



The Carmel Pine Cone

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Daniels easily wins race for county supervisor

By CHRIS COUNTS

COLLECTING NEARLY 60 percent of the vote in a three-way race, Kate Daniels cruised to a win on Election Day Tuesday, becoming the next supervisor of Monterey County’s 5th District and replacing two-term supervisor and her former boss, Mary Adams.



PHOTO/FACEBOOK

Kate Daniels celebrates her election win Tuesday night with supporters Lorraine Yglesias (left) and Jim Rice (right). A Carmel Valley resident, Daniels received nearly 60 percent of the vote.

Because Daniels collected more than 50 percent of the vote, there won’t be a runoff in November and she’ll take office in January 2025. She was running against Monterey City Councilman Alan Haffa, who tallied 24 percent of the vote, and Salinas businessman Bill Lipe, whose name was checked on 16 percent of the ballots.

‘It feels a bit surreal’

Daniels told The Pine Cone her victory hasn’t quite sunk in yet.

“It feels a bit surreal,” said the supervisor-elect, who lives in Carmel Valley with her husband Dan and their sons Daniel and Nicolas. “But it’s really exciting when a culmination of hard work ends up this way — it’s a good feeling.”

So what will be Daniels’ highest priority on Day One? “Listening to the other supervisors, really trying to hear what their concerns are and really getting to know them,” she explained.

A Carmel High School graduate who served as her class president, Daniels is a county planning commissioner who represents unincorporated areas of the 5th District — which includes Carmel Highlands, Carmel Valley and Big Sur. She’s also a policy advisor for State Sen. John Laird, who was reelected Tuesday, and is a trustee for the Monterey College of Law and a former president of the Democratic Women of Monterey County.

See DANIELS page 15A

C.V. gun expert testifies at ‘Rust’ shooting trial

By CHRIS COUNTS

AS THE armorer for the movie “Rust” stood trial in Santa Fe, N.M., this week and was found guilty on charges of involuntary manslaughter in the Alec Baldwin shooting case, Carmel Valley resident Frank Koucky was on hand to testify as an unpaid firearms expert.

While Baldwin is set to go to court to fight involuntary manslaughter charges in July, this week’s trial focused on the second person arrested in the shooting, movie armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed. Prosecutors contended that Gutierrez-Reed bears blame for the shooting because she brought live ammunition onto the set, handed Baldwin a loaded gun instead of a prop, and ignored basic safety protocols for firearms. The jury agreed Wednesday and found her guilty. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 18 months in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Firearm safety

While much of Koucky’s testimony delved into the technical details of guns and bullets, several exchanges stood out.

Koucky was called as a defense witness, and Gutierrez-Reed’s attorney, Jason Bowles, sought to use his testimony to establish that Baldwin

was to blame for not taking basic firearm precautions on the film’s set.

“Did you see evidence that Mr. Baldwin was not safe with firearms when there was a yell of ‘cut’ in a particular scene and he shot a blank after that scene?” Bowles asked.

See RUST page 11A



PHOTO/JIM WEBER

Carmel Valley firearms expert Frank Koucky demonstrates gun safety at a trial in New Mexico this week in the Alec Baldwin shooting case.

HORSE ENTHUSIASTS DISMAYED BY DECISION TO CLOSE EQUESTRIAN CENTER

Petition launched to save it

By KELLY NIX

A PROFESSIONAL horse trainer and an assortment of horse owners and enthusiasts said this week they were stunned and dismayed to hear that the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center would be closing in June after 100 years of offering riders a local place to train and board their animals.

The Pebble Beach Company said Monday that it has decided to close the business near the Lodge because it is no longer financially viable. The center offers trail rides and boarding facilities, along with areas for riding and training horses.

P.B. Co. CEO David Stivers called the decision to

shutter the equestrian center “very difficult” but said the facility needs more than \$15 million in renovations and has been operating at a “substantial loss for many years.”

Company officials said that, while the equestrian center buildings will probably be removed, it has not been decided what will be done with the property. The 15 employees who work there will be transferred to other jobs with the company, according to a statement.

Operating at loss

Locals who have used the center for years were surprised and disappointed to learn it would close. Stephen Pellett, who has run his business as a horse trainer at the equestrian center since 2020, said he’s not

See EQUESTRIAN page 13A

Pastor gets Mills Act OK for Wright house

Property tax cut for preservation

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER SEVERAL delays and a lot of debate over the past several months, the Carmel City Council on Tuesday narrowly approved a Mills Act contract for the famous Frank Lloyd Wright House on Scenic Road.

Such contracts can provide significant discounts in property taxes for owners who commit to the long-term rehabilitation and preservation of their historic homes and other buildings.

For months, council members and others have clashed over whether to approve a Mills Act contract for Patrice Pastor, the Monaco businessman who purchased the home, formally known as Cabin on the Rocks, for \$22 million in 2022 from the family that had it built 70 years ago.

For the first time at any of the public hearings on his many projects, Pastor spoke to the council and the public. Phoning in from Monaco at around 7:15 a.m. his time after waiting more than five hours for his item to come up, Pastor said he was “glad to have the chance to speak in order to make my position clear to you.”

‘Unpolluted mind’

Describing the proposed Mills Act status for his house as “not a technical subject,” Pastor said he was sure he would win “unanimous support among those with an unpolluted mind.” He also derided what he implied were the efforts of some council members to manipulate him

See PASTOR page 16A

City officials dial back urgency for CPD remodel

By MARY SCHLEY

ATA “listening session” Wednesday night on the Carmel Police Department’s long-planned overhaul, several residents complained that it appears the city council has already decided to build a new station at Vista Lobos, as was suggested at a January hearing in which Mayor Dave Potter and councilman Jeff Baron recommended researching the concept, given the myriad problems at the existing station on Junipero Street.

Four options

At that Jan. 25 hearing, the council’s ad hoc committee described four options developed by a specialized architectural firm, Indigo, which was hired last June for \$300,000 to assess the shortcomings of the station and

See CPD page 12A



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

A young girl looks over some of the horses available for trail rides at the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center

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Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

Street smart

Pearl was a fluffy little white puppy who'd been abandoned on a street by the same name in Salinas and turned over to Animal Friends Rescue Project in Pacific Grove. Unsure of her heritage but convinced she was a mélange of all the best breeds simply because she'd survived scooting around a busy thoroughfare, her forever family named her Scooter.

Armed with assumptions, mostly that they had a poodle on their hands, they did a DNA test for Scooter and found they were half right. She's half poodle, mixed with some Chihuahua, miniature pinscher, and assorted other smart breeds.

"Mostly, Scooter is a little white dog," her person said. "I always swore I'd never be one of those old ladies with a little white froufrou dog, but here I am. I ad-



mit it is good to have a smaller dog that won't pull me over and break my hip."

Scooter loves to chase after other dogs at the park near her Carmel Valley Village home and to run after another dog's ball at Carmel Beach, but she's not great about giving it back.

"Previously, we'd always had some kind of spaniel," her person said. "They so want to please. They're also retrievers — you throw the ball, and they bring it back. Let me tell you, Scooter doesn't care about pleasing. When we throw the ball, her instinct is to shake it, kill it and then keep it."

Eventually, Scooter sets down the ball in front of her people, having figured out it's the only way they'll throw it again.

"Scooter loves anyplace she can be off leash and run with other dogs. I call her my Rotarian puppy," her person said. "My daddy was a Rotarian and never met a stranger. She loves making friends. We got lucky. She's a great little dog."

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First Murphy rent deal opposed

By MARY SCHLEY

A PROPOSAL by the Carmel Chamber of Commerce and the Carmel Heritage Society to jointly rent the historic First Murphy House and use it for offices, the heritage society’s museum and a second visitor center for the chamber received resistance from more residents Monday night before the city council went into closed session



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

The 122-year-old First Murphy House is the Carmel Heritage Society’s headquarters, but the chamber wants to use it, too.

to discuss the rates and terms of a possible lease, as it did in January.

Located on the edge of the city park at Lincoln and Sixth, the little wood house was constructed on Mission Street in 1902 by 17-year-old Michael J. Murphy for his mother and sisters and was the first of many projects he designed and built during his decades here.

His work had a significant influence on the character and architecture of Carmel, and in 1990, when the cottage was in danger of being demolished, the First Murphy House Committee was formed under the auspices of the Carmel Heritage Society to relocate and renovate the cottage. It continues to serve as the longtime headquarters of the heritage society.

Representing the chamber at the March

4 meeting, Sygale Lomas said leasing the First Murphy House to the chamber alongside the heritage society would benefit the former by giving it another place to help tourists and the latter by allowing its museum to be open daily, rather than just three times a week.

“We believe that Carmel’s heritage is a treasure we should cherish and showcase for generations to come,” Lomas said. “The Carmel Heritage Society has been a tireless custodian of the city’s history, and its commitment to preserving the past is truly commendable. We can create a synergy that benefits both organizations and the public at large.”

Also, having the historic building open seven days a week could draw more visitors to shop and dine in the city, Lomas offered. She said the chamber’s volunteers and staff would be trained to serve on behalf of both organizations.

“These individuals provide valuable information and make recommendations that ultimately enhance the visitor experience in Carmel-by-the-Sea,” Lomas said, “which can result in longer stays and return visits.”

Added benefits

In exchange for the ability to reach more people by having volunteers at the First Murphy House, the chamber will fund some of the operations and improvements there, according to Lomas, including utilities, internet, security, janitorial services, and refinishing the floors and painting the interior walls.

“Going forward, we would be committed to staying on top of maintenance

See **MURPHY** page 20A

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Police & Sheriff's Log

DUI, fake ID, suspended license and warrants

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.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Pacific Grove: Trespassing on Granite Street.

Pacific Grove: Property was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 800 block of Laurel Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Victim reported a vehicle burglary in the 200 block of Cedar Street.

Pacific Grove: Subject was found deceased in their home on Egan Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Burglary from a vehicle on Alder Street.

Pacific Grove: Theft from a vehicle on Pine Avenue.

Pacific Grove: Vehicle window smashed and personal property stolen. The property was later recovered while an officer was taking a report for another theft on Willow Street.

Pacific Grove: Four vehicles on Lighthouse Avenue were broken into. No suspect information.

Pacific Grove: Report of a vehicle burglary on Lighthouse Avenue.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Dog-vs.-dog interaction incident on Lobos with no injuries.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Info report for a welfare check and peace disturbance near Carpenter and Third.

Pacific Grove: Subject on Congress was placed on a mental health hold.

Pacific Grove: Dead body found on Ocean View Boulevard. Coroner case.

Carmel Valley: Deputies conducted a welfare check on Carmel Valley Road. Upon arrival, deputies determined it was a medical emergency and forced entry. It was documented.

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a report of a vehicle burglary on Monte Verde Street.

Pebble Beach: Moral Lane resident was reported missing and was found in the neighborhood.

See **POLICE LOG** page 21 IYD in the *In Your Dreams* Section



The gavel falls

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

Feb. 15 — A Monterey County Jury has found Dimas Cruz-Molina, 62, originally of Seaside, guilty of attempted murder in the first degree for a shooting that took place on Christmas Eve in 1992. Judge Pamela Butler will sentence the defendant March 22. The defendant is facing life in prison with a chance of parole.

The case arose from an incident at a bakery in Monterey where the defendant and victim worked. The defendant had paranoid ideas that others in the bakery were plotting against him, so he brought a gun to work and shot the victim in the face. The defendant then fled to Mexico for numerous years. The Monterey County Sheriff's Office found him living in Phoenix, Ariz., in 2023. He was arrested and brought back to stand trial.

The victim has spent the last 20 years recovering from his injuries. He spent months in the hospital recovering from a spinal injury. Eventually, he learned to walk again and returned to his job at the bakery.

This case was investigated by the Monterey Police Department.

Feb. 16 — David Merino Ramirez, 32, was convicted by a jury of murder, gross ve-

hicular manslaughter while intoxicated and driving on a suspended license.

On Aug. 21, 2020, around 9 p.m., Ramirez was driving northbound at speeds exceeding 80 mph on Metz Road between Greenfield and Soledad. Due to his excessive speed and level of intoxication, Ramirez lost control, striking a dirt embankment and flipping his car upside down. His passenger, Noe Santillan, 26, was pronounced dead at the scene of the crash.

California Highway Patrol officers arrived on the scene shortly after the crash. After conducting a series of field sobriety tests, police determined that Ramirez was under the influence of alcohol. A subsequent breath test showed that he had a blood alcohol level of .17, over twice the legal limit.

Jurors also heard that Ramirez had two prior convictions for driving under the influence, in 2015 and 2019. They also heard that when he was sentenced on those cases, he was warned that operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol is inherently dangerous to human life, and that should he

See **GAVEL** page 20A



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Oreo 1 year old



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City has plan for fixing beach stairs

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER GETTING the OK from the California Coastal Commission for the city to issue its own permit to undertake emergency repairs on beach stairways, officials toured the beach last Thursday and developed a list and timeline for what can be fixed, and when. Five of the stairways will be repaired by April 8, with another done a month later, while the rest require more complex work and will be dealt with farther down the road, according to planning director Brandon Swanson.

All told, there are a dozen access points to the beach, whether wooden stairs, stone stairways or dunes. After this winter’s storms, just two of them — the sloped stretch at Del Mar at the foot of Ocean Avenue and the Fourth Avenue stairs — remained intact.

Not foot dragging

“The beach has been open,” Swanson said. “It’s just that accessing it has been very difficult,” since all the points south of Ocean Avenue have been off-limits for a variety of reasons. Some have broken railings and missing treads, some can’t be used until the sand is restored after the winter, and some require more complex engineering to repair.

“We had a really productive meeting with California Coastal Commission staff and came to an agreement that we could

issue a permit to ourselves and not have to go through the arduous process of coastal commission permitting to do some fast repairs,” Swanson reiterated Friday.

He said he planned to issue an emergency coastal development permit this week so the city’s public works crews can get to work fixing and reopening the stairs at Eighth, 10th, 11th, 13th and Santa Lucia avenues with a target date of April 8. The set at Martin Way suffered more damage than the others and should be done by May 8.

The stairs on the north side of 10th Avenue and those at 12th will be deferred while structural engineering is undertaken and a contractor is hired to take on those projects, while the stairway at Ninth and the equipment access ramp at Eighth will be out of use until the tides wash the sand back in.

Swanson also argued that while some residents believe the city was foot-dragging on the beach repairs, it wasn’t.

Even a simple step like getting a meeting with the coastal commission’s regional director takes time, he said, and efforts were well underway before people started complaining.

“There was a sentiment that we didn’t start doing anything until the community started saying things,” he said. “I promise the city has been working on this, because we know how important access to the beach is.”

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TA



Carmel Highlands Getaway

CarmelHighlandsGetaway.com | \$3,590,000

Located in Carmel Highlands with gorgeous ocean views overlooking Yankee Point, this beautiful home was renovated by the previous owner and only gently used since. Sited down a private drive and set prominently along a canyon/greenbelt area, the wall of windows allows for lovely ocean views from almost every room. Each of the 3 bedrooms has its own lovely en-suite bath. The large living and dining room features a stone fireplace and high ceilings and the downstairs bedroom enjoys its own sitting room. Appropriately named “Birdsong,” this Carmel Highlands getaway is move-in ready.



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Friedlander, Bach Fest exec, dies

By CHRIS COUNTS

FIVE MONTHS after announcing his plans to step down as executive director of the Carmel Bach Festival, Steve Friedlander died Friday.

“It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our dear friend and longtime executive director,” the festival announced.

Friedlander, 72, passed away peacefully surrounded by family members. His cause of death was not announced, but it’s know he had been ill for some time.

Those who worked with Friedlander on the festival “are processing this news and are keenly feeling his loss.”

“We dearly loved Steve,” the announcement read. “We will miss his wit, his sense of humor, and his devotion to our festival.”

In October, Friedlander shared his plans to retire “to focus more time on his family and personal life” — but he agreed to stay on until a replacement was found. He worked for eight years as executive director of the two-week classical music festival that has been presented here since 1935.

Impressive resume

Before taking the helm of the Bach Festival, Friedlander worked for many years as a finance originator for large capital projects in the energy sector. He also took on roles with other groups dedicated to presenting classical music, serving as managing director of artistic operations for the Grand Teton Music Festival, production manager for Mercury Baroque in Houston, executive director for the Bach Society in Houston, and board treasurer for

the Association of California Symphony Orchestras. The latter posted an online tribute to him this week.

“Steve was our beloved and fearless treasurer, always keeping watch over ACSO’s financial life with a smart eye, caring questions, and wry humor,” the group shared. “He gave 110 percent to his duties to ensure responsible fiscal stewardship of the organization.”

He joined the Carmel Bach Festival in 2015, first as general manager, and later as managing director and executive director.

The Bach Festival reported that there are no immediate plans for a memorial or service.

New leader named

Filling the void left behind by Friedlander, the festival’s board of directors has named Sue Mudge as interim executive director. Mudge has had many roles with the festival, including performing as a trombonist for more than 30 years and leading its Tower Music and Family Concert series. Most recently, she was executive director of Youth Music Monterey County.

Mudge told The Pine Cone that she and her colleagues “are incredibly sad to lose Steve so soon.”

“He was an excellent leader,” she said. “He treated people in a fair way.”

Now Mudge and others must turn their attention toward the festival, which is set for July 13-27.

“We’re staying the course,” she added. “We’re focused on getting the work done so we can have a very successful festival this summer.”

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Jack Cossman, MD

Jack Cossman, MD is a board-certified dermatologist and fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology. Before going to GSD, Dr. Cossman practiced general, surgical, and cosmetic dermatology on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. In addition, he taught weekly at the NYU dermatology resident clinic at Bellevue Hospital, where he managed complex medical cases. He now looks forward to bringing his expertise to a new community and welcomes patients of all ages and all skin conditions. In particular, Dr. Cossman enjoys treating acne and acne scarring, hair loss, psoriasis, skin cancer, as well as facial aesthetics.



David M. Pilkington, MD

Dr. Pilkington earned his Medical Degree from the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. He completed his residency in Dermatology at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation before moving to Merced where he began practicing medicine in 1995. Dr. Pilkington earned his board certification in Dermatology from the American Board of Dermatology in 1995 and has successfully maintained his certification, with recertification in 2005 and 2015. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology, a member of the California Medical Association, and a member and past president of the Merced-Mariposa County Medical Society.



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HOUSE DESIGNED WITH NO IDEA WHERE WATER WILL COME FROM

By MARY SCHLEY

HIGHLIGHTING THE sticky wicket that is water credits on the Monterey Peninsula, a couple who bought two adjacent houses in Carmel nine years ago with the intent of building their retirement home learned at the Feb. 14 planning commission meeting that they won't have enough water for the new house unless they demolish both of the old ones.

Keith Rieken and Jee Eun Yoo purchased the properties on the east side of Santa Fe between Second and Third in May 2015 for \$825,000 and \$575,000, according to Monterey County records.

Neighbor decries privacy threats, blocked sunsets

Fell in love

According to the plans developed by architect Adam Jeselnick, the couple's 1,208-square-foot, two-story home will be demolished to make way for a 1,639-square-foot house with a 261-square-foot "tuck away" garage underneath. A bedroom and a bathroom would be below grade, as well, while two full bathrooms and a powder room, two bedrooms, the kitchen and a great room would be on the upper level. A courtyard would be located on the south side of the lot.

Rieken explained their desire to have a home that will accommodate them full-time and their children when they choose to visit.

"I've been a resident of California for 37 years. When I first moved out here after college to work in the San Francisco Bay area, I kind of fell in love with Carmel, and my plan all along was that this is where I want to be when I finally get to retire,"

Rieken told commissioners.

The couple hired Jeselnick in 2022 and have been in talks with the planning department since then. The design reviewed by the planning commission last month was the third iteration, the architect said, after repeated revisions based on feedback from the planning department.

"I have several friends who have homes down here. This will be our primary home and full-time residence as soon as our home is completed," Rieken continued. "We want to fit into the community and be welcomed into the community at the earliest convenience."

Their neighbor to the north, however, isn't very welcoming of their proposed design. Randy Turley submitted a detailed letter opposing the project and also spoke at the hearing. He said the home, which will be situated much farther forward on the lot than the existing residence, will block his sunset views and sunlight, and he objected to the entryway and front porch on the northwest corner being so close to his bedroom and living room. He also disagreed with the removal of two of the three Monterey pines Rieken and Yoo are planning to cut down.

Sticking points

During her presentation, principal planner Marnie Waffle identified a few sticking points in the plan, including the ramp-like appearance of the driveway leading to the garage and the retaining walls alongside it, and the half-dozen windows on the north side that could intrude on the neighbor's privacy.

Waffle suggested Rieken consider frosted glass on some of the windows and

See **WATER** page 15A



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P.G. TO HIRE DEMOGRAPHICS EXPERT IN FACE OF ELECTION WARNING

By KELLY NIX

THE PACIFIC Grove City Council voted Wednesday to hire a demographer after a civil rights group repeated its threats to take legal action against the city if it doesn't change the way it elects members of its governing body.

The council voted unanimously to solicit proposals from companies to study the city's demographics and return to the council with a report on the results. The council made the move after demands by the League of United Latin American Citizens in August 2022 and again Feb. 3 that P.G. switch from at-large elections to district-based elections, which it claims would be fairer to minorities and others.

