

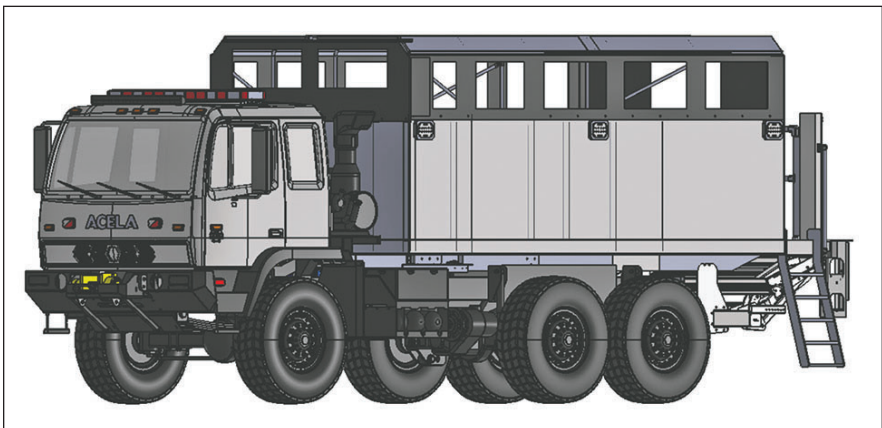
County buys beast of a truck for emergencies

■ \$350,000 for flood evacuations

By KELLY NIX

COUNTY SUPERVISORS this week approved spending \$350,000 on a “high-water” emergency vehicle that officials say will help first responders rescue people during floods.

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday



RENDERING/ACELA TRUCK CO.

Monterey County firefighters will use this 21-passenger truck for emergency rescues during floods and other disasters.

OK’d the purchase of an Acela Monterra 6x6 High Water Vehicle, which is described as a “purpose-built truck designed to operate in extreme conditions where conventional vehicles fail.”

“The purchase of this critical equipment is necessary to improve response capabilities in and during flood events,” according to the report to the supervisors about the vehicle, which is manufactured in Montana.

State legislators made \$20 million available to Monterey County to support flood relief and preparedness for the community of Pajaro, which flooded in March 2023 after the Pajaro River levee gave way. More than 200 people had to be rescued. In December 2023, supervisors approved spending \$500,000 for “flood-fighting equipment” for North County Fire Protection District, including a high-water vehicle.

The 112-inch-high, 270-inch-wide, all-wheel-drive Monterra has a 7-speed automatic transmission, 46.6-inch military-grade tires, an integrated rear-ladder system and

See **TRUCK** page 18A

Council axes ad hoc committees

By MARY SCHLEY

WHEN THE new council’s special meeting started Tuesday, the city had 10 small committees formed over the past several years to delve into various topics, from the police station remodel and house numbers, to Flanders Mansion and Flock cameras.

By the end, it had none.

Fledgling Mayor Dale Byrne opened the Jan. 7 session — which was scheduled so that newly elected councilman Bob Delves could participate before leaving on a three-week vacation that will have him missing next week’s regular meetings — with prepared comments on structuring meetings “with clear time frames and focused discussions on actionable items.”

“Public comments and council input are crucial, but brevity and relevance will help us maintain a productive pace,” he said.

Nonetheless, the meeting ran four hours after a prolonged public-comment period dominated by speakers who continue to complain about the Covid shutdown of the beach in 2020, and discussions by council members regarding the midyear budget report and the latest concepts for overhauling the deteriorating and inadequate police station.



Dale Byrne

Doing nothing

After taking public comment on items not on the agenda, Byrne — who at one point during the meeting banged the gavel with glee and remarked that he’d like a larger one — launched into a presentation on the roles of the mayor and mayor pro tem.

Byrne subsequently announced he would appoint Delves as mayor pro tem, and Delves replied that he was “honored and flattered” to be selected. Among their duties, Byrne and Delves will be in charge of determining the agendas of council meetings and recommending appointments to the city’s boards and commissions.

On the topic of ad hoc committees, which typically include two council members undertaking relatively short-lived deep dives into specific topics without the burden of Brown Act open-meeting rules, Byrne described their

See **COUNCIL** page 27A

Panetta votes ‘No’ on Laken Riley immigration bill

By KELLY NIX

IN THE first piece of legislation presented to members of the new Congress, Rep. Jimmy Panetta on Tuesday opposed a Republican-led bill aimed at making it easier to deport illegal immigrants who commit theft-related crimes, like shoplifting.

Current law says that people in the United States illegally are subject to deportation if convicted of a felony, but not for minor crimes such as stealing.

Says he wanted changes to add protections for Dreamers

Panetta explained his vote against the Laken Riley Act, named after the 22-year-old nursing student who was murdered last year in Georgia by a 26-year-old Venezuelan man who was in the United States illegally.

“I support the provisions of the act that focused on keeping criminals in custody,” Panetta, a former prosecutor, told The Pine Cone. But he wanted the bill to include “safeguards” for what he called “law-abiding immigrants, including Dreamers, recipients of temporary protected status, as well as farm, hospitality, and other essential workers, who all contribute to our local and national economy.” He said such immigrants “may be indirectly impacted” by the Laken Riley bill.

Panetta said he reached out to House Speaker Mike Johnson in hopes of changing the bill to include “reasonable protections for law-abiding immigrants,” but Johnson opted for a legislative path that prohibited amendments. The bill was approved by the full House and could go to the Senate for consideration as early as Friday, where all 52 Republicans and Democratic Sen. John Fetterman of Pennsylvania are co-sponsors. Republicans need seven more Democratic votes to overcome a filibuster and begin debate of the bill in the Senate, according to USA Today.

Giving states a role

If the Laken Riley Act becomes law, it would also empower state attorneys general to sue the federal government if they determine their citizens have been harmed by Washington’s immigration policies, another provision Panetta didn’t entirely agree with.

“Although I appreciate a state’s authority to implement necessary protections for border security, especially those along our borders, I believe it is the federal government’s role to create and implement immigration law,” he said.

See **PANETTA** page 18A

Whyte’s sculpture of Jimmy Carter draws crowds

By CHRIS COUNTS

IN THE days that followed former President Jimmy Carter’s death last week at the age of 100, mourners laid flowers at the base of a striking bronze bust of the late statesman that was made by local sculptor Steven Whyte. The bust adorns a garden that’s part of Atlanta’s Carter Center.

For Whyte, seeing people gather at the bust was the supreme compliment. He noted that it has become a place for people to pay their respects to the former president in the aftermath of his death.

“I view my work as successful when it engages the viewer and brings people together,” said Whyte, who has a studio and gallery in The Barnyard shopping center.

The first of three

Starting in 2020, Whyte made three pieces for the Carters. The first was a small bust of Carter. The sculptor noted that Carter was hesitant to be the subject of a sculpture but warmed to the idea after seeing the small bust, which is slightly larger than life-sized.

“As soon as he saw the original bust, he called me up on my cell phone and asked me to sculpt one of Rosalynn,” Whyte told The Pine Cone.

Whyte spoke with him again by phone on Christmas Eve 2020 after Carter received the bust of his wife.

“He said it was the best Christmas present ever, and

that he had fallen in love with it,” Whyte recalled. “It was so sweet.” The works are displayed at the Jimmy Carter National Historical Park in his hometown of Plains, Ga.

After making the larger bust, which went on display

See **WHYTE** page 27A



PHOTO/INSTAGRAM

An Atlanta newspaper reported that crowds — including these tourists — were flocking to see Steven Whyte’s sculpture of former President Jimmy Carter in the aftermath of his death.

Gallery owner complains about real estate offices

By MARY SCHLEY

OVER THE decades, locals have predicted the demise of downtown Carmel due to the proliferation of souvenir shops, chain stores, fast-food restaurants, jewelry stores and art galleries, to name a few. Some of their complaints led to outright legislation — like the cap on jewelers and the ban on food franchises — and now, a former gallery owner thinks the city should stem the scourge of real estate offices, which he described at Tuesday’s city council meeting with doomsday language.

“There is an existential threat to our village’s economy, character and quality by the conversion of retail spaces downtown to non-retail uses — particularly, real estate offices,” said Richard Kreitman, who recently decided with his wife, Barbara, to close Gallery North on Dolores

See **COMPLAINS** page 16A



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Sandy Claws

Finding family

Bobby is a baby, just over a year, a happy, tail-wagging kind of guy who seems to want to greet everyone he meets. Which might be amazing for a puppy that was found starving on the side of a Central Valley road, matted and full of foxtails.

A black standard poodle, Bobby's predicament touched into the heart of a foster parent who already had two black standard poodle rescues and believed a puppy that came out of a life-threatening experience could make someone a wonderful pet.

Particularly in the canine capital of the country. His foster parent, who divides her time between San Francisco and Carmel-by-the-Forest Theater, took Bobby into her care less than 48 hours before Poodle Day in October. She, along with her other two standards, marched with Bobby in the Poodle Day Parade, feeling confident someone would adopt him on the route.

"We marched in the parade, and we got out and met people," she said, "but we hadn't yet met Bobby's forever family. I have wanted Bobby to become a Carmel Beach dog because it is such a good life."

Bobby has visited Carmel Beach, yet only from above, strolling along Scenic Road since, while caring for a rescued foster pup, his person has not braved the beach.

"I won't let Bobby off leash, just to protect him," she said. "He's such a good boy, good in the car, good with people and other dogs. He entered a parade less than 24 hours after he was rescued and handled himself extremely well, enjoying toddlers and 10-year-olds."

When his person fills his bowl with food, she said,



he literally jumps for joy. "He's always so excited to be cared for and loved."

Update: Two weeks after we met Bobby, he met his forever family.







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Please help support our 22 month old daughter, Nora Murphy, as she continues to fight her battle with cancer. She was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia on 9/25 and thankfully her treatments have been a tremendous success so far. We live in Carmel and Nora is in Oakland for her treatments. We are grateful for everyone's love, support and donations during this difficult time. Please keep Nora in your thoughts and prayers. We wish you all a Happy New Year and God bless!

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Hotels see slower pro-am bookings

By MARY SCHLEY

WITH THE shift last year from a more lighthearted pro-am tournament that drew celebrities alongside other wealthy amateur golfers and a field of pros, to a PGA Tour Signature Event with fewer but more high-caliber players competing for vastly more money, the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am doesn't seem to be filling hotels the way it once did, according to some Carmel operators.

“Advance bookings for the AT&T week are down as compared to this time last year — potentially as much as 20 percent,” Amy Herzog, executive director of tourism group Visit Carmel, said. “And, when compared to the previous year — before the tournament format changed — bookings are down even more.”

Now organized to attract more devoted golf fans, this year's tournament is set for Jan. 27-Feb. 2. It will bring 80 PGA pros, many of them highly ranked, and 80 amateurs to compete on the Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill courses, with the professionals vying for a \$20 million purse, the same amount as last year. In 2024, that prize money more than doubled from the \$9 million up for grabs in 2023, the final year the tournament was played under its old format with 156 pros and 156 amateurs competing on three courses.

