 p.m. in the Peninsula Room, Shoreline Church, 2500 Garden Road, Monterey. For more information, call (831) 915-6466.

July 22 – Teada, world-renowned band from Sligo, Ireland will perform 7 p.m. at St. Mary's-by-the-Sea, Pacific Grove, in the church sanctuary. Tickets at www.celticsociety.org, \$30 advance, \$35 door, kids' pricing available. There will be dancing, too. Call or text (831) 224-3819 for more info.

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MUSIC

From page 32A

Casey Wickstrom (Sunday at noon). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Saturday at 12:30 p.m.), **Along Came Betty** (jazz, Sunday at noon). 46800 Highway 1.

Blue Fox Cellars tasting room in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday at 2 p.m.). 25 Pilot Road.

Bulldog Sports Pub in Monterey — **Tribe in the Sky** presents a weekly Community Jam (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.). 611 Lighthouse Ave.

Carmel Plaza — the downtown shopping center's Summer Live music series continues with **Drive** (pop and rock, Friday at 5 p.m.). Ocean and Mission.

Cibo restaurant in Monterey — **The Dave Holodiloff Duo** (bluegrass and jazz, Sunday at 7 p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Tuesday at 7 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St.

Cuz's Sportsman's Club in Seaside — **Octane** (rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), **Lovers and Strangers**, **Johnny Tsunami** and others help singer **Ray Bertolino** celebrate his birthday (rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Tony Miles** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.). 594 Broadway.

Cypress Inn — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (pop, jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh.

De Tierra Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist **Dave D'Oh** (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth.

Deja Blue in Seaside — singer and pianist **Scotty Wright** and others (blues and r&b, Saturday at 3 p.m.), singer and pianist **Simon Russell**, multi-instrumentalist **Paul Branin** and others (blues and r&b, Sunday at 4 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scotty Wright** and others (jazz, Wednesday at 6 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

Dust Bowl Brewing Company in Monterey — **The Fragonards** (folk, Thursday at 5 p.m.). 290 Figueroa St.

Fernwood Resort in Big Sur — **Pfeiffer Beach Hotel** (rock, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Friday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Sunday at 2 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Rob Armenti** (Thursday at 4 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

Gusto Pasta and Pizza in Seaside — singer **June Cavlan** and guitarist **Bruce Forman** (jazz, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.). 1901 Fremont Blvd.

Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley — as part of a four-concert Festival of Winds concert series, an ensemble of master teachers plays music for wind instruments (classical, Monday at 7:30 p.m.). Tickets are \$25. Hidden Valley is located at Carmel Valley and Ford roads. hiddenvalleymusic.org.

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Friday at 5 p.m.) and singer and guitarist **Kip Allert** (Saturday at 5 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road, (831) 372-1234.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach — pianist **Bill Spencer**, bassist **Joe Dolister** and drummer **Andy Weis** (jazz, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gary Meek**, bassist **Joe Dolister** and drummer **Andy Weis** (jazz, Saturday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gary Meek**, bassist **Steve Uccello** and drummer **Andy Weis** (jazz, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.

Intercontinental Hotel in Monterey — guitarist **John Sherry** (folk, rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Zack Freitas** (Saturday at 9 a.m.), guitarist **Terrence Ferrell** (Latin music, Sunday at 9 a.m.). 750 Cannery Row.

Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant in Pacific Grove — singer and guitarist **Rags Rosenberg** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Smith** (Saturday at 6 p.m.),



Singer and guitarist Rags Rosenberg performs Friday, 6 p.m., at Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant in Pacific Grove.

singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave, Suite F, (831) 656-9533.

La Playa Hotel — **The David Morwood Band** (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., Sunday at 4 p.m.). Bud's Bar, Camino Real and Eighth.

The Links Club — **The Coastal Commission** (reggae, Friday at 7 p.m.), **The Sea Dogs** (rock and country, Saturday at 7 p.m.), Singer-Songwriter Showcase (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (rock and blues, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

Lucy's on Lighthouse in Pacific Grove — **Moondance** (pop and rock, Saturday at 2 p.m.), **Subatomix** (rock, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave.

Massa Tasting Room in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Sunday at noon). 69 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Midici Pizza in Monterey — keyboardist **Martan Mann** and saxophonist **Paul Contos** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **June Cavlan** and guitarist **Bruce Forman** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.

Mission Ranch — singer and pianist **Maddalaine Edstrom** (jazz, Friday through Sunday at 5 p.m.) and pianist **Gennady Loktionov** (jazz, Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m.). 26270 Dolores St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — pianist **Gary Meek** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Monday at 6 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Casey Wickstrom** (rock and blues, Thursday at 6:30 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row, (831) 646-1700.

