

## P.B. Co. offers 200 artworks via online auction

By CHRIS COUNTS

AN IMPRESSIVE collection of art that once adorned the walls at the Pebble Beach Lodge, the Beach Club and other P.B. Co. buildings, including pieces by iconic painter Francis McComas, will be auctioned off Thursday by the Abell Auction Co.

The live auction, which starts at 10 a.m. May 9, includes watercolors, abstract paintings, posters and an assortment of photographs of famous people dating back to the early 20th century.

Highlights include a Polynesian painting by McComas that appears in the background of the 1956 film, “Julie,” with Doris Day and Louis Jourdan.

The movie includes scenes that were filmed at the Beach Club — and the painting was long displayed there.

There’s also a large

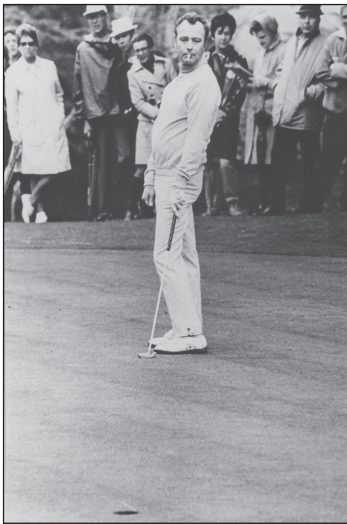
Polynesian triptych that was painted by McComas’ wife, Gene, and was originally displayed in the dining room at the Lodge.

Noted literary figure and expatriate Gertrude Stein called the piece “the finest art I have seen since coming to America” when she visited the United States in 1935.

See **AUCTION** page 204



A painting of Polynesia by Francis McComas (above) that appears in the background of the 1956 film, “Julie,” will be auctioned May 9 online, along with almost 200 items that were once displayed in Pebble Beach resorts, including an emblematic photograph of the actor Jack Lemmon (right).



## Carmel seeks changes to law removing parking spaces

### ■ P.G., Monterey working on compliance

By MARY SCHLEY and KELLY NIX

WITH PUBLIC works crews in Pacific Grove and Monterey focused on implementing a new state law requiring the elimination of parking spaces within 20 feet of crosswalks, Carmel officials are trying to get the law casually known as the Daylighting Bill changed. Assembly Bill 413 took effect Jan. 1 and bans parking spaces near intersections so drivers can more easily see pedestrians and cyclists, but that means the loss of valuable real estate in a town where parking is already at a premium.

Carmel city administrator Chip Rerig said the traffic safety committee comprising assistant city administrator Brandon Swanson (who is also serving in his previous post as planning director for the time being), public works director Bob Harary and Police Chief Paul Tomasi will meet to discuss the new law later this month.

“I’ve been working with local city managers by lobbying the bill author — Alex Lee of Milpitas — to consider amendments,” Rerig said Wednesday. “No progress to date, unfortunately.”

#### Reviewing projects first

He said he and other Monterey Peninsula leaders are proposing exemptions for cities with populations under 50,000 and for unmarked crosswalks, and allowing 10-minute parking in the areas that are supposed to be clear. “Those types of ideas,” Rerig said.

City of Monterey officials, however, announced this

week that they’d begun implementing AB 413 earlier this year.

“Daylighting is considered best practice and is a frequently used tool in cities across the country,” said engineering assistant Marissa Garcia. “Cars parked close to the corners of intersections can block the field of vision for drivers, obscuring the corners where pedestrians are waiting to cross the street and making it more difficult

See **PARKING** page 184

## Fines, citations for landlords who shun rental registry

By MARY SCHLEY

JUST UNDER 60 percent of an estimated 7,800 rentals in the City of Monterey have been listed in the mandatory registry that went online at the beginning of the year, and nearly a quarter of those filed for exemptions, according to officials. This month, the city will start cracking down on landlords who have yet to comply, though housing manager Anastacia Wyatt said the 57 percent compliance rate exceeds that reported by other cities that have created similar registries.

“Additional units continue to be submitted daily, and every major property management company operating in the City of Monterey has participated to some extent,” she said. The housing department offered weekly workshops from Feb. 8 through April 18 to help property owners and managers register their rentals.

## Preservationist asks council to stop Hofsas hotel project

### ■ Says an EIR is needed

By MARY SCHLEY

CARRIE THEIS and her family’s proposal to replace their aging San Carlos Street hotel with a new one should not have been approved by the Carmel Planning Commission last month, according to Neal Kruse, founder of the anti-modern Carmel Preservation Association. An opponent of the concept since its debut more than a year ago and the only person to speak against it at the April 10 hearing in which 18 others, including neighbors, expressed support, Kruse is asking the city council to overrule the commission’s unanimous decision.

“The issue of this appeal is the failure of the planning commission to adequately assess the environmental impacts of the proposed project,” reads the document sent by Kruse and attorney Zan Henson April 24 — just before the deadline for filing such an objection.

#### Right or wrong?

The planning department concluded the hotel project is exempt from environmental review under state law because it’s considered “infill development.” The new Carmel Legacy Hotel designed by architect Eric Miller will have the same number of rooms as the Hofsas House does, but in lower buildings, and the plans include a lounge, a restaurant, a bakery/café, a pool, a fitness center and a spa, all for hotel guests only. The property is bordered by several hotels and some residences.

In his appeal, Kruse argues that the project “is surrounded by residential dwellings” that will suffer the impacts of construction — including noise, dust, toxins and traffic — and the amount of excavation required for

See **HOFAS** page 174

## The journey was the goal

### ■ World’s shortest European vacation

By PAUL MILLER

TWENTY-FOUR YEARS ago, not long after I’d taken over as Pine Cone publisher, one of our reporters was working on a story that needed some aerial photographs. I decided to take the pictures myself, which meant I had to charter a light plane out of Monterey airport.

I don’t remember what the story was, or what pictures I took, but I remember the charter flight very well, because when I called Del Monte Aviation to make the arrangements, they asked me, “Is it OK if your pilot is 18 years old?”

I was a bit taken aback, but my answer was, “Sure, if he’s good enough.”

The young man I flew with that day, Anton Salameh,

is now a captain for United Airlines and a few weeks ago was picked by the carrier to take command of its biggest airplane, the Boeing 777, on its longest and most glamorous routes to places like Auckland, Beijing and Rome — quite an accomplishment for a kid from Monterey who started out taking people like me on one-hour photo flights



to Big Sur and Point Lobos.

“My ambition to be a pilot started off when I was really young,” Salameh said. “We used to travel a lot when I was growing up, and my favorite part of every trip was the airplane.”

See **CAPTAIN** page 274



PHOTOS/(LEFT) PAUL MILLER, (ABOVE) ANTON SALAMEH

(Left) Anton Salameh (at left), Allen Short and Marilyn Terry ready their Boeing 777 for departure from SFO Saturday. Two days later, a different 777 (above) is prepared for the trip home from Munich.



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# Sandy Claws

By Lisa Crawford Watson

## Looking for Lucy

Lucy is a very small, very soft toy terrier-Maltese poodle mix who, at 13, has been fostered too many times to feel at home anywhere. Yet, when her current person adopted her from the Berkeley Humane Society just over two months ago, the little dog tucked into her like she knew she had found her forever home.

On March 23, Lucy was one of 90 dogs assembled on Carmel Beach to receive a blessing from legendary primatologist Jane Goodall as the nonagenarian celebrated her birthday.

Yet, on a dark night in mid-April, when Lucy scampered out into her family's fenced yard near the Carmel Mission to "do her business" before being secured inside for the night, she found a hole in the fence. The

space seemed too small even for a tiny terrier, but Lucy fit.

Her person made 50 flyers and posted them all over the canine capital of the country. Neighbors canvassed the community, looking high and low, some bearing treats, others, binoculars. Messages went out on Nextdoor, Facebook and Instagram. For seven days and six nights, the community continued to look for Lucy, unwilling to give up and unable to admit what might have become of her.

And then, On April 25, a man returned to an abandoned construction site 13 blocks and a few streets over from Lucy's home. He happened to look up, happened to notice a bit of yellow fluff tucked into a blue tarp on the balcony and happened to decide he should investigate.

Lucy's person didn't know how to handle the call from Carmel P.D. animal control that they had found her dog.

"Is she alive?" After six nights out on her own, it seemed impossible.

"She is."

"Lucy came home, thin, dehydrated and smelling pretty rank," her person said, "brought by the blessing from Jane Goodall and this whole community."

Peninsula

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MAY 24, 2024

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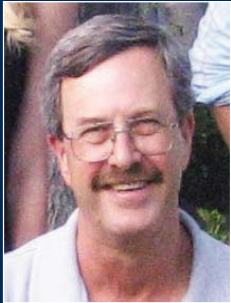
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# Police & Sheriff's Log

## He trespassed after being told not to

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

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Fall on city property at Dolores and Seventh.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Injury traffic accident on Ocean Avenue. Vehicle crashed into a building.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Assisted a resident who found a loose dog outside city limits in the area of Junipero and Valley. Dog owner was located via microchip. Dog returned to owner.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Trespass warning to a subject at Carpenter and Fifth.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Men's wallet found at Del Mar and Ocean.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Fall on city property on Lincoln Street.
- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Traffic stop on Ocean Avenue at 2117 hours for CVC violations. The 57-year-old male was cited for driving on a suspended license.
- Pacific Grove:** Vehicles on Piedmont

- marked for 72-hour parking.
- Pacific Grove:** Officers were dispatched to a reported burglary at a residence on Gibson.
- Pacific Grove:** Report of a domestic incident on Pine. Information only.
- Pacific Grove:** Trailer with camper attached was cited and marked as an abandoned vehicle on Forest Lodge Road.
- Carmel Valley:** Deputies arrested a 63-year-old male on Del Fino Place for public intoxication and violation of probation.
- Pebble Beach:** Online report of stolen property filed by a Forest Lake Road resident.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 18

- Carmel-by-the-Sea:** Outside agency assist with an Alta resident's report of two lost or stolen license plates.
- Carmel area:** A male was given a trespassing admonishment from a property on Rio Road.
- Carmel area:** Search warrant was served at a residence on 11th Avenue and narcotics were seized.

See **POLICE LOG** page 11RE  
in the Real Estate Section



## The gavel falls

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

**April 15** — Carlos Vargas Chavez, 31, of Salinas, was sentenced to two years and eight months in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for two counts of felony driving under the influence occurring on June 21, 2023, and Dec. 13, 2023.

On June 21, 2023, Chavez nearly caused a collision while driving under the influence of alcohol. A chemical test revealed that he had a blood alcohol concentration of .18 percent. Chavez pled no contest on Nov. 15, 2023, to felony driving while under the influence of alcohol and admitted three prior convictions for misdemeanor DUI. Chavez remained out of custody on the bail bond he posted for this case until his sentencing. On Dec. 13, 2023 — two days before his sentencing hearing — Chavez again drove under the influence. This time a chemical test revealed that Chavez had a blood alcohol concentration of .26 percent. On Feb 28, he pled no contest to a second felony driving under influence charge and admitted his prior felony DUI conviction from Nov. 15, 2023.

These cases were investigated by the Salinas Division of the California Highway Patrol and the Salinas Police Department. This

case was prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney's Office specialized DUI Vertical Prosecution Unit. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

**April 15** — A Monterey County jury found Andrew Jesus Carson, 34, a resident of Seaside, guilty of felony attempted criminal threats and felony dissuading a victim from prosecuting a crime. The jury also convicted the defendant of violating an emergency protective order. The Honorable Andrew G. Liu presided over the trial and will sentence the defendant on May 8.

On June 18, 2023, the defendant began drinking, and an argument developed between the victim and the defendant. The defendant threatened to kill the victim. The victim and their three children went to a hotel in Seaside to evade the defendant. The defendant tracked the victim's location, knocked on the hotel room door, and begged her to let him spend time with his children on Father's

See **GAVEL** page 21A

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# DNA links mentally ill man to two 1979 murders in Marina

By MARY SCHLEY

A FORMER Marina resident who’s been “receiving inpatient mental health treatment in a locked facility for decades” murdered two young military wives in their apartments in 1979, according to Monterey County Deputy District Attorney Matthew L’Heureux. Working with Marina P.D., the DA’s office traced the strangulations of Helga DeShon and Uicha Malgieri to Jurn Norris, now 69, but he won’t be charged, due to his severe mental illness.

Malgieri, 27, was found strangled in her Cosky Drive apartment on Sept. 25, 1979, according to L’Heureux. Born in South Korea, she was married to a U.S. Army specialist stationed at Fort Ord and worked as a housekeeper in Carmel. Police originally arrested her husband for homicide but later released him without charges, concluding he was not involved in her murder.

Exactly two weeks later, on Oct. 9, 1979, 21-year-old DeShon, who also lived in the complex, was discovered strangled to death in her apartment. She was German born and was married to a U.S. Army sergeant also based at Fort Ord.

“Investigators immediately determined that the murders of Mrs. Malgieri and Mrs. DeShon were connected due to their proximity, victim type and method of homicide,” L’Heureux said, since the women were neighbors and had been killed at home by strangulation on Tuesday mornings while their husbands were at work.

### History of violence

Norris, who was 25 at the time, had been kicked out of the Army the previous May for attacking and choking another soldier while stationed in Germany in 1978, the DA’s office recounted. The young woman survived and identified him as her attacker.

Norris moved to Marina with his wife,

who was also a sergeant in the Army and serving at Fort Ord, and police at the time suspected him in the murders of Malgieri and DeShon. Another woman in the complex reported having an unsettling encounter with him in August 1979 when he’d knocked on her door early one morning while her husband was at work, and after she let him in, he’d made sexual comments to her.

A few days later, “he stabbed his wife with an ice pick, fled the scene of the crime, and returned to the neighbor’s apartment, where he asked her husband for money,” the DA’s office said.

### ‘You’re next’

And then, after DeShon was killed, a man suspected to be Norris called another resident — who was also originally from Germany — and told her she was “next.”

Norris was sentenced in December 1979 to 180 days in jail, with 60 days suspended, for stabbing his wife. In January 1980, he shot her multiple times, according to L’Heureux, and she again survived.

Norris was convicted of assault with intent to commit murder and sentenced to federal prison, and while he remained the prime suspect in the Marina homicides, “the physical evidence was inconclusive using the technology that was then available,” so he was never charged.

He was released from prison in 1990 but was civilly committed under a federal statute because he posed a substantial risk to others due to his mental illness, and he’s been held in a locked medical center for federal prisoners since 2002, according to L’Heureux.

Eight years ago, Marina P.D. officers reviewed the department’s unsolved murders, and detective Oliver Minnig

See MURDER page 16A

TA



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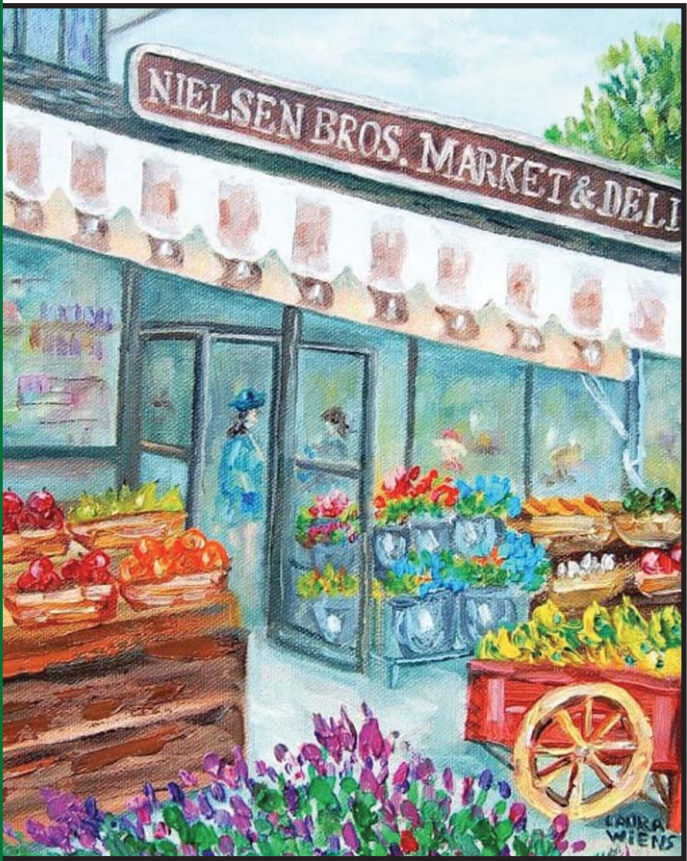
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# AS WORK CONTINUES ON SLIDES, TOURISTS CAN JOIN CONVOYS

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE CONSTRUCTION is ongoing at four landslides blocking vehicle traffic along Highway 1, Big Sur Valley is open to visitors from the north — but they must join morning or evening convoys to get past construction at Rocky Creek.