At-large elections allow voters of an entire city to elect members of the city council, while a district-based election in P.G. would divide the city into geographic areas, and voters in each of the districts would pick a council member. With a seven-member council like P.G.'s, a district election would mean six districts since the mayor would be voted at large.

'Over a barrel'

While several residents spoke out against switching to district elections, especially under the threat of a lawsuit, the thought from many was to concede to LULAC to avoid expensive litigation.

Former Mayor Carmelita Garcia said she doesn't believe that demographically, Pacific Grove "fits the profile for district elections" based on race but noted that there are areas of the city that have different needs. Garcia also said that the city's "back is up against the wall" because of LULAC's demand.

"I don't want to see the city in a lawsuit, because the evidence is clear the city would lose," Garcia said, also adding

that the council should be reduced to five members.

Pacific Grove's city charter calls for at-large elections for the mayor and city council, but LULAC points to the 2001 California Voting Rights Act, a law enacted on the premise that minorities were being denied representation at the local level because of issues related to that type of election.

Resident Inge Lorentzen Daumer also said she didn't want taxpayers to spend a lot of money on legal fees to fight a LULAC lawsuit. She and several others Wednesday urged the council be reduced from seven to five members, an idea the city proposed in 2022 but which voters defeated by a mere 13 votes. A move to a smaller council would mean larger voting areas.

'Stupid' idea

Resident Lisa Ciani had questions about the demographer and how the city could be divided into districts.

"What if the demographer finds that there is no logical way to make districts, that we really aren't divided up [racially] that way, in terms of neighborhoods? And if we did go to district elections, what happens if nobody runs in some districts? Do we have fewer council members?"

Mike Gibbs said there will likely be "unintended consequences" with such a switch, and he reminded the council about Frank Rivera, the only Hispanic member of the Pacific Grove Unified School District board who was unseated in favor of Laura Ottmar, a White woman, the same year PGUSD switched to district-based elections.

Fifty-year Pacific Grove resident Tom Jensen said creating voting districts is "stupid" and "lacking common sense," and that

See **ELECTION** page 21A

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Leadership class to revamp Scenic Road ‘outlook’

By MARY SCHLEY

MEMBERS OF the Carmel Chamber of Commerce’s leadership program received approval from the forest and beach commission Feb. 8 to overhaul a small outlook on the Scenic pathway near the road’s only two handicap parking spots.

A member of the Leadership Carmel class, Katie Jordan, said the project will restore a part of Scenic “that needs some love.”

“Time, water and erosion have caused some issues,” she said, including exposed tree roots, benches that are uncomfortably high because the ground below them has eroded, pooling water, tripping hazards, “and an overall inconsistency with the other landscaped parts of Scenic.”

Jordan said the project was suggested by Carmel Cares,

a nonprofit group of volunteers that undertakes beautification efforts throughout the city, and that it “will be orchestrated by Leadership Carmel in consultation and cooperation with the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea and Carmel Cares.”

Materials and money

A project manager for Lewis Builders, Jordan said the restoration will include removing an exposed wood border and replacing the eroded decomposed granite to level the ground between the pathway and the overlook, installing flexible drain lines to divert stormwater and mitigate future damage, and creating a border with golden granite rocks. The group also plans to use some driftwood at the site and add plants as needed.

Her partner in the presentation, Bibi Lamere from



PHOTO/MARY SCHLEY

The benches are too tall due to erosion and tripping hazards abound. A group plans to renovate this Scenic Road outlook.

Monterey Credit Union, told commissioners the project is estimated to cost around \$25,000 and will be paid for with money raised by Leadership Carmel through donations and grants, though taxpayers will fund some of it.

The group is hoping for “city contributions of materials, where appropriate and possible,” and is applying for funding from the city council’s discretionary grant program, Carmel Gives, Rotary, the Community Foundation for Monterey County and the Yellow Brick Road benefit shop, according to Lamere.

Resident Cindy Lloyd congratulated the group on its “wonderful collaboration” and said the project will “add not only aesthetics, but safety.”

‘Very thoughtful’

Commissioners had few questions. Kelly Brezoczky observed that “it’s remarkable what our volunteer organizations do,” and chair JC Myers commented, “It’s a very thoughtful design and concept and certainly fits well with what’s being accomplished along Scenic right now.”

Commissioner Sarah Berling said she couldn’t think of anything that should be changed.

“I’m 5 feet tall, so I’ll be grateful to be able to get onto those benches,” she added.

Commissioners unanimously approved the proposal, which will require an encroachment permit from the city. Public works director Bob Harary said the group will not have to pay the usual permit fees.



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RUST

From page 1A

Koucky concurred. “Yes, I feel that was unsafe,” he said.

In another exchange with Bowles, Koucky demonstrated how to uncock a gun like the one that was used by Baldwin in the shooting.

Continuing to question Koucky on gun safety, prosecutor Kari Morrissey then suggested that “basic gun” protocol requires “that you keep the muzzle pointed down for safety” — something Baldwin didn’t do. Koucky disagreed, insisting there are many ways to safely hold a gun.

Holding two guns side by side, Koucky also showed the jury how much a replica gun resembles the gun that Baldwin used — suggesting there was no point to having Baldwin use a real gun while rehearsing.

In his closing statement Wednesday, Bowles called Gutierrez-Reed “a convenient scapegoat” for those producing the film, which resulted in the shooting death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and the wounding of director Joel Souza.

“Justice for Halyna does not mean

injustice for Hannah,” her attorney said. “At the end, they had somebody they could all blame.”

‘Negligent, thoughtless’

But in her closing statement, the prosecutor said Gutierrez-Reed “failed to maintain firearms safety, making a fatal accident willful and fateful.”

“She was negligent, she was careless, she was thoughtless,” Morrissey said.

Baldwin was filming a scene on the set of “Rust” Oct. 21, 2021, when a gun he was using as a prop discharged a bullet. Before the incident, the actor was told the gun was empty. Despite insisting that he didn’t pull the gun’s trigger, Baldwin settled a wrongful death lawsuit with Hutchins’ family and was charged in 2023 with two counts of involuntary manslaughter. Those charges were later dropped, but Baldwin was indicted again of involuntary manslaughter by a grand jury in January.

A lifelong gun enthusiast who told the court he has been “shooting almost from birth,” Koucky is a certified NRA pistol instructor who has over 50 years of experience with vintage weapons, including consulting with museums, TV shows and films.



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CPD

From page 1A

suggest solutions. The consultant found that the existing building’s electrical, mechanical, HVAC and plumbing “are worn out and need total replacement,” that the building and site “will require major improvements” to comply with building codes, and that “the continued ‘band aid’ approach is not a viable approach from an officer safety or public safety perspective.”

The options presented by the consultant included renovating the existing station, building a new station at the existing site, and building a new station at Vista Lobos or in the north lot at Sunset Center.

The committee and a project manager generally dismissed the Sunset option, though it “could be considered, if necessary,” and outlined the pros and cons of the others before recommending further study of the Vista Lobos option to see if it would be feasible to build there.

During the weeks that followed, several residents decried what they believed to be a rush to a decision and complained the estimated cost — as much as \$22 million — to build a new station, plus another nearly \$11 million to renovate and repurpose the existing buildings, is too high and could likely be higher. Some favor remodeling the station, though Police Chief Paul

Tomasi and the consultants have said modern policing requires a facility more than double the size.

The council has hosted a handful of community meetings since then and reiterated that no decision has been made. At the March 7 listening session, city administrator Chip Rerig said that despite the earlier direction, “there is no preferred alternative in the ad hoc’s mind or in staff’s mind, either.” He also said no more money will be spent on the project for the time being.

Timeline

The inadequacies of the existing station, which was built 57 years ago, have been under discussion since the then-city council put the project on its work list in May 2017 and allocated \$250,000 to design a renovation.

In August of that year, Kasavan Architects was hired for \$122,815. To meet the needs of employees and better accommodate equipment, the station should be “slightly expanded” to include a larger dispatch room, a new property room, an area for processing evidence, and a utility room, officials said at the time.

In December 2017, the council approved the design for an expansion expected to cost \$1.75 million. The plan wouldn’t have required any excavation and was a blend of two of the four design options presented to the council the month prior.

In April 2018, a divided city council

increased Kasavan’s pay by \$74,534, and that same month, the historic resources board declared that the station is not historic. At that hearing, Tomasi described the building as “an absolute mess.”

In August 2018, the council tweaked Kasavan’s remodel design and sent it back to the planning commission, which had approved the plans two months earlier.

In June 2019, the council scaled the remodel project back to solely focus on the interior. The majority argued that any expansion would be little more than a band-aid on a complex that needs a full-scale master plan and an overhaul to improve facilities not just for the police department, but for public works and maybe even the youth center next door. Baron, at that time recently elected to the council, suggested moving the police station altogether. “An expansion would be a golden band-aid,” councilman Bobby Richards said then. “I can’t imagine adding onto that building.”

In November 2019, the plans were declared ready to go out to bid. But then the Covid pandemic hit, and all capital improvement projects were shelved due to the fiscal and economic uncertainty.

In February 2022, Baron asked why the project hadn’t been brought back for funding, and a month later, the city council reallocated the \$2 million toward the effort “to make a facility that is Carmel worthy, and also to really honor our police officers in a facility that’s open 24/7/365,” Rerig said

at the time.

In December 2022, however, the council ditched the remodel project again after Kasavan pulled out after being paid \$200,000 for its design work. Public works director Bob Harary recommended replacing the firm with Wald, Ruhnke & Dost for \$89,115, but the council declined.

Critical

In March 2023, the city solicited proposals from firms specializing in police station projects, which led to the hiring of Indigo three months later. The 2023-2024 budget includes \$3,239,000 for the project. Potter and Baron met with the consultants several times before hosting their Jan. 25 meeting.

At Wednesday’s talk, residents Tasha Witt and Melanie Billig criticized The Pine Cone’s coverage of the discussions because it was dismissive of the remodel option due to the stated widespread deficiencies in the building, and another resident said he believed from the coverage that the council had already voted to move the station to Vista Lobos.

Potter said the residents should decide how to update the police station to make it usable for officers, and other law enforcement staff victims and the public.

Several speakers wondered whether the city has ever undertaken such a potentially large capital project. In 2004, Sunset Center was remodeled for \$21.65 million.

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EQUESTRIAN

From page 1A

sure where he will relocate. Pellett also said he was concerned for others who board their horses there.

“Not is it only a shame for myself as a business owner to have nowhere to go with my clientele, but also all the other horse owners who board their horses at this place due to the closure of many boarding facilities in our area,” he said.

Pellett, who moved his business to the equestrian center after Holman Ranch closed its boarding facility in 2020, said the company gave him a list of other possible places to board horses and operate his business. However, some of them are no longer in business or don’t have stables.

The Pebble Beach Company pointed to a “continuing decrease” in business at the center and a downward trend in the equestrian industry in general, which boarders and others said they found surprising — though they agreed that numerous other facilities have also closed.

Waiting list

Linda Killar, who has kept her horse at the P.B. facility for about five years, said it was hoped that this year would be the centennial celebration for the equestrian center, not its closure. She said it will be a tremendous loss to the community when the facility stops operating.

“We’ve been promised for years that they were going to renovate the place and have a huge re-dedication this year,” she said. “Sadly, none of that has come to pass.”

Killar said that since the Covid-19 pandemic, the equestrian center has limited boarding there, even as many stalls were vacant.

“I’ve been told there’s a two-year waiting list of equestrians wanting to move their horses, and I know of several people who’ve tried in vain for many months to move their horses here, only be to be told that it’s full,” she said.

Like Pellett, Killar pointed to the general lack of horse boarding facilities in the

Monterey Peninsula area, and she went down a list of about a half-dozen stables that have closed through the years.

The Pebble Beach Company told The Pine Cone that the equestrian center has about 20 horses of its own, most of which are leased and will be returned to their owners. A handful of Pebble Beach-owned horses will be “rehomed.” About 20 other privately owned horses are boarded there.

Pellett started a petition on change.org in hopes of keeping the center open. By Thursday afternoon it had 1,400 signatures.

“The equestrian center is more than just a facility; it’s part of our town’s history and culture,” the petition says. “It provides public boarding facilities that are unparalleled in our area. With its closure, we are

not only losing an important part of our heritage but also facing a lack of good public boarding options for horse owners.”

Pellett said he understands the company’s financial concerns but believes that with “proper management and community support,” the equestrian center could be

successful.

“Therefore, we urge the P.B. Co. to reconsider their decision and explore alternative solutions that would allow the equestrian center to remain open while still meeting their business objectives,” the petition says.

Trails open

Horseback riding in Pebble Beach will still be allowed after the facility’s June closure.

“Equestrians who enjoy riding in Del Monte Forest will continue to have access to 27 miles of forested and ocean-front trails maintained by the P.B. Co. for public recreational use and enjoyment,” the company said.

The center was opened in 1924 by P.B. Co. founder Sam Morse. It initially offered a place for early residents of Del Monte Forest to board their horses but was soon expanded to offer many types of equestrian uses. The 1944 MGM film, “National Velvet,” starring Mickey Rooney and a 12-year-old Elizabeth Taylor, includes scenes filmed at the Pebble Beach Golf Links and the equestrian center.

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Slide closes much of busy trail

By CHRIS COUNTS

WITH SPRING on the horizon — and hordes of hikers preparing to lace up their boots — the Ventana Wilderness Alliance put out word this week that a new slide is blocking access along Big Sur's most popular backcountry route, the Pine Ridge Trail.

The site of the slide is about 8 miles east of the trailhead near Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. As a result, hikers can't reach two campsites along the Big Sur River — busy Sykes Camp or distant Redwood Camp.

"The section of the Pine Ridge Trail between Barlow Flat Camp and Sykes Camp is impassable due to a new slide," the VWA posted on its Facebook page.

The group, which does much of the volunteer trail work in Big Sur, urged people to avoid the temptation of crossing the slide, because you might need help getting back to civilization — and taxpayers will pay for it.

Don't trigger a rescue

"Those planning to visit the Pine Ridge Trail and Sykes Camp should not attempt to cross the new slide — doing so could be fatal and/or put Monterey County Search and Rescue team personnel at risk if a rescue or extraction is required," the VWA warned.

The group suggested that, at least for now, hikers avoid any crossings of the Big Sur River, which has swelled due to recent rains.

"If a visitor falls in the water, even a light current may sweep them downstream where they risk drowning or impact with rocks."

There is no estimated date when the Pine Ridge Trail will be safe again for foot traffic past the site of the slide.

The trail travels about 23 miles from



PHOTO/VENTANA WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

For those hiking east along the Pine Ridge Trail, the path is blocked by a slide near Barlow Flat Camp.

China Camp on Chews Ridge to Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.

The closure comes just months after the group reported that it had fixed a major wash-out near Barlow Flat Camp that was preventing access along the trail.

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DANIELS

From page 1A

With her swearing-in ceremony still 10 months away, Daniels said she plans to stay on as a county planning commissioner, at least for now.

“There are many things we’ve been working on that I’d like to complete, such as the housing element, the short-term rental ordinance and the update of the Big Sur Land Use Plan,” she said. “I think it’s important to stick with it and see those projects through.”

Daniels said she also hopes to help “wrap up some big things” Laird is working on before she steps down from her role with his office, such as making progress on the portion of the California Coastal Trail that’s anticipated to go through Big Sur.

Daniels said she is in no hurry to choose her chief of staff.

“A lot of people have reached out,” she reported. “I really want to give myself some time before jumping in and making a decision. I want to put together a team comprising people who can deal with the issues of the 5th District effectively.”

Adams chimes in

Adams endorsed her run for supervisor and was elated by her former colleague’s win.

“I hope you are as happy about the outcome of Tuesday’s local election as I am,” Adams said in a social media post. “Kate and I have worked together for many years and, truthfully, I would not feel confident in retiring from this wonderful position representing you had she not been ready to stand up and take the reins.”

Daniels was also endorsed by county supervisors Wendy Root Askew, Chris Lopez and Glenn Church, former Congressman Sam Farr, former State Sen. Bill Monning and Monterey County Sheriff Tina Nieto.

In two other races for county supervisor, Luis Alejo ran unopposed for 1st District supervisor, while 4th District supervisor Wendy Root Askew earned 60 percent of the vote in her bid for reelection.

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WATER

From page 8A

said the entrance should be shifted to the west side of the house.

Resident Neal Kruse, who founded the anti-modern Carmel Preservation Association with resident and historic resources board member Karyl Hall, said the plans call for too much glass and that the windows should be smaller.

As water demand manager for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, planning commissioner Stephanie Locke is well acquainted with the requirements and pointed out that demolishing a one-bathroom house and replacing it with a three-and-a-half-bathroom home wouldn’t pencil. Unless they had purchased additional water credits. “There’s no way you could do this without doing a full demolition” of the additional house to the south, she told the couple, in order to transfer its water credits to the new project.

Rieken said he had no knowledge of the water issue and passed it off to Jeselnick, who also had no response, other than that he was aware during the design phase that Rieken and Yoo own both properties.


Beyond the water — which would have no material effect on the exterior design — commissioners had a lot to say.

“I think there’s some redesigning to be done on this project,” Locke said, particularly to reduce the impacts on Turly’s home. With setbacks ranging from just over 3 feet to around 5 feet, she said, “I think it’s really close, and it’s really insensitive to the neighbor.”

Locke suggested reorienting the house on the property to lessen crowding on the north side. She also said the garage presents a two-story appearance and that the design includes too much glass.

“It’s not really in keeping with the character of the neighborhood at all,” she said.

Commissioners unanimously voted to delay a vote on the project until Jeselnick and his clients come up with a revised design — with or without the three-and-a-half bathrooms they want.



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PASTOR

From page 1A

and said that regardless of the outcome, he would not take any action against the city and that he would also “maintain this wonderful house in perfect condition, even if only to continue to bother those jealous people who will never have access to it, and who only have this type of action to express their frustrations.”

Referring to a recent story in the San Francisco Chronicle quoting an anonymous source saying people are “terrified” of what Pastor might have in mind for his real estate holdings in town, Pastor said, “I would like to inform those in Carmel who feel terrified by my presence that I will be in Carmel 21 to 24 March, so I suggest they either take a vacation during this period or come and meet me for a relaxation class.”

‘All the requirements’

Chris Mitchell, managing director of Pastor’s Esperanza Carmel real estate company, quickly laid out the arguments for why the council should approve the Mills Act contract. Not only does the plan satisfy all of the program’s requirements, he said, the city and school district are still reaping plenty in property taxes, and there are no income limits or other financial restrictions in the Mills Act program.

“This is not a big loss to the school

district as has been suggested, and I think it’s unfair to reject our application based on this interpretation of the Mills Act rules,” he said in a call from London, where it was around 6:30 a.m. “There is no price limit.”

Further, the contracts are based on the importance and preservation of the property, not on who owns it. “It is not appropriate to consider the applicant or other properties they own in the town,” he said.

Former historic resources board member Kathryn Gualtieri spoke in favor of the contract, saying that preserving the iconic house is a perfect example of the program’s mission, and Nancy Twomey reiterated the Carmel Residents Association’s support.

Resident Kristi Reimers countered that Pastor will repair and preserve his Scenic Road landmark regardless of the city’s support. “It has always been in good hands, and it is in great hands now,” she said.

Resident Dale Byrne and HRB member Karyl Hall also supported Pastor’s application. “This is about the building, not the owner,” Hall said. “How would the residents, and you, feel if we had to watch this famous building deteriorate?”

Their comments came after the city’s principal planner, Marnie Waffle, gave a brief presentation on the Frank Lloyd Wright house and its history, including the architect’s commissioning by widow Della Walker to design the house in the late 1940s, and its construction on a rocky promontory overlooking Carmel Beach in

the early 1950s. Since then, it has become one of the most famous and recognizable buildings in the city.

Under California’s Prop 13, Pastor’s \$22 million purchase of the home caused a huge jump in property taxes, from an estimated \$73,000 per year under the previous owner to about \$230,000 per year from Pastor, and some city officials were loath to give up part of such a windfall by approving a Mills Act contract, saying the city, the heavily property-tax-funded Carmel Unified School District and Monterey County would suffer as a result. At past hearings, some council members suggested Pastor commit to opening his home to public tours and to making “voluntary” contributions to the school district. Pastor declined to do either.

Savings exceed spending?

Waffle also noted that some were concerned that the tax savings for Pastor, roughly estimated at \$1.5 million over the life of his Mills Act contract, would amount to more than the \$1.34 million he would probably spend on the property’s rehabilitation and maintenance, though that total does not include any of the expensive and necessary seawall repairs.

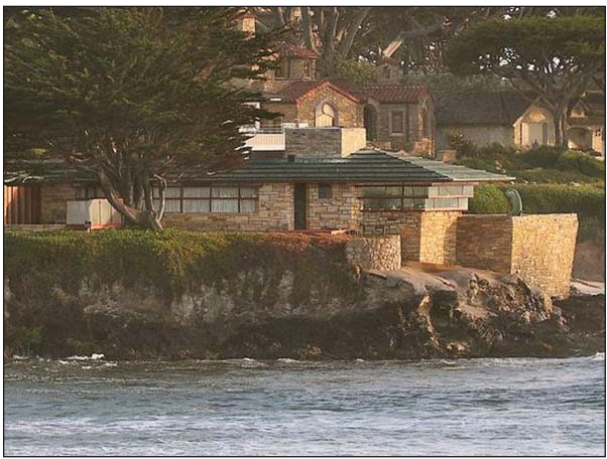
“Staff continues to recommend you accept the recommendation of the historic resources board” and approve the Mills Act contract, she said.