O'Callaghan's Pub — singer and guitarist **Dave "Nomad" Miller** (Saturday at 6 p.m.). In The Barnyard shopping center.

Rio Grill — mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff** (bluegrass and jazz, Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Pfeffer** (Saturday at noon), singer and guitarist **Paul**

See LIVE next page

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From previous page

Behan (Sunday at noon). Crossroads shopping center, (831) 625-5436.

The Sardine Factory in Monterey — singer and guitarist **David Conley** (pop and rock, Friday and Saturday, Tuesday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). 701 Wave St.

Salty Seal Pub in Monterey — **Mixtape** (pop and rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), **The John Michael Band** (pop and rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **The Backbeats** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.), **Chuck and Buck** (rock and blues, Thursday at 7 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

Sly McFly's in Monterey — **The Rockafellas Band** (pop and rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), **Retreauxspect** (classic rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.), **The Stingrays** (rock, Sunday at 9 p.m.), **The Long Distance Flyers** (classic rock, Monday at 9 p.m.), **Victory Lane** (classic rock, Tuesday at 9 p.m.), **5 Star** (rock and soul, Wednesday at 9 p.m.), **The Pacific Jack Band** (classic rock, Thursday at 9 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

Tarpy's in Monterey — **Andrea's Fault Duo** (jazz and blues, Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **Reija Massey** (pop, rock and country, Saturday at noon) singer and guitarist **Kevin Pfeffer** (Sunday at noon). 2999 Highway 68, (831) 647-1444.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — saxophonist **Roger Eddy** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Brad Wilson** (rock and blues, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

Twisted Roots in Carmel Valley — **The Evergreen Duo** (pop and rock, Sunday at 1 p.m.). 12 Del Fino Place.

Wave Street Studios in Monterey — **The Brahms Horn Trio** (classical, Friday at 7:30 p.m.). 774 Wave St., tickets are available at bachfestival.org.

Wild Fish restaurant in Pacific Grove — **The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet** with pianist **Bob Phillips**, saxophonist **Paul Contos**, bassist **Zach Westfall** and drummer **Mike Shannon** (Friday, and Saturday at 6:30 p.m.). 545 Lighthouse Ave.

To update these listings, email chris@carmelpinecone.com.

ARTIST

From page 23A

elaborate maze of caverns, the walls and ceilings of which are adorned with more than 600 paintings believed to be 17,000 years old. "The boys used it as their secret hideout originally, but after people found out about it, that cave opened up to the world.

"We had a lot of fun doing 'cave paintings' in that class," she said.

Leonard was commissioned multiple times as a commercial artist, painting wall graphics with her identical twin sister, Anne Perce, at Kindergym youth fitness centers and other businesses in the San Francisco Bay area.

"That was a lot of fun, and my sister and I definitely have that twin ESP going," she said with a laugh. "I remember standing in front of a blank, 40-foot-wide wall one day in Orinda, each of us holding a drawing pad and separately coming up with the same ideas — kids jumping, rolling, climbing and sliding."

Leonard left her gig at the Lafayette Foundation in 2004, when Carl's profession brought him to the Monterey Peninsula. They lived for the first four years in a condo at Quail Lodge, then purchased their cottage, which is three blocks from Monterey Peninsula Country Club and a 10-minute walk to the beach.

Relocating to the Monterey Peninsula reignited her desire to create art — "I'm not in Kansas anymore!" she quipped — and joining Venture Gallery in 2018 was a breakthrough.

'I really can do this!'

"The day you make your first sale ... that's a moment when you start to think, 'Oh, my God! I really can do this!'" she said. "My sales have been pretty consistent since I became part of the gallery, and there have been times when I've sold four in a month."

Being in the company of other established artists also has greatly contributed to her own growth, said Leonard, who frequently confers with Venture colleagues about their painting secrets.

"That's what I love about this group at the gallery — they're very generous about sharing their knowledge," she said. "Dee Steiner and I are always exchanging pictures of the things we're working on, and I'll also do that with my twin, who isn't afraid to give me her honest feedback.

"I think I understand a lot more about another artist's painting now," she said. "I pay a lot of attention to composition and values — lights and darks — and I'm fascinated with shadows and textures."

Images of Leonard's paintings and giclees can be found at venturegallery.com and can be seen Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Venture Gallery (260 Alvarado St.).