By Memorial Day, Caltrans expects to open the highway to 24-hour access once a signal is installed to control access to the one-lane road at Rocky Creek. Until then, convoys will run from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The road has to be kept clear during the day while construction continues.

Once in Big Sur, tourists can’t drive south to Cambria, Cayucas and beyond, although a few try each day.

“The public will have access in both directions during the morning convoys,” a Caltrans report indicates. “In the afternoon, the public will be able to use the northbound convoy to leave the area; however, only local residents, essential workers and drivers with existing travel reservations will be allowed to join the afternoon southbound convoy.”

Because convoys move slowly and time is critical, visitors are asked to arrive as early as possible. “A timely conclusion of the one-hour windows is necessary to maintain the road repair schedule,” the agency added. “Caltrans will assess convoy

demand during the week to see if the duration or schedule needs to be adjusted.”

Kirk Gafill, Nepenthe general manager and Big Sur Chamber of Commerce president, said businesses are happy to see visitors again. He anticipates that most inns



PHOTO/CALTRANS

Work continues on the effort to stabilize the soundbound lane along Highway 1 at Rocky Creek in Big Sur.

and resorts will have occupancy rates of no more than a third to a half of their capacity until Highway 1 completely reopens to the north. “The actual numbers we’re seeing are pretty modest,” Gafill said.

### An important step

While the trickle of tourists is causing some challenges for Big Sur businesses, they’re outweighed by the benefits.

“We’re all kind of using our best guessing models here to try figure this out and

See CONVOYS page 21A

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# Fire chief: blaze quickly doused, but firefighters made risky drive

By CHRIS COUNTS

BEFORE FIREFIGHTERS could put out a 2-acre wildfire that broke out near Bottchers Gap in Big Sur Tuesday, they had to drive a convoy of heavy-duty firetrucks up a portion of Palo Colorado Road that’s in such poor shape it’s been deemed unsafe for vehicles.

Mid-Coast Volunteer Fire Chief Cheryl Goetz told The Pine Cone that she’s been warning officials about how the road’s dangerous conditions could slow or halt a response to a wildfire. The upper half of the road was badly damaged by the mudslides that followed the 2016 Soberanes Fire.

“Nobody seemed to care, quite frankly,” she said. “Hopefully, this will shine a spotlight on the problem.”

Goetz said there’s one spot along the road with a 200-foot drop where a slip-up by a driver could be “life-threatening.” She also observed that one tender carrying 3,200 gallons of water drove over it this week, along with an assortment of other

large and heavy vehicles.

According to Goetz, the fire was caused by a backyard burn that escaped, in part due to high winds. While other media reports said it happened on U.S. Forest Service land, she reported that it only affected two private properties.

The fire chief said there is an alternative route across private property that “in theory” could have been used by firefighters to reach Bottchers Gap by vehicle, but it’s impassable.

Goetz said she hopes the incident captures the attention of county officials, so at the very least, a plan can be developed to shore up the road so it can safely support firefighting vehicles. She also warned about the consequences if the risk is ignored.

### Let’s talk about it

“Unless a conversation gets started, I don’t think anybody’s going to come up with a plan,” she suggested. “What’s going to be the straw that breaks the camel’s back?”

Goetz on Thursday said that while the wildfire was contained, forest service workers were on site to make sure it didn’t revive. The area is steep, and there’s lots of dense brush to fuel a fire.

According to Cal Fire, the effort to put out the blaze included six engines, four water tenders, three hand crews, one air attack, two tankers and one helicopter.

As for the status of repairs to Palo Colorado

See FIRE page 21A



PHOTO/DMT IMAGING

Responding to a wildfire Tuesday, a Cal Fire helicopter based in Watsonville lands at Bottchers Gap in Big Sur.



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# Arroyo Seco Road reopens at last

By CHRIS COUNTS

ARROYO SECO Road has reopened after major repairs, marking a milestone in the effort to reopen Arroyo Seco Campground, a popular summertime destination for outdoor recreation.

“Public works and its contractor, Graniterock, were able to clear and stabilize the road after damages from winter storms and more recently, crews have been able to work in the area to put in some additional safeguards,” county officials announced. “Crews have installed protective barriers



PHOTO/MONTEREY COUNTY

Arroyo Seco Road has reopened, marking a critical step in the effort to bring visitors back to Arroyo Seco Campground.

ers to an area of the road under a hillside which had a landslide last year, allowing the opening of the road to all traffic.”

The site of the repairs is close to where Arroyo Seco Road and Carmel Valley Road meet. Arroyo Seco Road has been subject to closures for much of the past year.

“This area has been constantly

monitored since the slide was discovered in April of 2023 and with the storms earlier this year, debris continues to fall toward the roadway,” the county said. “The protective barrier was installed to stop the debris and small rocks from falling directly onto the roadway.”

### Drive carefully

Officials urged locals to be careful when driving past the repair site due to instability in the hillside. “Residents are urged to continue to exercise extreme caution while driving through this area as the landslide continues to be active,” a report advised.

Owned and operated by the United States Forest Service, Arroyo Seco Campground offers primitive tent or RV camping, along with picnic tables, a campfire circle, a group campsite and vault toilets — along with easy access to a vast network of hiking trails, and swimming along the river.

Andrew Madsen of the United States Forest Service said it’s too early to say when the trails or campground will reopen,

but it’s likely the site will be reopened to day-use visitors before overnight campers. He added that repairs to the campground are still being made.

With most of Big Sur inaccessible due to slides along Highway 1, the eventual reopening of the campground and its trails will no doubt attract many visitors.

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# Big Sur Land Trust buys 84 acres

By CHRIS COUNTS

A SLICE of nature located next door to Monterey Regional Airport — and the possible site of an ancient Native American village — an 84-acre property known as the Hiss Parcel was acquired by the Big Sur Land Trust for \$2.75 million, the Monterey-based group announced this week.

The money to buy the land comes from taxpayers, through the California State Coastal Conservancy, and private donations, through the Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Foundation and Barnet J. Segal Charitable Trust.

According to the land trust, the acquisition “preserves a significant portion of the larger Canyon Del Rey watershed, and supports rich wetlands, riparian habitat, perennial and annual grasslands, coast live oak woodlands, and small patches of maritime chaparral and Monterey Pine forest.”

“We are protecting important habitats that are part of a valuable wildlife corridor,” Big Sur Land Trust CEO Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis said. “Deer, coyote, and black bears have been spotted on the land.”

The land trust’s director of conservation, Rachel Saunders, told The Pine Cone that the parcel “had been actively marketed as a commercial development site,” but the acquisition puts an end to that.

### Many benefits to sale

In a letter to state officials two years ago, Sen. John Laird lobbied for preserving the property. Laird described the land as “coastal native grasslands, riparian areas, and oak woodlands along the scenic Highway 68 corridor,” and noted that it can be connected by trail to the Joyce Stevens Monterey Pine Forest and other protected

See LAND page 19A

# SUPERIOR COURT GETS NEW CEO

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A LONGTIME Monterey County Superior Court official has been selected as the new court executive officer, the county said Wednesday.

Katy Grant — who’s been the court’s interim court executive officer since Jan. 24 and was its chief operations officer for the past eight years — will fill the shoes left by Chris Ruhl, who was the county’s CEO from 2017 until January, when he took a job in Glenn County.

### Access to Justice

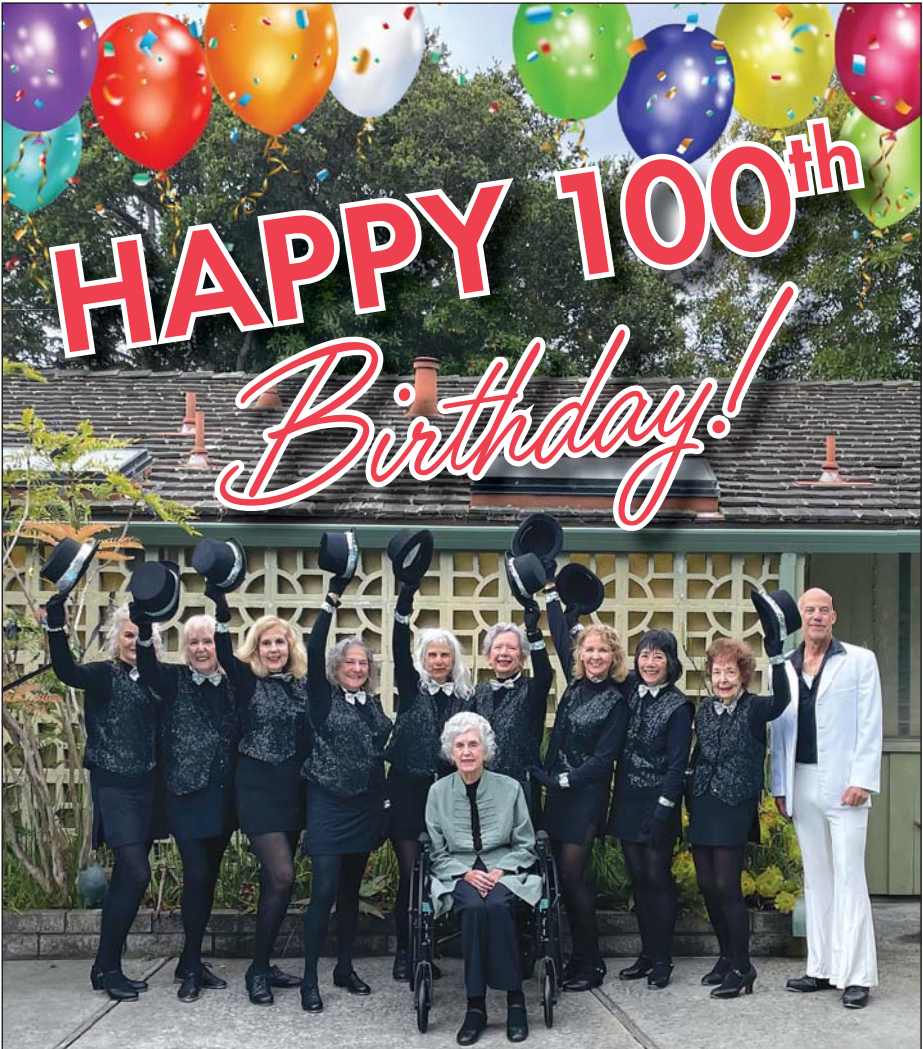
“I am honored to serve Monterey County Superior Court and the people of this beautiful county and am humbled by the faith the judicial officers and staff have shown in me,” Grant said this week. “I look forward to supporting staff and the

bench in providing fair, equal, and open access to justice.”

The CEO, who oversees the management and administration of the nonjudicial operations of the court, acts under the direction from the presiding judge.

Before her move to Monterey County, Grant worked at an Oregon state court, managing court-wide operations and the pretrial services program. She has a juris doctorate from the University of Oregon School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Presiding Monterey County Superior Court Judge Carrie Panetta said that based on Grant’s experience, she’s “confident” Grant “will continue to serve the court with the dedication, energy, and hard work she has continuously displayed over the past eight years.”



Mary Delfino

Carmel resident, Mary Delfino celebrates her 100th Birthday with a surprise performance by The Tap Bananas Dance Group. The Tap Bananas perform at Senior Centers throughout Monterey County and at the Monterey County Fair. Mary, a pillar of the Carmel Foundation also hosted the annual Santa Fly-In at the Carmel Valley airport for the children of our area.

Thank you Mary for making a difference in all of our lives.

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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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# County gets election tech funds

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY will spend nearly \$170,000 to improve security related to elections, the county board of supervisors decided this week.

On Tuesday, the board voted to authorize the registrar of voters to accept \$168,000 to enhance election technology and security in the county.

The funds, made possible from the 2002 Help America Vote Act, will be used for “the improvement and enhancement of county cybersecurity, physical security, security and privacy awareness training, and incident response planning and mitigation,” Registrar of voters Gina Martinez told The Pine Cone this week.

The county elections department had to seek permission from the supervisors to enter into an agreement with the Secretary of State for the funds, Martinez said. The money is part of \$9.2 million in state and federal money available to counties in California to help pay for election security.

While nothing in the county’s plan for the money indicates it will do anything to require voters to prove their identity or eligibility to vote, there will be “monitoring of systems and applications to prevent

and detect data breaches or fraud,” including cloud security monitoring and threat intelligence technology, according to the agreement.

Physical security upgrades include security cameras and other surveillance systems, panic alarms, emergency generators and “physically securing servers hosting county voter registration, election information systems, and voting technology.” The funds would also provide for training, including how to combat “misinformation.”

### ‘Sweeping reforms’

The Help America Vote Act was passed by Congress to “make sweeping reforms to the nation’s voting process,” according to the federal government’s website for the law. The act “addresses improvements to voting systems and voter access that were identified following the 2000” presidential election between George Bush and Al Gore, which included nearly two million ballots being disqualified because vote-counting machines incorrectly registered multiple or no votes.

The topic was on the supervisors’ consent agenda and members did not discuss the item.



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# P.G. fire station to get new private bathrooms, lose gang showers

By KELLY NIX

FIREFIGHTERS IN Pacific Grove will soon have private showers to replace communal ones that have been in place for three decades, following the city council’s approval Wednesday to renovate the facilities.

The fire station at 600 Pine St. has one bathroom equipped with three shower heads with no separation for privacy and no toilet or sink, and a second bathroom with only a toilet and a urinal. The council voted to approve a \$134,950 contract to remodel both bathrooms so each will have a single shower, toilet and sink.

“The project will allow any crew member assigned to the station to shower, use the restroom, or decontaminate after an exposure concurrently and without privacy concerns,” Joyce Halabi, deputy director of public works, told The Pine Cone Tuesday. “The current configuration allows for only one crew member to take a shower at a time.”

Specifically, the new shower and restroom facilities “will be used interchangeably by female and male firefighters,” Halabi wrote in her report to the council.

### ‘Cost efficient’

While there are no women assigned to the P.G. fire station, interim Monterey Fire Chief Andrew Miller said that women who are not assigned specifically to the P.G. station sometimes work there.

“All of our firefighters apply for station assignments

every two years, or move station assignments due to a vacancy; so our female firefighters can apply for the P.G. station or be assigned there to fill a vacancy,” Miller said this week.

The department, he said, is also hiring four new firefighters, so it’s possible one or more will be women who could be assigned to Pacific Grove. The P.G. fire station is part of the Monterey Fire Department.

The city council selected Shellco General Contractor,

which provided the lowest of four bids at \$134,950. Fifty-thousand dollars of the bathroom project will be paid with funds from the American Rescue Plan Act — a \$1.9 trillion Biden Administration plan to stimulate the economy during the Covid-19 pandemic. Congress passed the legislation and President Joe Biden signed it in early 2021.

City staffers proposed allocating surplus funds from several other city projects to help pay for the balance of the bathroom remodel that the ARPA funds won’t cover.

## Cherry Center play pokes fun at aging

A NEW comedy by local playwright Tom Parks that delves into the joys and tribulations of getting older, “Age Is Only A Number” opens Friday at the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts.

According to Parks, the play pokes fun at the aging process with “a grand cast of witty actors playing various characters in situations that everyone over the age of twenty will recognize,” he explains. “This evening of good fun is for anyone who can smile at the adventure of growing older,” he adds.

The comedy continues through May 25 — Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:30 p.m., while Sunday matinees begin at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$30. The Cherry Center is located at Fourth and Guadalupe. For tickets, call (831) 717-7373.

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# Hotel opens after years under wraps

By MARY SCHLEY

AFTER MORE than two years of work, the rebranded Stilwell Hotel, formerly the Carmel Lodge and before that the Carmel Sands, quietly opened Wednesday. “It’s quite lovely — so many locals have come through,” owner Mark Stilwell said Thursday. “It’s been behind closed doors for so long, because it’s been a construction site.” Now, he said, “It’s sparkling.” It’s been a long road for Stilwell and his wife, Susan, who also own the Tradewinds hotel a couple of blocks away. The couple purchased the property out of foreclosure in 2013 for \$6.5 million and inherited plans for a demolition and rebuild with a design by architect Eric Miller that had been

approved in 2010. The permits expired in 2014 after being extended once, and the planning commission the following year did not re-approve them, but the city council did in 2016. **Different path** Those permits also expired, and the Stilwells focused on running the hotel as it was until their new proposal for a full remodel was approved. In April 2021, the planning commission OK’d their plans to upgrade the 42-room, 20,000-square-foot hotel and add 2,290 square feet in conference space, five guest rooms and covered parking. Other improvements included overhauling the then-long-closed corner restaurant — now home to Foray — getting rid of the pool and creating more



After a long time looking drab, followed by more than two years of construction, the remodeled and rebranded Stilwell Hotel quietly opened this week.

PHOTO/ROBERT MILLER

outdoor spaces for gathering. Now, the culmination of all of that effort has finally come, with Stilwell spending most of the past week onsite to ensure things are running smoothly. “We want to get everything just right,” he said.