Councilman Bobby Richards said Waffle outlined how Pastor’s application meets the program’s requirements and should therefore be approved. “This is where we can really lean on staff,” he said. “The staff does the research for the findings, so I would support this Mills Act contract.”

As he has in the past, councilman Jeff Baron disagreed that the application complies with the finding that the loss of tax revenue is balanced by the community benefit of preserving the historic building.

His vote would “still be a ‘no,’” he said.

Councilwoman Karen Ferlito agreed with Baron, saying she was once a fan of the Mills Act but now believes it has “strayed” from accommodating people who have historic houses but can’t afford to preserve them.



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

The historic Frank Lloyd Wright house will be protected and preserved under a contract between the city and owner Patrice Pastor.

Mayor Dave Potter said he felt subjecting Pastor’s application to additional scrutiny because of his wealth, the property taxes he pays and his ability to maintain the property regardless of the tax break would be unfair, because it would amount to changing the rules “in the middle of the game,” since those criteria haven’t been applied to anyone else.

Potter made the motion to approve the contract, and Richards seconded it. “I think it would be anything less than fair if we don’t move this forward,” Richards said.

Potter also noted that fixing the seawall will be a considerable additional expense, and councilwoman Alissandra Dramov said she was torn.

Ultimately, Ferlito and Baron held fast to their opposition, and after a beat, Dramov added her “yes” vote to those of Richards and Potter.

“We are of course delighted to have received approval for our Mills Act application on the famous ‘Cabin on the Rocks.’ In particular, we would like to thank Marnie Waffle, planning director Brandon Swanson and the rest of the team at the city who prepared and presented this Mills Act application so many times,” Mitchell said after the meeting. “We will now focus on protecting this exquisite property, which is so important for Carmel.”

“I am of course pleased to have received a positive decision with regards to our Mills Act application,” Pastor commented. “We now look forward to working on the preservation of this wonderful house, designed by the most wonderful of American architects.

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LETTERS

From page 22A

— it’s worth every inconvenience. Spare me the fear of not getting help in an emergency — remarkably low arrival times are the norm. Spare me the Amazon delivery mishaps — what a great way to meet neighbors. Seriously, council, please stop this ad-hoc train wreck.

Next, we’ll hear that an ad-hoc committee has decided to install parking meters throughout the village.

Shirley Moon, “October Moon,” Carmel

Hearts broken

Dear Editor,

I was blessed to be able to board my two horses from 1995 until 2004 at the Pebble Beach equestrian center. Now the Pebble Beach Co. has chosen to save \$15 million instead of keeping a beloved 100-year-old tradition.

Horses have been with us longer than golf. In 1924, when the Pebble Beach barn was opened, joy filled the Peninsula. Young and old came from all over to enjoy an art form, the horse. This beautiful creation allowed us to borrow a ride upon their backs and in return the horses only wanted respect and love.

Children learned how to be responsible for something else other than themselves. Horses were used for therapy for children to help with self-esteem and help with balance for body and mind. Riding a horse also is a wonderful sport and allows various avenues of competition. Permanent friendships were made at the barn.

In 1996, the equestrian center was in peril. The P.B. Co. wanted to expand their golf and build low-income houses for employees nearby. They were willing to move us to Congress and Morse Dr. and build a smaller equestrian center. Boarders petitioned and fought for years because we wanted that money to stay and improve the existing center. Years later, it was determined not to build at the new site. A lot of red tape.

Instead, they took away our polo field and some other little pieces of equestrian land. The only improvement

was back around 2000, when the P.B. Co. donated funds to build a shelter for the rental horses. Now, these sweet unselfish horses who let happy adults and children ride them on beautiful beach trail rides, will be sent to the “ranch” that leases out horses and never be housed again at a very caring environment like the Pebble Beach equestrian center. These horses are the losers in all of this.

To the past and present horse lovers, riders, and the public who loved to visit and attend horse shows, our hearts are broken.

Jeannie Wilhoit, Roseville

Gas is good

Dear Editor,

There’s nothing like taking a hot shower on a cold, windy, rainy day during a power outage. There’s nothing like having a warm cup of tea and sitting by a cozy fire during a power outage. These simple pleasures would not be possible if we did not have natural gas, hot water heaters, stoves and fireplaces. If we relied on electricity alone, we would be miserable during extended power outages — which are becoming more frequent.

Personally, I love having gas and I do not think it’s wise to give it up!

Christy Hollenbeck, Carmel

‘Worn look and feel’

Dear Editor,

On Feb. 28, in a city-wide budget workshop, Pacific Grove revealed a spreadsheet which doubled funding for the city attorney to over \$1 million without adding a single dime for economic development. The P.G. budget is about \$32 million, with \$2.6 million in excess over reserve. The highest revenue source for the city is property taxes, which helps explain the new condos and hotels in town.

But there is a big gap between the high-end condos, hotels, and inns and the worn look and feel of three of the city’s business districts. When I walk around the town, local business people tell me that P.G. is not pro-business. At first, I did not agree. Now I can see their point.

Pacific Grove allocates about 1 percent (\$360,000) to economic development while other cities, not as cool and unique, devote 1.5 percent to 3 percent of their total budget for economic development. We can do better.

I urge the council to double the budget for economic development to 2 percent. I am convinced that the potential return on investment is enormous, with more foot traffic, longer stays, more cash flow, and happier customers.

We are in a highly competitive market with Carmel and Monterey. Pacific Grove needs to show its best face to the public.

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See MORE LETTERS next page

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MORE LETTERS

From previous page

love with our town. The council can accelerate the economic development commission as it introduces a new app to link visitors to local businesses and attractions, backs exciting events in the park, finances grants for colorful facades and brings forth new improvements to make our business districts fun and attractive. This investment is like Arnold Palmer sinking a ten-footer at Pebble Beach, center cup!

Mike Gibbs, Pacific Grove

Water rights

Dear Editor,

In contrast to Cal Am’s incessant falsehoods and political corruption, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District stands tall in our community for its adherence to truth and the rule of law.

Contrary to Cal Am’s claims, and LAFCO’s, the district has the authority to conduct eminent domain based

Housing draft to be posted

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

BASED ON points made during a two-hour discussion Tuesday of the state-required plan for how the city will accommodate 349 new residences by the end of 2031, planning director Brandon Swanson said a revised draft should be posted at homecarmelbythesea.com by Friday.

The document identifies locations and means for adding housing. It does not require that it be built but must show the city is making a good-faith effort to resolve its share of the state’s declared housing shortage.

Following the March 5 city council review, Swanson said he clarified language regarding the Surplus Land Act — which would only be relevant if the city decided to surplus property, as the Carmel Unified School District recently did when it sold an old building in Carmel Valley to Monterey County — and pushed back target dates for when the city might seek developers to construct affordable housing on public property. Swanson also updated language involving story poles and senior housing.

He wanted to assure the public that any projects would follow an extensive public process.

on public necessity and legal mandate, whereas LAFCO is only a quasi-legislative body. California Assembly Bill 1329 stipulates that “the district shall have the power to acquire public or private water systems necessary or proper to carry out the purpose of the law.” This legislation further provides that the district has the authority “to appropriate and acquire water and water rights and to import water.” AB 1329, coupled with the U.S. Constitution and Measure J as a voter-mandated action, accord the

MPWMD indisputable authority to conduct the eminent domain buyout, and supersede LAFCO’s quasi-legislative precepts.

In fact, the Cal Am buyout is a public necessity. Cal Am cannot undo truth or fact. MPWMD marches forward, the standard bearer of truth and right action for the public good, its water rights and powers firmly assured by state legislation.

Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Marina

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MURPHY

From page 3A

as needed for this 1902 landmark,” Lomas said. “The chamber would be able to relieve the Carmel Heritage Society of some of its financial obligations.” She said the chamber and the heritage society are asking for a five-year deal so they have enough time to make improvements and see if the setup will work.

Lomas also suggested that Visit Carmel, the city’s nonprofit tourism organization funded by additional taxes on hotel rooms and restaurant tabs, allocate \$30,000 for operations of the chamber’s visitor center during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Resident Cindy Lloyd noted that she and her mother were both on the Carmel Heritage Society board of directors when the First Murphy House was moved to its current location, and she took exception to the process of negotiating with the chamber and the heritage society for its lease.

“Who initiated the idea to lease the First Murphy

House to the chamber for a visitor center? Who received the idea to start negotiations?” she asked. “Why wasn’t the idea presented to the council and the public before starting negotiations?”

Lloyd suggested residents should have been allowed to weigh in on the idea before closed-session discussions began, and she worried that the new arrangement could shift the focus to “dining and shopping,” rather than the history and culture of the city.

“What will the relationship between Carmel Heritage and the chamber and the city look like?” she asked, adding that she hopes the additional contact with visitors will boost people’s interest in Carmel’s past.

Too commercial

Lloyd’s daughter, Anna Williams, advised the council to ensure everyone is trained on the history of the city, and resident Kristi Reimers worried that letting the chamber rent the First Murphy House would lead to the demise of its museum and its contents.

“Using one of our few buildings for a use that’s so commercial seems like a big decision,” she said.

Commenting again, Lloyd said she became a member of the heritage society after returning to the area but has no idea what the organization does, since the board doesn’t communicate with members. She also worried that work on the historic building would not be done correctly.

Because the item was not on the agenda for public discussion, nobody on the council said much about it before closed session, and on Tuesday, city attorney Brian Pierik

announced that there was no reportable action following the closed-door talks.

After the meeting, Visit Carmel executive director Amy Herzog told The Pine Cone that no one from the chamber has approached her organization, which is a nonprofit funded by hotel and restaurant taxes funneled through the city, about allocating money to the chamber.

“There has been no formal communication or proposal from the Carmel Chamber to Visit Carmel regarding the funding of a visitor center. If such a request were to be presented to Visit Carmel, it would be subject to consideration by the board, likely during our fiscal year 2024-2025 budgeting cycle,” she said. “Our priority at Visit Carmel is to ensure that any expenditures directly benefit our stakeholders and partners.”

GAVEL

From page 4A

continue to do so and a person were killed, he could be charged with murder.

Based on the conviction, Ramirez faces up to 15 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for March 14.

This case was investigated by the California Highway Patrol and prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office specialized DUI prosecution unit.



WILLIAM FIELD MEYER

June 28, 1936 - January 25, 2024

A beloved husband, father and grandfather (“Epah”) passed away on Jan. 25, 2024. He was a heart-attack survivor who managed to live years beyond his doctor’s projections.

He will be remembered as someone with a deep faith in God, patriotism regarding his country, dedication to his family, and enthusiasm in his various professional pursuits.

Bill was born in Nashville, Tennessee, grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and moved to Alton, Illinois when in high school. Freshman year in college was attended at Purdue University and Bill graduated with a B.S. and M.S. in engineering at the University of Missouri.

Bill was a naval officer aboard the USS Coral Sea and attained Officer of the Deck. After his discharge from the Navy, he became a corporate manager and director at AT&T Long Lines, Transamerica and Seagate Technology. He later authored news articles and two books. He became an independent consultant for several years as well as an adjunct professor at San Francisco State University and Cal State Monterey Bay. He was active in many community activities, helping to build a missionary in France, sourcing speakers for organizations, and serving as president of two men’s groups. When Bill was less busy, he enjoyed the game of golf, and also kept fit through swimming.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Meyer and Lorraine Floss; and his nephew, Randolph Meyer (“Randy”). Bill is survived by his wife of 61 years, Bette Meyer; his children, Stephanie Szymoniak, Susan Meyer and Clark Meyer; and his grandchildren, Griffin, Anna and Collin Szymoniak. He is also survived by his brother, James Meyer and sister-in-law, Karen Meyer.

Services will begin at 11:30 a.m. March 16, 2024 at Carmel Presbyterian Church in Carmel-by-the-Sea.



STORMIE DAYLYN KELLER

Stormie Daylyn Keller passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 19, 2024. She was born on March 24, 1991, in Monterey, California, to Dannan Keller and Linda Keller. Stormie was raised in the rural Steinbeck country of Prunedale and attended North Monterey County High School, graduating in 2009. She later studied human resources and child development at Monterey Peninsula College.

In her youth, Stormie was passionate about reading, music and writing. She enjoyed nature, following in her grandfather’s footsteps by surfing, hiking and riding horses. She loved exploring new experiences and was known for her kindness and willingness to help those in need, especially those who could not speak for themselves or were less fortunate. She also successfully ran an online clothing store for the last 10 years and had a love for fashion.

Stormie was a proud Esselen tribal member and was actively exploring her family’s multicultural heritage. She lived in Palo Colorado Canyon on the outskirts of Big Sur for many years before recently moving to Pacific Grove. She was preceded in death by her brother, Anthony Ortiz, and stepfather, Jesse Lamb.

She is survived by her father, Dannan Keller; mother, Linda Keller; sisters, Natasha Hart, Chanel Keller, Savannah Keller and Kalea Keller, as well as her brothers, Deaven Keller and Daysun Keller. Stormie also leaves behind her grandparents, Paul and Valerie Keller and Philip and Rosie Gutierrez, as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and her most precious gift, her beautiful 1-year-old son, Jesse James Dean Keller, who will be raised by his maternal grandmother, Linda Lamb.

Keller’s funeral services will begin at 1 p.m. March 15 at El Carmelo Cemetery, Pacific Grove, California. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Jesse Keller Trust for his future education at P.O. Box 223611, Carmel, CA 93922.

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RICHARD YRIGOLLEN

Richard Yrigollen passed away peacefully in his wife's family home in Seaside, California on Feb. 5, 2024. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Eloise Yrigollen; and his daughters, Margaret Kirkman and Elizabeth Guerra. He is survived by his daughter, Kathleen Yrigollen-Kerlee; his son, Joey Yrigollen; his nephew who was like a son to him, Gary Haedrich; and many grandchildren, as well as nieces and nephews.

Richard Yrigollen served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a sniper in the Korean War. After the war, Richard worked at Rancho Cañada Golf Course for more than 35 years. He was an avid metal detectorist and was known locally as “Richie Rich” for all of his findings. Richard was the life of every party, and his smile and spirit would definitely light up a room.

You are invited to join and share in his Celebration of Life reception at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9 at Mark’s Barn, 654 Ortiz Ave., Sand City.



ELECTION

From page 9A

the public “just wants the best people on the council from the entire city.”

Councilwoman McDonnell said that “whether we like it or not, it’s way more expensive to try and fight” LULAC’s demand than doing what is best for Pacific Grove, in terms of the way it holds elections.

Steamrolling

Councilman Nick Smith pointed to LULAC’s success in getting cities to switch their election methods.

“It’s looking like they’re undefeated at this point, and just steamrolling the state,” Smith said, adding that the size of the council should be explored again. “And the law is written in such a way that makes it hard to beat.”

Similarly, councilman Chaps Poduri said “it’s unfortunate the way it’s really stacked against the city as to how this matter is going,” and he supported hiring a demographer.

While councilman Luke Coletti acknowledged the public’s frustration, he suggested that the California Voting Rights Act makes it a difficult and expensive fight to wage, especially considering that every city that challenged district elections lost in court. However, if the city switches to districts, Coletti said he believes an area with more members of a protected class than the average in the city would likely be created, which would offer the group more voting power.

No guarantees

But “that does not compel an outcome of an election,” he said, referencing the PGUSD example. “But the California Voting Rights Act doesn’t care about that. That’s not part of the process.”

It’s not clear how much hiring a demographer would cost taxpayers, but the thought among council members is that it would be more than \$40,000.

Pacific Grove, which has about 15,000 people, is about 77.9 percent White, 11.3 percent Hispanic or Latino, 8.5 percent Asian, 0.8 percent Black, 0.4 percent American Indian and Native Alaskan, and 8.6 percent are two or more races, according to the U.S. Census.



JANNEL BLOCK-SWEIGERT

Jannel Block-Sweigert 57, of Salinas passed away peacefully with her husband by her side and her children all home Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024. She was born March 25, 1966, in Escondido Ca. She grew up in Southern California and moved to Salinas, CA in 1989. Jannel married the love of her life Harry Sweigert, in 2004. Together they built a beautiful life, raising their four kids. She loved her family very much, was strong in her faith, loved spending time with her grandchildren, gathering with friends and taking trips to Maui. She truly was loved by all who met her, and her laugh was contagious. She passionately worked for years as an escrow officer throughout Monterey County. Jannel enjoyed her work and made so many great friends and memories over the years.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Linda Tidwell; grandparents Eva Marie and Kenneth Snow, Arleen and Reed Hardy.

She is survived by her father, Dennis Hardy; sister, Deborah (Tommy) Milks; husband, Harry Sweigert; four children, Rannel (Matthew) Santiago, Ryan (Sarah) Block, Courtney (Corey) Lewellyn and Jenny (O.B) Sweigert and two grandchildren, Emma Santiago and Logan Albertoni.

Services will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 9, 2024, at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 315 E. Alvin Drive, Salinas 93906, followed by burial services at Garden of Memories Cemetery, 850 Abbott St., Salinas, Ca. 93901.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to American Cancer Society or Stanford Women’s Cancer Center/Gynecologic Oncology.

Online condolences to www.struveandlaporte.com

Stolen car from P.G. used in King City murders

By KELLY NIX

A VEHICLE that was stolen in Pacific Grove late last month was used by criminals to carry out a quadruple homicide in King City last weekend, the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office said Wednesday.

On March 3 at about 6 p.m., a Kia Rio pulled up to a house on the 200 block of North Second Street, and three people wearing black masks started shooting into a group of people at a birthday party in the front yard.

After responding to reports of gunfire, King City Police found three people dead of gunshot wounds at the scene, while a fourth person died at a hospital.

There were seven other victims, including two who are in critical condition.

“Three suspects exited the vehicle, entered the front yard and opened fire on the partygoers and then fled the scene in the vehicle,” according to the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office.

While the Kia — which was stolen from Pacific Grove — had been missing, authorities announced Wednesday they had recovered it from an “unincorporated area of South Monterey County.”

Pacific Grove Police Cmdr. Brian Anderson told The Pine Cone Wednesday that the Kia was stolen on the 800 block of Lighthouse Avenue sometime Feb. 23 or 24.

Pacific Grove investigators do not believe that any P.G. residents were involved in the murders, he said.

The three shooters were dressed in black, the sheriff’s office said. King City surveillance cameras caught the Kia entering the city via Canal Street. Minutes after the shooting, the cameras captured the vehicle driving onto Highway 101 at Canal.

The victims were identified as Alicia Ramirez Aparicio, Francisco Aldape Perez, Olivo Perez Pina, all 32 years old, and Mario Guzman Mendoza, 42.

‘Terrible act’

“Apprehending and successfully prosecuting the persons responsible for this terrible act is our top priority,” King City Police Chief James Hunt said this week.

The Federal Bureau of Investigations, U.S. Marshall’s Office, Monterey County District Attorney’s Office and Salinas and Pacific Grove police departments are assisting the sheriff’s office and King City Police in the hunt for the killers.

The law enforcement agencies working on solving the case have not publicly stated whether gang members could be responsible for the quadruple homicide.

King City is offering a \$20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people responsible.

The Pine Cone has been a member of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce for more than 100 years.

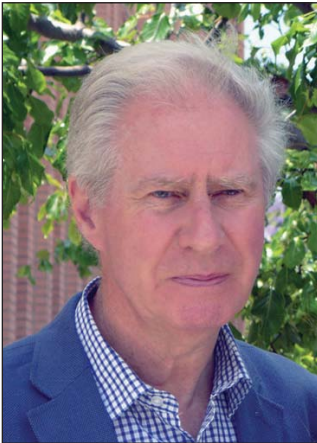
STEWART ROBERTSON

May 22, 1948 - February 12, 2024

The Scottish-born conductor, Stewart John Robertson, aged 75, died peacefully at home in Carmel Valley, California, with his family at his side, on February 12 of complications from Parkinson’s disease.

A native of Glasgow, Scotland, Stewart was born to John (Jack) and Mildred Robertson (Redman) on May 22, 1948. After growing up in Hillington and attending Penilee High School, he received his degree from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and studied piano in London with Denis Matthews and conducting with Otmar Suitner at the Mozarteum and Hans Swarowsky in Vienna, before embarking on an internationally successful career as an orchestral and opera conductor. Stewart met his wife, Meryl, when he conducted the Bearsden Burgh Choir. After marrying in 1972, they lived their early married years in Germany, Switzerland and Scotland.

In 1979, Hidden Valley Music Seminars brought him to the Monterey Peninsula to conduct the Hidden Valley Chamber Orchestra and he became one of the regular conductors of the Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble. He was the founding conductor of the Youth Music Monterey Orchestra and the Hidden Valley String Orchestra, and in the 1980s conducted the San Jose Youth Orchestra.



Throughout his career, Stewart performed internationally, leading productions with many renowned opera companies, both in the United States and in Europe. As well as becoming music director of Florida Grand Opera and artistic director of Opera Omaha, Stewart spent almost 20 years as the music director of the Glimmerglass Opera Festival in New York, where he helped lead the company to international acclaim. Besides his passion for working with living composers, he was proud of creating the Young American Artists Program at Glimmerglass, and developing the careers of many successful young opera voices.