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

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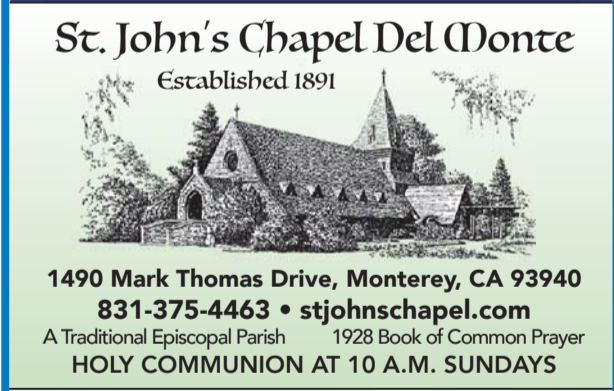
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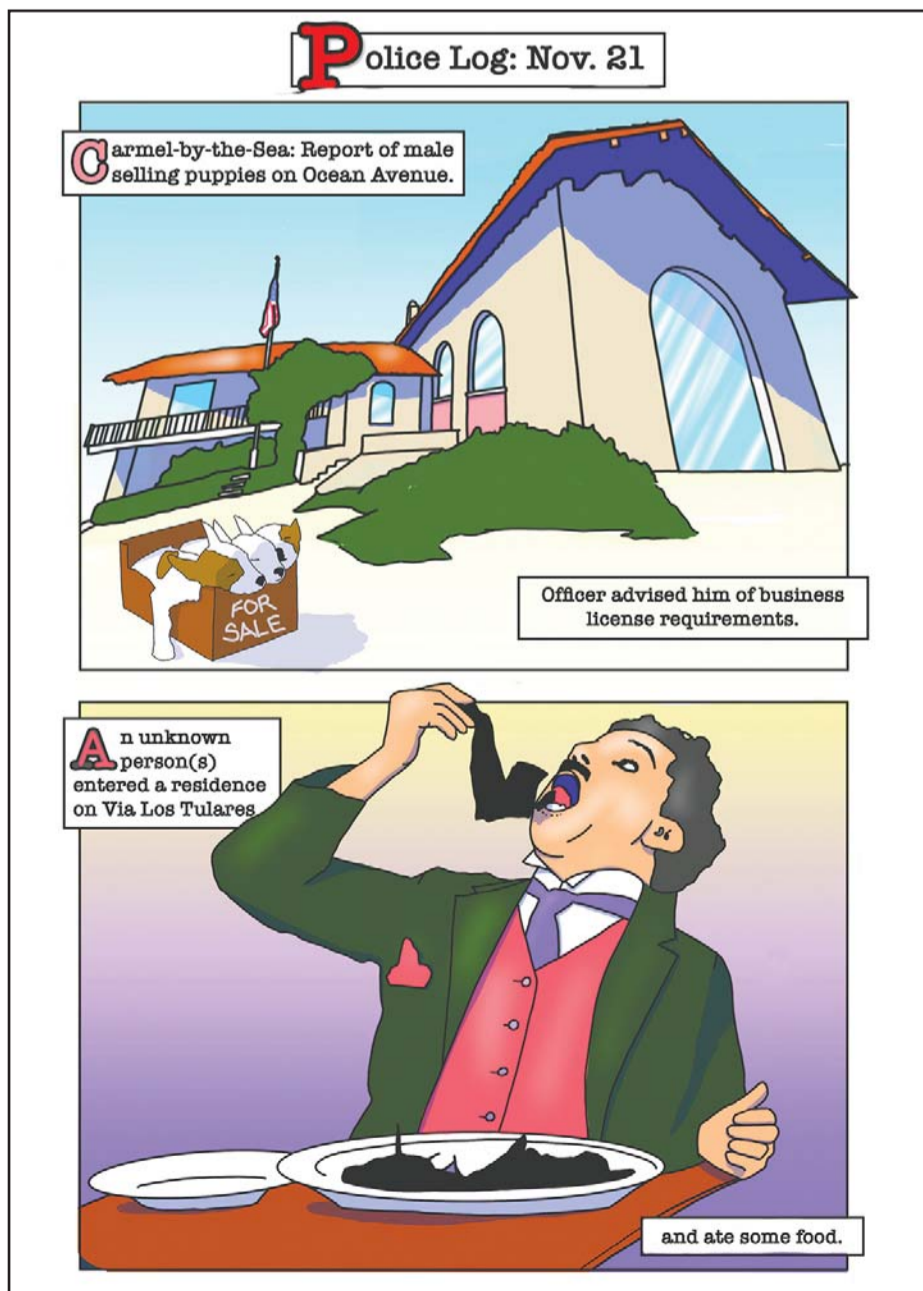
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New show at photography gallery chronicles state's immigrant culture

TWO AWARD-WINNING photographers, Kathya Maria Landeros and Mimi Plumb, use their cameras to explore and document California's immigrant communities in a show, "Verdant Land," which opens Saturday at the Center for Photographic Art, with a reception for the artists at 4 p.m.