See **STILWELL** page 19A



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# C.V. residents key in catching suspected kidnapper with history of violence

By MARY SCHLEY

IF IT hadn't been for the Carmel Valley Village residents who helped search for Anthony Mauro — accused of kidnapping, car theft, burglary and evading police — during an all-out manhunt Wednesday, officers might never have found him, Seaside Police Chief Nick Borges said.

The incident began when Mauro, 40, long known to Borges and other Seaside officers for a history of violence, took a bus from Monterey to Seaside and showed up unannounced at the home of a man he had earlier asked about buying a vehicle. He threatened the resident with a hammer and nearly hit him before forcing the man into his own car and demanding to be driven to the vehicle that was supposedly for sale, according to Borges. There, he ditched the victim and the first car, took the keys and left in the second vehicle, a white Honda Odyssey minivan.

### Wrong-way driving

Mauro drove erratically through Seaside to CSUMB, where university police saw him driving the wrong way on a one-way street and tried to stop him, according to Borges. Mauro took off, nearly hitting a patrol car, and fled south. Police tracked his route by tapping into various jurisdictions' Flock license-plate-reading cameras. But it was eagle-eyed C.V. residents who located the Honda, which Mauro had left on Country Club Drive to flee on foot, and officers found the hammer inside.

"That's when we started calling in resources," Borges said, including the Monterey County Sheriff's Office and its K-9s, a drone team, the California Highway Patrol and its helicopter, and other agencies that responded, including Monterey and Carmel police departments. Village residents helped in the search,

several people parked trucks around Tularcitos school, which was on lockdown, to make sure Mauro didn't enter the campus, and others phoned in tips. Officers were able to find their suspect at a Terrace Way residence off of Country Club Drive after a woman told police she'd seen a man matching his description walking through her yard, according to Borges.

### Restraints needed

Mauro was "peaceful" when they initially arrested him but became violent by the time the officers got him to Seaside P.D. for booking, Borges said, so they had to bind his arms and legs so he couldn't keep fighting them.

It wasn't the first time Mauro acted out, according to Borges. "I'm very familiar with him, and back in 2011, he was well known to us," he said, for his aggressiveness and tendency toward violence. "He lived in Seaside back then, and he certainly suffers from mental illness issues. I hadn't heard his name in some time."

Police believe Mauro was under the influence of methamphetamine Wednesday, and they found pipes, along with replica firearms and other evidence, in his possession, according to Borges.

"He can be a very dangerous guy, and yesterday he demonstrated that," he said. "I was so glad we were able to capture him. He would not have stopped — he would have victimized someone else."

"With all the technology we had, we still could not have done this without those residents of Carmel Valley," Borges continued. "We praise them and have our hats off to them."

Mauro was booked into Monterey County Jail on charges of kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary, vehicle theft and evading police. His arraignment was postponed until May 6.



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# Nearly every city in the county grew in population, state says

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY is one of 10 counties in California that saw the highest growth in population from 2023 to this year, according to data estimates by the state’s department of finance, which also indicates that every city in the county saw an increase in residents, except one.

Gov. Gavin Newsom Monday announced the release of the new data, which indicates that from Jan. 1, 2023, to Jan. 1, 2024, Monterey County grew from 433,953 residents last year to 437,614 today, an increase of about 0.8 percent. The data was part of a statewide study that shows that California’s population increased by 67,000 last year for a total of 39,128,162.

“This is the first year since 2020 that the state has seen an increase” in residents, the finance department said.

### South County boom

Carmel-by-the-Sea had a 0.5 percent increase, from 3,105 to 3,122; while Pacific Grove increased by 0.6 percent, going from 14,872 to 14,966 residents. Seaside had an increase by just 10 residents, the state says, from 30,187 to 30,197 and diminutive Sand City saw one more person move there, increasing the population from 378 to 379, while Del Rey Oaks had 10 more residents over last year, for a total of 1,569.

Only the City of Monterey did not see an increase in population, according to the state, which said it had a decrease of 83 people, from 27,189 to 27,106.

“We do not have any idea why we have a decrease,” Monterey city manager Hans Uslar told The Pine Cone, adding that the state does not provide its margins of error

in the estimates. “These are just estimates and not hard numbers.”

The City of Marina, due to a 1 percent increase in students at California State University at Monterey Bay, grew by 1.9 percent, the department of finance said.

Most of the county’s increase in population occurred in the southern Salinas Valley. Soledad had a 1.9 percent increase, to 26,966, while the population in Greenfield grew by 406 people, to 20,561. King City, which has 14,216 residents, increased by 248, and Gonzales increased by 82, for a total of 8,466 residents, the state says.

Salinas, the county’s largest city, had an increase of 1,167 residents, for a total of 162,037 over the 2023 figure. Nearby San Benito County, which had an increase in population of 1.1 percent, is one of only five counties in

the state that grew above 1 percent, growing to 65,853.

### ‘California dream’

Newsom put a rosy spin on the idea that California’s population had grown for the first time since 2020, reaching 39,128,162 — an increase of 67,000.

“People from across the nation and globe are coming to the Golden State to pursue the California dream and experience the success of the world’s fifth largest economy,” Newsom press statement said. “From the inland Empire to the Bay Area, regions throughout California are growing — strengthening local communities and boosting our state’s future.”

California’s taxes, on the other hand, remain among the highest in the nation.

## MURDER

From page 5A

submitted the evidence that had been collected from the womens’ clothing, bodies and apartments for new forensic analysis. He also re-interviewed witnesses and continued to pursue the case after taking a job with the district attorney’s office in 2017.

The cold case task force was established in 2020 and in early 2022 received \$535,000 in federal taxpayer funds for DNA testing in cold cases with known suspects. Serological Research Institute in Richmond and Astrea Forensics in Santa Cruz conducted DNA analysis of the evidence

and found a strong connection with Norris.

That was enough to identify him as the murderer, according to the DA’s office, “and charges would be filed against him if he were presently mentally competent to stand trial.”

But in-person interviews with Norris and a thorough review of his records led investigators to conclude there is no likelihood he would be declared competent to stand trial within the next two years — the state’s limit for competency hearings — and that any case filed against him would be dropped as a result.

“He has been diagnosed with multiple mental health disorders and is gravely mentally ill,” L’Heureux said. “Accordingly, the district attorney’s office is not able to file criminal charges against Norris for the murders.”

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# HOFASAS

From page 1A

the parking garage and cement needed to build the new hotel will clog the streets with trucks, too.

Although the hotel was declared not historic, he also says, “The historic façade of the building will be lost unnecessarily. One more piece of Carmel’s history obliterated.”

Kruse quarrels with the building heights listed in the plans and says the additional glass on the west side will have “consequences for the neighbors from increased reflective glare.”

Demolition and construction will negatively impact “parking opportunities,” too, and the project’s location on busy streets that serve as ingress to town means construction traffic, including large vehicles, will be even more problematic.

### Track record

Backing their argument, Kruse and Henson cite three projects — a proposal to demolish Sunset Center and replace it with a larger theater in 1995, the proposed San Carlos Inn 13-unit residential care facility on San Carlos and Mission south of Seventh in 1999, and the 2004 Plaza Del Mar mixed-use complex that would have replaced the former bank building at Seventh and Dolores — that required EIRs.

The San Carlos Inn and Plaza Del Mar projects did not call for replacing like with like, as the Carmel Legacy Hotel project does. None of the projects they mentioned made it to the groundbreaking stage.

“The Hofsas House project also involves demolition and replacement of structures as these three earlier projects did,” they write. “The city nonetheless did not see fit to do any CEQA analysis, let alone prepare an EIR,” instead finding the project exempt from environmental review.

But it’s not infill development, according to Kruse and

Henson, because that category “refers to building within unused and underutilized lands within existing development patterns, typically but not exclusively in urban areas.”

“CEQA documentation should have been more comprehensive, and an EIR should have been considered, especially for a project of this magnitude surrounded by residential neighborhoods,” they write.

Demolition and construction might release asbestos and other toxins into the air, which could threaten the health and safety of nearby residents, as might diesel exhaust from heavy equipment and trucks.

“No legitimate health and safety assessment to address the demolition and construction phase of the project was undertaken before the planning commission approved the project,” the document says.

Theis and her team did not want to comment on the appeal. The city council will consider their arguments at a future meeting.



RENDERING/ERIC MILLER ARCHITECTS

An EIR should have been considered for the hotel project proposed to replace the Hofsas House on San Carlos, an opponent says. This rendering shows the main entrance.



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# PARKING

From page 1A

for anyone, including drivers, trying to pass through the intersection.”

She said the public works department is reviewing all projects in the design and

construction phases to ensure they are complying with the new state rules, which took effect Jan. 1 and will become enforceable Jan. 1, 2025.

The department “will then address existing marked parking spaces to ensure they are in compliance,” she said.

While every intersection is subject to the law, some are already “no parking”

because of the ways they are marked and signed, according to Garcia, and drivers who ignore those requirements can be cited, while those who park in unmarked areas will just receive warnings, for now.

“After Jan. 1, 2025, citations can be issued to any vehicle in violation,” she said. “No additional red curb or signs are required.”



PHOTO/KELLY N...

P.G. removed a crosswalk at Lighthouse and Fountain to comply with a new state law and installed this “no ped crossing” sign.

## P.G. update

Pacific Grove, meanwhile, was the first Monterey Peninsula city to start making changes to its downtown parking in response to the law, getting to work on it early this year.

One of the first changes the city made was to eliminate the painted crosswalk at Lighthouse and Fountain avenues. That’s because a parklet in front of Victorian Corner restaurant at 541 Lighthouse is not compliant with the new state law.

While the restaurant owners have agreed to remove the parklet in favor of a city-planned al fresco dining area that also includes a wider 8-foot pathway, public works recently posted a “no ped crossing” sign at the former crosswalk, with an arrow directing pedestrians to a painted crosswalk on the other side of the intersection.

“If the Victorian Corner parklet is removed and the intersection meets all the requirements of AB 413, it would be the intention of public works to reinstall the crosswalk,” public works director Daniel Gho told The Pine Cone.

Gho explained that the city has started painting its red curbs downtown to 20 feet on the approach side of the marked crosswalks and performing other work, such as removing and repainting parking spots.

“We have just started this endeavor, and it will take us some time to complete,” he said, adding that they will also need to expand the red curbs to 20 feet in some places.

## Budget, housing, TOT on council agenda

### PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE CARMEL City Council on May 7 is set to get its first look at the proposed 2024-2025 budget — which anticipates a record \$43,850,044 in spending — and will consider putting a measure on the November ballot to increase the hotel tax rate, according to the agenda released Thursday.

Members are also set to discuss “outreach to identify alternatives to the

city-owned sites for the construction of affordable housing,” and are scheduled to vote on a Mills Act contract for the preservation of the Cypress Inn in exchange for a significant break in property taxes.

And a nearly half-million-dollar contract may be awarded to Monterey Peninsula Engineering for drainage work in Mission Trail park. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. in person and online. Visit [ci.carmel.ca.us](http://ci.carmel.ca.us) for more information.



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# STILWELL

From page 14A

work things out.”

Construction took so long in part because the property had been cobbled together over the years. “It was essentially three different hotels built in different decades, so we didn’t have a common set of issues — we had three,” he said, but remodeling allowed reuse of the foundations and much of the lumber, which was of far better quality than what’s sold now.

In 2020, the Stilwells hired Lark Hotels

to manage both of their properties, though he’s still very much involved.

“They’ve been helping us with decisions and operational issues,” he said. “They have experience with various boutique properties all over the country. We’re the only properties in California right now, but I’m sure we won’t be in the future.”

Stilwell said Lark was the right choice. “I was looking for a small boutique hotel management company, and we hit it off with their leadership,” he said. Lark brought in a husband-and-wife team to serve as GM and operations manager, and they live down the street, “so they can walk to work.”

# LAND

From page 10A

regional properties, “thereby augmenting public access to trails in the region.”

The land is also important to local Native Americans. Saunders reported that “artifacts and native human remains” were found “during construction of the airport runway extension project” — and that Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Nation believes

a village may have existed there.

Ohlone Costanoan Esselen chairwoman Louise Miranda Ramirez said she’s hopeful the land will “provide a place for my people to spend as much time together as possible to build back their families, culture, language, songs and stories.”

According to the land trust, the purchase of the property will also enhance wildfire protection for local communities — through “proper” management — and benefit local water quality by preserving wetlands.

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*Judy Allene (Stoughton) Piper*

Judy Allene (Stoughton) Piper went home to be with the Lord on March 19, 2024, at 96 in Boise, ID. She lived a long, healthy, happy and fulfilling life. Allene was born on April 10, 1927, in Beaver County, OK, to Joseph and Mildred Stoughton of Follet, Texas. She moved to Greenfield CA, at a young age. Allene graduated from King City High School in1946. Allene met her husband, Ernie Piper, in 1945, when he was stationed at the Navy Air base in King City during WWII. Allene and Ernie were married in 1946 and moved to Kansas City, MO where they started their family, having five children in all. In 1956 a job opportunity took them back to King City. Over the years she worked several different jobs at a college, paper and telephone company while raising her family. In 1963 they moved to Carmel Valley where they continued to raise their family, staying until retirement in 1990. Allene found her career passion working with elementary school children at Carmelo and River schools from 1967 to 1990. She started as a yard duty teacher, teacher’s assistant and becoming resource teacher assistant. In 1990 they retired and moved to Sedona, AZ. They enjoyed retirement to the fullest, it was a new adventure. Allene took up new hobbies: golfing, painting and continued with to enjoy camping, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Allene was born-again Christian with a deep faith in God, which was always a big part of her life. Her sweet husband, a Christian man, passed away in 2000 from ALS. Later she moved to Boise, ID to be close to her daughter. Allene found love again in 2019 and married Joe Nielson. They loved to stay active and enjoyed time with family and friends. Allene is survived by her husband, Joseph Nielson; five children, Adam Piper, Sondra Quevedo, Debbie Tringali, Denise Chamblee and Jill George; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren: and two great-great-grandchildren. Allene and Ernie left a big beautiful legacy that will live on for generations to come. She loved her family dearly and was so very proud of them all! Allene was a beautiful Christian woman with a big heart, full of generosity and compassionate to all that knew her. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and a good friend to all. Allene was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Mildred Stoughton (Greenfield, CA); sister, Mary Jo Renfro (Salinas, CA) and first husband, Ernest Adams Piper Jr. (Sedona, AZ)

See the full obituary at [Bowmanfuneral.com](http://Bowmanfuneral.com)





**JOAN RIGGS**

Joan Riggs, 92 years old, from The Cottages of Carmel, passed away on April 21, 2024. Joan was born in Lansing, Michigan. She lived in many cities throughout the Midwest and moved to California for the last 40 years of her life.

Joan received a B.A. and master’s degree in home economics and elementary education. She taught Home EC in high school and later taught second grade for many years. Jo enjoyed playing the organ, was an excellent cook, a world traveler and appreciated classic sports cars.

Joan loved summers in Northern Michigan, church, her Michigan State Spartans, roses, needlepoint, honeybees and the 49ers, but most importantly she loved her family. Jo was blessed to have two special husbands who preceded her in death, Herb Whitecraft and Jack Riggs. She is survived by her daughter, Jillane Whitecraft Chadwell and son-in-law Greg Chadwell; grandchildren, Riley Chadwell, Erin Chadwell White (Phil); and great-grandchildren, Reyn and Ella White.

**In lieu of flowers or donations, please consider planting a pollinator plant in your garden.**

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

**JOSEPH V. CARBONARO**

On Monday, April 15, 2024, Joseph V. Carbonaro, age 93, entered into eternal rest in his Willow Glen home.



Joseph’s passing was preceded by that of his wife, Irene; parents Vito and Josephine Carbonaro; brothers, Alfio, Charles and Salvatore and sisters, Rosalie and Antoinette. He is survived by his children, Daina, Mark, Judy (Tom) and Jane; grandson, Erik; sister-in-law, Sally, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Joe’s parents emigrated from Catania, Sicily to the mill towns of Massachusetts. During the depths of the Great Depression, the family drove cross-country to seek a better life in California.

In a city with only two public high schools, it was not surprising that Joe Carbonaro and Irene Campi found one another. (They were in the same seventh grade homeroom). Initially, the two traveled in different circles. Irene found a home in the library, ultimately entering and graduating from O’Connor Hospital’s nursing school. Joe was a multi-sport athletic supernova focused on baseball. The “slender right-hander” attracted Major League scouts’ attention after he hurled a no-hitter in his final prep game. Following a successful semi-pro season, Joe was signed to a professional baseball contract by the Brooklyn Dodger organization, thus began his life’s most exciting era. <<https://cooperstownersincanada.com/tag/joe-carbonaro/>>

During this time, Joe and Irene reconnected, courted, married and began to build their life together. Joe’s conscription during the Korean War interrupted this interlude. Joe did his basic training at Fort Ord and it was his introduction to the beauty of the Monterey Peninsula. It became his goal to someday live in this seaside paradise. Upon his release from the US Army, Joe took advantage of a community college training program and began a 55-year career as a millman, then custom cabinet maker.