Gangbuster round

The week will open with three days of practice rounds, all of which are closed to the public, followed by pro-am competition on both courses Thursday and Friday, when the pro-am winners will be crowned. The pros will compete on their own Saturday and Sunday at Pebble Beach.

The new PGA Tour Signature Events, formerly referred to as “distinguished events,” boast higher purses and more

FedEx Cup points than the other events on the PGA Tour calendar and were created to attract the best players and to compete with Saudi Arabia's LIV tour, which has wooed away many former PGA pros by offering high winnings and fewer rounds. (LIV is the Roman numeral for 54, the number of



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Wyndham Clark (left) shot a record-breaking round to win last year's AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

holes in that tournament's events.)

Last year, along with a horde of media, officials and support personnel, the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am drew dozens of the tour's top players, not to mention fans who wanted to see them in action. After raging winds and bad weather ended competition a day early, Wyndham Clark took his third PGA Tour victory. Clark had made headlines around the world a day earlier for scoring the lowest round in the 105-year-history of Pebble Beach Golf Links with a 12-under-par 60 that featured

See **PRO-AM** page 24A



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4A The Carmel Pine Cone January 10, 2025



Police &
Sheriff's Log

AirTag apparently needed AirTag

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.

CHRISTMAS

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Unattended death at Santa Fe and First.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Vehicle stored for blocking a driveway at Monte Verde and Eighth.

HANUKKAH

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Theft and vandalism from a building at Junipero and Ocean.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Trespass warning at Junipero and Fourth.

Pacific Grove: Report of missing juvenile on Lawton.

Pacific Grove: Theft from an unlocked vehicle reported on Congress.

Pacific Grove: Ammunition surrendered for destruction.

Pacific Grove: Suspicious circumstances on 17th Street.

Pacific Grove: Traffic stop at Ocean View Boulevard and Asilomar Avenue resulted in the 42-year-old male driver being arrested for an outstanding warrant for failure to appear in court.

Pacific Grove: Monterey Fire smoke investigation on 18th Street.

Carmel area: Deputies recovered property during a medical emergency on Rio Road. Property was submitted to owner/employer.

Incident was documented.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Hit-and-run report at San Carlos and Fourth.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Towed vehicle from Junipero and Ocean.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Investigation of a verbal domestic dispute at Camino Real and Eighth led to the arrest of a 45-year-old male for damaging a wireless device, spousal battery and felony child abuse. He was booked into Monterey County Jail.

Pacific Grove: Officers dispatched to the 100 block of Ocean View Boulevard regarding a public disturbance. PGPD officers determined a subject had forcibly taken property from another person.

Pebble Beach: Verbal-only domestic on 17 Mile Drive.

Carmel Valley: Missing wallet reported on Carmel Valley Road.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Traffic stop at Torres and Eighth at 0803 hours resulted in the 57-year-old male driver being arrested for possession of a controlled substance (meth), driving while suspended, and other criminal and vehicle code violations. Vehicle impounded. Released with a promise to appear.

See **POLICE LOG** page 9RE in the Real Estate Section



The gavel falls

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

Nov. 21 — Samuel Angel, 49 and a resident of Los Banos, was sentenced to a term of 20 years in state prison after pleading no contest to two felony charges of lewd acts upon a child under the age of 14. These convictions constitute two strikes pursuant to California's three strikes law. In addition to the prison sentence, Angel will be required to register as a sex offender for the remainder of his life.

In January 2023, it was reported to the Monterey County Sheriff's Department that Jane Doe had been sexually abused by Samuel Angel, a family member, both in Monterey and Santa Clara counties when Doe was between 9 and 16 years old. Angel was tipped off by a family member about the investigation into these crimes and was subsequently apprehended by Monterey County sheriff's detectives as he left his residence

in Los Banos with personal luggage in his vehicle. The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office agreed to allow the Monterey County District Attorney's Office to prosecute Angel for the sexual assaults that occurred in Santa Clara County.

This case was investigated by Rosio Silva with the Monterey County Sheriff's Office. Jane Doe was assisted by district attorney investigator Alicia Cox and district attorney victim witness program manager Alma Sanchez.

Dec. 9 — David Paul Farias, 43, of Gonzales, was sentenced to four years in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On Jan. 9, 2024, Farias was instructed to report to the Salinas Parole Office to be

See **GAVEL** page 24A



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Socks
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CARMEL

26405 Scenic Road | Sold at \$15,250,000
Represented the Seller



CARMEL

Scenic 6 SE of 9th | Sold at \$12,500,000
Represented the Buyer & Seller



PEBBLE BEACH

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Represented the Buyer & Seller



CARMEL

Scenic 3 NW of 8th | Sold at \$8,500,000
Represented the Buyer & Seller



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Man arrested for beating girlfriend

By MARY SCHLEY

USING LICENSE-PLATE readers and other investigative tools, officers tracked down and arrested a 38-year-old man suspected of nearly beating his girlfriend to death Sunday and then stealing her car, heading to York Road and stopping to change his clothes and eat lunch, according to Monterey Police Lt. Jake Pinkas.

He said officers were dispatched to the 800 block of Parcel Street in Monterey on Jan. 5 at around 12:20 p.m. after the police department received reports of an unidentified woman in the area yelling for help.

“Officers located a female victim inside her residence suffering from major head injuries which included multiple fractures of her skull,” Pinkas said. “She was transported to a local hospital and underwent emergency surgery” and is continuing to recover from her injuries.

Investigators identified Jeremy Hinton as her attacker, he said, and police found him driving on Highway 68 near York Road, pulled him over and arrested him at gunpoint.

“The investigation revealed Hinton struck the woman multiple times with several blunt objects, causing trauma to her skull,” Pinkas said. “Hinton then took the victim’s vehicle and drove to a business

near York Road, where he changed clothes and ate lunch before driving west on Highway 68, where he was located and arrested by Monterey Police officers.”

Stay-away order

Hinton was booked into Monterey County Jail on charges of attempted murder, domestic violence, robbery, vehicle theft and burglary, all felonies, and his bail has been set at \$1,185,000. He has a prior misdemeanor case, also for domestic violence, as well as a couple of traffic citations.

Hinton was arraigned in Superior Court Tuesday, and the judge issued a criminal protective order barring him from contacting the woman. He remained in custody this week.

Pinkas asked anyone with information regarding the attack to contact detective Sgt. Greg Galin at (831) 646-3872, or to remain anonymous, call (831) 646-3840.

He also noted that domestic violence incidents

account for approximately 20 percent of violent crimes in California and that “survivors are often isolated, in danger and are afraid or unable to report.”

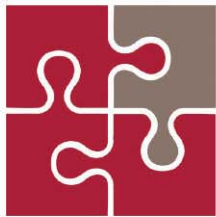
While anyone suffering in such situations should call 911, he said, victims can also reach out to the YWCA Monterey County for resources, guidance and help at (831) 372-6300.



Jeremy Hinton

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‘Death cap’ mushrooms make three ill

By KELLY NIX

THREE PEOPLE became seriously ill after eating poisonous mushrooms purchased from a parking lot seller in Salinas and had to be transported to a Stanford medical clinic for treatment, according to health officials.

The people who ingested the mushrooms came into Salinas Valley Health’s emergency department with acute hepatotoxicity — liver damage caused by toxins — that was caused by severe poisoning from the fungus.

“The patients told doctors they purchased mushrooms from someone selling produce in the parking lot of an East Salinas grocery store,” a hospital representative explained, adding the seller had a truck. “They then cooked with the mushrooms and became sick after eating a meal together.”

The emergency room treated the patients, who were then transferred to Stanford Medicine Health Care, which has a liver transplant program, although it is unclear whether any of them needed a transplant.

By Tuesday, one of the patients had

been released from the Stanford facility, Salinas Valley Health spokeswoman Karina Rusk told The Pine Cone.

“The other two are still recovering, but they’re doing better,” Rusk said.

Authorities contacted

There’s no indication that the seller, who has not yet been identified, intentionally sold poisonous mushrooms. The type ingested by the three people — amanita phalloides or death cap mushrooms — are sometimes mistaken for white button mushrooms, which are edible.

However, physicians at Salinas Valley Health immediately notified Salinas Police and the County of Monterey Public Health Department regarding the poisonous mushrooms.

Salinas Valley Health Dr. Ericka Locke, an emergency department physician, warned that there can be dangers growing mushrooms in an unregulated non-commercial environment.

Early signs of mushroom poisoning are gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and stomach pain.

See **MUSHROOMS** page 26A

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These cute little mushrooms are actually highly toxic to humans. Known as death caps, three people had to be hospitalized after eating the fungi, which they purchased from a man in a Salinas parking lot.

PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

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Big Sur roadwork hits two-year mark

By CHRIS COUNTS

IT WAS two years ago Tuesday that more than 500,000 cubic yards of rock, dirt and debris fell on Highway 1 at Paul’s Slide in Big Sur, closing the world-famous route to through traffic. Numerous additional slides have hit the highway and kept it closed ever since.

One of the repair jobs underway is the complex effort to bypass a landslide with an elevated road at Rocky Creek, and Caltrans says that a full closure of the Highway 1 will be needed Jan. 21-22 from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. so concrete can be poured for the deck that supports the southbound lane.

“Flaggers will begin intermittent traffic control with delays of up to 10 minutes at 8:30 p.m. Jan. 21, before the full closure goes into effect,” Caltrans reported. “Starting at 10 p.m., crews will close Highway 1 and stage concrete pumps in the northbound lane to pour concrete for the bridge deck until 6 a.m., Jan. 22.”

Parks, resorts open

After a slide seriously undermined Highway 1’s southbound lane at Rocky Creek in March 2024, workers stabilized the highway and set to work on building a viaduct. The contractor is Gordon N. Ball, Inc. of Walnut Creek.

The work to construct the viaduct — which is expected to cost taxpayers \$25 million — is dependent on good weather, with high winds creating unsafe conditions for workers. “Updates will be provided to confirm or announce any changes to this schedule,” the state roads agency noted.

Highway 1 at Rocky Creek will be closed overnight Jan. 21-22

Caltrans said the viaduct is expected to be completed sometime this summer, although wet weather could delay it.

Aside from the hard closure set for Jan. 21-22, it’s clear sailing on Highway 1 for motorists traveling south from the Monterey Peninsula to Big Sur, where parks, shops and resorts are open all the way south to Esalen Institute.

“Travelers from Northern California are still able to visit the Big Sur Coast and its historic bridges, waterfalls, restaurants, and lodging amenities.” Caltrans

added. “The vast majority of the Big Sur Coast remains accessible and open,” the report added.

One slide to go

A little more than 5 miles south of Esalen is the Regent Slide, which has blocked vehicle traffic since last February. Due to the discovery of cracks in August along a slope where major excavation efforts were underway, work was temporarily halted, and while it has resumed, the slide isn’t expected to be cleared until sometime in 2025.