Stewart loved performing with symphony orchestras, and his career included many guest appearances throughout the world. A champion of new works, Stewart premiered many new orchestral and operatic works and was nominated for a Grammy for his recording of Richard Rodney Bennett’s “Mines of Sulphur.” Additionally, he made other recordings with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony and

the Ukraine State Philharmonic Orchestra. He was also featured on numerous broadcasts for New York City Opera with NPR’s “Live from Lincoln Center,” as well as the BBC and Swiss-Italian Radio and Television.

In addition to music, Stewart had many passions, not least of which were his religious faith — he was an active member of the Christadelphian church — and his love for his homeland of Scotland. For more than 20 years, he worked to begin restoration of a castle in rural Argyll. He also enjoyed reading, book collecting and biblical studies. But in the end, Stewart’s greatest joy was in spending time with his family and since retiring in 2015, he and Meryl have divided their time between their homes in Carmel Valley and Helensburgh, Scotland, enjoying time with their children’s families and good friends.

Stewart is survived by his wife of 51 years, Meryl; children, Keren Dawson-Bowman and son-in-law David, and Niel Robertson and daughter-in-law Faith; as well as his five grandchildren, Naomi Gallagher (Ben), Jonathan Dawson-Bowman (Sarah), Rebekah Dawson-Bowman and Aspen and Bardot Robertson.

The family would like to thank Hospice of the Central Coast for its dedicated care during Stewart’s illness. Special thanks to Viridiana Cardenas, Flo Plinck, Angelica Jensen and the Meckel family who cared for Stewart and supported his wife during his last days.

A memorial service will be celebrated at 2 p.m. on April 26 at Hidden Valley Music Seminars in Carmel Valley.

Any donations can be made in Stewart’s honor to Hidden Valley Music Seminars or Hospice of the Central Coast.



Editorial

How wealthy?

NOW THAT the City of Carmel has approved a Mills Act contract for the Frank Lloyd Wright house he bought in 2022, Patrice Pastor will start getting a break on his \$230,000-per-year property tax bill. We think that’s great, because anybody who’s shelling out a quarter-mil in property taxes for a single residence is paying way more than his fair share of the goods and services such taxes pay for. Which means that pretty much any discount he gets can be viewed as just — especially one that is granted in exchange for him providing a public service, in this case, restoration and preservation of an iconic home.

Sure, it hurts for the City of Carmel, the schools and the other recipients of Pastor’s property tax payments to have to forgo some of the new revenue they were expecting. But them’s the breaks. Pastor has a bunch of other properties in town he’s recently bought for impressive prices, so his total property tax bill is still huge. And there are plenty of other billionaires and hundred-millionaires around ponying up megabucks for homes in pretty much every Carmel neighborhood. Which got us wondering: Just how rich is the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea?

For the answer, we turned to a data.ca.gov, where lots of juicy information about local government revenues and expenses are available. One table that promised “Per Capita City Revenues, 2004-2019” caught our eye. It lists 482 California cities — everything from the colossal City of Los Angeles, which had 4,040,079 residents in 2019, to tiny Amador, which had 188.

As we all know, Carmel-by-the Sea is one of the smaller ones, with a population (according to the data portal) of 3,987. And in 2019, the City of Carmel had revenues of \$24,914,743, or \$6,249 per resident. An impressive figure, no?

Not compared to a municipality like Vernon, which touts itself as “exclusively industrial,” has just 301 residents but had 2019 revenues of \$266,455,407, or roughly \$885,000 per capita — by far the state’s champ. Or the aptly named City of Industry, population 432, which had revenues of \$203,276,599, or \$470,000 per person. What they do with all that money will have to be the subject of another editorial. A solid gold Cybertruck for everybody in town?

No. 3 on the state’s list of richest cities is Irwindale, population 1,506, with revenues of \$31,678,479, or \$21,000 per person. And No. 4 is our very own Sand City, land of Big Box stores, which in 2019 collected \$8,015,629 in revenues, or about \$20,000 per resident.

Back in the world of places where people actually live, Beverly Hills, San Francisco, Colma, Palo Alto, Indian Wells, Avalon, Santa Clara, Big Bear Lake, El Segundo, Brisbane, Santa Monica, Emeryville, Commerce, Del Mar, Trinidad and Yountville all have more revenue per capita than Carmel, which is No. 21 on the state’s list.

But that means 461 cities have less. Those include Monterey, which is close behind Carmel at \$5,742 per resident, distant Pacific Grove, with \$2,192 revenue per resident, Seaside, with \$1,329 per resident, and Salinas, at \$1,170.

The State of California has lots of ways to even out the revenue among cities, and especially school districts, so being the 21st-richest city in the state may not be as comfy as it could be. Nevertheless, Carmel is a very rich place.

You might think it could even afford to have a decent police station.

BEST of BATES



“I could have been rich, but I settled for handsome.”

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

Sunset concerns

Dear Editor,

I am writing on behalf of the Sunset Cultural Center staff and board of trustees to share our concern over the latest draft of the housing element. Identifying Sunset Center’s north and south parking lots as the top two sites for affordable housing is alarming to us. Bearing the brunt of construction on two sides and the loss of critical parking alone threatens our very existence.

We are compelled to ask why this has been rushed with little or no time for public comments prior to closing the door on discussion Friday. The citizens of Carmel have the right to understand the impact this will have on their performing arts center and have an opportunity to comment. This appears to be a rushed process for such an important and impactful issue.

As a city partner, we are surprised not to have been engaged in a discussion,

especially since we will lose three cottage tenants and the accompanying parking. It is also unclear how the south lot fits into the suggested timeline since it’s under a lease agreement until 2032.

The density of affordable housing surrounding our campus is also a concern. Were thoughts given to how that will affect the “Crown Jewel of Carmel” as a regional performing arts destination?

We welcome an opportunity to discuss our concerns and hope for an extension of public comments before a revised draft is submitted to HCD Sacramento.

Beth Bowman, executive director,
Sunset Cultural Center

‘Quirky and unique’

Dear Editor,

“Dream Catcher,” “Suite Cherub,” “Bug’s Ear,” “At Ease,” “Lemon Drop,” “Sea Haven,” “Crooked Pine,” “Anchor House,” “Over Time,” “Casa Contenta,” “Lilacs and Laughter,” “Tickety-Boo” ... and some on the city council are proposing house numbers?

Is there any question why Carmel residents have shunned house numbers for 107 years and, instead, created unique delightful names for their cottages? Is there any doubt as to the charm and character that naming homes has contributed to Carmel-by-the-Sea? Do we really need to eliminate one more reason to smile in this world? Is there any faster way to ruin a perfectly quirky and unique tradition than to force house numbers on this community? Spare me the stories of all the inconveniences

See LETTERS page 18A

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THEY MADE HIM AN OFFER HE COULD — AND ULTIMATELY DID — REFUSE

AN OPPORTUNITY to work on a film titled “Steinbeck and the Movies” as cinematographer/co-producer seemed a dream scenario for Carmel filmmaker Robert Blaisdell. The concept was to re-enact and record scenes from movies made of Steinbeck’s novels. Henry, Jane and Peter Fonda would be the featured performers, and it would be the first time the three had worked together.

In July 1972, during preliminary shooting in Salinas, Blaisdell received a phone

He transferred to San Jose State and changed his major to photojournalism. “I was going to become a photographer,” he said. In 1951, he had accompanied his older brother Lee — a talented photographer for the United Press and the Monterey Herald — for a shoot on the set of “Clash by Night,” which was being filmed at the old Monterey Mission Inn. Seventeen-year-old Blaisdell stood in awe as co-star Marilyn Monroe stepped in front of his brother’s camera. “She took my breath away,” he said. “She was luminous, just extraordinarily beautiful and so very nice. A moment I’ll never forget.”

In 1960, after a 28-month stint in the Coast Guard,

Blaisdell began his film career, shooting educational projects for a small production company in Carmel Valley. He learned what he really wanted was to be a cinematographer, to make movies with his own company. He started Black Lion Limited in 1967 and began freelancing for Lee Mendelson Productions in Burlingame. “He’d give me a list of things to shoot for a TV special: bridges, dams, canals, whatever. I’d ask ‘How do you want them shot?’ He’d say, ‘However you want, that’s why I hired you.’” Two years later, Blaisdell was brought on staff. Because Mendelson’s company wasn’t a union signatory, Blaisdell wasn’t allowed to get on-screen credits as a cinematographer; a crucial issue for future work.

Generous expense account

“I couldn’t have cared less. My ego didn’t suffer,” he said. “I was paid very well, flew first class, stayed in the best hotels, rented cars and helicopters, shot aerials and had a generous expense account wherever I was filming in the world,” Blaisdell recalled. And his boss — Mendelson — could well afford it after his blockbuster success with Charles Schulz and the ‘Peanuts’ gang.

After Mendelson Productions closed in 1973, producer Grey Fredrickson offered Blaisdell the position of second unit director for “The Godfather Part II.” “I would

See **LIVES** page 25A



In 1974 Bleisdell spent two months in East Africa filming wildlife for a documentary. “For me that experience was a major highlight of my career,” he offered.

PHOTO/CARMEL PUBLIC LIBRARY VIA FACEBOOK

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

From a mouse house to the swamp of an ogre, via some dinosaurs

THE ALTERNATIVE reality where Jason Reisig spends much of his life is populated by scary monsters and giant bugs ... dragons, trolls and ogres ... talking donkeys and fire-breathing plants. Some are 20 feet tall.

The colors in this world are brighter than anything you’ve ever seen, and if they’re not, Reisig can make them brighter.

He felt the earth jolt the instant he realized he could make his drawings move — a phenomenon he discovered as a 22-year-old college student, amid a three-month

2” (2004), “Madagascar” (2005), “Over the Hedge” (2006), “Kung Fu Panda” (2008), “Shrek Forever After” (2010), “Home” (2016), “Smallfoot” (2018), and “Bug Therapy” (2023).

A tech achievement award

In 2018, he received a Technical Achievement Award from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences for his role in developing innovative new animation software for DreamWorks.

“It’s hard work, but if you enjoy what you do, you always feel like you’re doing something you love,” said Reisig, who, since 2019, has been a professor of animation and digital arts at the University of Southern California’s School of Cinematic Arts.

“That takes a lot of the tedium out of the equation, and it feels rewarding, knowing that you’re doing what you should be doing.”

Reisig also is an exhibiting artist at the Carmel Valley Art Association.

A creative life was Reisig’s destiny from childhood. His earliest and warmest memories from when he was a toddler include watching his artistic mother, Shelley Aliotti, sketch pictures and paint at her easel, then creating his own drawings in an adjacent room.

A note from kindergarten

When he was in kindergarten, his mom was surprised to receive a note from Kay Goines (1922-2007), his teacher at Carmel River School, who was struggling to include Reisig in the art lessons she was teaching to his classmates.

“I guess she didn’t really know what to do with me because they were doing their assignments, and I was going way beyond that,” said Reisig, who, at age 5, had drawn the entire cast of “The Wizard of Oz” dancing down the Yellow Brick Road.

At 6, while his mom was pregnant with his half-brother, Gianna Aliotti, Jason designed two birth announcements — one for a boy, the other for a girl — both adorned with “Peanuts” characters.

‘Looney Toons’ and ‘Star Wars’

His daily drawings frequently included the “Looney Tunes” cartoon characters he adored — Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd — and renderings of cowboys and horses.

The first “Star Wars” movie, which came out in 1977, inspired much of his art over the next several years as he attended Tularcitos Elementary School and Carmel Middle School.

Pre-high school, Reisig took classes in sculpture, painting, macrame, Japanese ink painting, and oil painting.

“I’m a big believer in what might be called

See **ARTIST** page 26A

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

internship at Walt Disney Feature Animation in Florida in summer 1993.

“It wasn’t exactly what I was going to school for at the time,” said Reisig, a Carmel Valley kid who was majoring in Illustration at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena.

A new obsession

“But the first time I saw the circle of a drawn ball move ... that was really powerful,” he said. “I realized I could create movement and acting and performances for characters I could draw. That’s when my obsession started switching over.”

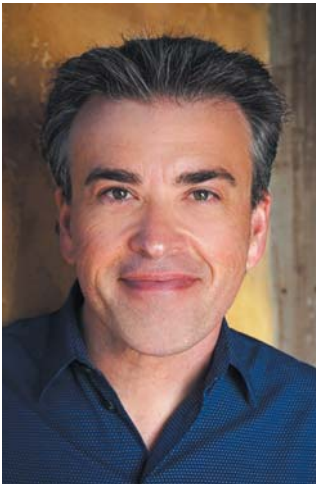
The years since have been a thrill ride for Reisig, whose resume includes 13 years with DreamWorks Animation with job titles like senior animator, supervising animator, head of character animation, animation department global lead, and department chair for character animation, among others.

He also had shorter stints with Warner Bros. Animation, Sony Pictures Image-works, and Mindshow, adding to a body of work that includes “Antz” (1998), “Shrek” (2001), “Stuart Little 2” (2002), “Christmas with the Kranks” (2004), “Spider-Man



PHOTO/SHELLEY ALIOTTI

Jason Reisig forged a successful Hollywood career as an animator for DreamWorks projects like ‘Shrek,’ and shows his fine-art drawings at the Carmel Valley Art Association.



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Christian churches face a changing culture with optimism

By ELAINE HESSER

AS MANY U.S. churches look to the future amid a culture-wide decline in attendance at religious services and belief in a supreme being, they see myriad challenges — including declining numbers of full-time clergy, lower membership numbers and aging congregations. Local faith leaders interviewed for this story had thoughts on how to face those situations, and all embodied the optimism you would expect from people whose faith is based on a belief in a loving God and life after death.

Mainline denominations see continuing drops in seminary enrollment, although the numbers of seminarians and vacant pulpits are difficult to pin down. Pastors must be financially savvy, understand public relations, stay informed on legal issues (ADA accessibility, human resources, property management, etc.) and provide counseling to members on a wide range of issues.

Peter Barnes, a longtime minister and the interim pastor of Carmel Presbyterian Church, said, that 40 percent of the pastors

in his denomination will likely retire by 2029. The Rev. Karla Lundin, pastor of the Church of the Wayfarer, said she’s also seeing many retirements. However, she and others said leaders of the congregation can fill some of the gaps.

Methodist churches, like the Church of the Wayfarer, have always emphasized lay — non-clergy — participation, Lundin said, and the denomination has programs to certify lay ministers who can perform most of the duties of an ordained pastor. The Rev. Amber Sturgess of All Saints’ Episcopal church said that her denomination “encouraged the laity to discover their gifts in ministry,” as well.

Sharing pastors

In 2021, the Vatican reported that while the Catholic church was losing priests and men and women in religious orders (monks and nuns), the number of permanently ordained deacons, who can fulfill many of a priest’s duties, was growing. Those deacons — like David Ford of the Diocese of Monterey, who was interviewed for this

story — can be married and usually have jobs outside the church.

The idea of part-time ministers isn’t new, said Sturgess. “In the future, some churches may move toward part-time clergy or a few churches may share a pastor. When I was in seminary there was talk that some clergy, particularly in rural areas, would need to be bi-vocational.” She continued, “St. Paul was a tent-maker and an apostle. I grew up in a rural area and my grandfather was a full-time farmer and a part-time minister.”

There were also mentions of multiple churches sharing one pastor, as used to be common in rural areas.

David Cohen, from the public information office of the Jehovah’s Witnesses in Southern California, explained that “following the model of first-century Christianity, Jehovah’s Witnesses have no clergy-laity division. All baptized Witnesses are ordained ministers and share in the preaching and teaching work,” without pay. The lead pastor of Monterey’s non-denominational Shoreline Church, Kevin Harney, said the group finds and develops its own leaders.

Seeking tomorrow in yesterday

Everyone The Pine Cone contacted made some reference to historic forms of Christianity as possible templates for ways to move forward in a more secular culture.

Barnes said, “We can take some cues from what the church has done over the centuries,” describing congregations as

“communities of light” and “patches of green amidst a burnt landscape.” He believes the church has been “kicked to the margins,” of modern culture, and he worries about people who take a “spiritual cafeteria approach,” taking a bit from one



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

At churches like Carmel’s Church of the Wayfarer, new strategies have been developed to cope with declining attendance and even a shortage of pastors.

tradition and a bit from another as it suits them. “That’s making God in their own image. It won’t last or stand up in the crucible of crisis,” he said. Barnes was part of the Jesus Movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s, when youth — especially college students — turned to Christianity in large numbers, and he sees the possibility of another major revival.

Sturgess believes that being counter-cultural dates to the first-century church. “When we become too much like the culture, we lose touch with the real presence of Christ, and that’s what people are hungry for,” she said. “The church is on its own journey, and it’s Christ’s church, not ours. I feel very hopeful that in this identity crisis, we find our real identity in Christ

See **FAITH** page 27A



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LIVES

From page 23A

have had to live in L.A. with the smog, the freeways, the traffic — I couldn’t do that, I hated it there.” Aware it would have been a great career move, he nevertheless decided to resurrect his little company in Carmel, make documentaries and live a simpler life. “Looking back, I think I did the right thing,” he added.

‘The way it was’

In 1974, Blaisdell spent two months in East Africa filming wildlife for a documentary. “For me that experience was a highlight of my career,” he offered. He worked on numerous film projects in New York in the 1980s for the venerable Guild Hall of East Hampton — a museum, performing arts and education center founded in 1931 and a testing ground for the likes of Jackson Pollock, Bob Fosse, Helen Hayes, Tennessee Williams and Anne Jackson. While filming, he stayed on Long Island, courtesy of arts patron Carolyn Tyson, in a 40-acre oceanfront compound of historic homes with such luminaries as actress Lee Radziwill (Jacqueline Kennedy’s sister) and Ralph and Ricky Ann Lauren as neighbors.

While lunching at the Hog Breath’s Inn with Clint Eastwood, Doug McClure and the financial backer of a documentary Blaisdell was filming for Eastwood, Blaisdell mentioned footage of Big Sur he’d shot in the ’60s. McClure and the moneyman

were interested. They finished the film in 1972, narrated by McClure and titled, “Big Sur: The Way it Was.” It wasn’t until 1995 that it was digitally remastered by Endorphin Productions of Pacific Grove and aired on PBS station KTEH in San Jose. The cinematography is dazzling. Interviews with locals, tourists, motorcyclists, those with business interests, hippies, author Henry Miller and poet Eric Barker were included. There was minimal editing as Blaisdell wanted the voices of Big Sur — like Nepenthe co-owner Lolly Fassett stating, “I have a feeling Big Sur chooses its own” — to be the storyline. Many consider it to be the quintessential story of the rugged and beautiful region and its people.

It would take many more pages to do justice to the volume of masterful work created by Blaisdell during more than five decades and 70-plus movies.

At nearly 90, he has won film festival awards from San Francisco to New York and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts. His films are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art in New York.

I asked, “If a documentary were made of you, what would you like people to take from it?” He answered, “I’m proof you don’t have to go to film school. A film degree is useless. In the movie business, they want to see what you’ve done. And most of all: Be free, live a good life, get along with everybody, always stay creative, and if you’re very lucky like I’ve been, you’ll make it to retirement.”

Bach Festival seeks volunteers

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

ON SATURDAY, April 6, the Carmel Bach Festival will hold its Volunteer Job Faire at Sunset Center from 1 to 3 p.m. In addition to information about volunteering at the venerable music festival, which will take place July 13-27, there will be refreshments, prizes and a performance by

a Young Artists’ Showcase musician. The festival reported that 100 percent of the 2023 volunteers planned to return, and all of them would also recommend signing up to one of their friends, so it must be a pretty good gig. Visit signupgenius.com/go/2024_Volunteer_Job_Faire# for more info and to fill out forms electronically.



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ARTIST

From page 23A

cross-training,” he said. “Anything that’s artistic and creative helps you become well-rounded and prepares you to

jump into whatever comes next.” With a clear trajectory toward an artistic career, Reisig was enrolled at York School, where the art instructor was his aunt, Susan Manchester — Shelley Aliotti’s sister-in-law — also a prolific Peninsula artist to this day. “Her classroom basically became my homeroom,” he said. “If I wasn’t in some other class, I was in the art room

with her,” he said. “I also took summer courses and got private tutoring from her, which pushed me to another level.” Reisig graduated from York in 1988, then enrolled in Pasadena’s ArtCenter College of Design, still unsure of his direction. “I knew I wanted to draw and paint and be artistic, but I didn’t know yet how I wanted to apply it, or what direction I wanted to pursue,” he said. His brief internship with Disney altered his course, particularly after Steven Spielberg’s “Jurassic Park” was released that summer. That movie, said Reisig, revealed the astounding possibilities of computer animation in the film industry.