Joe and Irene purchased a home in Monterey in 2002 and upon retirement moved to the peninsula in 2009.

Firmly grounded in his faith; Joe was a member of both Saint Christopher’s parish in San Jose and St. Angela’s parish in Pacific Grove.

Visitation and rosary will take place Wednesday, May 8 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Willow Glen Funeral Home, 1039 Lincoln Ave. (enter at Lester Avenue), San Jose.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 9 at Saint Christopher’s Church, 2278 Booksin Ave., San Jose. Inurnment will immediately follow at Santa Clara Mission Cemetery, 490 Lincoln St., Santa Clara.

**The family would appreciate donations to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Sacred Heart Community Service, or Second Harvest Food Bank.**



# AUCTION

From page 1A

Also included in the auction are original works by artists Richard Schloss, Wanda Waldera, Ann M. Hogle, “Humphrey” (last name unknown), Vincent Falsetta, Jim

Mary Jean Mackres

Mary Jean Mackres, who was always known by her middle name, was born in 1922 in northern Indiana. She lived to the ripe old age of 101 and passed away this March 25th in Santa Rosa, CA. Jean grew up with her parents and three sisters, of which she was the oldest, in a small-town environment. She was raised Methodist in a Mennonite derived family but married the son of a Greek immigrant: a true post-WWII marriage replete with rich complexities and some contradictions for such a country girl. But she rose to the challenge and even thrived as the wife of a Naval JAG officer who moved our family from posting to posting around the country and overseas, ultimately landing happily in Carmel. Her interests in history and culture were fed by that experience and she passed that appreciation onto her grateful children. Jean is survived by her five children, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She will be laid to rest next to her husband, Charles Mackres, at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery in Seaside at 3 p.m. on May 6th.

Dine, Channa Davis Horwitz, Sam Colburn, Joan Savo and Edgar R. Buonagurio. Many of the more contemporary pieces were part of the decor when Spanish Bay opened in 1987.

Historian and author Neal Hotelling told The Pine Cone that the Pebble Beach Co. simply ran out of room to display or store all the art. “We keep acquiring new art, and we have only so much wall space,” he explained. “Eventually, the storage overflows and we have to be practical about what we will really use.”

While Pebble Beach is most famous for its golf, it turns out that artists discovered its charms first.

“Most people think of Pebble Beach as host to international stars and some of the most celebrated moments in golf history,” Hotelling said. “However, with the arrival of the railroad in 1880, artists discovered the light and

beauty of Pebble Beach even before golf made its way to the Monterey Peninsula. In the decades that followed, a growing number of artists arrived on the scene and were commissioned to create art as décor for resort properties.”

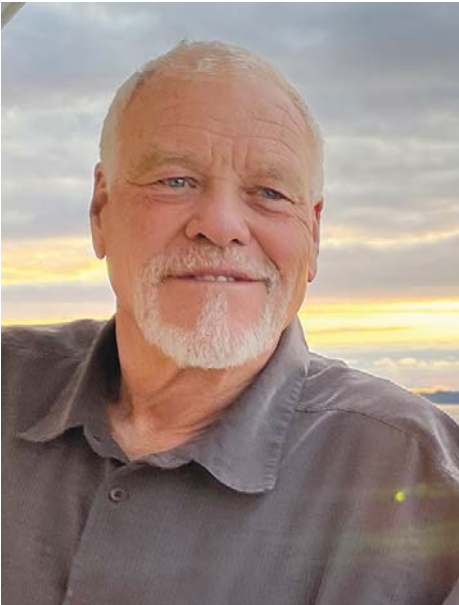
Several ways to bid

Nearly 200 lots are featured in the auction. To see the catalog or register to bid, go to [www.abell.com](http://www.abell.com). Advance bids are already being placed. During the auction, buyers can bid at the same website or via telephone.

Winning bidders can arrange their own pick-up or shipping from the auction house in Los Angeles. However, PBC has made arrangements so local bidders may choose to have their pieces delivered to Pebble Beach for pickup. Just let the auctioneer know which option you prefer when making payment.



Among the nearly 200 items in the Pebble Beach Co. art auction are this 1930s Julian P. Graham photo of the Lodge (left) and a lithograph, “Golfer,” by Bart John Forbes.



THADDEUS WELLINGTON SIGOURNEY

Thaddeus Wellington Sigourney, 71, of Carmel passed away unexpectedly on April 15. Born on Dec. 5, 1952, in San Francisco, he was raised and lived in the Monterey area for his entire life other than attending college at UC Davis.

His family was the core of his active life; wife of 42 years, Julie (Brandlin); and children, Elsbeth, Bryce (Megan), Brendan (Kelly) and Brita (Tim). Blessed with seven grandchildren (Oliver, Luke, Remy, Hazel, Cameron, Nico and Lily), he was the best grandpa possible. He is survived also by his brother, Edward Sigourney of Carmel Valley. His life was filled with the joy of time spent with family, sports, travel and community involvement.

Thad had a long career centered around athletics, which were an enduring passion and joy in his life. He coached swimming and water polo and was the Athletic Director and PE teacher at All Saints Day School for 39 years. He earned the love and respect of countless students, families and colleagues with his boundless enthusiasm and generosity. His family also shared a love of skiing made possible by Thad driving the family to Tahoe almost every winter weekend and vacation. He will always be remembered for his booming voice shouting encouragement at countless soccer fields, pools, half-pipes and mogul courses.


Family and friends are invited to a celebration of life that will begin at 3 p.m. on May 18, at the outdoor amphitheater at All Saints Day School at 2600 Carmel Valley Road in Carmel Valley. Following the service his former students will host a game of “Ruggerball” in honor of “Mr. Sig,” that he created. Comfortable clothing is encouraged and athletic wear entirely appropriate.

JOAN R. BELLER

Joan R. Beller, 91, of Carmel, CA, passed away peacefully on April 27, 2024, in the presence of her two loving children, Susan B. Hughes and Harry R. Beller. Joan was predeceased by the love of her life and husband of 53 years, Robert W. Beller.

Joan had a keen technical intellect balanced with love of the visual arts, and she had a lifelong passion for teaching. After growing up in Baltimore, MD, she earned a B.A. in Chemistry at Wellesley College (MA) and had multiple graduate degrees in education, including an M.A. in Computing in Education from Teachers College at Columbia University (NY). Early in her career, Joan’s technical acumen allowed her to participate in fields that were traditionally dominated by men, including as a computer programmer at Princeton University in the mid 1960s. Joan’s devotion to teaching included 17 years in Greenburgh Central School District #7 (NY) as an elementary classroom teacher and special education teacher. After Joan and Bob retired and moved to Carmel, Joan volunteered for years as a one-on-one tutor in the Monterey County Free Libraries Adult Literacy Program. Even into her nineties, Joan led a “Great Minds Online” course for the Carmel Foundation. Over the decades, Joan enjoyed needlepoint, using her own designs, which sometimes included geometric interpretations of natural scenes; her artwork added warmth and color to her home. Above all, Joan was a caring and considerate person who always strived to use her talents to make the world a better place, and she did.

For those who wish to donate in Joan’s memory, please consider Feeding America.



SCOTT CHARLES HUFFORD

Scott was born on December 9, 1965, in Carmel, California and passed away on April 9, 2024, in Palo Alto, California at the age of 58. He was a beloved son, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend.

Scott’s journey through life was marked by a vibrant personality that lit up every room that he entered. Described as charming, charismatic, and a man with a big heart, his presence left an impression on all who knew him.


Remembered fondly as a man of many talents, Scott’s career was vast. Following a childhood in Pacific Grove, he left home for the Minor Leagues the day after he graduated from high school and played ball for four years for the Philadelphia Phillies and the Detroit Tigers. Next, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sociology from California State University at Chico, and then completed the Police Academy at Monterey Peninsula College. He served 27 years with the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office where he became a sergeant. He was a true hero and received a commendation for his bravery. He is remembered as a sportsman who liked fishing and relished an annual golf trip with his buddies, as a companion who cooked gourmet meals and enjoyed spending time with his dear friend Jenny Angier, and as a family man who cherished quality time with his loved ones.

Scott is survived by his parents, Charles and Nancy Hufford; his children, Joshua and Jessica Hufford and Jenna Akoi (Kailoa); grandson, Kauakea Akoi; and former wife, Kristi Hufford. He also leaves behind his brother, Brian Hufford (Demetra); and nephews William and Nathan Hufford, as well as many beloved family and friends.

Scott was predeceased by grandparents, Loneta and Odell Nash, Elsie and Charles “Dana” Hufford; and his uncle, Philip Nash.

Scott will be remembered as a hero for his life of service, and as a man of faith that began with his membership of the First Baptist Church of Monterey throughout his childhood. He will be cherished by all who have loved him, and he will be remembered for a life well-lived.

A memorial service will begin at 11 a.m. on Monday, June 3, at the El Carmelo Cemetery in Pacific Grove.





# FIRE

From page 8A

Road, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors took several administrative steps toward fixing it in March, but the county still needs to come up with \$15 million to pay for the actual construction, making it unknown when the project will

actually start. The work will include replacing or making improvements to numerous culverts, installing steel guardrails and retaining walls, and temporarily relocating utility lines. “The 63 potential work areas include 13 storm-damaged retaining wall sites and 44 drainage improvement sites, as well as 20 potential construction storage areas,” a county report indicates.

# CONVOYS

From page 6A

adapt,” Gafill explained. “It’s an important step forward, and it’s allowing more employees to go back to work.” Sen. John Laird said it’s important to reestablish access to Big Sur for everyone. “We are deeply committed to re-opening Big Sur, and as your elected representatives, we will work tirelessly on this effort,” Laird said. “The community has

taken hit after hit with fires, floods, and road outages — a thoughtful reopening of Highway 1 gets people back to work and keeps businesses open.” Work continues at Rocky Creek on the \$25 million effort to stabilize the outside edge of the southbound lane and ultimately build a viaduct to support Highway 1 after a large chunk of pavement slipped out March 30, making the southbound lane unsafe for travel. While wind has threatened to slow the work, so far it hasn’t, Caltrans reported this week.

# GAVEL

From page 4A

Day. The victim let the defendant inside the room, and they began to argue. The family in the adjacent room called 911 and reported that a man was yelling and children were crying. Officer Brandon Palma of the Seaside Police Department arrived and interviewed the victim and witnesses. After the investigation,

Palma obtained an emergency protective order for the victim and relocated her and the children to another room. Approximately 20 minutes later, the victim called the police and reported that the defendant had repeatedly called her to say that he was going to kill her if she did not return home. Palma arrested the defendant at the home and served him a copy of the emergency protective order. While in custody at the Monterey County Jail, the defendant called the victim in violation of the emergency protective order and asked her to drop the charges.

Thinking of buying or selling a house in the Monterey Peninsula?  
Be sure to use a realtor who advertises in The Pine Cone.  
They care about the community ... and they care about you!



Caltrans District 5

## Support the Big Sur Community

- Donate to the Big Sur Relief Fund
- Fundraiser for Big Sur, La Playa Hotel, May 7  
More than 10 chefs and 22 wineries
- Silent Auction, Now – May 7  
Bid on exclusive travel and wine packages

[cfmco.org/BigSurReliefFund](https://cfmco.org/BigSurReliefFund)

**100% of donations will provide assistance and relief through local nonprofits for those affected.**



Give online, by phone or check payable to “CFMC” (with “Big Sur Disaster Relief” in memo line).  
Mail to: CFMC, 2354 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940.

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## THOMAS VINSON NASH

It is with gratitude and sorrow that the Nash, Schottgen, Bennett and Nicotra families announce the passage of Thomas Vinson Nash from this plane of existence on April 21, 2024. A larger-than- life personality and champion of justice, Tom’s presence was felt across the Monterey Peninsula and beyond.

Born in 1948 in Quincy, Massachusetts, Tom lived his early years south of Boston, followed by brief stints in Provincetown, MA, and New York City where he worked for a time at Sire Records and Polydor. Feeling the call of the west coast, he made the move to California.

Once in California, Tom quickly established himself in the Carmel and Big Sur communities, first in the service industry at Quail Lodge and Ventana, and then in various other ventures, including Speedy Hauling Service and Big Sur’s first dedicated taxi company.

As all could attest, Tom was possessed of a unique and profound intelligence, and it was this that drove him to pursue a career in law. Tom worked his way to a degree at the Monterey College of Law, and passed the bar in the following year. It was the start of a long and profound law career.

Tom was not just a lawyer, he was the “people’s lawyer,” dedicated to the defense of hardworking men and women across Monterey County. Through his work, he changed the lives of thousands and ensured that justice was distributed fairly and without prejudice or malice. Many across the Monterey Peninsula have a “Tom Nash moment,” where he helped them navigate a tricky situation or walk them through a complex issue. Tom was always eloquent, direct and a fierce advocate for clients and friends alike.

A true renaissance man, Tom’s interests, skills, and passions extended far beyond his work. A lover and supporter of jazz, blues, rock, classical, and all genres in between, he could be found at concerts up and down the coast. His early years working in hospitality developed a passion and deep knowledge of food and beverage, evidenced in his expertise in wine, a brief stint as the Monterey Herald Food and Beverage Reviewer, Hiram Powers, and continued support of the peninsula’s restaurants and taverns and broader hospitality industry.

Tom’s wonderful personality and tremendous laugh lit up every room he entered, and he could connect with anyone he came across, bonding over anything from the mundane to the most obscure and niche of topics. A wealth of knowledge, a wealth of spirit and a wealth of love, Tom’s story was a testament to enjoying life to the fullest. He will be sorely missed by all.

Tom is survived by his beloved, Debra Schottgen; brothers, Rick and Jack Nash; sons, Alex A. Bennett, Joshua W. Nicotra, Thomas Vinson Nash Jr.; grandson, Birk Bennett; granddaughter, Natalia Nash; and daughters-in-law, Helena Bennett, Siobhan Higgins and Maria Nash. He was predeceased by his mother, Barbara Wallace Nash; father, Richard W. Nash; and grandson, Eric Nash. He is also survived by countless really good friends.

Tom’s celebration of life will take place 4 to 9 p.m. Monday, May 13 at London Bridge Pub, Wharf No. 2, Monterey.  
In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to the Seva Foundation, the Legal Defense Fund, or Kuumbwa Jazz Center.





Editorial

Empowering the nobodys

BACK IN the 1960s, small groups of activists and protesters moved this country in directions it badly needed to go. Attaining civil rights for Blacks, ending the war in Vietnam and protecting the environment were all causes initially advanced by groups outside the mainstream.

Those causes were eventually embraced by the country, a political achievement that today is regarded by most Americans as a national success story. Unfortunately, the triumph of the protest movements of the '60s has been taken too much to heart by some, to the extent that they think no activist — especially a left-wing activist — is ever wrong about anything.

Nowhere has that been more true than on dozens of college and university campuses during the last several weeks, with students and activists taking over not only outdoor spaces, but classroom buildings and even libraries in their zeal to stop the “Israeli genocide” and create a “free Palestine,” if not “globalize the intifada.”

From Berkeley to UCLA, the University of Minnesota to the University of Pennsylvania, and from NYU to Columbia, the protesters have “taken over campus property, barricaded buildings, destroyed furniture and windows, and allegedly even taken custodial staff hostage,” as Hannah Meyers put it this week in City Journal.

With the protests spreading, a multitude of news reports and social media feeds showed heavily tattooed and pierced young people wrapping themselves in PLO-style scarves and waving Hamas flags in solidarity with the fundamentalist Islamic forces that rule Palestinian Gaza. Some of their actions have also been grotesquely antisemitic.

Unfortunately, many university presidents, national political figures and community leaders either failed to condemn the protests, or actively encouraged them, even after things got completely out of hand.

But long before the people who were supposed to be the adults in the room started lending their voices to the calls for violent revolution and even genocide, it must be asked what it was that gave all these young people the idea that it’s OK to disrupt the lives of everyone around them, and even put innocent lives in danger, for the sake of a political cause? Why not make speeches, circulate petitions, wave signs and lobby Washington like normal people?

According to Meyers, the problem is too much freedom.

“We are witnessing a generation of Americans never asked even to imagine themselves in an unfree society — and who therefore are unable to grasp the enormity of the liberties that they take for granted,” she said.

Here in California, another factor is that a host of laws to ensure that tiny groups of activists, and even lone individuals, can have their way in the political arena, no matter how loony their cause or how much the majority disagrees with them.

We have cited quite a few of these laws in the past, and it’s worth taking note of some of them again today:

■ One state law requires every local government meeting to begin with a period for “public comment,” during which anybody can speak their mind about anything. That sounds nice, except that most of the time all it does is give wackos a chance to waste everybody’s time, while also giving the impression that they actually represent the public.