Motorists traveling from Southern California can’t drive north of the Regent Slide, but they can reach the New Camaldoli Hermitage, along with beaches, parks, restaurants and resorts along Big Sur’s less traveled South Coast.

If all goes according to plan, Highway 1 could be open to motorists from Carmel to Cambria by summer, but there’s a lot of winter to get through in the meantime.

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CITY SEES YET ANOTHER MAJOR VACANCY

By MARY SCHLEY

ENDING A 42-year career, most of it in public works, Bob Harary retired late last month after serving as Carmel’s public works director for seven years. His departure leaves another significant vacancy in the city, which still lacks a planning and building director nearly a year after Brandon Swanson left that position to become assistant city administrator.

Five days before Christmas and three days before his retirement, Harary appeared on the city’s Friday video alongside Swanson and city administrator Chip Rerig. Carmel is the seventh city he’s worked for, he said.

“This city is unparalleled in the caliber of talent, intelligence and hard work of city staff,” said Harary, who will turn 65 next month and is planning to move with his partner to Reno, Nev.

Although he’ll be busy traveling and enjoying his retirement in myriad ways — including as a keyboardist in a local band — he said he’ll miss his coworkers, and he praised Rerig for putting together a great team.

Report card

At his final city council appearance Dec. 3, 2024, Harary presented a report on the condition of the city from his department’s perspective, comparing its status when

See **VACANCY** page 19A

Consultants sought to help set ADU standards

By MARY SCHLEY

TO FULFILL one of the programs in its 2024 housing plan — a document required to fulfill state mandates — the City of Carmel must adopt standards for granny units, which otherwise under California law are subject to very little regulation and no rules on what they look like. The city is searching for experts to help draft those standards — as well as similar rules for apartment complexes and mixed-use developments — and is accepting proposals through early February.

“The city is establishing objective design and development standards to comply with recent state housing legislation, implement streamlined and ministerial review processes for qualifying housing projects, ensure that qualifying projects align with the city’s architectural heritage, provide a set of clear criteria to guide development, and establish an objective framework by which a qualifying project will be evaluated,” according to the city’s request for proposals released last month.

The state defines “objective design review standards” as those that “involve no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and are uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official prior to submittal.”

Nonetheless, the city says its version of those standards should “honor the architectural history and diversity of the village,” and that “the integration of new buildings should respect the scale and character of the village,” with particular attention paid to “high-quality building design,



PHOTO/MARY SCHLEY

Granny units like the one at the rear of this property can be built with very little oversight. The city wants more control over them.

architectural style, massing, and height transitions.”

Consultants are urged to read the city’s 20-plus-year-old residential design guidelines to “understand the qualities and architectural heritage of the village,” in order to gain a better idea of what should be included in a set of objective standards.

Questions are due by 5 p.m. Jan. 17, and the deadline to submit a proposal is 5 p.m. Feb. 3. Evaluations will take place Feb. 17, and contract negotiations and execution are expected to occur the week of Feb. 24. Principal planner Marnie Waffle is overseeing it all and can be reached at (831) 620-2057 or by email at housing@ci.carmel.ca.us.

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County educating undocumented

■ Supervisors cite ‘fear and angst’

By KELLY NIX

MONTEREY COUNTY officials are reaching out to migrants to help prepare them for the possibility that federal immigration authorities — seeking to deport people who are in the country illegally — could come knocking on their doors.

President-elect Donald Trump promised during his campaign to deport large numbers of illegal immigrants, initially targeting those convicted of crimes and the estimated 1.4 million people who have pending deportation orders. On Tuesday, members of Congress — mostly Republi-

have told him they’re afraid they’ll be deported.

“It’s unspeakable the amount of fear, angst and anxiety our communities are feeling and dealing with,” said Lopez at Tuesday’s meeting in Salinas.

Lopez said the county would give migrants information on the “tangible steps they can take to protect themselves, their family, their loved ones and feel that they are as empowered as they can be.”

Constitutional card

The resources include a small foldable, county-printed card with information for migrants about their rights under the U.S. Constitution in the event agents from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

start questioning them about their immigration status. Alejo held up the red card entitled “Constitutional Rights for Immigrant Education,” during the meeting.

“You DO NOT have to OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door, unless they show a valid warrant,” the card, which can also be downloaded from the “Know Your Rights” page on the county’s website, states in English in Spanish. “You DO NOT have to ANSWER QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you.

You have the right to remain silent.”

It instructs migrants to present it to immigration officials, cautions against signing anything without first speaking to an attorney, and says they should assert their Fourth Amendment rights to review any court-issued warrants and to not answer

See ICE page 20A

Constitutional Rights for Immigrant Education THESE ARE YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS:

- You DO NOT have to OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door, unless they show a valid warrant.
- You DO NOT have to ANSWER QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
- DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
- If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
- GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.

The county is distributing “Know Your Rights” cards — an excerpt is shown above — to immigrants to help protect them from a promised Trump administration crackdown.

cans — passed the Laken Riley Act, which would make it easier to deport undocumented immigrants who commit nonviolent crimes, such as theft.

District 2 Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez, who sits on an immigrant rights committee with 1st District Supervisor Luis Alejo, called the meetings “heart-breaking” and said numerous residents



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SCAN ME



Mail delivery, historic preservation, illegal driveway on council agendas

By MARY SCHLEY

FOR DECADES, Peninsula Messenger Service has delivered mail to Carmel-by-the-Sea residents who can’t or don’t want to go to the post office, but that’s set to change when the Carmel City Council considers a contract with

a new carrier, according to the meeting agendas released this week.

In back-to-back sessions set for Jan. 13 and 14, the council will also be asked to approve the city’s new historic context statement — the document that helps decision makers decide whether a property is worthy of mandatory

preservation — and to vote on an application by homeowners to use public property for a driveway, stairs, a garden and retaining walls.

The main topic anticipated on Monday’s agenda, which also includes a few routine items like minutes from prior meetings and monthly expenses, is the proposed mail-delivery contract with MoGo Express. The company was the lowest of four bidders, according to finance manager Jayme Fields’ report, and will save taxpayers an estimated \$2,025 per month.

Will it stick?

The contract would run through June 30, the end of the fiscal year, with options to renew for three more years, with a maximum total of \$270,000. It assumes the delivery

See AGENDA page 21A

Auditions set for ‘Waitress’ and ‘Annie’

By CHRIS COUNTS

SEEKING CAST members for two upcoming musicals, PacRep Theatre is hosting auditions for “Waitress” Jan. 20-21 and “Annie” Jan. 25-26. The auditions will be done at the Indoor Forest Theater, which is located at Santa Rita and Mountain View.

“Waitress,” which tells the story of a woman who bakes pies to find respite from an unhappy marriage, will be directed and choreographed by Palmer Davis.

Auditions for “Waitress” will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Rehearsals start in early May, with performances running June 19 to 27 at the Golden Bough Playhouse.

“Annie” follows the adventures of an orphan, Little Annie, who seeks her parents while warming just about everybody’s heart along the way. The musical will be directed by Gary Bolen, with choreography by Davis.

Auditions for “Annie” are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Rehearsals begin in late June, with performances running Aug. 7 to Sept. 21 at the

See AUDITIONS page 17A



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Dual sensory impairment in older adults is linked to withdrawal from social interactions and poorer quality of life, as well as

depression.³ One study of adults ages 60 and up found that 60% of those with dual sensory impairment experienced depression.⁴ Fortunately, current evidence suggests that seeking help from a qualified healthcare provider to manage vision and hearing impairments may help decrease the negative impact of dual sensory impairments.⁵

The first step in addressing hearing or vision loss is to consult a qualified healthcare provider. For vision, start with an optometrist. For hearing, Dr. Cheri Taylor at Emerald Hill Audiology provides expert care, offering personalized, evidence-based treatment to meet each patient’s needs.

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PHONY VET KILLS AT LEAST ONE DOG

By KELLY NIX

A PRUNEDALE man who impersonated a veterinarian and illegally performed surgeries and prescribed medicine — causing the death of at least one animal — could be criminally charged.

Investigators with SPCA Monterey County and the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office, accompanied by county sheriff’s deputies, served a search warrant at a home on the 1600 block of Blackie Road on Nov. 4, 2024.

SPCA spokeswoman Beth Brookhouser described what they discovered.

“We found 12 French bulldogs with no food or water in small cages,” she said. “Four of the dogs were housed in a shed with no access to sunlight or ventilation. A thin German shepherd was roaming free, and a Doberman was housed in a small kennel with no food or water.”

Uncommon

SPCA officers seized the 14 dogs, which are being cared for, and two horses, which were returned to their owners.

The phony vet was performing examinations, doing invasive surgeries, and prescribing drugs.

“At least one dog died due to the negligence of this man, with multiple others needing follow-up vet care,” Brookhouser said

The man, who the SPCA has not identified, is being investigated for providing

veterinary care without a license and animal abuse and cruelty. The DA’s office has not yet charged him.

Brookhouser told The Pine Cone this week that it did investigate one other case of vet care being provided by someone who was unlicensed.

“Thankfully, these are not common reports,” she said.

SPCA investigators believe there may



PHOTO/SPCA MONTEREY COUNTY

The SPCA said a Prunedale man used this room as a makeshift veterinary clinic. At least one dog died there.

be additional victims in the county and is asking people to contact the organization if they have information pertinent to the case. They say the man previously operated a similar makeshift clinic in a house on McGowan Drive in Salinas.

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COMPLAINS

From page 1A

after 21 years in business.

That was after he said he learned that a real estate firm is moving into the couple’s former space next to Mulligan. Offices for Carmel Realty, Sotheby’s, The Agency, Monterey Coast Realty and other agencies dot downtown, with a handful occupying multiple spaces.

While some have longstanding locations, others have replaced shops, including storefronts on Ocean Avenue, over the years.

“After a bidding war with other potential retailers,” he said at the meeting, he learned the new tenant will be “paying 2.5 times the monthly rent we were offered to renew our lease.”

“Real estate offices add nothing to our town’s economy — they actually cost us,” Kreitman complained, saying that such firms all advertise the same inventory and do nothing to benefit the city’s tax base or vitality.

“Every conversion means loss of retail tax revenue and leaves the city less well off financially and less attractive,” Kreitman told the council. “Once a space converts to non-retail use, it’s unlikely it will ever revert back.”

He said the city should do something about it.

“You need to act,” he said.

‘Appropriately worried’

After the meeting, Kreitman explained that he doesn’t know which other businesses were apparently competing for the gallery’s former storefront but defended his comments as representing others who

feel similarly.

“I heard from someone who is well connected in town that other galleries and retailers are appropriately worried that when their leases come up for renewal, they will have to be competing with real estate offices,” he said. “This really is a serious threat.”

Malone Hodges, an associate broker with Carmel Realty, countered that realtors don’t just negotiate sales contracts, they are in fact often the first point of contact for people thinking about moving here.

“Part of our job is introducing them to the unique charm and character that make Carmel special,” he said. “Our offices and customer-facing spaces in Carmel are integral to us being able to do so.”