An assistant professor of art at Wellesley College, Landeros shoots her subjects in color.

of art, including a massive mosaic window that adorns the San Francisco Masonic Auditorium.

"Our goal is to create a museum-quality archival system," said Kim Stemler of the Emile Norman Foundation. "Each item will be measured, photographed, assigned an identifier and entered into a database."

Stemler said her group is still sorting through the collection, which includes more than 1,600 pieces of art.

"We're still discovering things," Stemler said. "The first step is archiving everything — in the long run, we want to share it with the world."

For more details, visit emilenormanartsfoundation.org.



"Migrant," by Kathya Maria Landeros, is included in a show opening Saturday at the Center for Photographic Art.

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

"Kathya is the daughter of farmworkers in the Sacramento Valley, and she's been documenting her community since she was a student," Ann Jastrab of the CPA told The Pine Cone. "She returns home every summer."

A native of Berkeley who lives there today, Plumb taught photography at San Jose State for nearly three decades. She documented labor unrest in California in the 1970s in black-and-white film.

"She marched with Caesar Chavez," Jastrab explained. "She took part in the 1,000-mile march that came through Salinas in 1975. She lived with farmworkers and organizers while she documented the movement."

The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 3. The gallery is located in Sunset Center at San Carlos and Ninth.

■ 'Lifting Light' at Gallery Sur

Sculptor Shane Pennington uses copper wire to explore "the connection between trees and the interconnectedness of all life on Earth" in the show, "Lifting Light," which opens Saturday at Gallery Sur. A reception begins at 2 p.m.

"I chose the title 'Lifting Light' to encapsulate the essence of trees as luminous vessels that possess the ability to both hold and elevate light," Pennington said. "Just as trees require sunlight for photosynthesis, the process through which they convert light into energy, we, as

humans, are also intricately linked to these remarkable organisms. They provide us with the air we breathe, shelter and a source of inspiration."

The gallery is located on Sixth between Dolores and Lincoln.

■ 'We're still discovering things'

A group dedicated to preserving the collection of the late artist Emile Norman is trying to raise \$20,000 to archive it.

A longtime Big Sur local who worked in sculpture, mosaics and jewelry, Norman created an astonishing array

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* Financing is available for purchases upon credit approval and 10 percent down. Not in conjunction with any other offer. Photos are for illustration purposes only. As required by the Mattress Recycling Council, a \$10.50 recycling fee will be added to all mattresses and foundations. All items shown may not be displayed in all the stores. Ashley stores are individually owned and operated. © 2023 Ashley Homestores Ltd. www.ashleyfurniture.com

SECTION RE ■ July 14-20, 2023

Open houses on page 10RE

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate



COMPASS

■ This week's cover property, located in Monterey, is presented by Monika Campbell of Compass (See Page 2RE)

MC
Monika Campbell

About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

July 14-20, 2023



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Real Estate Sales July 2 - 8

Escrows closed: 22
Total value: \$33,994,000

Carmel

Santa Fe Street, NE corner of Seventh Avenue –
\$2,295,000

Donald and Karen Gray to Craig and Ofelia Seymour
APN: 010-045-012

26195 Mesa Drive – \$2,325,000

Mary and Jerry Noesen to Lisa Leidig
APN: 009-311-007

See HOME SALES page 4RE

JUST LISTED

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1-4PM & SUN 12-3PM



DOLORES 2 SW OF 11TH, CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
3 beds, 2 baths ■ 1,566 sq. ft. ■ \$3,295,000 ■ www.Dolores2SW11th.com



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Jamal Noorzoy's Featured Luxury Listings