■ Another state law — CEQA — requires that even the tiniest environmental impacts of a development project be analyzed in great detail, and forces judges to overturn the permit and planning decisions of local governments if the slightest flaw can be found in those decisions or in the evidence that supported them. The result? Special interests, advocacy groups and even professional malcontents are easily able to invalidate community decisions supported by everybody else.

We think laws should be enacted, and actually function, to benefit the people. Unfortunately, many laws in California have the opposite effect and end up empowering a few individuals at everybody else’s expense.

Children should be taught to appreciate their own freedom, and to hold dear the importance of respecting the lives, the rights and even the opinions of others. And the laws should be changed to limit the influence of disgruntled individuals and activists.

If they’re not, it will be because too many people are still in love with the '60s.

BEST of BATES



“I moved to Santa Barbara so I can come to Carmel on vacation.”

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

Low-level employees

Dear Editor,

As an attorney who has litigated non-compete cases over the past 30 years (on behalf of both employers and employees), I don’t find the FTC’s regulation of non-competes “ridiculous.” Traditionally these clauses were contained in negotiated employment contracts of high-level employees and/or those with highly specialized knowledge and skills.

Over the past decade or so, companies started to overreach and require non-competes from all employees, including entry-level and minimum wage workers. This significantly impacts those employees’ ability to change jobs or negotiate better pay and benefits, even though they are unlikely to ever have access to legally protected trade secrets.

The protection of such secrets is a legitimate employer interest, but there are more reasonable and less onerous ways to

do so than requiring all employees to sign non-competes.

Beth Coleman, Carmel

You get what you vote for: Dear Editor,

I have no problem with mixed housing within our communities when it is planned by those who live within the community. What I have a problem with is the over-reaching and heavy hand of the state dictating that we must and will do as they say, or else.

In this case, the governor and state Legislature in Sacramento, in all their benevolent wisdom, have decreed that Carmel, one of the most desirable small communities in California to live, must become a socialist utopia.

The City of Carmel is being strong-armed into providing high-density, low-income housing for those who could not otherwise afford to live here. This whole project will be subsidized by the taxpayers of California, that’s another tax on top of all the other state taxes we now pay. Communities should not be dictated to and suffer interference from the state on how best to manage their local housing needs. Make no mistake, this is all intentional and it’s happening all over California.

My question is, who is going to compensate local homeowners when the value of their properties drops in half over night? Where will the parking be for all of these new residents? Statistics show that higher rates of crime occur in low-income, high-density housing projects. This isn’t

See LETTERS page 25A

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# Winning depends on partnership with a horse named Fred

THERE’S ALWAYS a moment before a competition begins when Dawn Poston, who lives in the Hidden Hills neighborhood of Carmel Valley, and her horse, Fred, have to wait. Horse and rider are ready. The arena’s ready. In a few seconds, the gate will open and Fred will start to run. But first, Poston leans forward, pats Fred and tells him, “OK, Fred. We’re going to have a good time.” Fred agrees; Poston can tell. An instant later, it’s time to, as she put it, “put your hand forward and go.” Then, she and Fred go. And win — a lot.

Poston, 74, has been on horseback for virtually her entire life. The home she shares with her husband, Stephen Bloch, is filled with trophies, photos, saddles, belt buckles and other mementos of a lifetime spent competing in pretty much every form

confidence. If the animal stops short, the rider can become a projectile.

During her career, Poston has broken her knee, completely separated her right shoulder, and, as she put it, had “numerous cuts, bruises, sprains, split lips, broken fingers, and nosebleeds when riding jumpers.” She added, nonchalantly, “It happens.”

### Horse or furniture

As a teenager, she competed in barrel racing and gymkhana (a collection of timed speed events). In those days, there were few female ropers, so Poston competed in mixed male/female roping competitions. After graduating high school, she attended Hartnell College in Salinas, where, for the first time, she encountered what she characterized as “nice horses.”

She began to study other competitors, learning everything she could about how to improve. She also studied at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, which had two world champions on its women’s equestrian team. The learning continued.

After living for a time in San Francisco, Poston moved back to Carmel Valley, temporarily without a horse. She began riding with Richard Keller of Free Spirit Farms in Hidden Hills and competing as a hunter-jumper, an English-style event that, as the name implies, is about horse and rider jumping barriers.

Money was tight until a great-aunt left her enough funds to buy either a horse or furniture. She chose the horse. Furniture came later, as did a horse trailer (complete with living quarters for her), a truck to haul it, and a half-time work schedule allowing her more time for riding.

She’s still at it. Working with her trainer,

See **LIVES** next page

## Great Lives

By PETER DARLING

of equine contest, from cutting-horse competitions to English-style hunter-jumper contests to, in the beginning, playing “knights” with childhood pals in Prunedale. In that game, by the way, the goal was simply to knock the other kid off his or her horse. But now, in her sixth decade of riding, Poston has lost exactly none of the zeal, competitive drive and simple love for horses that have shaped her life. She is, in other words, all about winning.

### Partners

For Poston, it all comes down to the mysterious, vital and wordless partnership between a thousand-pound animal and a rider weighing about 10 percent of that. When you ask Poston how and why she rides, she’ll talk about Fred, whose full name is “Fresnos Plain Peppy.” He wants to please. He wants to be respected. He’s talented, has a good mind and communicates quite well. The two win as a team.

Born in Prunedale in 1950, Poston was one of those fortunate souls who knew exactly what she wanted to do with her life. Once she saw her first horse, she began riding on the backroads and trails of North County with friends anytime she could. She remembered leaving at 8 in the morning and not returning until nightfall, covering endless miles, day after day. The back of a horse is where she felt most comfortable, and still does.

Riding is not a risk-free pursuit, and along the way there were what seemed like constant falls and injuries. For example, the timing of a horse’s approach to a jump is critical, as is its



PHOTO/AUBRY MCADAMS

Carmel Valley’s Dawn Poston and her horse, Fred, compete — and win — in numerous equestrian events each year.

# Living near the artichoke fields and not knowing the names of the streets

FORTY YEARS after leaving Carmel-by-the-Sea to chase her future, Debra Nichols returned to rediscover her hometown in ways that, to her, resonate with the words of T.S. Eliot:

“The end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started, and know the place for the first time,” the poet wrote in “Little Gidding,” published in 1942.

A fourth-generation Carmelite, Nichols moved back into her childhood home in 2016 after retiring from a career in San Francisco in commercial architectural graphic design and signage.

Not long after, she reconnected with her

out of his scrap wood,” she said.

Carmel artist “Carla Coniglio (1926-2020) was like a second mother to me and brought me with her every year during Open Studios. I was a second-grader asking all of the artists what kind of brushes they used, what kind of paints they liked, where they painted, what they looked for when they painted ... I couldn’t get enough.”

### Lyceum art scholarship

As an elementary student at Junipero Serra School, Nichols won a scholarship to the Lyceum’s summer art camp in Carmel Valley, where she studied under regionally known artists. Carmel Art Association painter Richard Lofton, who lived across the street, was a family friend, as was Sir Harry Downie, the Carmel Mission’s chief restoration expert from 1931 until his death in 1980.

“The Mission was like a second home to me as a girl,” she said. “I liked to go into the chapel and light a candle, and I remember being in there one day when Harry Downie was teaching his staff how to paint with a feather.”

As a teen, she had a Christmastime job delivering for Mediterranean Market, which introduced her to another local icon, photographer Ansel Adams.

### ‘An important mentor’

At Santa Catalina, the director of the high school art department was Clarence Bates (1910-1999), a president emeritus of the Carmel Art Association, “...a wonderful man,” Nichols said. “He took me very seriously as an artist, and I just thrived and blossomed under him. He was an important mentor.”

When she graduated, Bates presented Nichols with the Bank of America Art Award and may have been responsible for getting her juried into the fine arts department at UC Davis — renowned at the time for a faculty of California art royalty that included Wayne Thiebaud, Roy de Forest, Robert Arneson, William Wiley and Manuel Neri.

### A pivot toward design

“After two years with all of those brilliant California artists, I found myself floundering a bit and considered going into marketing or advertising,” she said. “But when I discovered the design department at Davis, I instantly felt at home. I saw a way to put my love for art into service.”

In 1975, straight out of college, Nichols was hired by the world’s largest architectural firm, San Francisco-based Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, where she was one of three women in an office of more than 200 employees and eventually became an associate partner.

## Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

youthful obsession — fine art — and began experiencing epiphanies about herself and about the place where she grew up.

“I grew up in a town where I didn’t know the names of most of the streets. I’m only learning them now, at 71,” she said. “We would navigate by whether something was north or south of the milk stand. My favorite beach was where there was a tree in the middle of the road. Our house was across from the Mission, by the artichoke fields, near the river. There were no stoplights; there was no neon. Ocean Avenue was dark at 8 o’clock at night. It was a very textural experience.”

### Enamored as a child

Nichols, a plein air painter, remembers being enamored with art, artists, museums, galleries and the physical beauty of her surroundings, from early childhood through her graduation from Santa Catalina in 1971.

“I was making construction-paper centerpieces when I was 4 or 5 years old. If Dad was building something in the garage, I’d go out there and make little sculptures



PHOTO/DENNIS TAYLOR

Debra Nichols, a fourth-generation Carmelite, is a plein air specialist who loves to paint the Mission, where she’s also a docent.

See **ARTIST** page 26A

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



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# REGISTRY

From page 1A

given, too, along with the amount and date of monthly rent and whether the total includes utilities or fees. HOA dues and other assessments must be listed, if applicable, and landlords must disclose whether their tenants receive housing vouchers or other subsidies. Changes in ownership or management, rents and occupancy status must be reported within 30 days.

Those who own fewer than four rentals are exempt from the registry and its \$50-per-unit annual fee, but they still have to file for exemptions with the city. Owners of subsidized units, ADUs, mobile homes and owner-occupied homes containing rooms for rent must register those units but don't have to pay.

Wyatt said the fees paid as of April 29 totaled \$116,092.

### No more Mr. Nice Guy

"Beginning in May, the program's focus will switch from processing incoming submissions and outreach to enforcement," Wyatt said. "Staff will begin identifying and contacting property owners suspected of having unregistered rental units in the City of Monterey" to get them to comply.

Owners who have submitted incomplete registrations or haven't paid their fees, along with those who haven't registered at all, will have 30 days to fall in line before facing penalties, according to the

city. For each 30-day period following the issuance of a delinquency notice, the fee will increase by 10 percent, and if it goes unpaid for six months, the homeowner could be cited.

But some landlords are choosing to sell their rentals or occupy them in order to avoid having to provide such information to the city. One woman included in an email exchange among owners, realtors and the government affairs representative of a local realtors group said her Monterey neighborhood is "a good case study of what's gone on since the city passed this."

She said rents have increased and that four previous rental homes are now gone. "Two sold and two gave 60-day notices to their tenants so the owners could move in," she said in an email thread forwarded to The Pine Cone.

In one instance, a couple who live in Pacific Grove and own a rental in Monterey are planning to sell the P.G. residence and move into their Monterey home so they don't have to deal with the registry. "The elderly couple living there for nine years have to move back to Ohio, as there is nothing affordable for them on their income," the writer said.

And another landlord plans to move into a unit in the fourplex she owns so she will get the exemption given for three or fewer rentals. "The couple living there is devastated," she wrote.

Proponents of the registry have said it will benefit owners by providing "a platform to demonstrate compliance with regulations," maintaining a record of

ownership, creating a level playing field in the rental market, and providing resources including a website dedicated to services and resources, a dispute hotline for tenant-landlord issues, and referrals for mediation and legal services, according to the city.

According to officials, much of its information will be available to the public via an accessible database that includes the addresses and APNs of units for rent or lease along with their occupancy status, square footage and accommodations, prices and exemptions.

### Regulating relationships

"The rental inventory will foster a fair and transparent rental market that benefits all stakeholders," according to the city, and the public database will "ensure that market and compliance information for rental properties in the City of Monterey is as transparent as possible and equally available to all."

While denying the inventory will lead to rent control, the city "has a substantial government interest in regulating the relationship between property owners and tenants to increase certainty, stability and fairness within the rental market," according to its website. Employees can collect, monitor and analyze the data to "make informed decisions regarding affordability and legal protections in the future."

Officials also say the program will provide up-to-date information on market trends and keep them "informed on legal disputes between property owners and tenants."

"A rental inventory generally provides greater transparency with local authorities, fewer unfair rental practices and fewer non-compliant properties," the city says.

### Rental assistance

Also benefiting tenants, Monterey officials recently established a rental assistance program that kicked off last month, when applicants had eight hours on one day to apply for up to \$8,000 each to put toward their rent, legal disputes, housing counseling and other related needs. The city council in March voted to allocate \$250,000 in taxpayer funds to help "eligible Monterey households that are faced with housing instability issues."

"We understand there is a strong need for housing assistance from the community, and we are proud to be a city stepping up to provide this critical help," Wyatt said when the program was announced.

When the application period opens during the middle of each month, the first 10 eligible applicants will be selected for review and assistance, according to Wyatt, and renters not selected can reapply in the future. The program will continue monthly until the money runs out.

# FUNDRAISER

From page 3A

Cogley of Aubergine, Kent Torrey from The Cheese Shop, Nicolaus Balla (Coast Big Sur), Ad Astra Bread Co. proprietor Ron Mendoza, Tim Eelman from The Village Big Sur and Tim Wood, chef/owner of Woody's.

Generously pouring wine alongside them will be representatives from Au Bon Climat, Beaugard, Cain, Chappellet, Chateau Minuty, Clarice Wine Co., Dawn's Dream, Galante, I Brand & Family, Kermit Lynch, Kongsgaard, Lady of the Sunshine, Laurent-Perrier, Martine's Wines, Morgan, Mount Eden, Peay, Pisoni, Roar, Roodown Wine Cellars, Ruinart Maison, Sacred Thirst Selections, Scar of the Sea and Tablas Creek.

Everyone is contributing their time and products, according to organizers, and Marc & Rose Hospitality, which owns La Playa, is donating the space.

An online auction also benefiting the

Big Sur Disaster Relief Fund has gone live, as well, with items like a trip to France for six people led by Fink (starting bid: \$125,000), a tasting and lunch for six at Dom Perignon, dinner at Joe and Nancy Schoendorf's Big Sur home, a private dinner prepared by Cogley and served with bottles from Thatcher's Wine shop in Hayward, a visit to Promontory and a magnum of the 2018 vintage, a 3-liter bottle of Monte Bello, a case of Caymus, and several other wine packages. Find more information and bid at [bit.ly/BigSurAuction2024](http://bit.ly/BigSurAuction2024).

### Sharing the wealth

The Community Foundation for Monterey County will work with the Community Association of Big Sur to distribute 100 percent of the proceeds from the fundraiser, auction and any other contributions via the Big Sur Disaster Relief Fund, which is administered by the community foundation.

For tickets or to donate, go to [give.cfmco.org/event/fundraiser-for-big-sur/e582609](http://give.cfmco.org/event/fundraiser-for-big-sur/e582609). La Playa is located at Camino Real and Eighth in Carmel.

# LIVES

From previous page

Sarah Clifford of the Carmel Valley Trail and Saddle Club, Poston has been racking up awards for three decades. She and Fred participate in something called versatility ranch competition, which has events like ranch riding, ranch trail riding, ranch reining and ranch cow work.

Her awards have included seven division championships in the Golden State Versatility competition, six championships

in the Western States Division, and being named 2023 Western States Versatility Ranch Horse Association Advanced Amateur Year End Champion.

And finally, this year, she was designated Superior All Around by the American Quarter Horse Association, a feat which required her to win 50 All-Around Championships since 2016.

But, still, it all comes down to one horse and one rider working together, and Poston summed everything up with the phrase that has guided pretty much her entire life: "Winners win."

She's not wrong.

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# LETTERS

From page 22A

prejudice or hysteria, it's a statistical fact. Who will be responsible and answer for this increase in crime?

These problems will not occur overnight but eventually they will happen. This is social engineering at its worst, and eventually Carmel will no longer be a highly desired place to live or to visit while on vacation. It will no longer be the jewel by the sea.

The Democrats in control of this one-party state have been voting for liberal, socialist politicians and their policies for years. The chickens have come home to roost, and the citizens of Carmel will now get what they have been voting for ... whether they like it or not.

**William Hicks,**  
*Carmel*

## Post office protest?

**Dear Editor,**

Well, it finally happened. A Carmel resident was so frustrated about not getting her packages delivered at her incredibly hard to decipher address that she ran her car into the front entrance of our lovely Carmel Post Office.

Thankfully, no one was hurt. Unfortunately, the front entrance is now closed for repairs and whatever packages actually make it to 93921 have to be picked up at the Dutch door accessed through the Dolores entrance.

Ramming the entrance to the post office may have been all for naught. It certainly

got their attention though. Last I looked, our clerks were all wearing helmets.