Teaching penguins to walk

He returned to Pasadena for his final year at ArtCenter, a college without an animation department. “What they did have was an amazing computer lab, which was mostly for students who were doing things like car design. But they had the same software that Disney used,” he said. “So I’d be sitting in a room full of car designers, learning how to use those tools to make animated penguins walk.” In 1994 — the year he got his diploma — Reisig found a job as an applications engineer for a company called Alias/Wavefront, where he worked for two years before he was hired by Pacific Data Images, the animation production company that became PDI/DreamWorks in 2000. In 2001, when “Shrek” won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature, its team of animators, which included Reisig, realized they had changed the industry. “Until ‘Shrek,’ if it was animation, it was Disney. If it wasn’t Disney, nobody went to see it, nobody knew anything about it, and it wasn’t successful,” he said. “DreamWorks kind of proved that other companies could do it.” Gianni Aliotti, Reisig’s brother, followed him to ArtCenter and worked nearly six years for Lucasfilm before becoming the visual effects supervisor for Goodbye Kansas Studios in Stockholm, Sweden.

Talented kids

Reisig’s 25-year-old daughter, Emma, has been a junior editor with Hazmat Productions since 2022, and is also an exhibiting artist at the Carmel Valley Art Association, the co-op founded in 2006 by her grandparents, Shelley and John Aliotti. His son, Aidan, is finishing his senior year at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., majoring in biology and chemistry with plans to become an emergency room doctor. Reisig met his wife, Rachel, at ArtCenter College of Design, from which she earned a degree in advertising design in 1994. She is creator director and senior graphic designer for LEARN Behavioral in Culver City. And Reisig, today, thoroughly enjoys life as a full-time professor at USC, sharing his knowledge of animation with new generations of artists. “I’m teaching kids today who weren’t even born when ‘Shrek’ came out,” he said. “That’s pretty amazing to imagine.” His teaching position also affords him enough time to work on animation projects and has allowed him to get back to his original love, two-dimensional art. His graphite and charcoal drawings are on display at Carmel Valley Art Association, where he is a longtime exhibiting artist, and his portfolio can be viewed at Instagram.com/jason_reisig_artwork. Dennis Taylor is a freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.com.

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FAITH

From page 24A

rather than in an institution.”

Although there are points of vigorous doctrinal disagreement — including on abortion and homosexuality — there were many common views on how best to serve the community and attract new believers to the faith.

Service

Harney strongly believes that actions speak louder than words — feeding the hungry, helping those in need and helping spread the Gospels. Shoreline’s staff includes pastors whose focuses include marriage, the military, women, and youth and families. The church provides police chaplains to Monterey P.D. and runs a busy food pantry.

Methodism has always been “the big tent” church, where everyone can feel included, Lundin said. John Wesley, the denomination’s founder, asked “Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?” on difficult issues, while Barnes cited a centuries-old Christian aphorism, “In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity.”

Sturgess said that she’s seeing people who “gave up on church many years ago,” but who visit and find that the things they disliked are no longer there. “We’re more open and inclusive,” she said.

Ford pointed to many ways in which Pope Francis has sought to bring

Catholicism back to its roots in Christ’s ministry and make it more welcoming. He said that the Pope sees the church as a “field hospital for the wounded — world-wounded and people-wounded — those oppressed by war and poverty, those fleeing oppression, and migrants.”

And, Ford said, parishes should reflect upon questions other denominations are also asking: “Do people find Sunday services life-giving? Is the music uplifting? Is the congregation welcoming? Is there encouragement to serve?”

Jehovah’s Witnesses, of course, have never been shy about sharing their faith, whether it’s knocking on doors or standing on sidewalks and distributing reading materials. For the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, local spokesperson Sean Dalida said, “Hundreds of Witnesses from six congregations volunteered to participate at key locations despite inclement weather across the Peninsula,” to share “a positive message.”

Demographic challenges

Youth programs, often central to church growth, can fall into vicious circles if young adults move away from home and/or faith, and there are no kids to take their places. Without a lot of children, it’s difficult to have a dynamic Sunday school or teen group experience. Absent those things, families may seek out other spiritual venues or just get used to staying home Sunday mornings.



Peter Barnes

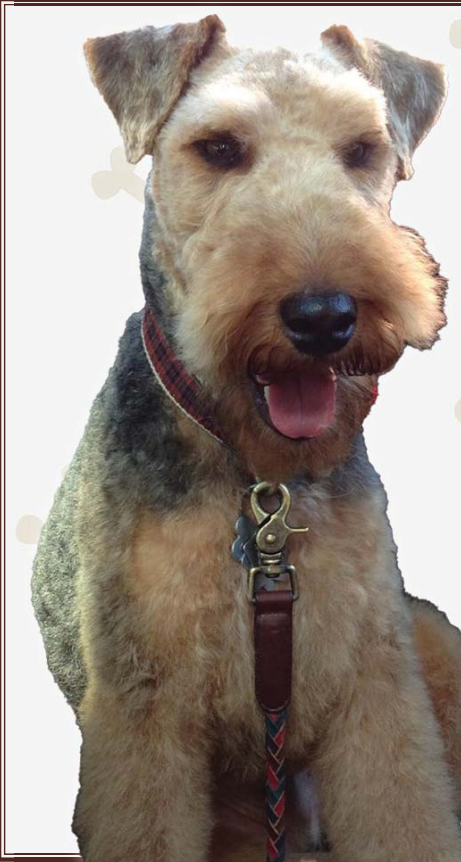
The aging local population was another concern. The deaths of older congregants are difficult beyond the personal loss to friends and family, pastors said. When elder parishioners die, the community loses swaths of institutional memory and examples of lives lived in the faith. They often volunteer to do the bulk of the work, whether it’s serving on boards and committees, working to maintain buildings and gardens, or being ushers and readers in weekly services. And, although data isn’t readily available, organizations that monitor religion and charitable giving believe that baby boomers and Generation-Xers are usually the most generous donors.

Whether they advocate hewing hard to the infallibility of the Bible or are open to less literal interpretations, and wherever

they fall on the continuum between traditionalists and progressives regarding cultural issues, all the leaders and spokespersons interviewed agree that there are core Christian beliefs that transcend those differences.

All indicated that they wanted to be welcoming, wherever people might be on their spiritual journeys, and they think that those journeys are a vital part of human life.

They said churches provide places — some called them “sacred spaces” — for people to mark life transitions, find healing, and meet a God who created, loves and redeems humankind. Because of their faith, hope inevitably pervades their perspectives. And hope is still very much in demand.



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S/Michael Ricketts
Date signed: Feb. 15, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Feb. 16, 2024.
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Publication Dates: Feb. 23; Mar. 1, 8, 15, 2024 (PC 242)

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Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 302)

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CARMEL PINE CONE
Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 303)

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S/Gerald D. Vinci, CEO
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Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 307)

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Publication Dates: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024. (PC 306)

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Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 307)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24CV000785
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TIME: 8:30 a.m.

DEPT: 14
The address of the court is 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The Carmel Pine Cone, Carmel.
(s) Thomas W. Wells
Judge of the Superior Court
Date filed: Feb. 28, 2024
Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 308)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20240387
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **AH ART & DESIGN STUDIO, 16 Yankee Point Drive, Carmel, CA 93923.**
Registered Owner(s): ALMA DELIA MARQUEZ HEFFERNAN, 16 Yankee Point Drive, Carmel, CA 93923.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Feb. 21, 2024.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
S/Alma Heffernan
Date signed: Feb. 23, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Feb. 23, 2024.
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
Publication Dates: Mar. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 (PC 309)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20240252
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. GLOBALLY YOU LSP 2. PINK GLITTER UNICORN SMM 599 Irving Ave., Apt. 3, Monterey, CA 93940.**
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: GLOBALLY YOU LLC.
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 24, 2018.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*
S/Erendira Saenz, CEO
Date: Feb. 2, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Feb. 2, 2024.
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024. (PC 314)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20240468
Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DEXTER COLLISION REPAIR, 218 Boronda Rd. #D3, Salinas, CA 93907.**
Registered Owner(s): CESAR TREVINO ALLAYCO, 1017 Sieber Ave. #2, Salinas, CA 93905.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 4, 2024.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
S/Trish J. Sparling
Date signed: Feb. 29, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Feb. 29, 2024.
NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
Publication Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 (PC 318)

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The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

Bucket beats the buzzer, breaks hearts and dashes Padres' dreams

‘THEY’VE PROMISED that dreams can come true — but forgot to mention that nightmares are dreams, too,” is a rhyming observation from Irish poet Oscar Wilde, who, whether he knew it or not, was describing the built-in cruelty of competitive sports: The higher we soar, the more it hurts to hit the ground.

Carmel High’s magical boys basketball season came to a sadistic end Saturday in the quarterfinal round of the

son’s boys soccer team was halted in the championship game of the Central Coast Section Division 4 playoffs, a heartbreaking home field loss that ended the Pirates’ school-record 20-game unbeaten streak.

‘This close ...’

Heartfelt congratulations and words of condolence only go so far toward combating the what-ifs and if-onlys — inevitably part of coming “this close.” The scabbing will take a while.

The anguish of Carmel’s 77-74 loss to Ygnacio Valley in Concord is amplified by the fact that they overcame a 9-point fourth-quarter deficit, taking a 2-point lead with 2:18 left on a 3-pointer by junior guard Simeon Brown.

With the game tied 74-74, Brown tried to win it with 4 seconds left — again from 3-point range — missing off the rim with two teammates under the basket. The rebound fell into the hands of Ygnacio’s 6-foot-4 junior guard, Antonio Kellogg Jr.

Buzzer-beater from 35 feet

Kellogg whirled and hurled a frantic downcourt pass to teammate Zaire King, who was at full-sprint when he caught the ball at the half-court line. King dribbled once, and then, with one second left, launched a running, one-handed mortar shot that fell through the net as the final buzzer sounded.

The on-court jubilation that ensued for Ygnacio Valley’s players and fans is likely to leave an everlasting imprint on the Padres, whose 2023-24 legacy includes a share of the Pacific Coast League Gabilan Division title, the school’s third CCS championship since 2019, a first-round NorCal victory over Venture Academy, and a 25-4 overall record.

Some bitter irony: Gabilan co-champ Monterey won the NorCal’s Division 4 crown Saturday, leaving the Padres and their fans to wonder why their



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Jackson Lloyd, Carmel’s 6-foot-6 junior, was the Gabilan Division co-MVP, helping the Padres to league and CCS titles, and the NorCal quarterfinals.

team was assigned to battle bigger schools in the state’s Division 3 bracket.

Battle of great defenses

The Stevenson Pirates won just once in their first five soccer games this season, then never lost again until they fell 2-0 in Saturday’s CCS finals against George Washington High, a San Francisco-based school with an enrollment of 2,068.

The visiting Eagles scored a goal in each half, the first on a penalty kick, against a Stevenson defense that had allowed one or fewer goals in 20 of its 26 games and held 16 opponents scoreless this season.

Washington whitewashed all three of its CCS opponents en route to the title.

The Pirates finished with a 16-4-6 overall record, and were 9-0-3 in the PCAL Cypress Division, co-champions

See **SPORTS** next page

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

Northern California Division 3 Championships when an opposing player heaved a game-winning, 35-foot prayer into the basket as the buzzer sounded.

Earlier that day, the months-long thrill ride of Steven-



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Division MVP Zoe Allen was one of three Santa Catalina players named to the Santa Lucia Division’s first team after the Cougars won the championship.

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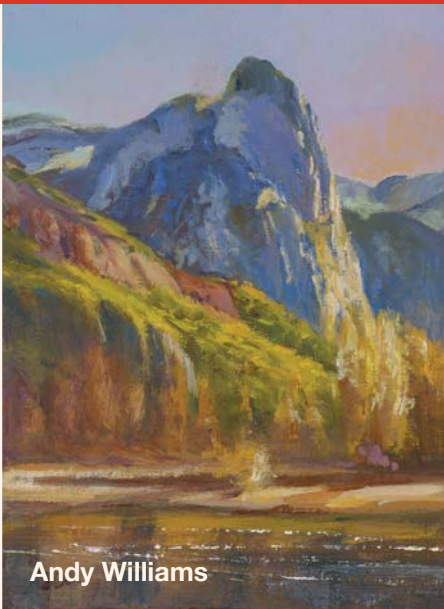
58 CAA painters, sculptors, printmakers, mosaic artists, weavers, and illustrators will each deliver two of their latest and greatest artworks, each one representing that artist’s signature style and medium. As always the exhibition will be accompanied by the “little red book,” the instantly-recognizable and always complimentary March exhibition catalog.



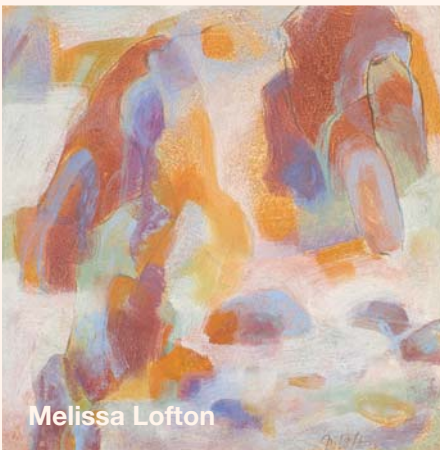
Maria Boisvert



Susan Reith



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SPORTS

From previous page

with North County. Nine Stevenson’s starters were underclassmen this season, including Brandler, the goalie, the division’s Defensive Player of the Year, plus first-team All-Cypress picks Charles Elmore and Santiago Esquino Espejo, and second-teamers Zach Da Silva Henry Blaxter, and Gabriel Hau. Spencer Stornetta, a senior, also got second-team notice.

Four of Carmel’s five starters will return for the 2024-25 season, including Gabilan Division co-MVP Jackson Lloyd, two-time All-Gabilan selection Brown, and second-teamers Warren Blut and Hudson Rutherford.

“Wait’ll next year,” as always, is a lament and a battle cry, in equal parts.

■ PCAL honors

Joining the aforementioned Stevenson players on the All-Cypress boys soccer team was Carmel’s Ryder Scheid, with Padres teammate Tyler Hendrick on the second team. Stevenson’s girls soccer team, which won the Santa

Lucia crown with a 10-0-2 division, was represented on the all-division team by MVP Chloe Vogel, a midfielder, Defensive Player of the Year Siena Bullock, goalie Georgia Bonifas, and forward Ava Edwards. Second-team Pirates were Macey Torres, Mia Schlenker, Nini Stewart, and Mack Bellomo.

Carmel’s Ryan Lott earned first-team All-Mission honors as a sophomore.

After winning the Cypress Division with a 12-0 record (15-1 overall), York’s Alessia Torrente was voted division MVP, Samantha Ortiz-Naranjo was named Offensive Player of the Year, and Eleanor Johnson and Izabella Tejada earned first-team plaudits, along with Olivia Da Silva of Catalina. Second-team recognition went to York’s Alexa Arango Cuevas, Sarah Tate, Rose Finn and Minx Adelman, and Catalina’s Delilah Fujita.

Multiple Santa Catalina basketball players received postseason recognition after the Cougars won the Santa Lucia Division championship with an 11-1 record. Zoe Allen was named MVP of the Santa Lucia, and teammate Sofia Luna was selected Defensive Player of the Year for Catalina, which also placed Bianca Fritz on the first team and Ellisia Corona and Skyler Smith on the second team. York’s Asya Wilson was the division’s Offensive Player of the Year and a first-team player.

■ Alumni watch

Galloway signs with MBFC: Carmel High alum Pierce Galloway has signed a one-year contract to play professional soccer with Monterey Bay Football Club, which plays its home games at Cardinale Stadium on the CSU Monterey Bay campus.

The 22-year-old midfielder played collegiate soccer at Willamette University (Class of ’22), where he started 63 matches with the BearCats, recording 20 goals and 10 assists during his career, including 12 goals and six assists in his final season. He completed his NCAA eligibility last season at Old Dominion.

“We’re happy to add Pierce to this team,” said Frank Yallop, head coach of MBFC. “He’s a local kid who started with our MBFC2 team last summer, and he’s the first player from that team to make the transition to our first team.”

Galloway is one of six midfielders on the roster for MBFC, which plays its home opener at 7 p.m. March 16 against the Phoenix Rising Football Club, then hosts the Rhode Island FC at 3 p.m. on March 24.

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



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Junior co-captain Alessia Torrente, MVP of the Cypress Division, helped York to an unbeaten regular season and the CCS playoffs from her right wing position.

CALENDAR

March 9 – I Cantori di Carmel presents Un Ballo in Maschera,” a Venetian style fundraiser. This evening of opera and Italian fun begins 5 p.m. at the Carmel Woman’s Club. Masks provided! Tickets: ICDC. eventbrite.com

March 12 – A Musical Afternoon with POPS! Join us for a performance with the Monterey County POPS! Orchestra, 11 a.m. to noon. They’ll perform all of your favorite pops and patriotic songs. Call (831) 800-1673 today to reserve your spot.

March 14 – Sons In Retirement (SIR) monthly luncheon at Bayonet Grill, Seaside. Guest speaker is Whalefest Director Mary Alice Cerrito Fettis. Email Al Williams at alw831@comcast.net for more info.

March 14 – Solving Homelessness: A Community Conversation – free and open to all, 2 p.m. at Sunset Center, Carmel. Presented by Community Human Services and Gathering for Women in honor of the third anniversary of the Casa de Noche Buena homeless shelter. RSVPs requested via rsvp@chservices.org or bit.ly/solvingchs

March 15 – Montage Health is celebrating its 90th anniversary at the Monterey Convention Center. The annual meeting and luncheon will feature nationally acclaimed author and speaker **Dr. Eric Topol**. Topol is a leading expert and authority on Artificial Intelligence and the future of medicine. Tickets for the annual meeting luncheon are \$50 per guest and can be purchased at [Montagehealth.org/annualmeeting](https://montagehealth.org/annualmeeting).

March 16 – O’Baum & O’Blume’s St. Patrick’s Day Feast! Dine in or take out noon to 8 p.m. Order “The Works” (the BEST corned beef w/all the fixings), plus appetizers, add’l entrées, soup, salad, house-baked soda bread, desserts, beer and wine. Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito, Carmel Valley. Reservations (831) 659-0400.

March 17 – The Monterey County Composers’ Forum presents “Emerald Vibes,” a 3 p.m. concert of new music by local composers and songwriters. Hear works by Benjamin Belew, David Canright, Maretha Davel, Paula Kaiser, Carleton Macy, Edward Moncrief, Douglas Ovens, Julie Rossman, Dale Victorine and Rick Yramategui. Special guest artists include Cindy Ovens, piano, and The Youth Music Monterey County Woodwind Quartet. Concert is at Hidden Valley Music Seminars, 104 West Carmel Valley Road; \$15 admission. Covid vaccinations are required and masks are optional. More info: Carleton Macy at Macy@macalester.edu

March 17 – “A Reflection on an Unbridled St. Mary’s Party for Paddy, 3 p.m. at St. Mary’s By The Sea Episcopal Church, Pacific Grove. Music by The Weeds and Stuart Mason, featuring Irish dancer Marissa Gilman. Pre-concert show by The McMonarchs (St. Mary’s teen band), and Banish Misfortune. Food and libations available. Tickets at www.celticsociety.org.

March 18 – “Approach to Life” – Tom O’Neal, celebrated photographer and artist, will be interviewed by Neal Hotelling about his “fascination with all things creative” and the lifelong journey that it has taken him on. 2 p.m. Carmel Woman’s Club, San Carlos and Ninth, Carmel-by-the-Sea. Open to the public; \$10 guests/ members free.

March 29 – Cool Cat Jazz Happy Hour – Enjoy a cool-cat, laid-back afternoon at Madonna Gardens as we host the Moon Glow Jazz Band! Sip on refreshments and make friends as we relax the afternoon away, 2:30 to 4 p.m. Call (831) 800-1673 today to RSVP!

April 23 – Authors Douglas Brinkley and Dave Eggers share their insights on what it means to be human in the “Accelerated Age of Everything!” This Carmel Public Library fundraising event begins 8 p.m. at the Sunset Center Theater, Carmel. VIP admission (\$175) with reception, wines and book sales and signings begins 6:30 p.m. General admission is \$45-\$75 and begins 7 p.m. For details, email info@carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org or call (831) 624-2811.

To advertise, email anne@carmelpinecone.com
\$0.50 per word (\$25 min. charge)
• Add a photo for your event for only \$25 •



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Stevenson midfielder Chloe Vogel earned Santa Lucia Division MVP status while leading the Pirates, 10-0-2, to a championship.

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This Week

Live Music,
Clubs and Events

Lovett unplugs at Sunset, stage show celebrates ‘The Other Mozart’

A FOUR-TIME Grammy Award winner as well as a real cowboy, singer and guitarist **Lyle Lovett** plays Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., at Sunset Center.

Serving up his signature sound, which brings together country, jazz, western swing, folk, gospel, and blues,

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Lovett will be backed by an acoustic trio. He’s recorded a dozen albums, including “The Road to Ensenada,” which won a Grammy for Best Country Album in 1997, and his most recent, “Twelfth of June,” which came out two years ago.

A lifelong rodeo enthusiast, Lovett is a member of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Tickets start at \$85. Sunset Center is located at San

Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 620-2048 or visit sunsetcenter.org.

Through words and music, actress and playwright **Sylvia Milo** brings to life the legacy of a composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s sister, Maria Anna, also known as Nannerl, when she presents “The Other Mozart” Saturday, 7:30 p.m., at Sunset Center.

Written by Milo, “The Other Mozart” is based on “facts, stories, and lines pulled directly from the Mozart family’s humorous and heartbreaking letters,” and shines a light on “a brilliant musician whose story has been relegated for centuries as a footnote to that of her brother.”