1516 RIATA ROAD, PEBBLE BEACH

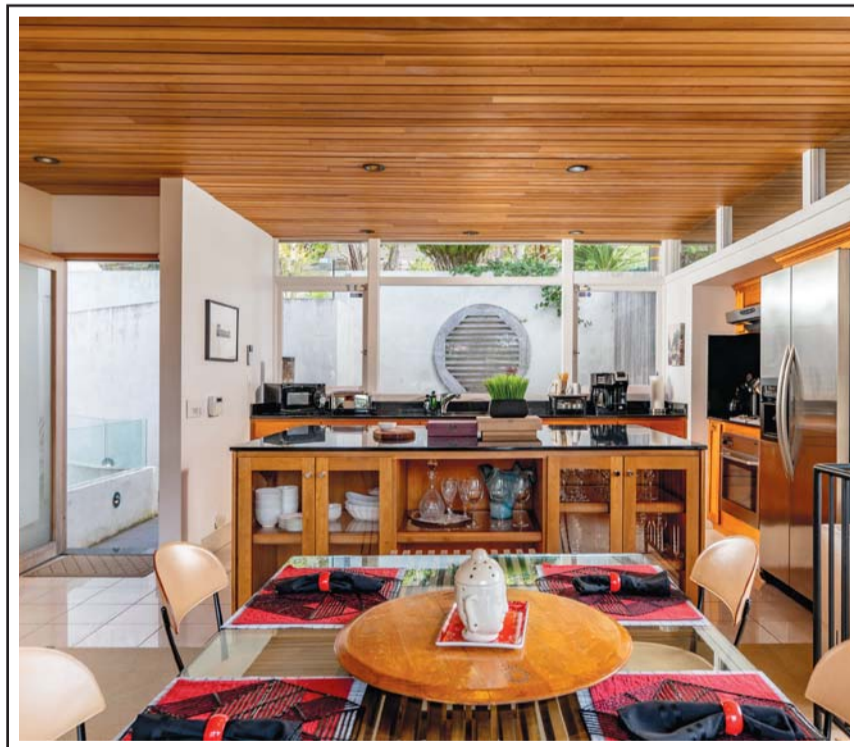
Pebble Beach Estate Walkable to The Hay



4 BEDS, 4.5 BATHS ■ 5,326 SQ. FT. ■ \$7,900,000
WWW.1516RIATAROAD.COM

24620 LOWER TRAIL, CARMEL

Mid-Century Modern by Architect John Thodos



2 BEDS, 1.5 BATHS ■ 1,500 SQ. FT. ■ \$2,345,000
WWW.24620LOWERTRAIL.COM

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Carmel ■ 5 beds, 5.5 baths ■ \$14,997,000 ■ www.HappyLandingCarmel.com



Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 4.5 baths ■ \$7,900,000 ■ www.1516RiataRoad.com



Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$5,400,000 ■ www.VistaDeLaPlayaCarmel.com



Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 3 baths ■ \$4,799,000 ■ www.CarmelPointHome.com



Carmel Valley ■ 5 beds, 4.5 baths ■ \$3,575,000 ■ www.ViaLaEstrella.com



OPEN SAT 1-4PM
& SUN 12-3PM
Dolores 2 SW of 11th

Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$3,295,000 ■ www.Dolores2SW11th.com



OPEN SAT 2-4PM
Torres 2 SE of 2nd Avenue

Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$2,895,000 ■ www.Torres2SE2nd.com



OPEN SUN 2-4:30PM
25460 Canada Drive

Carmel ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$1,890,000 ■ www.25460CanadaDrive.com



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HOME SALES

From page 2RE

Carmel (con't.)

3339 Taylor Road — \$2,925,000

Lisa Leidig to Sandro and Keyko Pintz
APN: 009-302-006

587 Viejo Road — \$2,998,000

Ruben Saenz to Estela and Stephen Georgiou
APN: 103-011-002

San Carlos 3 SW of 11th Avenue — \$3,400,000

Mark and Becky Conger to Steve Bahcall and
Kiersten Lammerding
APN: 010-154-002

Carmel Valley

216 Del Mesa Carmel — \$1,113,000



8596 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley — \$1,550,000

Juanita Erickson to Wayne and Michelle Cunningham
APN: 015-514-005

148 Del Mesa Carmel — \$1,160,000



3339 Taylor Road, Carmel — \$2,925,000

Phyllis Martin to Normal Book
APN: 015-448-006

See ESCROWS page 15RE



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functional layout, tasteful finishes and pride of ownership. The serene views of the lush ecosystem are breathtaking and the seamless indoor/outdoor space allow for entertaining large groups or just quiet nights alone. Come live the beach life in this Ribera Beach neighborhood!

2930 LUPIN LANE, PEBBLE BEACH



Offered at \$2,995,000
By appointment

Optimally positioned on a prime, 1/3-acre corner lot off Old 17 Mile Drive and walking distance from Spanish Bay, golf courses and the beach, this single-level dwelling exudes quality at every turn. Fresh off a total renovation that perfected the kitchen, three full baths,

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PEBBLE BEACH



1505 Venadero Road
4 BD | 4 BA | 1 HBA | \$7,850,000
1505VenaderoRoad.com

MICHELE ALTMAN 831.214.2545

PACIFIC GROVE



224-230 16th Street
6 HOMES | \$6,000,000
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COURTNEY STANLEY 831.293.3030

CARMEL



NW Corner San Carlos & Santa Lucia
4 BD | 3 BA | 1 HBA | \$5,495,000
OceanViewsInCarmel.com
LAUREL JAQUES 831.915.1185