**George Rosete,** *Carmel*

## Honor fallen heroes

**Dear Editor,**

As we approach a day of profound significance, Memorial Day, on May 27, please remember to "wear blue." Run to Remember invites you to join us in honoring and remembering our fallen heroes. This day, dedicated to remembrance and gratitude, offers us a unique opportunity to unite in honor of over 65,000 fallen service members since the first days of the Vietnam War. Our mission is to honor the service and sacrifice of our military members, support their families and the families of the fallen, and inspire health and camaraderie through running.

We invite you to stand shoulder to shoulder with us this Memorial Day. Commit to run or walk with Wear Blue this Memorial Day and we will share the name of a fallen service member to honor.

Join our Monterey community on May 27 at Lower Presidio Historic Park. At 8:30 a.m. we will gather in our Circle of Remembrance, a moving tribute for participants to speak the name of fallen military heroes, and then step off on a run or walk in their honor.

Together, we can ensure that the legacy of our heroes endures, inspiring future generations to remember the cost of freedom.

For the fallen. For the fighting. For the families. This Memorial Day, let's run to remember. For information on how your group can participate, please visit [www.wearblueruntoremember.org](http://www.wearblueruntoremember.org).

**Liz DeLise,** *Monterey*

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# ARTIST

From page 23A

Her career there took her all over the United States and abroad to exotic locations including Saudi Arabia, Peru, Japan, and China, where she worked closely with fellow Skidmore employee Bill Comstock, an architect.

## Roses and champagne

“On our first day in Beijing, we all were wearing the Nikon cameras we’d bought during our travels,” she recalled. “Mine immediately jammed, so I looked around for some levelheaded person who could help me with it and saw Bill standing there with the exact same camera around his neck.”

After working with Comstock on the project, they returned home to San Francisco, where, just hours after stepping off the plane, she opened her apartment door to find a delivery man holding two dozen roses and two bottles of Champagne.

“And that was it,” she said. “That was 1985, and we were married in 1988,” remembered Nichols, who was 35 at the time.

Their daughter, Katherine Comstock, was born two years later. She studied textiles at UC Davis and works for Levi-Strauss in San Francisco, designing women’s tops.

In 1991, Nichols left Skidmore to launch Debra Nichols Design, the company she operated until she retired eight years ago. In 1993, she received UC Davis’ highest honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award.

## Four generations in Carmel

Nichols and Comstock relocated eight years ago to Carmel-by-the-Sea, purchasing the home that her father, Donald Nichols, built for the family in Hatton Fields from 1950 to 1953.

That same year, baby Debra was born to Donald and Edith Nichols at Carmel Community Hospital, extending the family’s local legacy to a fourth generation. Nichols’ great-aunts, Mildred and Eunice, lived a block away. Her great-great-aunt, Ada McGee, had a house (“Blue Heather”) near the Golden Bough theater. Nichols’ grandmother, Emma Ruth Lynn (Donald’s mom), lived in Salinas, where he had been reared.

For Nichols, returning to Carmel after more than four decades in San Francisco and adjusting to retirement were challenging.

“That first year, I didn’t know what to do with myself and I was bouncing off the walls, so I studied to become a docent at the Carmel Mission,” she said.

“When Covid hit, I started writing research papers about the Misson, collecting wonderful stories by tapping into library archives in Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara and UC Berkeley,” Nichols said. “I wound up writing about 32 research essays, usually about five pages long, which kept me feeling really enriched.”

Two years ago, she wandered into a Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association art show at Chesebro Winery in Carmel Valley, and her focus immediately changed.

“I walked in there, looked around, and said, ‘Wow, this is my tribe! I’m home ... I’m really home!’” She continued, “I looked at their paintings, realized they were preserving our local history and thought, ‘This is service!’”

Legendary California painters who have influenced her art include Mary DeNeale Morgan, Kate Carew, Evelyn McCormick, and E. Charlton Fortune. Active artists who have taught her are Erin Lee Gaffill, Mark Farina and David Seibert.

## Painting several days a week

In addition to renderings of Carmel Mission, favorite subjects include landscapes, farmworkers, adobes and historic landmarks.

“Painting, for me, is almost levitating. It’s a thrill,” she said. “I can’t wait to wake up in the morning, run into the studio, get my stuff, and get started on something.”

Nichols paints outdoors up to five days a week, weather permitting, often alongside members of the Monterey plein air group, for which she was membership chair, and members of the Central Coast Art Association. That dedicated regimen that has produced enough work for eight local exhibits since 2023.

Two pieces are on display through May at the Natividad Medical Foundation’s “A Journey to Harvest” show in Salinas, and another entry has been juried into Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association member exhibition, entitled “Harmony,” which begins in May at Pacific Grove Art Center.

Examples of her art can be found at [debranicholsfineart.com](http://debranicholsfineart.com), [facebook.com/debranicholsfineart](https://facebook.com/debranicholsfineart), and on Instagram @debranicholsfineart. Email her at [debranicholsfineart@gmail.com](mailto:debranicholsfineart@gmail.com).

*Dennis Taylor is a professional freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at [scribelaureate@gmail.com](mailto:scribelaureate@gmail.com).*

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# CAPTAIN

From page 1A

In those pre-9/11 days, he was usually able to visit the cockpit while the plane was in the air — something strictly forbidden today on U.S. carriers. Seeing all the activity and the complicated controls and gauges was “overwhelming,” he admitted. “But I thought what the pilots did was fascinating, and I idolized them.”

His father, Tony Salameh, former longtime proprietor of Anton & Michel, a perennial favorite on Carmel’s restaurant scene, said his son’s dream to be a pilot started when he was barely out of his crib.

“We lived behind Del Monte Golf Course, and I used to take Anton and his brother to Monterey Airport practically every Sunday to watch planes take off,” Tony Salameh said. “Ever since he was 3 years old, I knew he wanted to be an airline pilot.”

That childhood passion started to become reality when Salameh got his pilot’s license — and even his commercial pilot’s certificate — while in high school at Palma in Salinas. After earning a degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle University in Prescott, Ariz., he was hired as a first officer with Mesa Airlines, based in Denver and Phoenix, and at 25, became a pilot for Continental Airlines, mostly flying as a first officer on 757s and 767s between Newark and Europe. When Continental merged with United in 2012, his base of operations moved to San Francisco, where he was a first officer on 787s making trips across the Pacific Ocean.

In 2015, Salameh became a captain on the smaller 737, and in February of this year, he was named captain of the mighty 777, which can carry more than 300 passengers on nonstop flights lasting up to 16 hours.

Since he got the big promotion, he’s already been in command of flights to Manila, Sydney, Amsterdam, Beijing, Osaka and London. Last weekend, he flew to Munich and back, leaving on Saturday afternoon and returning Monday. And I went with him.

### Last-minute arrangements

The whole thing started Wednesday when Salameh, 43, who for the first few years will be a “reserve” captain on the 777, picked up a last-minute assignment to fly United 194 from San Francisco to Munich on April 23, returning on United 195 two days later. Like everybody else, I love to travel, though not too many people want to go on trips to Europe that last one day (the first night is spent on the plane). But when Salameh, who became a friend after he became a neighbor, told me about the trip, I

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(Right) The Munich Town Hall square in ruins in 1945 after intense bombardment by the Allies in the closing months of World War II. (Left) Today, the square, with the Frauenkirche in the background, is the center of a vibrant and culturally rich city.

said, “I’m coming, too!”

I got my ticket by cashing in some of my frequent flyer miles and snagging a seat in United’s Polaris business class, which meant I could look forward to being pampered with great service and a lie-flat seat. But even better was being the captain’s friend and getting a glimpse of some of the behind-the-scenes aspects of modern passenger aviation that make it by far the safest way to travel — everything from highly developed aircraft and meticulous preparations and procedures, to very experienced crews. On the flights to and from Munich, Allen Short, a 2005 U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, and Marilyn Terry, a former FAA-certified check pilot, were the first officers.

So I was in very good hands on the Munich trip, which started out with an extensive preflight review of the aircraft and its systems, along with a cockpit briefing led by Salameh that included “takeoff performance data, departure navigation procedures, emergency contingencies, local airport anomalies, fuel planning, pilot assignments, error mitigation and passenger safety.”

Then came our 10-hour journey from San Francisco across Canada, the North Atlantic, Ireland, England, Belgium and most of Germany before we landed in the historic and colorful city of Munich, which was heavily bombed by the Allies in the closing months of World War II but has since been rebuilt with much of its gothic glory.

On the ground, the crew and I had barely enough time to tour places like the Marienplatz, with its stately town hall, and the amazingly ornate Asam Church. I got in a long walk along the fast-flowing Isar River, had a Bavarian dinner at the iconic Hofbrauhaus (roasted pig’s knuckle

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with dark beer gravy), and before I knew it, it was time for a quick sleep at the hotel and a return to the airport the next morning for the flight home. We were on the ground in Germany for just 26 hours.

### Golden Age

As we flew across Greenland on our way back to San Francisco, I looked out at the icy and forbidding landscape 6 miles below the right wing, and I couldn’t help thinking what a miracle modern aviation is.

You often hear that the 1930s or even the 1950s were the Golden Age of jet travel, but people who say that are making up history. In those days, jet travel was only for the rich, and while passengers may have gotten dressed up and had bigger seats, their trips took far longer, cost a lot more, and were much more dangerous than they are today. The Golden Age of international travel is now — and people like Anton Salameh are the reason.

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# The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

## Stars on the fairways generate optimism for CHS, Stevenson golf squads

HIGH HOPES are a great motivator. High expectations are the next level.

The quest for the 2024 Central Coast Section Boys Golf Championship begins with regional tournaments Tuesday

Luke Brandler, is the reigning individual medalist.

Carmel also is entitled to feel optimism, arriving with three battle-tested players who helped the Padres to a third-place team finish a year ago.

### Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

at Monterey’s Laguna Seca Golf Ranch, where a deep and talented Stevenson squad will strut to the opening tee as defending team champion, and the Pirates’ top golfer,



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel’s Julien Cho was a freshman last spring when he placed 10th at CCS, helping the Padres to a third-place team placement.

#### Regionals are Tuesday

Pirates and Padres will compete together Tuesday morning, beginning at 7:30 a.m., in the CCS Region 1 tournament, while Region 2 golfers are scheduled to start their 18-hole rounds at 12:30 p.m.

The top four teams in each regional will qualify for the 18-hole CCS Championship tournament, scheduled May 14 at the same location, along with the nine best-scoring individuals in each regional from schools that didn’t qualify their full teams for the finals.

At the 2023 finals, five of the top 10 individual golfers represented either Stevenson or Carmel, topped by Brandler — a sophomore at the time — whose six-under-par 65 was the best score of the tournament, two strokes better than his nearest competitor, Junipero Serra’s Trevor Moquin (now a freshman at Westmont College).

#### Chen, Rohizam were fourth

Carmel’s top player that day, Jonathan Chen — now a junior — shot a 1-under 70, tying for fourth place with four other golfers, including Stevenson’s Adam Rohizam (a senior on this year’s team) and Curtis Da Silva (now in his freshman season at Pepperdine University).

And the 10th-place CCS finisher, Carmel’s Julien Cho, shot 72 as a freshman.

Everybody but Da Silva returns with great expectations of returning to NorCals (May 20, Berkeley Country Club in El Cerrito), and hopefully qualifying for the California Interscholastic Federation State Championships (May 29, San Gabriel Country Club).

Brandler, who has verbally committed to play for Princeton University with a year of high school still ahead, has every reason to feel confident as he tries to



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Stevenson junior Luke Brandler, the defending CCS champ, consistently drives 320-330 yards, and his short game and putting are stellar.

repeat as CCS medalist. He’s also familiar with the capricious nature of the sport after shooting seven over par at NorCals to miss out on a trip to state.

A year later, he’s a stronger player, according to Stevenson coach Jason Bates, who watched his top golfer overcome an epic mental challenge at one of the nation’s top high school tournaments, the De La Salle Invitational, in March.

“This tournament is a very big deal, with almost all of the top teams in NorCal, several of the best from Southern California, and other top teams from all over the country,”

*Continues next page*

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From previous page

Bates said. “All the boys teed off from a different hole, but I immediately noticed (on the scorecard app) that Luke apparently had made a quadruple-bogey on the first hole — an absolutely disastrous start. I immediately thought, ‘This can’t be right — somebody entered the wrong store on the app.’”

Bates hurried over to check on Brandler, and found him shaking his head and laughing at the same time.

“Did you really make a quadruple bogey?” the coach asked.

“Yeah,” Brandler replied. “But don’t worry — I’ve got this.”

Pirates won at De La Salle

Over the next 17 holes, Brandler shot 8 under par, finishing the tournament in second place with a 4-under-par 68, and leading his teammates to the overall team title.

“That’s a testament to why he’s emerged as an elite talent,” Bates said for his standout, also a first-team all-league goalie in soccer.

Brandler, said Bates, hits the ball farther off the tee than almost anybody the coach has ever seen — consistently 320-330 yards, flying his drives beyond those of the longest hitters at top junior tournaments. He also has exceptional control of his short game. But the most-noticeable improvement from a year ago has been his putting, said the coach.

“That’s where so many of his strokes have been cut this year,” he said.

‘Mr. Consistency’

Rohizam, a senior, is Stevenson’s No. 2 golfer, nicknamed “Mr. Consistency” by his teammates for his ability to score near par — just under, or slightly over — with every round. Like Brandler, he is nearly

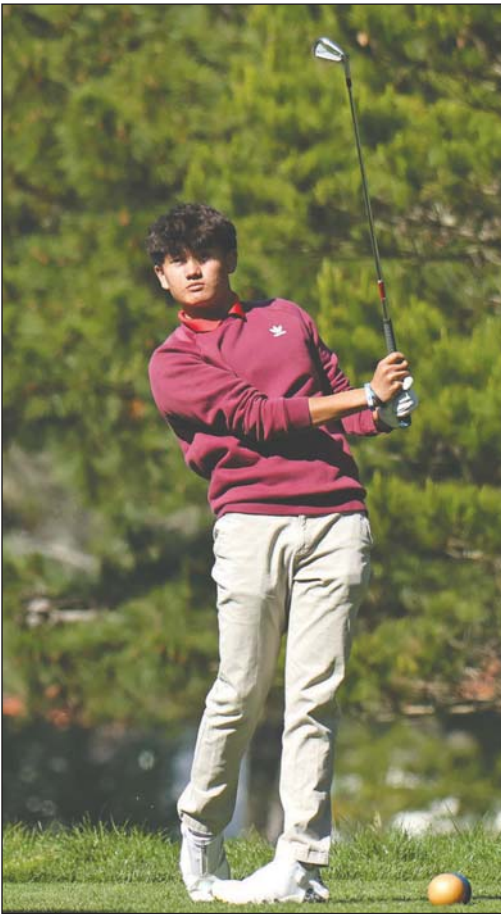
fluster-proof.

“He’s much beloved by his teammates for his positive, optimistic perspective on the game,” Bates said of Rohizam, who will play golf next year for a Division III school in Missouri. “He’s very much a calming presence for the whole team.”

Dependable under pressure

Steven Lai, a junior, is a third-year varsity player with a knack for playing his best in some of Stevenson’s biggest events.

See SPORTS page 35A



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel’s Jonathan Chen was a sophomore last year when he took third at NorCals and qualified for state.



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CALENDAR



**May 4 – Chautauqua Hall Dance Club.** Dancing every Saturday night in Pacific Grove. Viennese Waltz with Natasha. Lesson 6 to 7 p.m.; enjoy social/ballroom dancing 7 to 9 p.m.: music for Latin, night club ballroom and swing. No partner needed. \$10 cash only. Pgdance.org

**May 5 – Tor House Garden Party,** 2 to 5 p.m. at 26304 Ocean View Avenue, Carmel. Adults: Tickets: \$25; students: \$10. Stroll the gardens, photograph to your heart’s content, learn about Tor House from knowledgeable docents, watch yarn spinning, enjoy music, poetry, birdwatching, plein air artists, tasty treats. Tickets at door or online: www.torhouse.org.

**Through May 11 – Let Mom know she’s special!** Shop Baum & Blume’s Boutique for beautiful Mother’s Day gifts, heartfelt cards, gourmet cookie boxes and more! Plus: special May 11 lunch promo for moms: 10% discount and a gorgeous rose! Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito, Carmel Valley. (831) 659-0400.

**May 11 – Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula** presents its annual **Rose Garden Tea**, 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the church garden, 4590 Carmel Valley Road (one mile east of Highway 1). Meet the rosarian and view more than 30 varieties of camera-ready blooms. Harpist Amy Krupski will perform and rose petal tea will be served. Event is free of charge. Info: (831) 624-8595

**May 17 – 17th annual Women’s Fund Luncheon is presented by the Community Foundation for Monterey County.** Morgane McNally, resident director of Merrill Wealth Management, The BMRB Group, will discuss “The Power and Progress of Women.” Registration/networking begin 11 a.m.; program begins noon at the Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa. Tickets are \$75 per person; sponsor a table of 10 for \$1,000. For info call (831) 375-9712 or visit events@cfmco.org

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Food & Wine  
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# This Week

Live Music,  
Clubs and Events

## Piano duo performs at Sunset Center, Good Old Days rock P.G.

MORE THAN three dozen musical acts will perform on five stages Saturday and Sunday as part of the annual Good Old Days street fair along Lighthouse Avenue in downtown Pacific Grove. Attendance is free.