Tickets start at \$49.



A Grammy Award-winning singer and guitarist, Lyle Lovett plays an acoustic concert Tuesday at Sunset Center. The music starts at 7:30 p.m.

■ Masked ball raises \$\$

To raise money for its concerts and programs, the **I Cantori di Carmel** choral group presents a Venetian masked ball, “Un Ballo in Maschera,” Saturday, 5 p.m., at the Carmel Woman’s Club.

“We’ll provide the mask and transport you to Venezia for a night, showcasing some of the repertoire we’ll be featuring at our ‘Spring Concert: Opera Under The Stars’ at the Forest Theater in May,” the choral group announced. “Your presence will make a big difference, as all proceeds will go towards nurturing and promoting the art of choral music as we expand our programs and bring more symphonic choral music performances and education programs to Monterey Bay.”

Attendees are also welcome to bring their own — preferably Venetian-style — masks. Tickets start at \$55. For more details, visit icantori.org.

■ Live music March 8-14

Albatross Ridge Winery and Kitchen in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Lindsay Beery** (Friday at 5 p.m.), **Magenta Spreen** with singer and guitarist **Talmon Owens** and singer **Kristen Gradwohl** (“dreamy soundscapes and vocal harmonies coupled with rich storytelling and mindful melodies,” Saturday at 5 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.

Barmel — singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Sunday at 6 p.m.). Carmel Square, San Carlos and Eighth.

Bernardus Lodge & Spa in Carmel Valley — pianist **Mathias Morris** (classical, Friday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea’s Fault Duo** (jazz and pop, Saturday at noon), pianist

See MUSIC page 34A



Singer and guitarist Alex Lucero plays Sunday at De Tierra Vineyards tasting room. The music begins at 3 p.m.



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Celebrating women, feting the Irish, and raising money for seniors

THE CARMEL Foundation, which serves members aged 55 and older by providing low-cost housing and meals, classes and social gatherings, rentals of medical equipment and other services, will host its annual Phil-anthropic Foodies event March 22 at La Playa Hotel at Camino Real and Ninth.

The nonprofit organization “has elevated the gourmet dinner experience,” development director Jen Hollingsworth said. The feast honoring the foundation’s support-

Soup to Nuts

ers will be prepared by La Playa executive chef Boris Ilabaca and will feature wines from Laird Family Estate.

“Laird Family wines are of elegance and polish, crafted to draw attention to detail, resulting in wines that are intended to be savored slowly so that their inherent intricacies may be recognized, each one reflective of its origin,” according to Hollingsworth.

Ilabaca has created a menu that includes a salad of Salinas bitter greens paired with 2021 estate sauvignon blanc, white-wine poached pears with 2019 Red Hen Ranch chardonnay, and grilled ribeye with 2019 estate cabernet sauvignon. (Vegetarians can opt for English pea, artichoke and fava bean risotto when they reserve their spots.)

The event will begin with a Champagne reception at 6 p.m., followed by the seated dinner at 6:45 p.m., and is open to the public at a cost of \$165 per person. RSVP by March 8 to (831) 620-8708 or carmelfoundation.org.

■ Getting your Irish on

March 17 is on a Sunday this year, but we suspect the St. Patrick’s Day observances will still be more about spirits than spirituality. Still, Other Brother Beer in Seaside is trying to get the day off to a marginally healthy start with a 5K fun run starting at 9 a.m. The event will not only serve as a way to run off some of the beer, but it will also help launch the restaurant’s new brunch menu. After the run, StretchLab, which appears to be opening a new studio in Carmel Rancho, will help everyone stay loose. Entry is \$30; go to Eventbrite to register.



Peter B’s Brewpub in the Portola Hotel at Alvarado Street and Del Monte Avenue in Monterey will offer holiday-themed drinks like the brewery’s Molly’s by Golly Irish stout, some green beer, Paddy’s Irish whiskey shots and Irish Car Bombs — the Celts’ answer to a boiler-maker, usually made with a glass of stout, some Irish cream liqueur, coffee liqueur and Irish whiskey.

The party goes from 4 to 10 p.m., with Happy Hours from 4 to 6 and 9 to 10. From 6 to 9 p.m., guests will be able to enjoy live music with Dave Holodiloff’s Celtic Trio.

Putt ’er there

The Carmel Chamber won’t miss the opportunity to combine business with pleasure, albeit a few days early. On the 13th, it’s hosting a mixer at the Links Club in Carmel Plaza. From 5 to 7 p.m., members and the public are invited to connect over “delicious seasonal bites and refreshing sips.”

It’s also an opportunity to play a bucket-list course on one of the Links’ simulators and maybe enjoy some friendly putting competition, too. It’s \$15 apiece for mem-



Peter B’s Brewpub in Monterey’s Portola Hotel will be serving up green beer and other special items on St. Patrick’s Day starting at 4 p.m. For something sweet, Café Carmel is whipping up themed baked goods.

bers and \$30 for everyone else. Visit carmelchamber.org and use the Events tab to find the mixer and registration information.

Magical and delicious

Café Carmel has a rainbow of sweets (heavy on the green, pot of gold not included) for St. Patrick’s Day. Themed cookies and special cupcakes are on the menu, along with chef/owner Sarah Cook’s savory Irish soda bread. And, for a change of pace, the Café is offering a green goddess smoothie, which it describes as “a refreshing and healthy option.” Is it a hangover remedy? You decide. Café Carmel is on Ocean Avenue near Mission and can be reached at (831) 624-3870, or browse and order at cafecarmel.com.

■ Two helpings of Bernardus

Although the United States had a National Woman’s Day in 1908, the nation didn’t fully embrace the idea

See **FOOD** next page

Time to Spring Forward

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Accomplished winemaker, Kristy Melton, of Freemark Abbey, will share her tales of passion and inspiration as she guides you on a sensory journey through her exceptional wines perfectly paired with a four-course menu, crafted by Executive Chef, Christian Ojeda.

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 | 6:00pm

\$125 PER PERSON, plus tax & gratuity | Limited seating. Call to reserve.

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FOOD & WINE

FOOD

From previous page

until much later. In 1972, Molly Murphy MacGregor, a high school history teacher in Santa Rosa, found herself struggling to find the resources to answer a student’s



Bernardus Lodge’s executive chef Christian Ojeda is bringing his artful and fresh take on food to a March 13 dinner celebrating Women’s History Month and to his monthly tasting menu, which for this month is all about fresh peas.

question about the women’s liberation movement — and, by one account, was surprised how little even she knew about women’s history. In 1978, a group that included MacGregor launched Women’s History Week in Sonoma County. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter declared March 8 the official kick-off of National Women’s History Week, and in 1987, Congress designated March as Women’s History Month. Closer to home, Bernardus Lodge & Spa at 415 W. Carmel Valley Road, in

partnership with Jackson Family Wines, is celebrating the month-long observance by hosting a dinner March 13 at 6 p.m. honoring winemaker Kristy Melton of Freemark Abbey Winery (part of Jackson Family). Executive chef Christian Ojeda assembled a four-course menu designed to complement quaffs selected by Melton, who reportedly chose her career because it let her combine science with her love of fine wine. Ojeda’s menu starts with salt-roasted beets and local goat cheese brûlée, crystallized pistachio, wild arugula, and charred Meyer lemon honey vinaigrette, all paired with a 2022 sauvignon blanc. That’s followed by what a scallop and pork belly combination accompanied by cauliflower couscous and foraged mushrooms, with a 2021 chardonnay. Australian wagyu steak with sage-roasted carrot purée, potato-leek gratin, and black garlic reduction alongside a 2020 merlot is next, and the meal ends with a butter-milk pound cake with apricot-orange compote paired with a 2022 viognier. The evening costs \$125 per person plus tax and gratuity. For reservations, call (831) 877-1099 or visit opentable.com/lucia-restaurant-and-bar-bernardus-lodge.

Peas, please

The wine dinner isn’t the only news from Bernardus. Ojeda has also unveiled his March tasting menu, which highlights spring peas and shoots. For \$125, you can indulge in a four-course culinary garden

See WINE next page



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FOOD & WINE

MUSIC

From page 31A

Martan Mann (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Sunday at noon), singer and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Tuesday at noon). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Saturday at 12:30 p.m.). 46800 Highway 1.

Bon Ton LeRoy’s Lighthouse Smokehouse in Monterey — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Alligator** (blues, zydeco, and Cajun, Saturday at 7 p.m.), **The Dave Holodiloff Duo** (bluegrass and jazz, Wednesday at noon), Open Mic Night

(Thursday at 7 p.m.). 794 Lighthouse Ave.

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

Cibo restaurant in Monterey — **The Dave Holodiloff Duo** (bluegrass and jazz, Sunday at 7 p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and singer 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.

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 6:30 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.), guitarist **Richard Devinck** (classical, Sunday at 6

p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). Lincoln and Seventh, Carmel.

De Tierra Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist **Alex Lucero** (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth, Carmel.

Deja Blue in Seaside — **The Kenny Stahl All-Star Band** (jazz, Wednesday at 6 p.m.). 500 Broadway.

Estéban Restaurant in Monterey — guitarist **Catherine Broz** (Spanish music, Friday and Saturday at 5:30 p.m.). 700 Munras Ave.

Fernwood Resort in Big Sur — **Forest Day, The Derls** (rock, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Sun-

day at 2 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

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

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

Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel — pianist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), flutist **Kenny Stahl** and guitarist **Bob Burnett** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1 Old Golf Course Road.

The Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble

See **LIVE** page 37A



Singer and guitarist Adrea Castiano performs Sunday, 2 p.m., at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley.

WINE

From previous page

stroll, which begins with a toasted barley and English pea salad that includes hearts of palm, sugar snap peas, Meyer lemon ricotta, spiced pumpkin seeds and spring greens, all brightening up the hearty grain. That’s followed by a seared juniper-coffee crusted lamb “tartare” with black truffle aioli, shallot-pea gremolata, chickpea crouton, aged parmesan, and pea greens.

Next up is salmon with horseradish pea puree, wild mushrooms, arugula, and a whole-grain mustard emulsion. Dessert is the chef’s take on peas and carrots: walnut carrot cake a la mode with mint spring pea ice cream and lemon curd. Book your table at bernarduslodge.com.

■ PBFW offers locals discount

Locals who are curious about the new iteration of Pebble Beach Food & Wine under P.B. Co. ownership can get discount tickets to the Tasting Pavilion, formerly known as the Grand Tasting, April 7.

Using the promo code “LOCALS” at checkout, anyone living within 250 miles

of Pebble Beach can buy VIP tickets, which provide early entry, for \$506.25 rather than the sticker price of \$675, and those opting for general admission will pay \$356.25 rather than the \$475 regular price. A radius that size includes San Francisco and points north, areas well to the east, and beyond Santa Barbara to the south.

Many Monterey County chefs will be cooking during the tasting, including Mario Garcia from Grasing’s, Justin Robarge from Folktale Winery and some 30 others, several of whom are PBFW regulars.

“The Tasting Pavilion is the perfect event for anyone to experience the range of gastronomical offerings that PBFW has to offer,” according to publicist Jared Reese, and the event’s chief operating officer, Caroline MacDonald, said the lineup exceeds that of previous years.

“Guests who attend on Sunday will be able to experience over 100 of the country’s most impressive restaurants, wineries, cocktails and more,” she said. Pebble Beach Food & Wine will run April 4-7 at the company’s lodge and Spanish Bay properties. For more information and tickets, visit pebblebeachfoodandwine.com.

Mary Schley, Roxanne Langer and Elaine Hesser contributed to this week’s column.



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Sunday, March 17th, concert starts at 3 p.m., but pre-concert music will start early, featuring The McMonarchs (St. Mary’s fantastic teen band) and Banish Misfortune (you will recognize some familiar faces). **Doors open at 2:30 p.m.**, come early and get a good seat for all the action. Advance tickets are recommended, this will sell out.

BUY TICKETS AT WWW.CELTICSOCIETY.ORG.
\$30 in advance, \$35 at the door.

St. Mary’s is located at 146 12th Street and Central Ave., Pacific Grove, CA.

For more info, call or text 831-224-3819.



The Carmel Foundation’s annual Philanthropic Foodie fundraiser is March 22 at La Playa. If last year’s event, seen here, is any indicator, this year’s party should be a lot of fun. Laird Family Estate wines will be featured.

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New book showcases Tibet, downtown gallery welcomes Catalog Show

ONE OF the artists showcased in a recent month-long exhibition at the Monterey Museum of Art, “Sacred Encounters,” photographer Kenneth Parker has a new book out, and he’ll sign copies of it Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. at Weston Gallery.

Titled “Tibetan Mustang, A Cultural Renaissance,” it includes images by Parker and Luigi Fieni and essays by Fieni and Amy Heller. The hardcover coffee-table

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

book “showcases the unique landscape and culture of the most authentic vestige of Tibetan Buddhist culture that remains on the Tibetan Plateau, while presenting the fascinating restoration story of its magnificent ancient temples and the painstaking conservation of their enormous semi-precious-mineral secco wall murals.”

‘Demanding’

Parker said capturing the images displayed in the book was no small challenge. “I truly hope you will enjoy the fruit of what has been the most difficult and demanding photography project of my life so far that included multiple six-week expeditions through one of the world’s most remote and challenging regions,” he explained.

Also Saturday afternoon at Weston Gallery, photographer William Neill will sign copies of his book, “Yosemite Sanctuary in Stone.”

The gallery, which is located on Sixth between Dolores and Lincoln, is hosting a display of images by Parker and Neill through May, as well.

■ Takin’ a stroll

Sixteen downtown galleries owned by local artists will be part of March’s Carmel

Art Walk, which is set for Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. The event is free.

The participants, which will all have blue lanterns hanging in their windows, include Carmel Art Association, Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery, Studio Delia and many others. Two galleries have new homes this month, while another is making its debut on the Art Walk.

“Kathy Sharpe has moved her gallery to Mission and Seventh — in the Court of the Fountains — and I have moved next door to the former James Reiser Fine Art space in Su Vecino Court, so I now have a window on the street and a lot more space,” painter and gallery owner Joaquin Turner told The Pine Cone. “Nicole Cromwell has opened her first gallery and moved into my old space, also in Su Vecino Court.”

Turner encouraged people to come to this month’s Art Walk. “All of us local artists appreciate the continued support of the community,” he added. “We always look forward to this special night of the month when we keep our doors open late for a convivial evening of mingling and chatting with fellow art lovers.”

■ An ever-changing display

For the month of March, Carmel Art Association presents its annual Catalog Show, which includes art by 58 member-artists. Painters, sculptors, printmakers, mosaic artists, weavers and illustrators are included in the exhibit.

When a painting is sold, another will take its place.

“As artworks sell and leave the gallery to be installed in private collections all over the globe, each artist-member may keep their empty spaces refreshed with more of their own new works, making for an exhibition that is ever-changing,” the downtown gallery’s Lili Mendez said.

The CAA is located on Dolores

between Fifth and Sixth, and will have a public reception Saturday, 4 to 7 p.m., to mark the opening of the exhibit. Wine will be served, and the Rick Forschino Combo will play jazz.

■ The fine art of airports

A painting group that’s been around for a half century and represents dozens of artists, the Central Coast Art Association just unveiled a year-long display of paintings at Monterey Regional Airport.

The theme of the show is “visualizing the wonders of Monterey County through art.”

“Our exhibit will serve to educate visitors and the traveling public about the rich art history” in the region, the group announced.

The pieces were selected with the help of airport employees. “It’s partnerships like these that make airport proud to be part of

a community which strives to promote and enhance the arts locally, nationally and around the world,” the airport’s executive director Mike La Pier added.

The airport is located at 200 Fred Kane Drive.

■ Talk and tour at museum

The subject of an ongoing exhibit at the Monterey Museum of Art, photographer Joe Ramos gives a tour of the show Saturday at 2 p.m. — and illuminates the stories behind the images.

Titled “Mixed Up — Connected,” the display captures the places and faces of Salinas Valley, along with the interplay between humanity and nature. The exhibit is on display through April 21. The tour and talk is \$5 for museum members and \$20 for non-members. The museum is located at 559 Pacific St. For more details, visit montereyart.org.



Painter Timothy Sloan’s “Work Day at the Wharf” is included in a show that’s on display this month at the Carmel Art Association.



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Police Log: Pacific Grove, March 17

OH DANNY BOY...

Officer was dispatched to the 100 block of 19th Street for a noise complaint of a loud male.

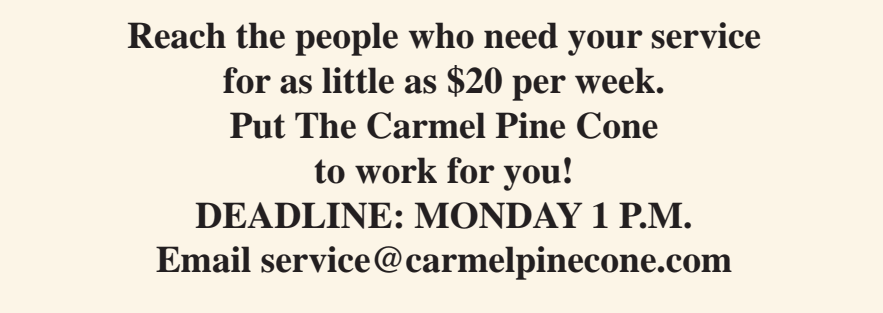
Upon arrival, officer located a man dressed for St. Patty's Day.

The man then said he would go inside for the night,

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LIVE

From page 34A

Beach — **The Andy Weis Band** (jazz, Friday, Saturday and Thursday at 7 p.m.). 2700 17 Mile Drive.

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

Juice and Java in Pacific Grove — Open Mic (Friday at 7 p.m., sign up by 5:30 p.m.), **The Zach Westfall Trio** (jazz, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.) 599 Lighthouse Ave.

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 **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave.

La Playa Hotel — **The David Morwood Band** (jazz, Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., Sunday at 4 p.m.), guitarist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Thursday at 5 p.m.). Bud’s Bar, Camino Real and Eighth, Carmel.

The Links Club — **Moondance** (pop and rock, Friday at 7 p.m.), **Bubba Pickens** (bluegrass, 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 pianist **John Harris** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), mandolinist **Dave Holodiff** (bluegrass and jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Reija Massey** (pop, rock and country, Thursday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

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

Midici Pizza in Monterey — singer **Janice Perl** and keyboardist **Jon Dryden** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.) 467 Alvarado St.

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

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — pianist **Joe Indence** (jazz, Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 5 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Meek** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Adrea Castiano** (Monday at 5 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Tuesday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Wednesday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Dan Cortes** (Thursday at 5 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

Pearl Hour in Monterey — **The Zach Westfall Group** (jazz, Sunday at 8 p.m.), **The Ben Herod Trio** (jazz, Wednesday at 8 p.m.). 214 Lighthouse Ave.

Puma Road at Portola Plaza in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Matt Masih** (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Adam Behan** (Saturday at 5 p.m.), **The Smokey Vegas Project** (“classic lounge,” Sunday at 5 p.m.) 281 Alvarado St.

Salty Seal Pub in Monterey — **Lighthouse** (rock, country and blues, Friday at 8 p.m.), **The Edge** (rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **Santa Cruda** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Dan Fredette** (Thursday at 7 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

The Sardine Factory in Monterey — singer and guitarist **David Conley** (pop and rock, Friday and Saturday,



Choral group I Cantori di Carmel presents a fundraising Venetian masked ball Saturday, 5 p.m., at the Carmel Woman’s Club.

Tuesday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m.). 701 Wave St.

Sly McFly’s in Monterey — **Everyday People** (“classic Latin rock with an old-school twist,” Friday at 9 p.m.), **The Night Shift** (r&b, disco and pop, Saturday at 9 p.m.), **The Stingrays** (classic rock, Sunday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — **The Boscoe’s Brood Duo** (rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

Wild Fish restaurant in Pacific Grove — **The Lighthouse Jazz Quartet** (Friday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 545 Lighthouse Ave.

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

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Continues from previous page

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SECTION RE ■ March 8-14, 2024

Open Houses on page 26RE

The Carmel Pine Cone

In Your *Dreams*



■ This week's cover property, located in Pebble Beach,
is presented by Shelly Mitchell Lynch
of Carmel Realty Company (See Page 2RE)



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About the Cover

The Carmel Pine Cone

Real Estate

March 8-14, 2024



1505 Venadero Road, Pebble Beach
4 Beds, 4 Full & 1 Half Baths
3,392 Sq. Ft. | \$7,600,000
1505Venadero.com | Pebble Beach

A harmonious blend of modern sophistication and coastal charm. Art form meets function in this private and serene ocean view setting located in the sun belt of Pebble Beach. Within walking distance to the Lodge, Beach and Tennis Club, and Stillwater Cove Beach, this single-level home is as perfect for the car enthusiast as it is for a golf foursome. Four bedroom suites, an open kitchen and floor plan, and large sliding glass doors that extend the living and entertaining spaces for effortless indoor-outdoor living. Cozy fireplaces, soothing fountain, and gated entry add to the allure of this stunning property. Take in Point Lobos views from the ocean-view deck terrace and hot tub, or entertain guests in the heated outdoor kitchen and BBQ area. For car enthusiasts, the large three-car garage was designed for the option to add lifts for a six-car collection. Embodying California contemporary design, this residence epitomizes the indoor-outdoor lifestyle.