CARMEL | OPEN SAT 12-3



Mission 3 SW of 4th
4 BD | 5 BA | \$2,850,000
Mission3SW4th.com
DOUG STEINY 831.236.7363

CARMEL | OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



24750 Guadalupe Street
3 BD | 2 BA | \$2,789,000
24750GuadalupeStreet.com
TRAPIN ANDERSON & MYERS TEAM 831.238.7559

MONTEREY | OPEN SAT & SUN 1-3



752 Taylor Street
3 BD | 2 BA | \$1,249,000
752TaylorSt.com
LISA PORCH 831.521.0680

CARMEL | OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



98 High Meadow Lane
2 BD | 2 BA | \$1,245,000
sothebysrealty.com/id/VLJSJW
CLAUDIA MCCOTTER 831.293.3391

CARMEL



19 Del Mesa Carmel
2 BD | 2 BA | \$985,000
19DelMesaCarmel.com
CLAUDIA MCCOTTER 831.293.3391

MONTEREY



780 Pacific Street
2 BD | 1 BA | \$800,000
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MONTEREY



1200 Airport Road Hangar C
2000 SQ.FT. | \$400,000
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MONTEREY REGION BROKERAGES | CAPITOLA | CARMEL | CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA | CARMEL VALLEY | PACIFIC GROVE

Just Listed in *Pebble Beach*

3892 Ronda Road
4 Bed | 3.5 Bath - Main House 1 Bed | 1 Bath Guest House
4,391 Sq Ft | 3/4 Acre Lot | \$5,700,000
3892RondaPebbleBeach.com

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Hey, bronco-bustin' Bach-a-roos, start your engines, find your muse

WHEN I came to the Monterey Peninsula around the turn of the century, it took a while for me to get acclimated to all the exciting things that were going on. Much of what was happening was new to me, and I needed an education in order to keep current with current events.

July, in particular, is a blockbuster month, with three major happenings at the same time. There is the annual, highly cultured Bach Festival. At the other end of the spectrum are the more plebeian California Rodeo in Salinas and the MotoAmerica Superbike Speedfest at WeatherTech Raceway at Laguna Seca. Wow! Motets, MotoGP, and mustangs, (the kind with legs, not wheels) all coming together in one month.

And even more

One of my favorite Bill Bates cartoons perfectly captured the convergence of those events. He portrayed a motorcycle rider wearing a cowboy hat and a T-shirt with a picture of Bach on it. "Varoom, varoom," the rider yelled.

This year, the Women's U.S. Open brought more excitement to an already full July schedule.

I got to thinking of what it would be like to go to all four. Wondering must have set off a terrible nightmare in which I got caught up in "Events Purgatory." As I recall it, the nightmare went like this:

I was at Mission San Carlos for some Spanish Baroque when suddenly, this saddle-sore, grizzled cowpoke came barreling up the aisle on a fast Yamaha singing, "Git along little dogies. Hi ho Yo-Yo Ma."

Then he jumped his bike over the pews,

stomping and yelling "Howdy, Bach-a-roos."

Next, a countertenor, in a manner pro forma

falsettoed his way through "Nessun Dorma."

A superbike rider yodeled Jubilate while revving his juiced-up, stream-

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

lined Ducati.

Maestra Greda Pedersen swung her baton like a truncheon, unseating the biker, who required Extreme Unction.

A mezzo-soprano morphed into Rose Zhang

and birdied three holes ere the fat lady sang.

A rangy cowboy who was twirling a lasso

flank-strapped a high-stepping, pudgy old basso.

The poor wrangler feared he was about to be branded.

"Not with my own 9-iron," he loudly demanded.

The first violinist raised a bow to salute the Brandenburg Concerto, first out of the chute.

A patrician woman from Carmel (now really!)

hopped on a motorbike, then popped a wheelie.

Line dancing at First Pres broke out by the altar,

while a helmeted biker read from the Psalter.

See GERVASE page 8RE

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POLICE LOG

From page 4A

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 36-year-old male driver was arrested at Rio and Oliver at 0103 hours for having meth and drug parapherna-

lia. He was also arrested on warrants for domestic violence and vandalism. He was cited and released on a \$15,000 warrant.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dog-vs.-person bite by a family dog on San Carlos Street.

Big Sur: Vehicle burglary on Highway 1.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for a found passport. Owner notified, and the passport was returned.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for

a found ring at Scenic and Martin that was brought to the police department for safe-keeping.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Investigated a hit-and-run collision on San Carlos Street with limited suspect information.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop at Rio Road and Highway 1 at 2348 hours led to two subjects being arrested for meth and drug paraphernalia. In-field cites issued to a 26-year-old male and a 34-year-old female, and they were released.