### On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

A list of the performers reads like a Who’s Who of local musicians — **The Money Band**, blues guitarist **Stu Heydon**, **The Katherine Lavin Band**, **The Transducers**, **Red Beans & Rice** and **The Lighthouse Band** play Saturday, while **The New Wave Band**, **The Rogue Roosters**, **Vinyl Revival**, **The Sensory Tribe** and **PG-13** — the



The dazzling piano duo of Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe plays Sunday, 3 p.m., at Sunset Center.

house band of Phil’s Barber Shop — perform Sunday. Besides the feast of live music, the street fair includes dance performances, a quilt show (at nearby Chautauqua Hall), a pancake breakfast (Saturday, 8 a.m., in Jewell Park), a parade, a petting zoo, a massive marketplace of vendors, food booths, and much more. For a complete schedule, visit [business.pacificgrove.org/events](http://business.pacificgrove.org/events).

#### ■ Piano duo debuts at Sunset

Two instrumentalists who are pushing the boundaries of the piano duo, **Greg Anderson** and **Elizabeth Joy Roe** perform Sunday, 3 p.m., at Sunset Center. The concert is the last presented by the Carmel Music Society this season. No ordinary musical partnership, the duo has appeared on PBS and MTV, enjoyed success on the Billboard charts, and released Emmy-nominated music videos viewed by millions.

At Sunset, Anderson and Roe will play two pieces by Mozart, one each by Maurice Ravel and Georges Bizet — and a pair of original compositions by Anderson and Roe. “With unforgettable showmanship and witty musicality, this duo makes their Carmel debut,” the Carmel Music Society said. Tickets start at \$30 for general admission, and are \$10 for students. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 625-9938 or visit [carmelmusic.org](http://carmelmusic.org).

#### ■ ‘Voice’ singer visits Folktale

After bursting on to the music scene four years ago as a finalist on the television show, “The Voice,” singer and guitarist **Thunderstorm Artis** plays Sunday, 5 p.m., at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley. Artis wowed the judges on “The Voice” with



The Money Band plays Saturday at 12:30 p.m. during the Good Old Days celebration in downtown Pacific Grove.

covers of the Beatles’ “Blackbird” and Louie Armstrong’s “What a Wonderful World,” finishing third overall in 2020. Also performing Sunday is singer and multi-instrumentalist **Eric Henry Andersen**, who plays often in the Reno/Lake Tahoe area. Tickets start at \$15.

On Tuesday at 6 p.m., **The Fruit Bats** play at Folktale. An indie folk-rock act from Chicago, they were originally scheduled to perform at the Henry Miller Library in Big Sur, which is currently inaccessible due to slides. Tickets

See MUSIC page 34A

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MONDAY: LOCALS PLAY FOR \$20 ALL DAY

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THURSDAY: TRIVIA

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SUNDAY, MAY 5TH, CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

Indulge in delicious Mexican cuisine with \$3 street tacos, sip on refreshing \$6 margaritas, and participate in exciting giveaways from Patron to make your Cinco de Mayo memorable. Karaoke begins at 6 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 11TH, MOTHER'S DAY

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William Wendt, California Coast, 1920. Oil on canvas. Est. \$50,000-80,000. Auction May 15.

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## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT WINE DINNERS, BRUNCHES, AND BEING JUDGMENTAL

ERIC EWERS, wine director for Grasing’s restaurant at Mission and Sixth in Carmel, this week announced a May 9 wine dinner featuring Ross Cobb. “I reach out to inform you of a winemaker, of a dinner, and of an evening to go out of your way for,” he said.

Cobb, the winemaker behind vaunted vintages at Flow-ers, Hirsch and Williams Selyem, has been quietly mak-

### Soup to Nuts

ing his own wine, Cobb, since 2001 using fruit from a Sonoma Coast vineyard planted by his parents in 1989. He describes his wines as being “very true to the site and providing a sense of place, similar to Burgundy.”

At the dinner, which will begin at 6 p.m. and costs \$225 per person, including tax and gratuity, Cobb’s wines will be paired with five courses created by executive chef Mario Garcia.

The evening will begin with Tomales Bay oysters paired with 2021 Abigail’s Vineyard Riesling, followed by Hokkaido scallop crudo with 2019 Doc’s Ranch JoAnn’s Block chardonnay.



Old Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey welcomes moms with good food, spots to take special photos, and an opportunity to make memories.

The third course, herb-crusted lamb with English peas and morels, will be served along-side 2021 Emmaline Ann Vineyard pinot noir, followed by braised Wagyu beef cheeks with spring vegetables and 2019 Doc’s Ranch “Swan and Calera Selection” pinot noir. The final offering, a goat cheese soufflé, will be served with 2014 Coastlands Vineyard 1906 Block pinot noir.

For more information, visit [grasings.com](http://grasings.com) or call (831) 624-6562. Register at [form.jotform.com/241024724659154](http://form.jotform.com/241024724659154).

#### Outward in June

A short distance away at Stationaery restaurant on San Carlos between Fifth and Sixth, Outward Wines will be showcased during a special dinner June 2 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Winemakers and owners Natalie Siddique and Ryan Pace “will be joining us to share stories and pour their organic Central Coast wines,” restaurant owners Anthony and Alissa Carnazzo said. “Sounds like perfection — don’t miss it.”

“We produce small-lot, site-specific wines from California’s Central Coast, sourcing fruit from vineyards that are farmed using organic or biodynamic practices,” Pace and Siddique say. “In the winery, we strive to minimize our impact in order to allow for a clear picture of what the site can provide naturally, and to give our wines a true sense of time and place.”

Following a welcome drink of 2023 pet-nat (a mildly sparkling wine) of pinot gris, the culinary lineup created by executive chef Amalia Scatena will begin with chilled white asparagus soup, potato pan-cake and caviar paired with 2023 Presqu’ile sauvignon blanc.

Zucchini “carpaccio” will complement 2023 Two Wolves grenache rosé, and seafood risotto will be served with 2023 Shell Creek chenin blanc. Japanese Wagyu beef and grilled maitake mushrooms will complement 2022 Presqu’ile gamay, followed by dessert of strawberry rhubarb crisp and thyme ice cream accompanying 2023 Shell Creek valdiguié.

Tickets are \$188 plus tax and tip and can be purchased via [exploretock.com](http://exploretock.com) (search for “Station-



Grasing’s will be the scene of a May 9 dinner pairing Cobb wines with dishes that range from scallop crudo, to Waygu beef cheeks and more.

aery”). Find more information at [thestationaery.com](http://thestationaery.com).

#### More for Moms

If you haven’t made reservations for May 12, there’s still time. You can see a nice assortment of culinary celebrations in last week’s edition in our online archive at [carmelpinecone.com](http://carmelpinecone.com), and this week, we’re going to add the Pacific’s Edge at the Highlands Inn, which offers Mother’s Day brunch buffet with a view from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adults pay \$95 each, while those 10 and younger are \$45. Tax and gratuity are not included. Make the required reservations by calling (831) 622-5445. The menu’s still under wraps, but if it’s like the restaurant’s usual spreads, it should offer plenty of delicious choices.

Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey invites everyone to bring Mom and Grandma for “a day filled with fun, photo ops, marine life viewing and delicious dining options.” With special decorations, plenty of restaurants, and gift shops where you can insist “I wanted you to pick your gift out yourself, so you’ll really like it,” it’s a great place to take the family.

See **FOOD** next page

# CINCO de MAYO

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FOOD & WINE

FOOD

From previous page

How wines become winners

Nearly any wine-tasting room you visit has some sort of display about its wines, with photos of the winemaker (clad in jeans, glass in hand, surrounded by barrels), framed magazine write-ups, and perhaps a few gold or silver medals draped nonchalantly around some bottles. But what do those medals mean? One of our writers, Roxanne Langer, has been a judge at many competitions, and this time, she decided to take our readers — you — along for the tasting, so read on.

The California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition opened its doors in 1854, predating statehood by six years and making it the oldest such contest in the United States. One might ask why a wine competition was needed back in the mid-1880s. Well, by then, California had a thriving wine industry, with its products being shipped to Europe, Australia and even Central America.

Even earlier than that, and long before Napa and Sonoma came on the scene as a result of the gold rush, Los Angeles alone was producing 25 million bottles of wine annually.

For the better part of 170 years, professional wine judges have descended on Sacramento to evaluate wine made by California vintners (notwithstanding a few interruptions from a grapevine louse and Prohibition, among others). Many of the judges are elite professionals representing all aspects of the industry, including winemakers, wine writers, wine retailers and wine educators. The judging this year was no exception. Having been a wine judge for more than 20 years, it seemed like a good time to explain what a wine competition entails.

Frankly, it takes a village. And it requires a year of planning. Challenges include creating the wine categories — which are very specific as to varietals and/or blends, amount of sugar, alcohol, etc. — soliciting wines from each winery, finding volunteers, and locating a venue big enough for a room full of judges to work, with another room nearby to keep the bottles hidden from them, so that they’re truly judging blind.

The judges have the easy part. Those who arrive the night before the competition are treated to a seminar by some well-known winemaker or educator. The actual judging takes place over 2 1/2 days. In the competition room, judges sit facing outward at big squares of tables, usually with four volunteers who sit inside the squares and compile the scores.



Wine judges at the California State Fair in Sacramento have a daunting task. They'll taste dozens of wines over several while being resupplied with specially chosen foods to help preserve their palates, and of course, water.

Panels consisting of a minimum of three judges are served wine in “flights” — a group of merlots, or sparkling blends, for example. Scoring sheets with the varietal(s), sugar and alcohol content per wine are provided.

Judges are asked to taste through each

See WINE next page



MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH

Treat mom to a decadent spring inspired grand buffet featuring local organic vegetables, naturally raised meats, seafood bar, classic cheeses, tasty desserts, traditional brunch favorites and more. Accented with live music, enjoy an afternoon of world-class service and cuisine.

A professional photographer will be onsite to capture cherished family moments throughout the afternoon with two complimentary printed photographs per table as our gift to you.

Sunday, May 12, 2024 | 11:00am – 3:30pm  
\$150 PER PERSON, \$55 CHILDREN AGES 5-12, plus tax & gratuity  
Limited seating. Call to reserve.



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Photo by Fionna L.

A tri-tip sandwich from Bruno’s was my favorite thing I ate on my recent trip to Monterey, Carmel & Big Sur. That should say a lot. Bruno’s is a market with a deli in the back. It has a lot of Italian products and a decent wine selection. Local cheeses and produce. It’s a bit small but we’re here for the sandwiches, not the ambiance. The first time I came in, I ordered Bruno’s Famous Tri-tip Sandwich with all the fixings and took it down to the beach. It was so delicious. The second time, I ordered the exact same thing and enjoyed it in my hotel room. The kind of sandwich that tastes homemade and needs a napkin for sure. I love that they offer so many delicious toppings and am pretty sure the tri-tip is made in house.

- Nicole S., Scottsdale, AZ

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# FOOD & WINE

## WINE

From previous page

flight independently and write comments, give points, or state awards (such as Gold, Silver, Bronze or No Award). Once all panelists have completed the flights, judges turn their chairs around to face the volunteer who will input the scores. Each judge is asked his/her “score” for each wine in a rotating order. Judges often make comments about the wine as to how strongly they feel that a wine receives a particular score or award.

Most often, the judges’ scores are quite uniform and, if they differ, it is usually within a close degree such, as one judge giving a score of Silver-plus and another

stating a Gold-minus. Of course, there are always the wines that receive split awards with one judge giving it a Gold, another a Silver and the third a Bronze. At this point, judges will retaste the wine and comment on why they believe that particular wine deserves such a score. After this discussion, judges either agree to a higher or lower score, or, the score stays the same which in the Gold/Silver/Bronze situation would make the wine a Silver.

If you’re on a panel that is doing big reds, such as cabernet sauvignon or syrah, it can be a tough day. Palate fatigue is real, which is why each panel is given various flights throughout the day (from white to red to sparkling) to help mitigate it. Plates with pieces of roast beef (to help with the tannin), celery and green olives (to help with saliva) are provided to each judge

and topped off as the day goes forward. Still and sparkling water are offered in abundance.

Judging panels may include wine writers, winemaker, sommeliers, chefs, enologists, barrel-makers and the like. Sometimes they quickly agree with each other’s scoring. Other times, there is a bit more discussion on each wine. But for all the

judges, the goal is to do the best job for both the wineries and consumers. Next time you see an award and/or a numerical score on a wine, know that many people were involved in providing you with a bit more information about the wine you are about to enjoy.

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

## MUSIC

From page 31A

start at \$100.

Folktale is located at 8940 Carmel Valley Road. For more details, visit folktalewinery.com.

### ■ Violinist plays Bach

Violin virtuoso **Alexi Kenney** celebrates the music of Bach Monday, 7 p.m., at the Sand Box in Sand City.

“Beyond his music’s most important capacity to speak straight to the soul, Bach’s influence ripples through time and transcends genre,” suggested the violinist, who won a coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2016.

Tickets are \$40 for general admission and \$25 for students and active military. Visit sandboxsandcity.com.

### ■ Music by students

Showcasing more than a dozen student-musicians, CSUMB’s Music Hall will

host performances of original music Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. The event is free.

“We are having student performances on two separate days,” one of the musicians, **Hector Ponce**, told The Pine Cone. “All these songs were written and composed by students here — the genres range from jazz, all the way to rock.”

The Music Hall is located on Sixth Avenue between Butler and Colonel Durham avenues.

### ■ Live music May 3-9

**Albatross Ridge Winery and Kitchen** in Monterey — singer and guitarist **Kito Rayburn** (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Peter Martin Barnes** (jazz, Saturday at 5 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.

**Barmel** — singer and guitarist **Chris Jamez** (Sunday at 6 p.m.) and singer and guitarist **Kyle Kovalik** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). In Carmel Square on San Carlos just north of Seventh.

**Bernardus Lodge & Spa** in Carmel Valley — pianist **Mathias Mann** (classical, Friday at 6 p.m.), mandolinist **Dave**

See LIVE page 37A

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- Multi-category flower competition
- Photography competition
- Silent auction on Saturday
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- Food from Woody's
- Buzzy's children's garden

Info: <http://www.cvgardenclub.org>



# SPORTS

From page 30A

“We played in a tournament at Bayonet called the Elite Eight — eight of the best teams in the country — where he shot 2-under-par to help us to a third-place finish.

“He also was under par in two rounds at the Champions Invitational in Palm Springs,” Bates said. “When your No. 3 guy is that resilient, it tends to allow your top guys to be more relaxed.”

Johsh Chada, a junior, and Drew Doll, a senior, also got CCS and NorCals experience a year ago, and newcomers Calvin Etcheverry, a freshman, and junior Marc Sasetia, complete a lineup that Bates believes is deeper than the one that gave Stevenson the 15th CCS crown in school history in 2023.

Chen, Cho, and senior Cullen Pritchard proved to be prime-time players a year ago in postseason play.

### Chen was No. 3 at NorCals

After his fourth-place finish at CCS, Chen produced the third-lowest score at NorCals with a 2-under-par 70, one stroke ahead of teammate Cole Kroeker (now playing as a freshman at Sonoma State). Both qualified for state.

“Jonathan Chen played in a lot of tournaments during the summer and has steadily improved,” Carmel coach



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Nicknamed ‘Mr. Consistency,’ senior Adam Rohizam helped the Pirates win the CCS team title with his fourth-place individual finish.

Ross Kroeker said of his top player, who had a 9-hole scoring average of 36 during league play, with a season-low of 33 at The Club at Crazy Horse Ranch in Salinas.

“He’s a very consistent golfer who hits a lot of greens,” he said. “His short game saves him a lot, but if anything stands out, it’s his putting.”

### Cho came up big at CCS

Cho’s even-par, 10th-place score at CCS was a monster performance for a freshman, and Pritchard’s 74 at the CCS Regional was 16th-best in a field of 84 golfers.

“Julien is able to go low at times — he’s shot 33 twice this spring (at Hollister and Laguna Seca), and ball-striking is the best part of his game,” Kroeker said of his No. 2 player, whose league scoring average was 38. “He hits it long.”

Pritchard also has steadily improved throughout the season as Carmel’s No. 3 player, finishing with a scoring average of 39.

Carmel’s lineup this season also included Carson Varney (who got postseason experience a year ago as a freshman), and varsity newcomers Harrison Glazer, a junior, and Ethan Haas, a freshman.

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

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# Art center welcomes new show where music and art meet

JUST IN time for this weekend’s yearly Good Old Days street fair — which brings thousands of locals and visitors to town — the Pacific Grove Art Center welcomes four new shows, including multimedia artist Gerald Huth’s “Hearing the Music,” which employs one form of creative expression to celebrate another.