Shelly Mitchell Lynch

BROKER | Managing Director

831.277.8044 | Shelly@CarmelRealtyCompany.com

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2 IYD The Carmel Pine Cone March 8, 2024

Real Estate Sales Feb. 25 - March 2

Escrows closed: 43
Total value: \$72,908,000

Carmel

24315 San Pedro Lane — \$950,000

Stephan and Eileen Georis to Brooke and

Karen Lewis

APN: 009-031-028

24656 Guadalupe Street — \$2,150,000

Alison Burleigh to Morgan Goldschmidt

APN: 009-082-004

See HOME SALES page 4 IYD

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911 Shell Ave, PG	\$1,818,000	38 Calera Cyn, SAL	\$1,500,000
45 Del Mesa, CAR	\$1,255,000	864 Del Monte Blvd, PG	\$1,225,000
1107 Presidio Blvd, PG	\$1,050,000	1221 Roosevelt St, MON	\$855,000
24501 Via Mar Monte #74 CAR	\$939,000	700 Briggs, #83 PG	\$710,000
300 Glenwood Cir, #265, MON	\$635,000		



SOLD!



910 Del Monte Blvd Pacific Grove
SOLD \$2,300,000



SOLD!

24501 Via Mar Monte #74, Carmel
SOLD \$939,000

The Jones Group did an excellent job on the sale of my townhouse. They are highly knowledgeable about local real estate conditions and are easy to work with. I would definitely recommend them to others. L. Sutter

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Carmel ■ 4 beds, 4 baths ■ \$3,795,000 ■ www.24323SanMarcosRoad.com



Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$3,395,000 ■ www.26217AthertonPlaceCarmel.com



OPEN SAT 1-3PM
& SUN 1-4PM
San Carlos 5 SW of 13th

Carmel-by-the-Sea ■ 2 beds, 2 baths ■ \$2,995,000 ■ www.SanCarlos5SW13.com



OPEN SAT 1:30-3:30PM
3139 8th Avenue

Carmel ■ 3 beds, 2.5 baths ■ \$2,831,390 ■ www.31398thAve.com



Carmel Valley ■ 4 beds, 4 baths ■ \$2,790,000 ■ www.27465LomaDelRey.com



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HOME SALES

From page 2 IYD

Carmel (con't.)

Dolores Street, NE corner of Seventh Avenue — \$3,250,000
Liza Horvath and El Paseo Building Trust to Richard and Sandra Pepe
APN: 010-146-007

San Antonio Avenue, SE corner of 11th Avenue — \$5,500,000
Michael Kronenberger to Glenn Hickerson
APN: 010-279-016

San Antonio Avenue, 2 SE of 12th Avenue — \$6,419,000



26392 Valley View Avenue, Carmel — \$7,250,000

George and Patricia Yellich to Larry Berte and Diane Sobkowicz
APN: 010-286-014

26392 Valley View Avenue — \$7,250,000
Roger George to Kathleen McCormick
APN: 009-462-007

Carmel Valley

197 Del Mesa Carmel — \$1,100,000
Eric Sand to Peter and Diane Smith
APN: 015-513-012

28057 Hawk Court — \$2,215,000
James Wunderlich to Kristin Coit
APN: 416-541-032

Greenfield

45041 Arroyo Seco Road — \$1,650,000
Nicholas, Chelsea, Edward and Louis Panziera to Armando, Maria, Armando Jr. and Juan Martinez
APN: 419-432-001

See **ESCROWS** page 18 IYD



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Pebble Beach ■ 8 beds, 9+ baths ■ \$29,000,000 ■ www.BellaVistaPB.com

Pebble Beach ■ 5 beds, 6 baths ■ \$14,500,000 ■ www.3365SeventeenMileDr.com



Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 4.5 baths ■ \$7,600,000 ■ www.1505Venadero.com

Pebble Beach ■ 5 beds, 5.5 baths ■ \$5,850,000 ■ www.2884LasauenRoad.com



Monterey ■ 3 beds, 3.5 baths ■ \$5,495,000 ■ www.7418AlturasCourt.com

Pebble Beach ■ 4 beds, 4 baths ■ \$2,495,000 ■ www.3125HermitageRoad.com



OPEN SAT & SUN
12-2PM
184 Calle de la Ventana

Salinas ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$1,699,000 ■ www.61CorraldeTierraRoad.com

Carmel Valley ■ 3 beds, 2 baths ■ \$1,250,000 ■ www.CalleDeLaVentana.com



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SPECIAL SECTION

A HOME THAT ‘OOZES CLASS AND GOOD TASTE’

BY ELAINE HESSER

“DON’T SAY ‘infinitely’ when you mean ‘very’; otherwise you’ll have no word left when you want to talk about something really infinite.”

— C.S. Lewis

ONE OF the oldest houses in Del Monte Forest has recently come on the market, and it has made this reporter hope that she hasn’t misused her superlatives in the past. At nearly 100 years old, Bella Vista sits at 1463 Oleada Road atop what’s traditionally been called Strawberry Hill for the fruit that was once grown there.

Descendants of the original owners said the house was built in 1925, but those plans are lost to history. It’s been home to philanthropist and steel magnate F.A. Ingalls, who reportedly grew the strawberries for which the hill — and, at one time, the home — were named. The current owners, Kelly and Brian Swette, are downsizing, and say that after 20 years, they’ll miss the elegant and charming Spanish Revival-style home, with its white stucco exterior, red tile roofs, balconies and large wooden doors.

Hand-hewn wood

“You never get tired of the beautiful and dynamic views, which are different from every room,” they said. “The place oozes class and good taste.”

Shelly Mitchell Lynch at Carmel Realty has the \$29 million listing.

The main foyer is original, from its red-tiled floors to the open-beam, hand-hewn wooden ceiling. A

wrought-iron banister lines a curved staircase (also typical of the period) that would be perfect for a formal portrait or two.

Putting green

From the foyer, you can walk directly into the living room, with its 14-foot ceilings and a window that faces west, a good place to watch the sun set over the ocean while sitting next to a roaring fire. In some rooms, the gold-leaf chandelier and substantial matching sconces might be out of place, but in this setting, they are more of a period than an exclamation point. It’s the spot that most harkens back to a more reserved and “proper” era,

a fine place to receive VIPs or business clients before ushering them into the nearby office and library.

With shelves to hold an estimated 3,000 books, plus 10 built-in cabinets and a cozy gas fireplace, it’s exactly the sort of background you’d want in a virtual meeting

and the sort of space that would give a face-to-face encounter some serious gravitas. But — it’s Pebble Beach, after all — there’s also an executive putting/chipping green just outside the French doors.

“I love all the meetings and work I have done in my office, and I loved it when I took a break to practice my putting or play a game of bocce with a colleague,” Brian reminisced.

The formal dining room, with its original oak floors, begins to hint at the conviviality that reigns in the rest of the home. A nearly 18-foot-wide win-



PHOTOS/SHERMAN CHU

Built less than 10 years after Samuel F.B. Morse founded the Pebble Beach Co., Bella Vista (top) sits on 2.6 acres of land that’s been lovingly sculpted and groomed into a park-like setting. The formal living room (center) is a reminder of the home’s roots in a more formal era, while the thoroughly modern hot tub (above) takes in sweeping and timeless views of Point Lobos and the Santa Lucia mountains.

See **IEWS** page 24 IYD

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www.20ShepherdsKnoll.com
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2884 LASAUEN ROAD, PEBBLE BEACH
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This new build in Pebble Beach, designed by Young Williams Art, maximizes privacy with 5 separate suites and 5.5 baths, each with its own theme. The home is expansive, nearly 3,600 Sq. Ft. with 22-foot ceilings, yet welcoming and cozy. This home combines beautiful finishes and high-quality appliances with innovative construction techniques, like a Tesla solar roof and double-insulated ceilings, to create a lasting legacy for generations.

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Some things are worth remembering before they are forgotten forever

*When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up memories of things past.*
— **Sonnet 30, William Shakespeare**

THE FREE PRESS is an online media company that publishes investigative stories and provocative commen-

tary about the world. My favorite feature is the Sunday edition where author Douglas Murray recites one of hundreds of poems he has memorized. Recently, he recited Shakespeare’s Sonnet 30. In it, the Bard recalls earlier stages of his life that were happier. Many of us who have surpassed the biblical three-score-and-ten recall happier

times. We were young then, life was simpler. Young people seem indifferent to how technology has encroached on our personal freedoms. My memories of times and things are worth recounting: Attendance at dinner was mandatory. We were Mom, Dad, Grandma and three altar boys, so grace was mandatory, too. We talked. Dishes were washed by hand. We sat around a Zenith console radio. Without a password, you turned a knob and sound came out. Mom leafed through the latest edition of Collier’s. Grandma crocheted, Dad sat

Scenic Views

By JERRY GERVASE

in the wing-backed chair with the evening paper. Unless there was an air-raid warning. Then the black-out shades came down and a piece of black tape was placed over the radio dial to prevent an enemy bombardier from seeing through the roof and zeroing in on the dial’s 1-inch yellow light. Neighborhood air-raid wardens in pith helmets cruised the streets, making sure no light emanated from any house.

Going downtown

In summer we played in a magical place called outside. In the evenings we sat on the front porch. Passersby waved whether they knew you or not. Silent dialogues. We used encyclopedias, dictionaries, Roget’s Thesaurus, and Bartlett’s Famous Quotations. Kids went to the library to research their homework and check out books for book reports. The web was the space between your thumb and index finger. Shopping for clothes meant going “downtown,” often to a store where you were the third generation to shop there. Anything going viral could be fatal. We wrote letters. We talked to each other. People got haircuts, went to restaurants, saw movies, girls got their nails done, toddlers took their first steps, and dogs and cats did cute things without thousands of people having to know about it. Birthdays meant something, so people went to a store to buy a card, wrote a special greeting on it, affixed a stamp to the envelope, then took the card to the post office or mailbox. Liking someone meant you liked them, not that you were helping them improve

See GERVASE page 23 IYD

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You can see Point Lobos from this Norwegian cottage

BY ELAINE HESSER

THE PEOPLE of Denmark got credit for the trendy term, “hygge,” which is pronounced WHO-gah and means cozy, or having an appreciation for simple pleasures shared with good people. Heck, hygge was even a finalist for

the Oxford English Dictionary’s 2016 Word of the Year. But the inconvenient truth — for the Danes, anyway — is that hygge comes from a very similar 16th-century Norwegian word.

And that etymological side trip brings us right to the doorstep of Solbakken (Norwegian for Sun Hill) at the corner of Mon-

te Verde and Seventh, a Scandinavian cottage that’s as hygge — or hugga — as it gets. Tim Allen has the listing, which is priced at \$4.39 million.

Garage, parking

Built in 1931, this four-bedroom, three-and-one-half-bath property has been in the same family for decades. It sits on a 6,000-square-foot parcel within easy walking distance of the Cypress Inn, the beach and pretty much anywhere else you’d want to go in town. With more than 2,500 square feet of living area, it also includes a two-car garage and additional off-street parking — amenities that are


much coveted in this little village.

But, of course, while the cottage’s relative spaciousness and parking are enviable, its allure is much more about savoring life’s joys with special people. Current owners Tom Bailey and Lise Carver Bailey shared many happy occasions in their home. Said Lise, “Our whole family, from my parents to my grandkids, have so many memories at Solbakken.”


She continued, “What we enjoyed most was having a meeting place in such a beautiful location where the weather is almost always perfect no matter what the season.

See **HYGGE** page 22 IYD

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PHOTO/SHERMAN CHU,


Solbakken (Norwegian for Sun Hill) at Monte Verde and Seventh is comfortable, welcoming and has some lovely sunset views from a large deck where generations have long gathered for Thanksgiving.

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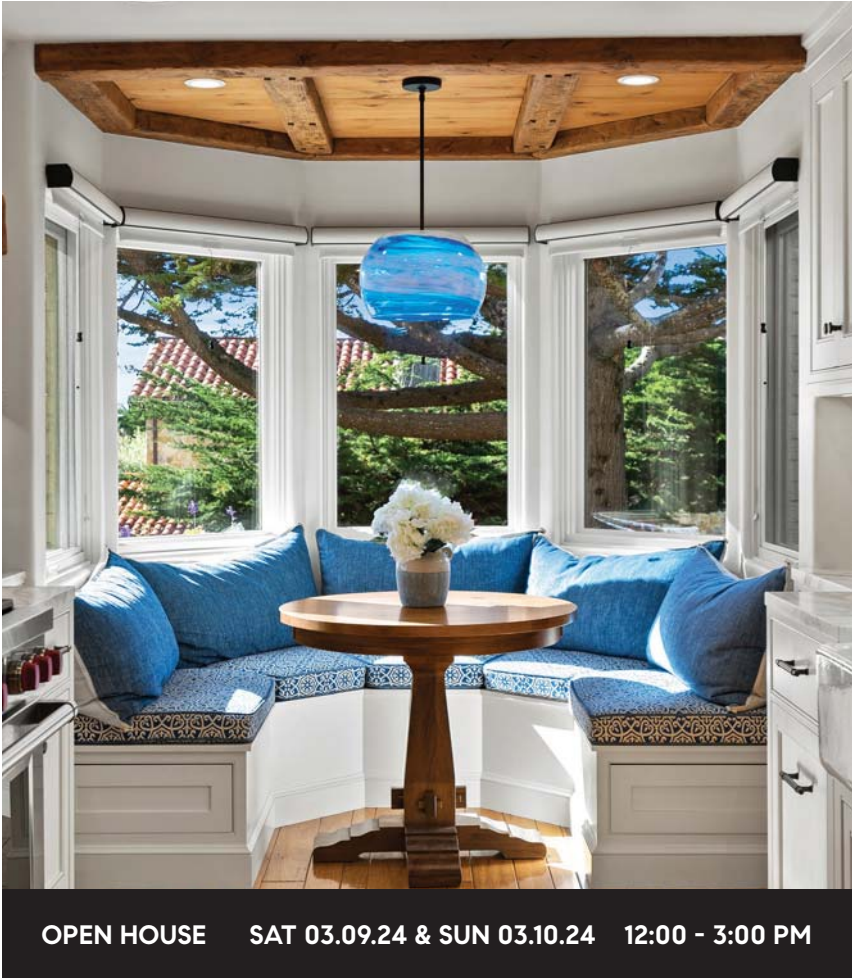
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I N Y O U R D R E A M S

A FULL SPECTRUM OF FUN IN THE VALLEY

BY ELAINE HESSER

THE THREE-BEDROOM, four-and-a-half bathroom home at 5462 Quail Road in Quail Meadows is truly a breath of fresh air. It has more than 4,300 square feet of living area on a 3-acre lot that includes a heated single-lane lap pool, a hot tub and an outdoor dining area with a Carmel-stone fireplace.

The thing that got our attention, however, was a Covid-era addition — a large solarium with big doors that connect it to the formal dining and living rooms, and another set that open to the outdoors. With a cute white gas fireplace in one corner, soothing sage-colored paint accents and a hardwood floor, it suggests all sorts of pleasant possibilities. It's easy to imagine sipping cool drinks as the ceiling fans stir a comfortable breeze, growing orchids, taking up painting in the light-flooded setting it creates, or rainy-day playtimes with ram-bunctious grandchildren.

The solarium opens onto the backyard, creating a long, formal line with the pool and a white pergola. The sunny location off Rancho San Carlos isn't just pleasant and aesthetically pleasing — there's a solar power system with a Tesla battery wall for back-up. A fence that was erected around the area close to the house is designed to contain the requisite dog or two as they run off excess energy (too bad they haven't found a way to store that up, too).

While the house is on Cal Am's water system, well water is used for landscaping, which includes some high-quality artificial turf along with native and drought-resistant plants.

Thoughtful design

The home is laid out in an L-shape, with the large primary bedroom on one end, where a cozy fireplace and generous closets and separate en suite bathrooms encourage more harmonious cohabitation. An adjacent fitness room could easily be repurposed as a home office.

A second bedroom at the other end of the L opens out onto the yard and pool, and a third, smaller suite is tucked away behind the kitchen, more or less in the middle, just off the entry.

Speaking of the kitchen, it was obvious-

ly designed by someone who knows something about cooking and aesthetics. All too often, houses have either a beautiful kitchen with limited counter space and poor organization, or a practical one that looks, well, practical.

Spacious, sleek

The sleek lines, gray paint and stainless fixtures in this space give it a strong contemporary look, but the multiple ovens, Wolf range and capacious refrigerator/freezer combo would seduce anyone who loves to cook. The sink with pot-filler faucet is in a center island directly opposite

See **QUAIL** page 25 IYD



PHOTOS/SHERMAN CHU,

A three-bedroom home in Quail Meadows (top) offers plenty of outdoor amenities, including a lap pool, and features a solarium (above) that really brings the sunshine inside.

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A MID-CENTURY MODERN ODE TO ARCHITECT ROBERT STANTON

BY LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

SHE GREW up in Carmel. He didn't. Yet, when the Texas residents made the decision to retire, they both knew it was going to be here. She still has family living in town and a sister who had welcomed them as guests many times. The couple also agreed they wanted their own home, a mid-century modern cottage nestled in the oaks, within walking distance of the bay.

Scott and Robin Fradin found their house a few blocks north of Ocean, a

1,093-square-foot wood-frame bungalow, designed and built in 1950 by the legendary Robert Stanton Architectural Office and valued (at the time) at \$8,750. It doesn't get more mid-century modern than that.

Pickfair mansion

Born in Detroit in 1900, Robert Stanton joined the Navy during World War I, and later graduated from the Manual Arts High School in Los Angeles before heading to UC Berkeley to study architecture. It was there, in 1922, that he met and married

Virginia Young. Following his 1923 graduation from Cal, Stanton moved to Pasadena to work for architect Wallace Neff on the remodel of Pickfair mansion for Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. The Stantons moved to Pebble Beach following the completion of the architect's office at Monte Verde and Ocean, then relocated with their three children to Carmel Valley, to a home Stanton designed.

His practice focused heavily on school, hospital, and public design work with the Monterey County Courthouse, Monterey Peninsula College, Monterey schools, San Benito County Hospital, and buildings on Fort Ord. He also supervised the construc-

tion of homes for Bob Hope, King Gillette (of the razor company), actor Frederic March and Hollywood director King Vidor, whose daughter, Belinda Vidor Holliday, lived in Carmel.

Pure style

Stanton's preference for the mid-century modern aesthetic extended from his municipal designs into residential architecture. The single-story Fradin house, with its skillion, or single-slope, roofline surfaced in tar and gravel, and the linear beams of the soffit, is pure Robert Stanton.

See NEST page 20 IYD

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PHOTO/PHILIP GEIGER

Robert Stanton designed this home in 1950 — an era when sloping roofs and strong horizontal lines were common architectural features.



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From page 4 IYD

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IN YOUR DREAMS

NEST
From page 16 IYD

The horizontal line structure of the ship-lap exterior parallels both the land and the distant horizon, creating a sense of stability and grounding. Its neutral tones — tan framed in white — complement the



PHOTO/PHILIP GEIGER

The strong lines of the windows and fireplace are echoed but also softened by the furnishings.

Carmel-stone chimney and provide contrast to the verdant foliage of the stand of California oaks, African daisies and Nile lilies, as does the pop of burnt red on the gate that opens to a private stone patio, and the matching front door.

The Fradins, who are retired from careers in retail management and insurance sales, had been combing through available houses online when they decided to get on a plane, pick up a rental car and drive through the streets of Carmel-by-the-Sea, sleuthing out places for sale.

“We love the mid-century aesthet-

ic, and we saw that this southern-facing house would let a lot of light through the wall of windows framing the living room,” said Robin Fradin. “The whole property had such a good feel, and it didn’t seem to need a lot of work.”

That weekend, the Fradins met with a realtor who showed them additional houses for sale in town. None of them was mid-century, but rather the “cute-sy quaint” dollhouse cottages that often attract others but were not what the Fradins had in mind. The Stanton House, built by contractor C.H. Taggart, was.

“The house had a great look and a good feel,” Scott Fradin said. “It needed some work, but it had the design elements we appreciate.” The two-bedroom house even has a two-car garage, albeit “tandem” style, meaning one car parks behind the other.

On Robin’s 40th birthday, they made an offer — only to find they were fourth in line in their bid. Once they prevailed and bought the house, they renamed it Robin’s Nest, for which Scott handcrafted a tile plaque as a gift to his wife.

Claiming without changing

Having grown up here, Robin loves the beach but also craves the sun. While she enjoys her home near the sea and is happy to warm up by the fire in her stone hearth on characteristic moody Carmel days, the

See SUN, TOO next page

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IN YOUR DREAMS

SUN, TOO

From previous page

Fradins went online to find a second home in Carmel Valley to help take the chill off summer. They also plan to live in one house while doing remodeling on the other, or when housing guests.

“Whatever updates we make to our Carmel house,” said Robin, “we will do so without losing the Robert Stanton signature. His aesthetic is the reason we bought the house in the first place.”

The front door opens to a living room, flanked by a wall of windows on the southern exposure overlooking the stone patio, which creates a sense of space.