Pacific Grove: Citizen reported a road rage incident. Informational report only.

Pacific Grove: A citizen came to report another violation of a restraining order.

Pacific Grove: Citizen fell on the street.

Pacific Grove: Ammunition was brought into the Pacific Grove Police Station by a Fountain Avenue resident for destruction.

Pacific Grove: Citizen reported an abandoned vehicle on Grove Acre.

See **SHERIFF** page 13RE

127 LAS BRISAS DRIVE, PASADERA, MONTEREY

FABULOUS TURN-KEY GOLF VILLA

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3 BEDS, 3.5 BATHS ■ 4,320 SQ. FT. ■ \$2,495,000 ■ 127LASBRISASDRIVE.COM

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SP: \$3,200,000 ■ Carmel
Santa Fe 3 SW of 8th

SP: \$1,400,000 ■ Corral de Tierra
14390 Mountain Quail Road

SP: \$1,038,000 ■ Carmel
110 Del Mesa Carmel

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& MYERS TEAM

GERVASE

From page 6RE

Two impeccable doyennes sipping coffee liqueurs changed into chaps, spun the rowels on their spurs.

One saddled the conductor, made a horse-like whinny and sang "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny."

Back at Laguna, I heard the starter cough,

"Gentlemen, start your Rachmaninoff." The brass section sprang forth with so much verve,

they nearly wiped out on the Corkscrew's curve.

Another musician, on a priceless violin, went from presto to lento on the Andretti hairpin.

Meanwhile, down the road at Pebble, gallery excitement rose to a treble.

As golfers faced horrors on every last tee,

Pebble played scarier than the Toccata in D.

A rodeo clown sang "Vesti la Giubba," accompanied by a caddie on a Wagner tuba.

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3600 High Meadow #25

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HOUSE OF THE WEEK



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4 BEDROOMS, 3.5 BATHROOMS | 3,009 ± SQ.FT. | 1.21 ± ACRE(S)
\$2,200,000 | 25507HACIENDAPLACE.COM

Welcome to this charming Carmel, CA real estate listing! With 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms in the main house. This mid-century modern design provides a comfortable and inviting atmosphere. Enjoy the beauty of nature as you relax in the dining room, living room, family room, and primary bedroom. The expansive windows brings the outdoors inside, creating a serene and peaceful ambiance. This home also boasts a studio guest house with 1 bathroom, perfect for accommodating guests or utilizing as a private retreat. The property

is ideally situated near schools, grocery stores, shopping centers, and restaurants. Discover the joys of living in Carmel, as this home is just a short distance from downtown Carmel and the picturesque Carmel beach.



David Crabbe
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Carmel Pine Cone 2011-2015, 2017-2022 ■ Monterey County Weekly 2019-2022 ■ Monterey Herald 2018-2022

SHERIFF

From page 8RE

Pacific Grove: Domestic violence incident at Cedar Street and Laurel Avenue. The 27-year-old female was booked into Monterey County Jail on charges of felony assault with a deadly weapon and misdemeanor spousal battery, violation of probation and battery. Bail set at \$20,000.

Carmel area: Deputies received a report of fraud on Sycamore Place.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded to Del Mesa Carmel for a report of a person who wanted to commit suicide.

Carmel Valley: A female East Carmel Valley Road resident was placed on a 5150 W&I hold [danger to self or others].

SATURDAY, JULY 1

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Male at Torres and Sixth stated he believes people are trying to kill him. Subject transported to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Fall on city property on San Carlos Street resulted in injury. Patient transported to the hospital.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found wallet turned in to the Carmel Chamber office inside the Plaza.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a civil issue between a husband and wife on Mesa Drive.

Carmel Valley: Father and son on Holman Road, ages 30 and 63, were arrested for criminal threats toward a bus driver and battery.

SUNDAY, JULY 2

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for a lost backpack on

See LOG next page

Seller Testimonial

"Katherine Hudson has been our real estate representative twice in Carmel. My wife and I have been involved with more than 25 real estate transactions in our adult life. . .

Our experience with Katherine is nothing but the best. She is the ultimate professional, always punctual, calm demeanor and extremely knowledgeable of her market. She is a no-nonsense agent with plenty of contacts and really gets the job done. She has represented us very well and we plan on using her services in the future. . . "

- Mark and Becky | San Carlos 3 SW of 11th

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LOG

From previous page

the beach.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for a lost wallet in the park.

Pacific Grove: Two subjects entered a store at Country Club Gate and stole over \$2,000 in merchandise. Identity unknown at this time.