He noted that many agents serve as local experts and community advocates alongside their roles as salespeople, and that the

number of offices in the city reflects its desirability as a place to live.

‘A powerhouse’

As for the issues of revenues and taxes, he pointed out that the market in Carmel-by-the-Sea “has been a powerhouse for our local economy.”

“Over the past four years, we’ve seen 446 homes change hands, totaling an astounding \$1.5 billion in sales,” he said. “These transactions have increased our property tax base, often by substantial margins, directly bolstering our city’s coffers.”

“The presence of real estate offices in our town isn’t just about convenience — it’s a vital contributor to our financial health,” Hodges continued. “Just like our cherished boutiques and restaurants, these offices play a crucial role in sustaining our city’s economic vitality and character.”

Hartzell joins planning commission

By CHRIS COUNTS

WITH KATE Daniels moving up to supervisor of Monterey County’s 5th District, Jessica Hartzell stepped into her role as a county planning commissioner Wednesday.

“We have an additional commissioner who is joining us for the first time,” planning commission chair and fellow 5th District representative Martha Diehl announced at the start of the Jan. 8 Monterey County Planning Commission meeting in Salinas — the first of the new year. “We’re thrilled to have her because she has big shoes to fill and lots of work to do.”

Passion, experience

Daniels named Hartzell as her replacement on the planning commission, and the supervisors made it official Tuesday.

“Jessica is a smart and engaged person who will take this role seriously and put in the time it takes,” Daniels told The Pine Cone. “She has land use passion

and experience. I feel like she will do her homework.”

A Carmel Valley resident and an attorney, Hartzell is the director of operations for the Tom Kat Ranch Educational Foundation, which promotes sustainable ranching practices. She worked for Esalen Institute in Big Sur, where she led Esalen’s community and advancement team and managed its artist-in-residence program. She was also a founding board member for the Big Sur Park School.

She ran for the District 5 seat on the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Board in the November 2024 election, touting her background in law, agriculture, and organizational development, and experience in public and private land use. She lost to incumbent Amy Anderson.

Hartzell — who graduated from UC Berkeley in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in international development studies — was a field representative for Sen. Dianne Feinstein from 2006 to 2014 and a proxy for Feinstein from 2015 to 2017.

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MST DONATES BUSES TO SHERIFF’S OFFICE

By MARY SCHLEY

THREE MONTEREY-SALINAS Transit buses that have outlived their usefulness for carrying fare-paying passengers were donated to the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office Monday, according to the transit authority’s marketing and communications manager, Ikuyo Yoneda-López.

“While these vehicles have reached the end of their public transportation service life, they still have plenty of usefulness ahead,” she said. “The three donated buses will work alongside others in the sheriff’s office fleet, supporting a variety of different purposes.”

Monterey County Sheriff’s Cmdr. Andy Rosas said the buses will be put to good use.

“One will be designated for ADA prisoner transports between the jail and the court, hospital or other locations they may need to go,” he said. “The other vehicles will be utilized to move deputies to locations of critical incidents” that require a large-scale response.

“They could also be used for evacuation purposes in the event of fires, floods, or other natural disasters,” Rosas said.

Fully inspected

Prior to handing over the buses, the MST maintenance team fully inspected them, with workers undertaking any necessary repairs or updates to ensure they are “safe and ready for use,” according to Yoneda-López.

In a statement, MST general manager and CEO Carl Sedoryk commented that the three vehicles “have served MST and our community well and can now be shared and used by other groups and agencies to continue the important and necessary work they do.”

“While the holidays may have ended, MST’s commitment to giving back to our community remains strong,” he said, speaking of buses that were paid for by passengers and taxpayers.

MST is a government agency and during fiscal year 2024-2025, its budget anticipates \$56,411,710 in passenger revenues and \$60,811,140 in expenses.

New children’s health center to open in KC

By KELLY NIX

A SOUTH Monterey County hospital will soon open a pediatric health center it says will offer specialized care for young patients.

Mee Memorial Healthcare System in King City announced Monday that on Jan. 14 it will have a grand opening of its Children’s Health and Wellness Center on the hospital campus at 809 Broadway. While Mee Memorial has always had pediatric services, including at health clinics in other nearby cities, the new facility will offer specialized services at the hospital’s principal location.

“We offer comprehensive coordinated pediatric services including preventative examinations and screenings, immunizations, acute visit care and chronic condition management,” hospital spokeswoman Elsbeth Wetherill told The Pine Cone.

As a hub for young patients, the new facility will also increase capacity at Mee Memorial’s King City Clinic, allowing family and community providers to better serve all patients, the hospital said.

The clinic seeks to create a more serene hospital environment for kids.

“This new pediatric center is designed to be a warm and welcoming space where children feel safe and

See **PEDIATRIC** page 26A

AUDITIONS

From page 14A

Outdoor Forest Theater.

Appointments are required for people wanting to audition.

“All auditioners should present one song excerpt and one monologue within a three-minute total time limit,” instructions read. “Songs can be from the show or of a similar style. Auditioners must provide their own electronic accompaniment, such as an iPad or cell phone, and speaker.”

They should also bring a recent profile photograph and a current resume. To schedule an appointment, call Cindy at the PacRep box office at (831) 622-0100.

PacRep’s Legends of Rock ‘N’ Roll Tribute Concert is playing at the Golden Bough through Sunday. The show celebrates the first three decades of rock ‘n’ roll.

All shows start at 7:30 p.m. except Sunday matinees, which begin at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$8. The theater is located on Monte Verde between Eighth and Ninth streets. For tickets, visit pacrep.org.



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PANETTA

From page 1A

With the new 119th Congress seated, Panetta said he’s already been in discussions with members of both parties “about how we can find common ground on border security and immigration reforms that would help, not hurt, our economy.”

Panetta’s vote against the Laken Riley Act follows his decision in September 2024 to side with Republicans on the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, which among other things expands the crimes for which undocumented migrants can be deported.

Under current law, a non-citizen can be deported for certain criminal convictions, including domestic violence, stalking, and child abuse. The Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act makes any sex offenses committed by undocumented immigrants — including crimes against minors — or conspiracies to commit sex offenses, grounds for deportation.

Terrible crimes

The legislation “establishes that a non-U.S. national is inadmissible if the individual has admitted to or is convicted of acts constituting the essential elements of stalking, child abuse, child neglect, child abandonment, a sex offense, conspiracy to commit a sex offense, a violation of certain protection orders, and domestic violence — including physical or sexual abuse

or a pattern of coercive behavior when it occurs within certain close relationships,” the bill says.

So-called “sanctuary states,” including California, refuse to cooperate with federal authorities when it comes to deporting undocumented immigrants who commit all but the most serious crimes, and the Laken Riley Act does nothing to change that.

Wide open

During the 2024 presidential election campaign, Republicans and then-presidential candidate Donald Trump pointed to Riley’s murder and other outrageous crimes committed by illegal immigrants as a consequence of the Biden administration’s policies along the Southern border, and the large numbers of undocumented people who entered the country, strained resources in larger cities such as New York and Chicago, and cost billions of taxpayer dollars.

An average of 2.4 million immigrants per year poured into the United States between 2021 and 2024, according to the Congressional Budget Office. About 60 percent of the migrants crossed into the country illegally, a Goldman Sachs analysis found.

The situation alarmed many Americans, according to a Scripps News/Ipsos survey, with about 54 percent of respondents — 86 percent of Republicans, 58 percent of independents and 25 percent of Democrats — saying they “strongly” or “somewhat” support a wide-scale effort to deport millions of immigrants. Trump, who takes office Jan. 20, has promised to launch such a program.



Jimmy Panetta

Riley’s killer, Jose Ibarra, entered the United States unlawfully in 2022 and was arrested but released by U.S. Border officials while his immigration case was pending in court. He was arrested again in New York City in August 2023 on suspicion of “acting in a manner to injure a child less than 17 and a motor vehicle license violation,” but was released. In February 2024, Ibarra tried to rape Riley while she was jogging and bashed her in the head with a rock when she fought back.

He was found guilty of the crime and in November 2024 was sentenced to life in prison.

TRUCK

From page 1A

handrails on the driver and passenger sides, fold-down aluminum seating for about 21 people, and a siren and 100-watt speaker.

“The Acela Monterra High Water Vehicle is a robust, purpose-built truck designed to operate in extreme conditions where conventional vehicles fail,” according to a company description. “It is engineered to navigate floodwaters, rough terrain, and disaster-stricken areas. The vehicle’s design includes a raised chassis, sealed electrical systems, and specialized intake and exhaust systems that allow it to function in water depths of up to 50 inches or more, depending on the model. Its all-wheel-drive configuration and high ground clearance make it an essential tool for operations in challenging environments.”

The county will pay for half the cost of the vehicle in January and May, with the other half due on Nov. 15 when the truck is delivered to Castroville. There will be a two-day training session for operators of the truck at the Acela factory, according to the contract.



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

The Pajaro River levee broke in March 2023, flooding the small community and forcing 200 people to be rescued.



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Carmel Pine Cone’s

WEDDING & Special Occasions

It’s the time of year Pine Cone readers are planning their weddings and special occasions for 2025...

Let us help you reach them in our **February 14** Wedding & Special Occasion Section



Feb. 14, 2025



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VACANCY

From page 10A

he arrived in 2017 to his final year on the job.

In the 2018/2019 fiscal year, he recalled, public works’ operating budget was \$3.37 million and its capital expenditures were allocated at \$4.37 million. This year, his department’s operating budget is \$6.54 million, with a staggering \$12.18 million earmarked for capital projects. Public works also grew by five full-time positions during that time, though it’s still contending with five or six vacancies.

Harary broke his review, based on the American Society of Civil Engineers’ national report card model, into several categories. “Fortunately, we have no F’s, but unfortunately, we have no A’s,” he said.

That fact notwithstanding, he declared, “We have the best pavement condition in Monterey County.”

Making history

In 2017, he gave the condition of the city’s roads and sidewalks a C+, but in 2024, they got a B+, Harary said, adding that an upcoming conglomerate paving project set to go out to bid will run an estimated \$2.5 million and “will be the biggest paving project in the city’s history.”

Meanwhile, necessary repairs to sidewalks are extensive, concrete streets will be expensive to fix, and the city continues to field complaints about potholes on streets in the county areas. The town also lacks enough bike lanes.

“Once we address bike lanes and concrete streets, we’ll get up to an A,” he predicted.

Regarding the city’s drainage system, Harary said, “we had no idea what condition it was in,” in 2017, but “now we know exactly where investment is needed and in

what order.” While several projects have been completed, others are in planning or are underway. As a result, he said, the system’s grade moved from a D- seven years ago to a C+.

But Harary was grim where public facilities are concerned.

“We’re losing ground,” he said. “We’ve done a lot of little projects and done condition assessments, but we’re not investing the dollars we need to.”