Furnishings are simple, angular, and neutral in color, which means they go nicely with the Carmel stone hearth while also setting off a pair of burnt red Asian-

style cabinets that nearly reach the ceiling. A small oil-rubbed bronze seahorse mounted on the fireplace facade creates wonder.

Uncluttered

The space is clean, uncluttered, calm, with potted palms softening the corners, while art books and a stem of white orchid blooms presented on a pair of cube tables provide interest.

The galley kitchen is simple, efficient – and destined to change – as is the bathroom, both of which, true to the style of architecture, warrant updates, not remodeling.

“Stanton knew what he was doing,” Scott said. “The house, all redwood, is solid, quality construction. The windows are original, as is the fireplace. What appeals to me most is the originality of the house. It’s true to its design and to this setting by the sea.”

POLICE LOG

From page 4A

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Carmel area: Deputies responded to a male adult who got out of a stolen vehicle and began trespassing in several front yards on Eastfield while holding a knife.

Carmel area: Resident on Mount Devon Road reported a vehicle burglary. Entry was made via window smash.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Warrant arrest at Junipero and Sixth at 0153 hours.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A 26-year-old female was arrested at Carpenter and Sixth at

0211 hours for DUI, presenting a fake identity to officers, false impersonation, driving on a suspended license, violation of probation and an outstanding warrant out of San Luis Obispo County. She was booked into Monterey County Jail on \$80,000 bail.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle vs. parked vehicle on Seventh Avenue.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Female reported her black iPhone 11 in a black case was lost on the beach sometime on Feb. 19. She later called and stated her phone was pinging on Camino del Monte; however, she was going to wait and see if the phone was going to be turned in to the police department in the morning. She was already out of the area in San Jose.

Pacific Grove: Unlocked vehicle on Cedar Street was rummaged through but nothing was taken.

See **SHERIFF** page 25 IYD



Tim Staley

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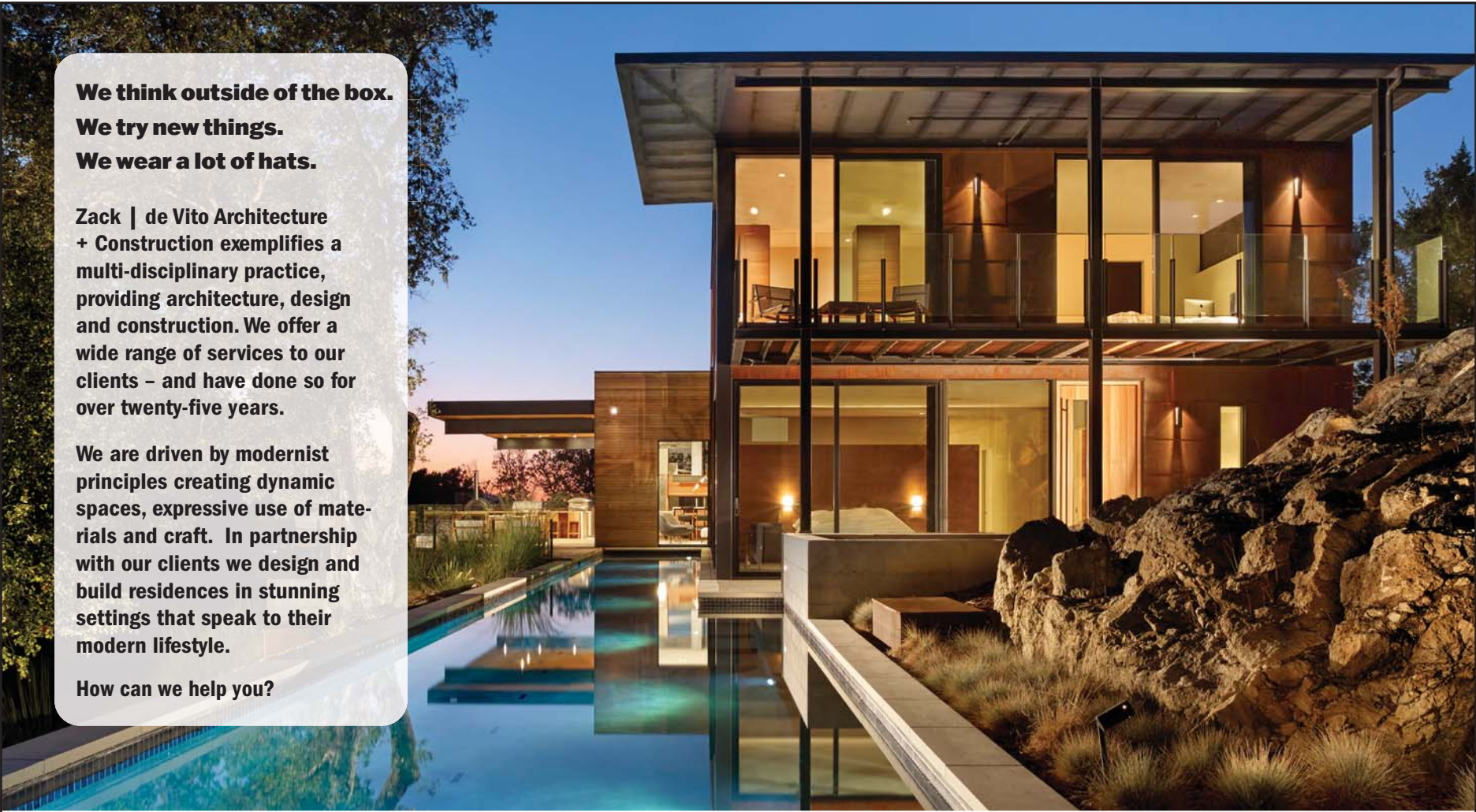
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HYGGE

From page 10 IYD

We spent many Thanksgivings with our extended family of 40 or more seated on the expansive deck for dinner and dessert.” They’d reconvene there after a family stroll, she added, “where we always took a family portrait at sunset on beautiful Carmel Beach. Then we’d walk our dinner and pie off and by heading back home for guitar playing and singing together on the deck by candlelight well into the evening.”

Similar to Norway

The deck is one of the home’s highlights. With a tree-famed view of the water and Point Lobos, it’s a prime sunset-viewing spot. Whether it’s with family after a holiday meal or just a romantic evening with a glass of wine and some burgers from the grill, sitting around the fire pit and listening to the surf is a great way to end any day.

The Baileys also enjoyed the Norwegian vibe. “What feels most Norwegian about it is the old antique pine furniture,” Lise said. She also noted, “The style of the exterior is very similar to the old homes in the countryside of Norway.”

A large fireplace provides the living room’s focal point, and there’s room for a bookcase to store favorite reads. The ground-floor windows offer peeks at some of the greenery surrounding the cottage.

Windows along two dining room walls add lightness and provide restful views of trees and greenery, and there’s a cute built-in corner cupboard for dishes or to display souvenirs of one’s travels. The kitchen could fit two cooks comfortably.

White-on-white countertops and cabinets combined with plentiful overhead lighting make it open and inviting. Built-in drawers and cupboards should be more than sufficient for most home chefs’ needs, too. As a bonus, there’s a window over the sink, so you can see the ocean while you’re rinsing the dishes.

Upstairs, there are two bedrooms with a spacious shared bathroom — one of three that have been recently remodeled. There’s a large window with plenty of natural light and enough counter space around the sink to accommodate anyone’s grooming routine.

The primary bedroom features a sloping ceiling, built-in drawers, and a nifty alcove for reading, sending an email or two, or just relaxing before drifting off to sleep. The second bedroom is somewhat smaller, but equally desirable, with attractive corner windows.

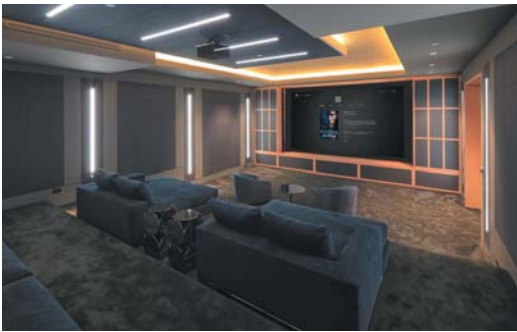
Guest cottage

A finished ground floor includes a bedroom with its own entrance, full bathroom, laundry area and a family room that could easily be used as a home office, library or artist’s studio.

A peaceful and tidy guest cottage with a red brick fireplace has built-in shelves in the living room, as well as a full kitchen, bathroom, and combination walk-in closet/wardrobe/laundry area.

As the Baileys prepare to move away, they hope that the next family will find the same kind of happiness they have in Solbakken.

“All the joy and laughter that has been expressed inside the walls carries with it such wonderful memories for all of us to share with the next generations,” Lise said.



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GERVASE

From page 8 IYD

their status on social media. “Social” and “media” never appeared in the same sentence.

We had a gravity-fed coal furnace, radiators, and an icebox rather than a refrigerator. If you were a kid before World War II, your family had a coal man, an ice man, a milkman, and a bakery man who all made deliveries. Dad worked, Mom took care of the house and fed us. Kids had chores, like searching for clunkers (chunks of coal that hadn’t completely burned and were put back into the furnace), hauling ashes from the furnace, emptying the tray that caught the melted water from the icebox, rinsing out milk bottles and setting them out on the stoop so the milkman knew how many quarts to leave.

We didn’t know how inconvenient life was compared to today. Things worked without pull-down menus or having to prove you’re human by selecting three images with traffic lights. Families were cooperative units. Kids respected authority. Shoplifting was illegal.

Today we know Big Brother is watching us, knows

what we buy, and even what we are thinking of buying. Closed-circuit television exists in virtually every area of America, from transportation hubs and networks to schools, supermarkets, and hospitals. Pacific Grove, Sea-side and Salinas use technology to track cars coming into those communities. They track the movements of every passing driver. The information — including the license plate number and the date, time, and location of every scan — is being collected and sometimes pooled into regional sharing systems. Why?

Were times better when I was a youngster? Happier? Life was less demanding. There was a greater sense of free-dom without the weight of constant surveillance. Shadowy oversight had not intruded on our personal autonomy. I may be an antique, but I am not clueless. I accept changes, even nettlesome ones. My memories and thoughts cannot be taken from me. They’re worth keeping. Whether they care or not, it is important to tell young people about hap-pier times with more personal freedom. A day will come when they will care.

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I N Y O U R D R E A M S

VIEWS

From page 6 IYD

dowed wall takes in a swath of coastline from Point Lobos to the Santa Lucias. No matter how many other local homes you’ve been in, this panorama is all but guaranteed to stop you in your tracks.

Billiards, anyone?

There’s a generous butler’s pantry, and the adjacent kitchen boasts a large center island where Lynch said that guests were sometimes put to work chopping and prepping food while Kelly cooked. A charming mosaic adorns the backsplash behind the oven beneath a dramatic limestone range hood.

A family room is home to a media wall tastefully concealed behind walnut and iron nail-head-studded leather panels. A matching walnut bar with a black granite top sits at one end of the room, with a copper sink and faucet and antique mirrored glass. A state-of-the-art sound system is carefully concealed throughout the property, indoors and out.

But wait, there’s more.

Up one flight of stairs from the family room is the billiard room — not some dark, stuffy man cave, but a welcoming lounge with that smashing view plus a balcony to enjoy the fresh air. The curved walnut bar with seating for at least six people has plenty of storage for glasses and beverages, and all the modern conveniences, including a flat-screen TV.

The primary bedroom has a small office to one side, along with two separate closets and a spa-like en suite bathroom and large sitting area with a media cabinet and a gas

fireplace. The bathroom includes a jetted tub and a skylight, hammered-copper sinks and large windows that overlook the garden.

There’s one more bedroom on the main floor and three upstairs, each with a distinct personality, but all fitting nicely into the Spanish Revival motif. A guest house and a separate studio apartment provide additional comfy digs for visitors, and the garage is in the original carriage house.

Another part of Spanish Revival style is the seamless blending of indoor and outdoor spaces, which this property does with flair, allowing for extensive entertaining and special events.

Said the Swettes, “The house has always been a family gathering place. We have had memorable holiday gatherings with the extended family because it sleeps 20-plus comfortably. We had two weddings with 200-plus people.” Their private parties and fundraisers have included entertainers like Lucinda Williams, the Joe Williams jazz quartet, Haley’s Zydeco band, and Mark Mancina’s Beatles band.

Magnificent grounds

Whether you want to sit around a fire pit, grill a steak, play some bocce, soak in the hot tub or just walk the grounds, there’s as much to see outdoors as inside. The gardens were thoughtfully planned to leave room for the coastal California oaks and some Monterey cypress trees, one of which is at least 300 years old. There are raised vegetable gardens, fruit trees including apples, plums, pears, figs and more, grapevines, a lavender garden and a nationally registered monarch butterfly way station planted with milkweed.

Tanks to store 55,000 gallons of rainwater have been built for irrigation, and

much of the landscaping is drought-tolerant. Walkways wind throughout the property, and there are more than 4,000 square feet of the terraced lawn and gardens.

“The grounds are magnificent and

exude warmth and depth. The two oldest cypresses on the property are like old friends,” said the Swettes. “The hot tub looks out to the 6th and 7th Holes at Pebble and, with the sun setting, you can’t get into a more zen moment.”



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SHERIFF

From page 21 IYD

ing was taken. No suspect information.

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

Pacific Grove: Past-tense theft from an unlocked vehicle. No suspect information.

Pacific Grove: Welfare check on Jewell Avenue.

Carmel area: Employee reported theft at her workplace on Highway 1.

QUAIL

From page 12 IYD

the stove and what feels an endless countertop. And that island can seat four to six people. Anyone — especially someone with aging eyes — will appreciate the lighting, which artfully and more than adequately illuminates all the work surfaces. The combination of translucent glass pantry doors, a little open shelving and traditional cupboard doors provides a variety of vertical surfaces, contributing to the overall feeling of spaciousness. Just around the corner are a wet bar and wine fridge, so guests can freshen their drinks without getting underfoot.

Open to interpretation

The open floor plan flows from the kitchen into a family room with a substantial fireplace in one direction, and to the formal dining room and living room in the other. The living room fireplace is flanked by built-in bookcases that are recessed so that precious volumes, collectibles and — if you know, you know — candles aren't exposed to the heat.

Thoughtful details like a nook in the family room that houses a small writing desk and built-in bedroom shelving are found throughout the house.

Neutral tones and design elements lend themselves to interpretation, so the new owner can bring their personal style and flair without having to worry about clashing with a clearly mid-century modern or Craftsman design. This is a place ready to make some memories, combining fresh style with fresh air and sunshine. Jessica Canning of Sotheby's has the listing for \$5.95 million.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Report of a lost wallet at a hotel at Lincoln and Seventh. Report needed to serve as temporary ID.

Pacific Grove: A 47-year-old female Hillcrest Avenue resident was arrested for domestic violence and booked into Monterey County Jail.

Pacific Grove: Report of dogs off leash on a public roadway on Walcott Way.

Carmel Valley: Deputies responded to a landlord-tenant issue on Hidden Valley Road.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Adult Protective Services reports of possible financial abuse involving residents at Mission and Third, Village Drive, Outlook Drive and on Crest Road.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A lost wallet in the area of Lincoln and Seventh.



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Fr 3-5 Sa Su 11:30-2:30
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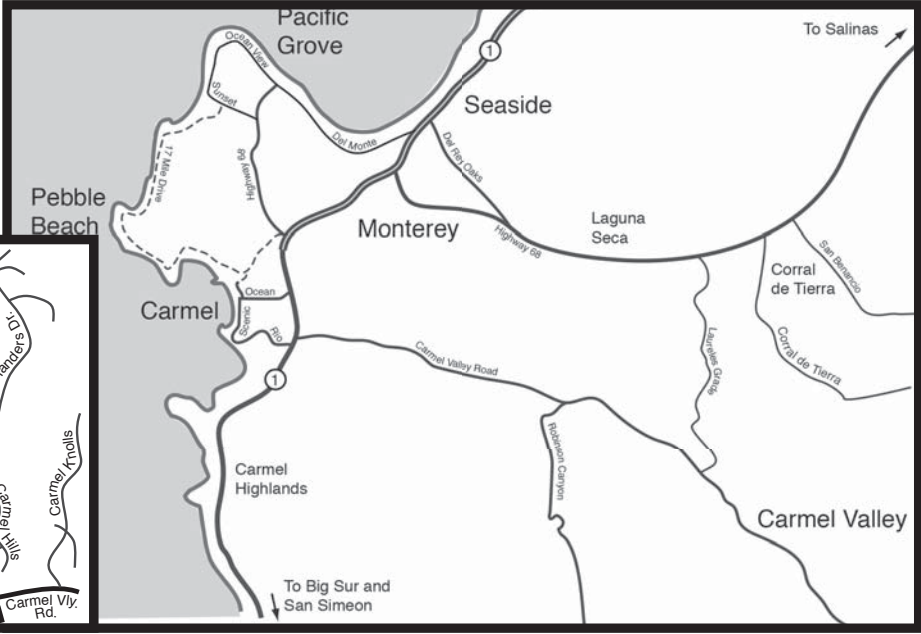
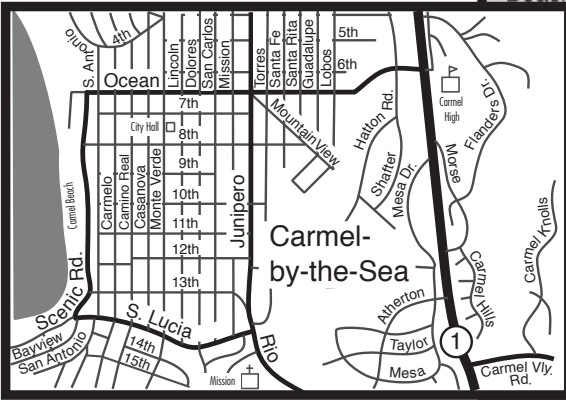
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Carmel
277-5821

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Sa Su 2-4
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Sa 2-4
Monterey
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\$1,600,000 **4bd 3ba**
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Sa Su 2:30-5:30
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\$1,975,000 **3bd 3ba**
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Su 12-2
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Fr 3-5:30 Su 11-3
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Fr 3-5 Sa Su 2-4
Pacific Grove
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Fr 1-3 Sa Su 12-3
Pebble Beach
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Sa Su 1-4
Pebble Beach
760-5126

\$2,495,000 **3bd 3.5ba**
3093 Stevenson Drive
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Sa 11-1
Pebble Beach
238-8029

\$2,585,000 **3bd 2.5ba**
3020 Sloat Road
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Sa Su 1-3
Pebble Beach
877-3317

\$2,975,000 **3bd 2.5ba**
3041 Strawberry Hill Road
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Su 1-3
Pebble Beach
262-2301

\$3,500,000 **4bd 4ba**
2833 Paradise Park Road
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Sa 11-1
Pebble Beach
238-8116

\$5,975,000 **5bd 5.5ba**
1100 Arroyo Dr
Coldwell Banker Realty

Sa 12-3 Su 1-4
Pebble Beach
535-8264 / 206-0129

SALINAS

\$849,000 **4bd 2.5ba**
9 Massolo Circle
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Sa 12-3
Salinas
238-4075 / 224-9063

SANTA CRUZ

\$4,950,000 **3bd 2.5ba**
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From page 18 IYD

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3 Crescent Circle — \$1,350,000
Masonic Homes to California Coast 1031 Exchange
APN: 001-957-017

1190 Seventh Street — \$1,455,000
Park Ave LLC to Meilin Fullop and Austin Harris
APN: 001-848-007

300 Van Buren Street — \$2,000,000
Scott and Kathleen Hobson to Richard and Gena Sagin and Joshua and Courtney Jones
APN: 001-382-010

660 David Avenue — \$3,750,000
Xchange Solutions to Jmarqz Investments LLC
APN: 001-086-002

Pacific Grove

913 Syida Drive — \$1,100,000
Donna Robertson and Eric Ruble to Clinton and Nancy Damm and Amanda and Joshua Gsell
APN: 007-621-017

6th Street, NW corner of Junipero Avenue — \$1,249,000
Ann and Henry Smith to Margaret D'Orsay
APN: 006-505-005

939 Egan Avenue — \$1,350,000
Sonja Johnson to Eric and Aurora Johnson
APN: 006-092-007

1111 Austin Avenue — \$2,300,000
Chrissy and Vince Andante to Martin and Anne Rabbits
APN: 007-603-015

468 Pine Avenue — \$2,750,000
Henderson Property Holdings LLC to Sierra Health and Wellness Group LLC
APN: 006-278-008

Pebble Beach

3089 Hermitage Road — \$2,238,000
Igor and Tasha Huljev to Luba Kvitchko and Igor Sirotin
APN: 007-463-015

Sand City

251 Main Street — \$1,700,000
Sharon Haney to Miguel Gutierrez
APN: 002-234-018

Seaside

1268 Judson Street — \$450,000

Ricky Gerena to Javier and Rosa Ramirez
APN: 012-335-021

1224 Darwin Street — \$525,000
Gary and Karen Haedrich and Robert and Vickie Maxwell to Aaron and Nicole Maxwell
APN: 012-322-026

1372 Kimball Avenue — \$910,000
Gail Richards and McKnight Trust to Leo and Martha Arntz
APN: 012-431-013

2035 Hacienda Street — \$955,000
John and Jillian Milaychev to Scott Stapleton
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www.MontereyHaven.com
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