Pacific Grove: Officers were dispatched to a report of a domestic disturbance. Caller advised a male on Ocean View Boulevard had his arm around a woman's neck as she tried to get away.

Pacific Grove: A citizen reported a violation of a restraining order on Lighthouse Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Subject placed on a W&I 5150 hold and transported to CHOMP.

Pacific Grove: Officers marked a vehicle at Congress and Sunset as abandoned.

Carmel Valley: A 37-year-old male on

East Carmel Valley Road was arrested for lewd and lascivious acts with a minor.

Carmel Valley: Vandalism reported on Carmel Valley Road.

Big Sur: Deputies responded to a report of a white male adult waving a gun out of the window of a silver pickup truck on Coast Road. The driver was subsequently arrested for driving under the influence.

MONDAY, JULY 3

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Two subjects were arrested at Rio and Lasuen for financial fraud, identity theft and possession of stolen property.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle on Carmel Avenue was marked for 72-hour parking.

Pacific Grove: Subject fell on public property at Asilomar and Del Monte.

Pacific Grove: Officers were dispatched to a verbal domestic dispute on Forest Hill Boulevard.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded to a suspicious subject on Paso Hondo.

Pacific Grove: Abandoned vehicle on Ocean View Boulevard was marked for a tow.

Big Sur: A phone was reported lost on Sycamore Canyon Road. It was located.

Big Sur: Juvenile was extorted online by an unknown subject.

Pebble Beach: Family dispute occurred on Pine Meadows Way.

Big Sur: 43-year-old male arrested for trespassing.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Found Apple watch located in the ocean at a local Monterey beach. The watch was placed into safekeeping pending contact with the owner.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report taken for a lost cell phone at Carmel Beach. Person called back and advised phone was located.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 35-year-old was arrested on San Carlos south of Seventh for domestic violence. Transported to county jail.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Adult male on San Carlos south of Seventh was placed on 5150 W&I hold following a DV investigation. Information only.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A money clip found at Devendorf Park was brought to the police department for safekeeping.

Pacific Grove: Officers responded to the area of Lovers Point on report of a medical emergency. Male subject was transported to the hospital.

Pacific Grove: Officer conducted a traffic enforcement stop on Ocean View Boulevard, and the vehicle was towed.

Pacific Grove: A vehicle check on Ocean View Boulevard resulted in a 52-year-old female being cited and released for two misdemeanor warrants.

Carmel Valley: Resident at a retirement community on East Carmel Valley Road called in to report numerous HOA violations that he felt management was not helping him with.

Carmel area: Report of vehicle vandalism on Carmel Rancho Boulevard.

FIRST TIME OPEN
SUNDAY 12 - 3 PM



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361 Dry Creek Road, Monterey — \$1,750,000



815 Grove Acre Avenue, Pacific Grove— \$1,999,000

ESCROWS

From page 4RE

Carmel Valley (con't.)

8596 Carmel Valley Road — \$1,550,000

Donna Schut to Philip Oberhansley and IMS Trust
APN: 169-161-034

7038 Valley Greens Circle — \$2,439,000

Patricia Golman to Steven and Morgane McNally
APN: 157-061-006

Del Rey Oaks

12 Quendale Avenue — \$950,000

Lidia Luquet to Ryon J Joshi Investments LLC
APN: 012-502-004

801 Adair Place — \$1,155,000

Tammy Foster to 25 Oaks LLC
APN: 012-571-013

Highway 68

104 Robley Road — \$1,275,000

Royce and Suzanna Heffington to Albert J. Limata LLC
APN: 416-322-045

Marina

460 Reindollar Avenue — \$685,000

Charlston and Alison Kim to Dana Cleary and Bruce Hoffman
APN: 032-381-006

3288 Cove Way — \$750,000

Mark Solseth to Jacob Taylor
APN: 033-076-015

15169 Breckenridge Avenue — \$875,000

Jennifer Chang to Tammy Foster
APN: 031-167-083

Monterey

Ryan Court — \$1,300,000

Johanna Del Sol and Snare Trust to CRG LLC
APN: 259-034-014

361 Dry Creek Road — \$1,750,000

William Dwyer to Charles and Adria Grant
APN: 001-282-063

Pacific Grove

815 Grove Acre Avenue — \$1,999,000

Julia Pederson and Jonathan Gatto to Janice Leasure and Howard Hartman
APN: 006-611-014

Seaside

1281 Kimball Avenue — \$750,000

Dennis Rockwell to James and Michelle Bruno
APN: 012-395-011

1213 Echo Avenue unit C — \$2,300,000

Frank Hespe and Daniel Rockwell to Adolfo Garcia and Monica Mejia
APN: 012-061-027

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