He observed that eight city-owned buildings are a century old and poorly maintained. Flanders Mansion and the Scout House have been unused for decades as they continue to deteriorate, and city hall, the fire station and Vista Lobos require extensive maintenance. Sunset Center is at risk of closing, he said, because its elevators need to be upgraded.

“The police and public works building — I’m just going to say this, because I have no fear — I worked on this before I was hired. I was a tentative hire, and I was working on the police station seven-and-a-half years ago, and we’ve built nothing,” he said. “It’s past its useful life, it’s unfit for staff, we had seven years of planning. Come on, please, I beg you, I deplore you, let’s get this thing done.”

As a result, in 2017, facilities got a C-, but now they’re at a D.

From minus to plus

On the upside, he gave the fleet a B in 2024 vs. a C in 2017, thanks to the installation of more EV charging stations and other upgrades.

But forestry and parks slid from a B to a C+, due to a three-plus-year backlog of “dead, very poor and poor trees,” as well as 600-plus stumps yet to be removed. Harary also described the city’s tree ordinances as outdated, inconsistent and “strange.”

“But I think we have a lot of tools in place to get the job done,” he said.

The beach is in better condition now

than it was when Harary joined the city’s payroll, he said, largely because of cleanup efforts led by volunteers and city staff and the removal of fire pits a few years back, bringing its grade up from a D+ to a C.

All that resulted in a slight improvement overall in the past seven years, from a C- in 2017 to a C+ in 2024, according to Harary.

After his presentation, Carmel Woods resident Cindy Lloyd praised public works and said it’s her favorite department, while resident Andi Carr complimented Harary for his hard work and praised his staff for always responding to her calls.

Representing the Carmel Residents Association, Janine Chicourrat said

Harary’s retirement is “a big loss to the city.”

“I’m sad to see him leave and amazed to see the accomplishments he made in such a short time,” she said.

Swanson remarked that planners and engineers don’t usually get along, “because planners are creative and engineers only know two words — ‘yes’ and ‘no,’” but that he and Harary “worked really hard to create collaboration between public works and planning, and that doesn’t occur in many cities.”

Outgoing Mayor Dave Potter lauded Harary for getting so much done, and other council members complimented and thanked him as well.

RICHARD ALLEN WECKER

November 18, 1944 – November 15, 2024



Richard Allen Wecker, 79, of South Dartmouth, Massachusetts passed away on November 15, 2024 after falling ill and being hospitalized in Syracuse, Sicily.

Rich was born in Carmel, California at Peninsula Community Hospital in 1944 to John Francis Wecker and Florence Beatrice Wecker (nee Snow). He spent his early years living in different parts of the United States

and overseas in Linz, Austria along with his siblings while his father John served in the military. Eventually the family returned to the Monterey Peninsula where Rich attended high school at Junipero Memorial in Monterey, California. After high school, he received a full scholarship to play basketball at St. Mary’s College in Moraga, California. After graduation he was accepted to Army OCS and graduated as a Second Lieutenant, serving a tour in Vietnam where he was wounded and was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star as well as other awards. He was honorably discharged at the rank of Captain.



Later, while stationed in Mannheim, Germany, Rich met the love of his life, Patricia (nee Pickett). After a short time together, they married in 1970 while still in Germany and began their new lives together. Upon leaving the military, Richard went into the insurance business like his father John, while Pat taught school for a brief time before they started their family. Daughter Meredith was born in 1977 and son Nathan followed in 1981.

His sense of adventure never left him, and in Pat he found a fellow traveler. They were dedicated to seeing the world even in dangerous times (like the Arab Spring in Egypt). In addition to conventional trips, Rich enjoyed adventure travel: cruising to spots like the Arctic and the Antarctic, and hiking across both France and England as well as many other journeys. Most impressive were the wonderful, professional quality photos Rich took to document their trips. Despite their busy schedule, he always made time to travel to California for family gatherings, weddings and birthdays.

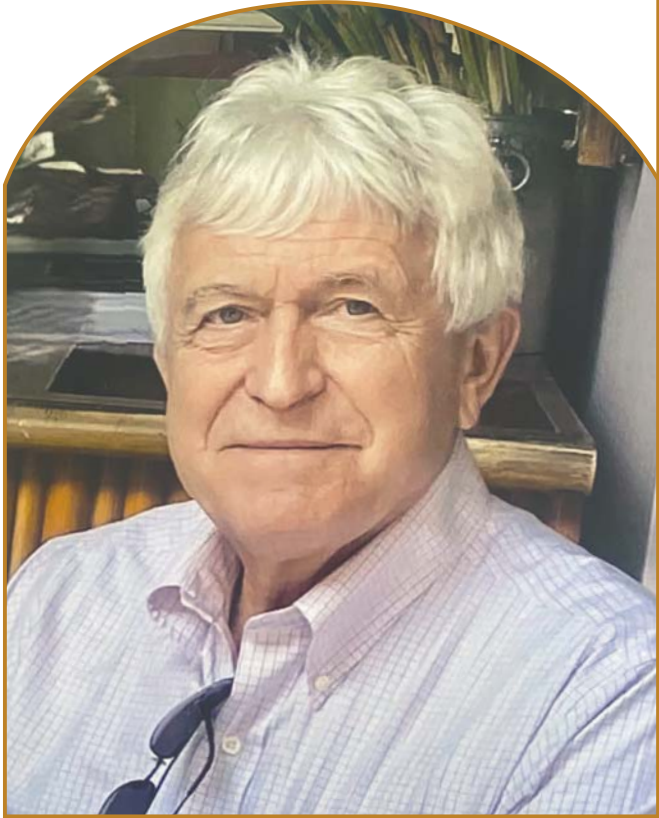
Richard’s distinguished career in the insurance industry began in 1971 when he joined New York Life as an agent in the Salinas General Office. He rose through the ranks of management to become Senior VP in charge of Agency, then Senior VP in charge of marketing. After retiring from New York Life, he served as President and CEO of LIMRA International, the largest trade association in the insurance industry with 450 member companies worldwide.

His community service began while he was still working. He ran successful campaigns for United Way while at New York Life and at LIMRA. After retirement he was a founding member of Coastal Neighbors Network (an organization dedicated to assisting people wishing to age in their own homes). He also was a dedicated supporter of the New Bedford Symphony.

Though he loved working, being involved in his community, and traveling, Rich’s favorite role was that of grandparent. He treasured his time with his grandkids and loved being their Shakespeare coach (spending countless hours on the phone rehearsing lines with both Satya and June).

Rich was preceded in death by his parents, John and Florence Wecker, his brother John Wecker Jr., and is survived by his wife Pat, his two children Meredith (Andrew) and Nathan, grandchildren Satya, June, and Aili. He is also survived by his brothers Terry (Angela), Robert (Sue), Tom (Deborah), Mike (Cheryl), and his sister Paula (Ron Ridley) along with many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews.

No service will be held. Charitable contributions in his name can be made to **Gateway Center of Monterey County, Inc.** at 850 Congress Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950 or through their website at www.gatewaycenter.org.



Celebrating The life of JAROSLAV (JERRY) STEPANEK

JAN 28, 1956 – OCT 11, 2024

The family of Jerry Stepanek would like to express their gratitude for all the flowers, cards, phone calls, and outpouring of love and support.

The celebration of Jerry’s life begins at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 11, 2025, at Center for Spiritual Awakening, 522 Central Ave., Pacific Grove.

Jerry’s obituary appeared in the Carmel Pine Cone November 29, 2024.

2:00 PM | SATURDAY, JAN. 11, 2025
CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING
522 CENTRAL AVE. | PACIFIC GROVE

Leah Winter

Leah Winter passed away peacefully on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024. She was with her three children – Rhonda, Joy and Jeffrey. Leah leaves a legacy of seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, whom she loved and adored.

Leah was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 30, 1930, to Frank and Mary Trager. In 1949 Leah married the love of her life, Arthur Winter. They moved to Salinas in 1962 and were happily married for 72 years.



Leah was extremely proud of her family. She leaves a legacy of selflessness and cared deeply for her community. Along with Arthur Winter, Leah always made everyone feel welcome, appreciated and well fed! Leah was loved by all and will be missed by her family, wonderful neighbors, friends, and her Temple Beth El family.

Donations can be made in Leah's memory to Temple Beth El Sisterhood in Salinas and Planned Parenthood.

ICE

From page 12A

any questions, per the Fifth Amendment.

“GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT,” it says. “If you are inside your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.”

Alejo reported that he and Lopez met with dozens of people and officials in the agriculture, hospitality, labor, and nonprofit sectors regarding immigrant rights.

In six languages

Monterey County communications director Nick Pasculli said the county’s website contains videos summarizing the immigrant rights card.

The videos are in English and Spanish and “three dialects of Mixteco and one dialect of Triqui,” Pasculli said.

The Consulate General of Mexico in San Jose met with officials about the county’s efforts to educate migrants, he added.

“She was so impressed with what Monterey County has achieved so far that she is bringing the information back to Mexico this week and sharing it with the Mexican government and the president of Mexico,” Pasculli said.

The website includes a disclaimer that the “distribution” of the immigrant rights material “is not intended and does not constitute legal advice, nor does it create an attorney-client relationship” and recommends people consult their attorney to “assure compliance with all applicable

laws.”

Alejo commended Monterey County Sheriff Tina Nieto, and the Salinas and Greenfield police chiefs for also being involved in the Know Your Rights campaign.

“We started from the very beginning reaching out to law enforcement because we knew that this was going to be a partnership with them and everyone else,” Alejo said, who added that there would be a press conference about the campaign, a forum in February for residents, and a related resolution for the supervisors to consider.

A.G. paves way

Newly seated 5th District Supervisor Kate Daniels, who represents the Monterey Peninsula, said she’s spoken to officials from several churches who are eager to distribute the card.

“I’m excited that I will be able to forward them this printed material so they can share it,” Daniels said.

Rep. Jimmy Panetta voted against the Laken Riley Act this week but last September voted for the Republican-led Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, which would make any sex offense committed by undocumented immigrants — including crimes against minors — or conspiracy to commit a sex offense a basis for deportation.

Last month, state Attorney General Rob Bonta issued recommendations to help guide government entities on how to limit state and local participation in immigration enforcement activities.

“California is the most diverse state in the nation, and immigrants are the backbone of our economy, history and culture,” he said. “We will not be caught flat-footed if the president-elect follows through on his threats of mass deportation.”

In 2017, then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill led by Democrats that prohibits the use of state or county facilities to help federal immigration officials, making California a “sanctuary state.”

RICHARD MASON COOK

Richard ‘Dick’ Cook passed peacefully at the age of 98 years, four months, on Dec. 28, 2024, in Westlake Village, California. He was predeceased by his wife of 64 happy years, Beverly, and by his brother, Robert Cook of San Jose.

Dick was a US Navy veteran, graduate of San Jose State and UCSF School of Dentistry. He was a retired orthodontist and almond grower. He came to San Jose (Campbell), California from Memphis, Tennessee in 1936 with his widowed mother, Myrtle. Dick lived happily in San Jose, San Francisco, Chico and Monterey, his favorite place. Dick was also a proud member (emeritus) of the Carmel Rotary Club and had many wonderful friends there.