“Music and art are the two truly universal languages that bring us both joy and inspiration,” said the artist, who lives in Sonoma County.

Huth said his recent work is influenced by the music that moves him, which is mostly classical and jazz. “Listening to the music is instrumental to my conception, and it leads my hand and brush as I try to channel these emotions into my art,” he explained.

### Miniatures sought

Also new at the art center are shows Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters Association (“Harmony”), painter Edi Matsumoto (“In Full Bloom: From Canvas 2 Fabric”) and Pacific Grove High School students.

Looking forward, the art center is seeking miniature paintings for its annual fund-raising Miniatures Show, which opens July 5. Pieces can be submitted through June 20.

“Donated art must be original work, and any medium is accepted,” the gallery said. “Each piece must be no larger than 8 by 10 inches, including the frame, and 3D art

should not exceed 7-inches in depth. Each piece must be ready to hang on the wall.”

Located at 568 Lighthouse Ave., the gallery will have a public reception Friday

## Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

at 7 p.m. to mark the opening of the new shows, with keyboardist Glenn Leon-Guertero playing old school r&b. The exhibits will be on display through June 27.

### ■ The fine art of quilting

Also coinciding with the annual Good Old Days street fair in Pacific Grove is the 44th annual Quilt Show by the Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild, which is set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Chautauqua Hall.

More than 200 quilts by its members in an array of styles and sizes will be on display. The exhibit includes both traditional and contemporary designs. There will also be an estate fabric sale, a raffle and a contest for Best Quilt.

Admission is \$10, and those under 18 get in free with an adult. Chautauqua Hall is located at 16th and Central in P.G.

### ■ Multimedia artist at MOMA

On display at the Monterey Museum

of Art is a show by multimedia artist Judith Marshall, whose work brings together “personal symbols, narrative elements, collage techniques, and water-based mediums.”

“I mine newspapers, art history, music, and literature to find themes that resonate personally and produce visual stories,” Marshall explains. “Masks, figures, architectural details, and graffiti are interwoven with contemporary issues.”

The display can be viewed in the museum’s Currents Gallery through June 2. The museum is located at 559 Pacific St.



Gerald Huth’s “Night and Day” is included in one of four exhibits opening Friday at the Pacific Grove Art Center, which will have a reception for the artists at 7 p.m..

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# LIVE

From page 34A

**Holodiloff** (jazz, Saturday at noon), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Sunday at noon). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

**Bon Ton LeRoy's Lighthouse Smokehouse** in Monterey — mandolinist **Dave Holodiloff** (jazz, Wednesday at 7 p.m.), 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.

**Cuz's Sportsman's Club** in Seaside — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Tony Miles** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.). 594 Broadway.

**Cypress Inn** — singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist **Gennady Loktionov** and singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 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.

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

**Folktale Winery** in Carmel Valley — singer and guitarist **Brett Freshour** (jazz and folk, Saturday at 2 p.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

**Gusto Pasta and Pizza** in Seaside — singer and keyboardist **Scotty Wright** and

bassist **Etienne David Franc** (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.), singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Tuesday at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

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

**Intercontinental Hotel** in Monterey



Singer and guitarist Thunderstorm Artis takes the stage Sunday, 5 p.m., at Folktale Winery in Carmel Valley.

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

**Juice 'n' Java** in Pacific Grove — Open Mic (Friday at 7 p.m., sign up by 5:30 p.m.), **The Dave Holodiloff Duo**

Continues next page

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From previous page

(jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave.

**La Playa Hotel** — guitarist **Javier Sanchez** (contemporary Latin American music, Thursday at 5 p.m.). Bud’s Bar, Camino Real and Eighth, Carmel.

The Links Club — **Meez** (rock, Friday at 7 p.m.), **The Bounce Kitty Buskers** (Dixieland jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), Singer-Songwriter Showcase (Tuesday at 7 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

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

**Lucy’s on Lighthouse** in Pacific Grove — **Sixth Street Alternative** (\*90s to contemporary rock, Sunday at 2 p.m.). 1120 Lighthouse Ave.

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

**Midici Pizza** in Monterey — **The Iban Lee Trio** with keyboardist **Elder Gindroz** and drummer **Osmar Barrios** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), **The David Morwood Trio**

with keyboardist **Rick Forchino** and bassist **Zach Westfall** (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 **Gary Meek** (jazz, Friday and Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 5 p.m.), singer and pianist **John Harris**, jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

**The Other Brother Beer Company** in Seaside — **Wharf Bomb, Squidbrain, Apricot Court** and others (punk rock, Friday at 7 p.m.). 877 Broadway.

**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.

**Salty Seal Pub** in Monterey — **Vinyl Revival** (rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), **The Chuck Brewer Band** (rock and blues, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **The Matt Masih Duo** (funk and soul, Sunday at 4 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Dan Frechette** (Thursday at 7 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.



Violin virtuoso Alexi Kenney pays tribute to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach Monday, 7 p.m., at the Sand Box in Sand City.

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

**Sly McFly’s** in Monterey — **Everyday People** (“classic Latin rock with an old school twist,” Friday at 9 p.m.), **B-Town** (r&b and soul, Saturday at 9 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

**Trailside Cafe** in Carmel Valley — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Dave D’Oh** (alternative, pop and soul, 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](mailto:chris@carmelpinecone.com).

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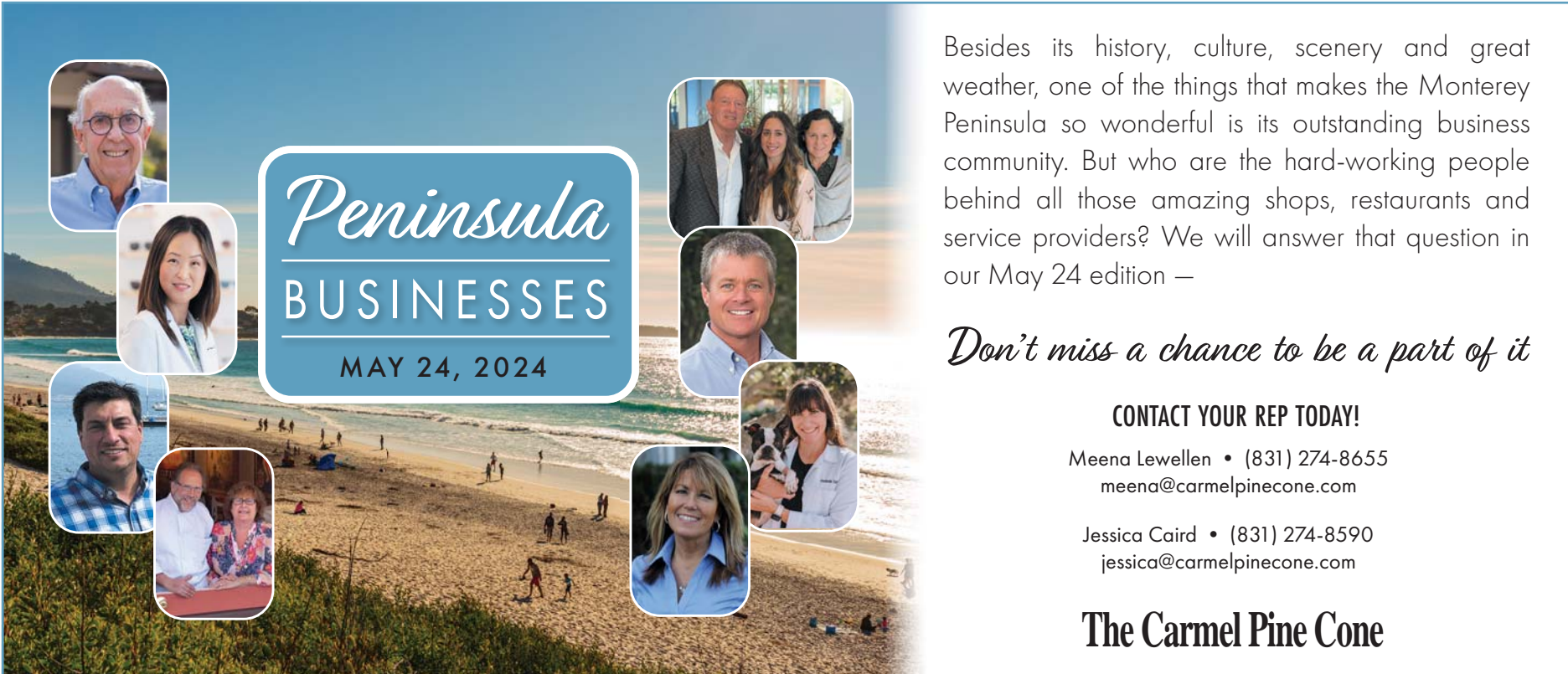


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BUSINESSES

MAY 24, 2024





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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240820  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GROUNDSWELL GARDENS, 22672 Coleta Drive, Salinas, CA 93908.**  
Registered Owner(s): ELIZABETH CAUSEY and ADAM CAUSEY.  
This business is conducted by a married couple.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.  
**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/Elizabeth Causey  
Date signed: April 22, 2024  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 22, 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: April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2024 (PC 433)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240792  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: **COTTAGES OF CARMEL, 26245 CARMEL RANCHO BLVD., CARMEL, CA 93923.** County of MONTEREY  
Registered Owner(s): 26245 CARMEL RANCHO BLVD OPCO LLC, 4500 DORR STREET TOLEDO, OH 43615; DE  
This business is conducted by a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on NOT APPLICABLE  
S/ SHARON MAKOWSKY, MANAGER OF THE SOLE MEMBER WELLTOWER TRS HOLDCO LLC  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/16/2024  
5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24/24  
**CNS-3805538#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024. (PC 501)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240727  
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: **Kikoblendz, 11272 Merritt St., Ste. B, Castroville, CA 95012,** County of Monterey  
Registered Owner(s): Francisco Celaya  
This business is conducted by an individual  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 09/28/2018  
S/ Francisco Celaya  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/16/2024  
5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24/24  
**CNS-3802051#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024. (PC 502)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240727  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **42 Parallel North, 133 Chaucer Dr, Salinas, CA 93901** County of MONTEREY  
Registrant(s): Tonyia Dee Sampognaro, 133 Chaucer Dr, Salinas, CA 93901  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.  
S/ Tonyia Dee Sampognaro,  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/08/2024.  
5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24/24  
**CNS-3808004#**

Clerk of Monterey County on April 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: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024 (PC 508)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240834  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SYSTEMATIC STRENGTH & CONDITIONING, 520 Lighthouse Ave, Suite 100, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.**  
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: SYSTEMATIC FITNESS SYSTEMS LLC, 1095 Mariners Way, Pebble Beach CA 93953.  
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 N/A.  
**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/Robert Fontecchio, Member  
Date: April 23, 2024  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 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: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024. (PC 511)

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. 24CV001771  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, JOSE GUDALUPE NOLASCO, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
**A. Present name:** JOSE GUDALUPE NOLASCO  
**Proposed name:** JOSE GUADALUPE NOLASCO ALVAREZ  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before

the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
**NOTICE OF HEARING:**  
DATE: July 12, 2024  
TIME: 8:30 a.m.  
DEPT: 13A  
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.  
(s) Thomas W. Willis  
Judge of the Superior Court  
Date filed: April 30, 2024  
Publication Dates: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024. (PC 512)

**LEGALS DEADLINE:**  
**TUESDAY 3:00 PM**  
legals@carmelpinecone.com

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240817  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MONTEREY GENERAL BUILDING, 725 Alvarado Dr., Salinas, CA 93907.**  
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.  
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: MONTEREY GENERAL BUILDING.  
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA  
This business is conducted by a corporation.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 17, 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).  
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/Roberto M. Flores Castillo, Chief Executive Officer  
Date: April 19, 2024  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 19, 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

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE** TS No. **CA-24-984063-BF** Order No.: **240046891-CA-VOO YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/10/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.** A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. **BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.** Trustor(s): **ROSANNE MAYHEW, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN** Recorded: **6/16/2005** as Instrument No. **2005060867** of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of **MONTEREY** County, California; Date of Sale: **6/4/2024 at 10:00 AM** Place of Sale: **At the main entrance to the County Administration Building, located at 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901** Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$764,798.05** The purported property address is: **109 PINE WAY, CARMEL, CA 93923-9603** Assessor's Parcel No.: **241-123-008-000** **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call **916-939-0772** for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website **http://www.qualityloan.com**, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-984063-BF**. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call **916-939-0772**, or visit this internet website **http://www.qualityloan.com**, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: **CA-24-984063-BF** to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT:** Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: **QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619- 645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318** QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. TS No.: **CA-24-984063-BF** IDSPub #0202151 5/10/2024 5/17/2024 5/24/2024  
Publication dates: May 10, 17, 24, 2024 (PC510)

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE** No. 23-368-MON: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED October 10, 2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. ON MAY 14, 2024 at 10:00 am, at the main entrance to the County Administration Building at 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, Ca. 93901, The Foreclosure Company, Inc., as Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States) the following described property situated in the County of Monterey, State of California, described more fully within said Deed of Trust. This property is vacant land and is not subject to California Civil Code Section 2924m. The street address and other common designation of the real property described above is purported to be: 35046 Sky Ranch Road, Carmel Valley, Ca. 93924 APN: 417-081-063-000 The undersigned disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation shown here. Directions may be obtained by written request submitted within 10 days after the first publication of this Notice, to the Beneficiary c/o The Foreclosure Company, Inc., 827 Cedar Street, Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060. The undersigned disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation shown here. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding in a foreclosure sale under a lien secured by the property, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (408) 374-7204 or visit [www.foreclosurereco.com](http://www.foreclosurereco.com) or [www.nationwideposting.com](http://www.nationwideposting.com) and check Trustee's Sale #23-368-MON. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligations secured by and pursuant to the Power of Sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Michelle Vallentyne, an unmarried woman, as Trustor, Recorded on October 20, 2022 as Instrument Number 2022045622 of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Monterey County. At the time of the initial publication of this Notice, the amount due to satisfy the obligation secured by the subject Deed of Trust, estimated costs, expenses, fees and advances is \$1,031,080.01. To verify the opening bid call (408) 374-7204, before the sale date. The Foreclosure Company, Inc., as Trustee, 827 Cedar Street, Santa Cruz, California 95060 By: Christina Leigh, Foreclosure Officer Date: April 10, 2024 This office is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose; whether that information is obtained verbally or in writing. NPP0459450 To: CARMEL PINE CONE 04/19/2024, 04/26/2024, 05/03/2024  
Publication dates: April 19, 26; May 3, 2023 (PC422)

**Lien Sale Auction Advertisement**  
Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700 et. seq.) Auction to be held at **12:00 pm** On **May 10th, 2024** at [www.selfstorageauction.com](http://www.selfstorageauction.com). The property is stored at: **Coastal Storage, 575 California Ave, Sand City, CA 93955.** NAME OF TENANT Henry Birner Jerry Genaro Blanco  
5/3/24  
**CNS-3809050#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: May 3, 2024. (PC 506)

**Lien Sale Auction Advertisement**  
Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act, (B&P Code 21700 et. seq.) Auction to be held at 1:00PM on May 15, 2024 at [www.selfstorageauction.com](http://www.selfstorageauction.com). The property is stored at: **Marina U Store Self Storage 475 Reservation Road Marina, CA 93933** Jessica Morales  
5/3/24  
**CNS-3808532#**  
**CARMEL PINE CONE**  
Publication Dates: May 3, 2024. (PC 507)

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 20240871  
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FEMALEDRIVEN, 460 Ramona Avenue, Apt. 10, Monterey, CA 93940.**  
Registered Owner(s): MEGAN PATRICIA SHEHAB, 460 Ramona Avenue, Apt. 10, Monterey, CA 93940.  
This business is conducted by an individual.  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 2, 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/Megan Shehab  
Date signed: April 29, 2024  
This statement was filed with the County



# CELEBRATING NURSES WEEK 2024



## NATIVIDAD DAISY AWARD WINNERS



Judy Shin, BSN, RN  
Staff Nurse II  
Intensive Care Unit



Abbal A. Seasay, ADN, RN  
Staff Nurse II  
Medical Surgical Unit  
Intermediate Care Unit



Jessica Angulo, BSN, RN  
Staff Nurse II  
Maternal Infant Unit



Kristi Russum, BSN, RN  
Staff Nurse II  
Emergency Department

## NATIVIDAD PARTNERS IN CARING AWARD WINNERS



Yadira Gonzalez  
Medical Unit Clerk  
Medical Surgical Unit  
Intermediate Care Unit



Lorena Ortiz Rodriguez  
Nursing Assistant  
Maternal Infant Unit



Paula Lemmon  
Respiratory Care Practitioner  
Cardiopulmonary



Rosa M. Morales  
Medical Unit Clerk  
Interventional Radiology