He is survived by his loving daughter, Kelly Cook Ekizian and son-in-law, Greg Ekizian of Westlake Village; granddaughter, Jane Ekizian of Sherman Oaks and grandson, Jeremy Ekizian of Simi Valley.

Our family withes to thank Dr. Richard King of Monterey for many years of kind care. We also thank Dr. Bader Iqbal of Thousand Oaks, Sunrise Senior Living in Westlake Village and South Valley Hospice in Agoura, California for their kind, consistent and compassionate care during the time Dick lived in the Conejo Valley.

SYLVIA SPRIDGEN BREIHZOLZ

Sylvia Spridgen Breiholz, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on Jan. 2, 2025, at the age of 87, after a courageous journey through Alzheimer’s.



A native of Santa Rosa and a proud fourth-generation Californian, Sylvia descended from a pioneering family on both parents’ sides. After attending Ursuline High School in Santa Rosa, she attended UC Berkeley, from which she graduated in 1959. While at Cal, she was a proud member

of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, where she forged friendships that lasted a lifetime.

For the past 38 years, Sylvia has shared a beautiful life with her devoted husband, Bruce “Buck” Breiholz, at Markham Ranch in Salinas and their charming home in Carmel. They also spend time in Ann Arbor, MI, enjoying Michigan football tailgates with loyal friends and trips to Mackinac Island in the fall.

Sylvia was an avid gardener with a remarkable eye for design, channeling her creativity into home remodeling projects. She loved cooking, often perfecting recipes from her extensive collection of cookbooks. Her legacy lives on through her family, her most incredible pride and joy. Sylvia’s warmth, grace, and generous spirit touched everyone. Sylvia was actively engaged in her community, volunteering with the Junior League of San Jose and serving as president of the Summit League. Beyond her community involvement, Sylvia co-founded a catering company, The Napkin Ring, in Saratoga with a talented chef friend, bringing out her business side. She was an inspiration to her children, the first call for anything and everything.

Preceded in death by her first husband, Jay deBenedetti, Sylvia is survived by her loving husband, Buck; and her children, Ann Levis (Ted), John deBenedetti (Nina) and Mary Newman (Scott.) She is also survived by her sister, Sherry Franchetti of Santa Rosa; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The family is comforted by the love and support from Sylvia’s devoted friends. Gifts in Sylvia’s memory may be made to the All May See Foundation: allmaysee.org or the charity of your choice.

JEAN K. STUMBO

1927-2024

Jean K. Stumbo was born Nov. 27, 1927, in Washington D.C. to Robert Serpell and Kathryn Shollenberger. Jean passed away in her home of 58 years in Pebble Beach on Sept. 10, 2024, at the age of 96.

In 1938 Jean’s family purchased a home on 1.8 acres with fruit trees in Daytona, Florida. Jean attended school in Florida and received her A.A. from Stephens College, B.A. from University of North Carolina, M.A. from Stetson University in Florida. Jean continued her education with postgraduate work at UC Berkeley and Harvard.

Jean was active in Questers, Friends of Del Monte Forest, PG Library, Heritage Society, SPCA Monterey County, and was the author of “Emily Fish, Socialite Lighthouse Keeper.” Jean and her husband Ray were both teachers at Carmel High School. Jean blessed the lives of everyone she knew, neighbors, friends and family. Jean was able to remain in her home with help from caring neighbors, friends and her Tongan caregivers. Jean was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Stumbo, and her parents Robert Serpell and Kathryn Shollenberger. A memorial service took place Oct. 12, 2024, at the home of her best friend, Sue Woolcock. Great memories and stories were shared with listening to the 1969 song “Jean” and the reading of a poem written by Jean’s neighbor, Shelia Deis.



Our Friend Jean

I find myself looking across the street,
And I feel Jean’s presence where we would always meet.
Jean brought grace and kindness to those she knew,
Grateful, appreciative and thoughtful as is her best friend, Sue.
So many years ago Jean would daily take the time to read
With our mother when she was in need.
Jean’s kindness and positive attitude brought everyone near,
Always interested in others, helped make Jean so dear.
Jean loved to talk and share her views,
She enjoyed her neighbors and knew everyone’s news.
Every week Jean sent our granddaughter Rory notes and stickers, which was a special treat,
She loved seeing Jean whenever they could meet.
Jean lived a full life and was clear until the end,
She loved each one of us here today as her family and friend.

AGENDA

From page 14A

of mail to 82 residents five days a week at an estimated monthly cost of \$5,500.

“As part of the next fiscal year’s budget, staff will be looking for council’s direction as to whether this service should continue to be provided at no cost to residents,” Fields wrote in her report. “The proposed contract will be structured so that only the remaining portion of this current fiscal year would be guaranteed.”

More logical

At the upcoming meeting Tuesday, following a few presentations — including

one on “the role of the city council and the city administrator” — council members will be asked to allocate \$1,000 for Carmel High School’s Sober Grad Night.

The historic context statement, first written in 1994 and updated several times since, needed an overhaul, according to associate planner Katherine Wallace, who said the document “serves as the foundation for the city’s historic preservation program.”

The council will be asked to approve the new version, which is streamlined and breaks down significant periods more logically and chronologically, rather than by theme. Gone, for instance, are the references to the categories of “Economic Development,” “Government, Civic and Social,” “Architectural Development” and

“Development of Art and Culture.”

Historically, the city council hasn’t been eager to let public property be used by private homeowners for driveways, stairs or landscaping, but it will be asked to consider doing so for Troy and Sharyl Givens, who own a home on the southeast corner of Torres and Fifth.

Wanting more

When they submitted an application in March 2023 to demolish their single-story residence and detached garage and construct a new home, planning staff identified several encroachments into the public right of way, including the driveway, retaining

wall and garden, none of which have permits from the city, according to assistant city administrator Brandon Swanson.

Preferring not to remove the unpermitted work, the owners applied to legalize and maintain the encroachments and create new ones, including stairs with a handrail and a series of terraced retaining walls, according to the report. Swanson is recommending the council deny the application.

Both meetings will be held online and in person at city hall on Monte Verde south of Ocean and are set to begin at 4:30 p.m. For more information, including full agenda packets and how to participate, visit ci.carmel.ca.us.

KENNETH WEINGARTEN

Kenneth Jacob Weingarten of Carmel passed away peacefully on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024, at the age of 94, with his wife and partner of more than 60 years, Barbara Weingarten, by his side.



Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1930 to Bernard and Lillian Weingarten, Kenny’s life was filled with intellectual curiosity, philosophical discourse, and deep meaningful connections. In 1965, he met Barbara, and together they lived a life filled with love and many, many close friendships. In 1969, encouraged by dear friends and fellow New Yorkers, Kenny and Barbara relocated to the Monterey Peninsula, where they spent the next 56 years together, most recently as members of the Hacienda Carmel community.

Kenny was charming, creative and funny. Rarely a conversation passed without his characteristic chuckle. A man of many talents and interests, Kenny was rarely seen without his camera in hand. He also enjoyed music, poetry, history and philosophy — interests that enriched both his life and the lives of those around him. Kenny will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A celebration of Kenny’s life will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11 at Hacienda Carmel senior living community.

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242321
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GARCIA’S HERE-TO-HELP SERVICES, 88 Mar Vista Dr., Monterey, CA 93940.**
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s): LAURIE JEAN GARCIA
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 18, 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/Laurie Garcia
Date signed: Dec. 27, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 27, 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: Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025 (PC 107)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250010
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **THE PLANTIST, 627 Ambrose Drive, Salinas, California 93901.**
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s): JEANETTE MONCADA ERIKSSON, 627 Ambrose Drive, Salinas, California 93901. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 3, 2025.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pur-

suant 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/Jeanette Moncada Eriksson
Date signed: Jan. 3, 2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 3, 2025.
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: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025 (PC 110)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242316
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CATALYST CANNABIS DISPENSARY MARINA, 3100 Del Monte Blvd, Marina, CA 93933.**
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.
Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: PACIFIC ROOTS MARINA, LLC, 401 Pine Ave, Long Beach, CA 90802.
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 _____.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*
S/Elliot Lewis, Managing Member
Date: Dec. 16, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 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: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025. (PC 112)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250025
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CARMEL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, 826 Parcel Street, Unit B, Monterey, CA 93940.**
County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY
Registered Owner(s): OREN LAUFER
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Jan. 6, 2025.
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/Oren Laufer
Date signed: Jan. 6, 2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Jan. 6, 2025.
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: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025 (PC 114)

MICHAEL KEVIN RACHEL

Michael Kevin Rachel, 77, a beloved and venerated resident of Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, passed away on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024, at the Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula. He was the loving husband of Ruth Hansen Rachel, with whom he was often seen walking hand-in-hand along Carmel’s Scenic Road, greeting friends and neighbors. He was the proud father of Jeffrey Rachel and Stephanie Rachel. He dearly loved them both, and he beamed with joy whenever he spoke of them.

Mike was born on Dec. 4, 1947, at the St. Cloud Hospital in St. Cloud, Minnesota to William and Eleanor Rachel of Maple Lake, Minnesota. He graduated from Maple Lake High School and attended college at St. Cloud State. During these years, Mike was steeped in the Midwestern values of decency and kindness, while becoming a life-long Vikings fan, which taught him humility and how to hope for a better future.

After college, Mike was employed with Honeywell where he worked for 25 years. During the Vietnam War, Mike enlisted in the Army Reserve. He was ordered to do his boot camp training at Fort Ord, and it was then that his love of the Monterey community began. Mike returned to Minnesota after basic training. Although Honeywell sent Mike and his family to various parts of the country, he longed to return to California. Lady luck soon allowed that wish to come true.

In 2001, through his sister Joni, Mike met the love of his life, Ruth. They fell in love, got married, purchased a home in Carmel, and thereafter built their lives together, meeting and making countless friends and neighbors in this glorious community. Anyone who entered their home encountered the love and laughter the two of them shared.

In 2005, Mike made a career change when he started a home inspection business, Peninsula Home Inspections. Mike loved his work and the flexibility it offered, but mostly because it afforded him the opportunity to connect with others. Additionally, Mike thought it essential that he contribute to the community he called home, and in April 2009 he applied for and was named the interim building inspector for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. He served in that role from June 2009 to April 2013 and later became a building inspector for the City of Del Rey Oaks. Most recently, Mike was appointed as a board member for the Carmel Area Wastewater District, a position that gave him great satisfaction while allowing him to continue to serve others.

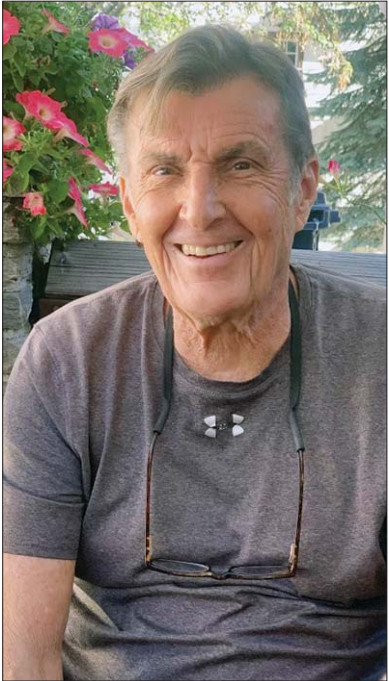
Mike and Ruth adored each other and did everything together. They were inseparable. Active and curious, they loved to travel around the world and cherished the many adventures they shared together. After each trip, Mike would proudly show everyone his many beautiful pictures of the places they had visited. His exciting stories of the countries he and Ruth saw would make the listener believe they had been there as well.

Of all the places he traveled, Africa held a very special place in Mike’s heart. He and Ruth traveled there five times, and this last August Mike visited Africa for the sixth time with his son, Jeff. It was a magical trip for them both, and Mike looked forward to having a similar experience with his daughter Stephanie.

When they weren’t traveling, Mike and Ruth could be seen working to keep their cherished community beautiful as Carmel Cares volunteers picking up litter left near the beach. They regularly participated in local gatherings in their neighborhood, endearing themselves to everyone they met. Mike was always willing to lend a hand to any neighbor who needed him.

Mike exemplified a life well lived. He prioritized his family and appreciated time spent with his loved ones. He had a generous spirit, a robust sense of humor, and a talent for making everyone around him feel welcome, accepted, valued and loved. When Mike greeted anyone, his warmth and twinkling eyes shone through. He will be so dearly missed, especially by his wife, Ruth and his children, Jeffrey and Stephanie, as well as his siblings, nieces and nephews, cousins, brothers- and sisters-in-law, friends, neighbors, classmates and colleagues.

Please join our family for a special sunset remembrance of Mike from 5 to 7:30 p.m. March 22, 2025, on Carmel Beach at 13th Avenue and Scenic Road.



Editorial

A tale of three fish

EVEN WHILE the catastrophic fires in Los Angeles were still in their early stages, President-elect Donald Trump was wasting no time blaming Gov. Gavin Newsom and California’s “radical environmentalists” for the devastation. And it wasn’t just the state’s infamously strict rules to protect open space — even from tree-thinning and brush clearance near homes — that drew Trump’s ire.

Instead, he complained that Newsom had dedicated a large share of the state’s water supply to preservation of a small fish called the Delta smelt instead of letting it be used for agriculture and fire protection.

“He wanted to protect an essentially worthless fish, but didn’t care about the people of California. Now the ultimate price is being paid,” Trump said on social media. Turns out the soon-to-be president may be guilty of understatement.

For decades, California and the courts have required that much of the water flowing down the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers be set aside for the smelt, based on the federal government’s classification of the slender fish as “critically endangered.” But is it?

Just a few days before Trump made his scathing remarks, the New York Times front-paged a story about another supposedly endangered fish that 50 years ago was the subject of a mighty legal battle.

“In the late-1970s, a small freshwater fish known as the snail darter made history when its newly acquired status as an endangered species helped to temporarily block construction of the Tellico Dam in Tennessee — a David-versus-Goliath victory in what was the first legal test of the U.S. Endangered Species Act,” the Times reported. But a team of scientists says the species doesn’t exist.

“There is, technically, no snail darter,” said Thomas Near, curator of ichthyology at the Yale Peabody Museum, according to the newspaper. Instead, the snail darter, which launched a decades-long national debate, is really a common perch.

“Dr. Near contends that early researchers ‘squinted their eyes a bit’ when describing the fish, because it represented a way to fight the Tennessee Valley Authority’s plan to build the Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee River, about 20 miles southwest of Knoxville,” Jason Nark reported.

In other words, they lied about the fish because they wanted to stop the dam — no matter the cost. And it took almost 50 years and extensive DNA testing for the lie to be uncovered.

Writing in the Kansas City Star, David Mastio said the story doesn’t stop there. “The tale of how the relative of a fish-fry staple became an environmental cause celebre after eco-conscious scientists discovered it while swimming in the shadow of a federally funded dam project raises questions far from the Appalachian Mountains.”

He says the case brings new skepticism to the process that led to the designation of thousands of species around the country as endangered under federal law and lesser protections provided by similar state statutes. “There are at least 600 endangered species in Florida alone,” Mastio wrote.

One of the species that could be subject to new scrutiny is our own steel-head trout, which is classified as “threatened” not because the species itself — an extremely common fish — is in any danger of extinction, but because its population in the Carmel River has been greatly reduced.

Even if it disappeared from the river entirely, the loss of the local population of steelhead would be of very little significance in biological terms, and certainly should not have triggered a 30-year water moratorium and the spending of tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to protect it. Yet that’s exactly what it did.

A big lie was told about the snail darter; in the case of the steelhead trout, it’s more like a big exaggeration. They are both terrible scams to perpetrate against the public.

BEST of BATES



“Whatever happened to what’s her name?” “Oh, she married you know who and I think they moved to you know where.”

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

Pepe likes new council

Dear Editor,

After watching the first city council meeting this week, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the newly elected council members and already seated members for their exceptional qualifications and their clear commitment to serving our community. It is rare to find a group of individuals who possess such a high level of intellectual astuteness, fiscal responsibility, and a genuine desire to address the needs of our city.

From the outset, the new council has demonstrated a commendable dedication to understanding the complexities of municipal governance. Their approach to city matters has been studious and thoughtful, taking the time to thoroughly research and analyze every issue before making decisions. This level of diligence ensures that their actions will be informed and beneficial to the long-term welfare of our city.

Additionally, their emphasis on fiscal responsibility is exactly what our city needs in these challenging times. The council’s pragmatic approach to budgeting and spending reflects a deep understanding of the importance of managing taxpayer dollars with care and consideration. Their foresight promises a future of stability and growth for our community.

This new city council is composed of individuals who will put the city’s best interests first, no hidden agendas, and I am confident that they will continue to serve with integrity, wisdom, and commitment. I look forward to the positive impact their leadership will undoubtedly have on our city in the coming years.

Rich Pepe, Carmel

‘Educators deserve better’

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the “Hiring at the Schools” letter from “Susie Fowler” in last week’s Pine Cone. Given that there has only been one principal at Carmel River School who has been “long tenured” in the past 20 years, it’s obvious that “Ms. Fowler” is referring to me.

I do not know and have never met with a “Susie Fowler.” Interestingly, “Susie Fowler” was not a parent at River School when my son was employed in CUSD. I did not interview, hire, or place my son at my school. Furthermore, I did not and would not air a “grievance” about one of my own family members in a “parent-principal” meeting. To imply as well that the former superintendent was terminated as

See **LETTERS** page 27A

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She’s broadening the pathways that led to her own success

THE SCARECROW got a diploma, the Tin Man got a heart, and the Cowardly Lion got a medal. Even in children’s stories, it seems, everyone enjoys a bit of recognition. But awards, while nice, are no substitutes for achievement, no matter what the Wizard said.

Great Lives

By ELAINE HESSER

For instance, no prize can replace an educator’s satisfaction at seeing students succeed. When the University of Findlay in Ohio gave Pacific Grove’s Celia Barberena a distinguished alumni award last year, it read in part, “She served for more than four decades in college administration, where she was a collaborator, communicator, and changemaker.” While true — when she retired in 2012, she had worked her way to becoming the first female president of Chabot College in Hayward — that sentence doesn’t come close to adequately describing the experiences that led her there.

Parallel stories

What sticks with Barberena are stories like those she read while evaluating students’ scholarship applications on behalf of the Community Foundation of the Monterey Peninsula. One applicant’s goal was to become a lawyer. His mother, who was raising him and his siblings by herself as a farmworker, was injured on the job, treated, and prescribed painkillers to which she became addicted. There were reports she neglected the children, who were placed into foster care. The mother, who had entered the country illegally, was subsequently deported, but the children remained behind. “I want to be a lawyer to help people like my mom to keep families together,” the young man wrote.

Barberena knew that someone raised in poverty could become a lawyer who makes a difference, because her father in Nicaragua had lived that story. He was one of eight children who subsisted on income from his father’s work making and repairing small pieces of jewelry at his mother’s neighborhood store, where she sold tortillas, beans and other necessities from shelves installed in the living room of their home.

With too many mouths to feed, Barberena’s father was sent next door to live

with his childless aunt. She got him a tutor and he eventually became an attorney. He also worked as a teacher and then was appointed to be a judge. But when the Sandinistas overthrew the government in 1979, he was arrested and lost all of his possessions, including several houses.

Barberena explained that friends and neighbors with whom he’d always been generous helped him after his release, but his property was never returned. But his daughter had already seen the power of education in his life — and her own.

Thoughtful, kind

Twenty years earlier, when Barberena was 11, her mother enrolled her in a bilingual high school, where she learned English. During her senior year, she said, representatives from the U.S. embassy came to the school to recruit college students. She received a scholarship from what was then Findlay College. The allure of leaving a “very controlling family” for the “glamor” of the United States was strong, she remembered.

She started out as an economics major, hoping to run a business like her grandmother. That changed as she took in her surroundings. “The town of Findlay, Ohio, wasn’t Miami, Los Angeles or New York City,” she recalled, listing places she and her Nicaraguan schoolmates had heard of, where there were large Latino populations.

At Findlay, the school’s non-white students were “two Mexican girls, me, and five to seven African-American students. There was no one of color on the faculty or the staff.” But, she added, “Everybody was so thoughtful and kind. There was a spirit that made me feel loved and cared for.”

Getting started

After completing her bachelor’s degree in 1970, she married a U.S. citizen and earned her master’s in Spanish literature and a doctorate in educational administration and supervision at

Bowling Green State University in Ohio. While finishing her Ph.D., Barberena taught classes and worked for the university as a Hispanic affairs specialist, where her job was to bring in more Hispanic students. She followed her husband, who also worked in education, to Boston and then Sacramento State, where the marriage ended.

See LIVES page 25A



Celia Barberena

Eclectic tales of creative genius

Artist Confidential (Part 2): Here are some fun and fascinating things we learned in 2024 about local artists. Publication date of each artist’s full profile in the Pine Cone is in parentheses:

ROYAL OAKS artist **Mari Kloeppel** (Aug. 2, 2024) paints soulful portraits of animals — both domestic and wild — inspiration that evolved after she survived life-threatening complications stemming from a 1986 horseback-riding accident.

“I quickly resolved to abandon my plan for vet school and chose instead to immerse myself in my art and focus entirely on celebrating nature and the animal kingdom,” said Kloeppel, who often paints wildlife that visit her property near Elkhorn Slough.

Carmel’s Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

As she paints an animal, her focus sometimes becomes so deep that artwork seems to move on the canvas.

“His tail wagged, right in front of me,” Kloeppel remembered of a hallucination she experienced while painting a bobcat from a photograph. “It’s happened before — a peripheral-vision kind of thing — and it’s like, ‘Oh, I’m getting it, I’m capturing it ... he’s really here.’”

Landscape artist **Natalia Aandeweil** (March 15, 2024) and her siblings were asleep in their bedroom when Russian

missiles began falling on Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, at 5 a.m., Feb. 24, 2022.

Her father, not quite 60, was immediately declared ineligible to leave the country and was drafted into the Ukrainian military. Natalia and two siblings fled with their mother to Poland and eventually found their way to the Monterey Peninsula.

Her father was permitted to join them seven months later after he was diagnosed with leukemia. He is being treated by area physicians. Natalia, herself, is in remission from Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Her joyful paintings and personality are reflections of her healing process, she said.

The secret to becoming a happy ceramicist lies in embracing failures, said **Johanna Keefe** (Feb. 16, 2024), co-owner of Peninsula Potters in Pacific Grove.

The kiln at the 57-year-old co-op is full of fragments of beautiful pottery that never was, Keefe said, and each particle represents a teachable moment.

“We become masters of compartmentalization, of grace, of detachment, of radical acceptance,” she said. “It’s like, ‘OK, this is what happened. Now we’re going to test and try again.’ We learn to embrace those happy accidents,” said Keefe, who moved to the Peninsula in 2021.

Much of the work of fine-art photographer **Susan Hyde Greene** (May 10, 2024) has been inspired by hardships and the healing power of the art she creates.

“It’s natural for me to explore the seemingly futile idea of mending troubled waters, stitch by tiny stitch, in the hope that humans will one day come together with real solutions,” said Greene. “The thing I like best is when people look at my work and they feel something.”

Undersea photographer **Ryuijie Douglas** (June 21, 2024) — known simply as “Ryuijie” in the art community — dives into Monterey Bay without an oxygen tank, capturing his images one deep breath at a time.

“These days, if I do one minute at a depth of 25 or 30 feet, that’s a good dive for me. The deepest I’ve ever gone on one breath is



PHOTO/COURTESY MONTEREY PENINSULA PLEIN AIR PAINTERS

Painters have long been capturing coastal beauty, but this area also attracts the avant-garde, photographers, potters and more.

See ARTIST next page

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

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ARTIST

From previous page

about 80 feet, but I was in my 20s then,” said Ryuijie, 74, whose diving partner, Chuck Davis, is also an undersea photographer.

As a student at UC Santa Cruz in the early 1970s, **Joy Colangelo** (Oct. 4, 2024) was a free spirit who liked to sleep outdoors, often near the library at Merrill College, where she was surrounded by like-minded people.

She also toured Europe as a competitive bicycle racer and competed in 1984 at the first U.S. Olympic Trials for women in that sport.

“Working hard has always been my dopamine,” said Colangelo, who spent 12 years as a self-employed landscaper — when few women did such things — then two decades as an occupational therapist for Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula.

Mixed-media artist **Nada Abdelshahid** (Jan. 26, 2024) grew up on Fort Ord, and the rugged landscape still inspires many of her eclectic pieces, large and small: A Pinocchio nose, a creepy-looking head inspired by Egyptian queen Nefertiti (1370-1330 B.C.), a haunting “storytelling mask” made from oak leaves, pine needles and dove and turkey feathers.

Abdelshahid also designed the colorful gates — 13 and 15 feet high — at Moon Gate Plaza in the Chinatown area of Salinas.

An early memory for **Pacia Platzek** (July 19, 2024) is one of sightseeing with her family on 17 Mile Drive, when her father noticed the picture she was drawing as a 6-year-old.

“He bought it from me for 25 cents, then said, ‘You just sold your first picture. Now you’re an artist!’” she reminisced. “That moment has stayed in my heart.”

Platzek, a craft artist, teaches a three-hour felting workshop once a month at the Pacific Grove Art Center, where she makes and shows her work.

Jason Reisig (March 8, 2024), who grew up in Carmel Valley, was 5 years old when he drew the entire cast of “The Wizard of Oz.” At 6, when his mom, Shelley Aliotti, was pregnant, he drew two “Peanuts”-themed birth announcements — one for each gender.

The York School grad worked on big-screen films, including “Antz,” “Shrek,” and “Kung Fu Panda” with DreamWorks Animation and other studios, then became a professor of animation and digital arts at USC.

“I’m teaching kids today who weren’t even born when ‘Shrek’ came out,” Reisig said. “That’s pretty amazing to imagine.”

Mina Afshari (April 12, 2024) lived in fear as a youth in Iran, escaped the tyranny with her mother at 18 and made her way at 20 to the Monterey Peninsula, where she became a mostly self-taught fine-art photographer.

A friendship with Carmel gallery owner Chris Winfield led to solo museum exhibitions in Washington and Los Gatos.

“Chris has become my mentor. He encourages me, gives me feedback, talks me through a lot of things,” she said. “He’s become a very positive light in my life.”

Mark Schlegel (April 5, 2024) is called “The Ripplewood King,” a nod to the unusual woodgrain he uses for the sculptures that decorate his Carmel Valley property.

At 76, Schlegel also is a master gardener, businessman, family man and twice-a-week mountain biker.

“My objective has always been to wake up happy every morning, look forward to going to work, and not fear whatever might be ahead,” he said. “My goal is to still be riding when I’m 85, but I might just bump that up to 90.”

Sand City multimedia artist **Greg Mettler** (March 1, 2024) merges fine-art photography, sculpture, videography, handyman skills, and an avant-garde imagination to create a lot of works he doesn’t expect to sell.

“I really don’t pursue selling art. I enjoy the idea of making an installation that creates an atmosphere at a show,” said Mettler, who teaches photography at Cabrillo College.

A 2011 gallery show, “Scopophilia,” featured life-sized photographs on canvas of people he recruited through a Craigslist ad: “Fine-art photographer looking for nude models, 18 and older, all genders and body types.”

He showed the images on the gallery floor, slightly elevated on blocks in a formation that encouraged viewers to walk around them.

Micheal Scholis (Oct. 11, 2024), a fine-art photographer, visited five continents in two years to research a thesis project as an undergraduate at Howard University.

Scholis’ interest in photography began as a way to explore his teen angst — “Am I normal? Am I smart? Am I OK?” — and better understand his world as a mixed-race youth.

“I ended up with a record of that journey as I grew out of boyhood, and I explored the outer limits of the bubble I grew up in,” he said. “Privilege is wonderful at times, but it also shields you from a lot of real things.”

Gazing into her vibrant, expressionist-style paintings “feels like a long exhale” for **Shaheen Schmidt** (Feb. 2, 2024), who saw joy, playfulness and freedom vanish from her life in Iran after the revolution there overthrew the government in 1979.

At 19, she fled to Germany, traveled alone to Los Angeles, found her way to the Monterey Peninsula and worked

for 30 years as a cosmetologist.

When Covid hit, she became a full-time painter.

“If it satisfies my soul and my spirit, then I know it might be healing for others, as well,” she said.

Carmel’s **Marie-Clare Treseder Gorham** (May 24, 2024) is the great-great-great-granddaughter of Samuel Rice, who painted 18th century horse carriages, great-granddaughter of American woodblock print artist Wiliam S. Rice, who frequented Monterey, and granddaughter of Roberta Treseder, a lifelong ceramicist.

Gorham considers herself a folk artist, and her body of work includes custom-made velvet luggage, an intricately decorated dollhouse, ceramic vessels, hand-built children’s furniture, textile circus elephants, hand-illustrated “philosopher’s tarot cards,” and wearable art inspired by aristocratic finery from long-ago eras.

NEXT WEEK: Artist Confidential, Part 3

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

GAVEL

From page 4A

placed on GPS monitoring. Farias was taken into custody on a parole violation, and his cell phone was searched. On his cell phone was a picture of a firearm, which Farias was not allowed to possess due to prior felony convictions.

On Jan. 11, 2024, a parole search was conducted at Farias’ residence in Gonzales. Inside a safe in his garage, investigators located a safe containing the firearm from the photograph from Farias’ cell phone, along with over 100 rounds of ammunition.

Hon. Pamela L. Butler sentenced Farias to two years in state prison, which was doubled to four years due to prior strike convictions within the meaning of California’s three strikes law.

PRO-AM

From page 3A

eagles on holes 2 and 6, along with birdies on holes 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 18. His round was two shots better than the previous Pebble Beach record, and he took home \$3.6 million in winnings.

Through players, sponsors, donors and volunteers, the tournament, which is organized by the Monterey Peninsula Foundation, also generated \$18 million for worthy charities last year, continuing the legacy that made it the first tournament to surpass \$200 million in lifetime giving in 2022.

While such high-caliber golf thrills fans of the game, so far it doesn’t seem to be attracting many of those who came to the Peninsula in the past with hopes of glimpsing Bill Murray’s antics on and off the courses, watching NFL players and other famous people putting for charity and signing autographs, or crashing celebrity parties in town.

Lost luster

“The AT&T golf tournament has lost its luster compared to the Crosby Pro-Am for several reasons,” Hofsas House hotel owner Carrie Theis said. “The AT&T golf crowd was definitely here for the celebrities, compared to the U.S. Open spectators who are more devoted golf enthusiasts.”

As a result, the shift from hosting well-known actors, athletes and other personalities to amateur players representing corporate sponsors “is a lesser draw, in my opinion,” Theis said.

She also said the tournament has become more of a day-tripper’s destination, especially for San Francisco Bay area fans who find the parking at CSUMB so convenient.

“Thirdly, many people take a look at the weather for the week and then decide at the last minute whether to come and stay in a hotel,” said Theis, whose family has operated the inn on San Carlos north of Fourth for more than 75 years. “All of these factors have contributed to this tournament week being slower than in past years in terms of hotel stays.”

Blake Foster, area director of operations for La Playa Hotel at Camino Real and Eighth, also observed that reservations aren’t as robust as they’ve been in the past.

“Bookings are definitely down,” he said, though judging the numbers over the past four years is complicated by the effects of the Covid pandemic on tourism. Nonetheless, he said, “looking at our numbers this year, we will have a strong sell-out Thursday, Friday and Saturday during the tournament.”

The days earlier in the week, when spectators formerly could watch the players practice, are now slower, however.

“You could really feel the drop-off last year, though,” Foster observed. “It doesn’t feel the same as it did, historically.”

Herzog said she hopes business will pick up as AT&T week nears.

“It certainly appears as if the format change has had a negative impact on overnight stays for the weekend,” she said. “Hopefully this beautiful weather we are having and some marketing efforts will help garner more last-minute visitors for the event.”



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LIVES

From page 23A

“I was divorced, with no permanent job and \$77 in my pocket,” she recalled. In 1986, she married Ned Budlong, a marriage, family and child counselor, and they were together until he died in 2022.

She worked for a few years in a private alternative high school, and in 1989 became a faculty member and consultant at Sacramento City College, where she continued to teach, worked with students who were learning English, and designed recruitment brochures that were translated into Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese.

Next came Modesto Junior College, where she was dean of special programs, working in equal opportunity programs for underprepared, low-income students. She taught courses on “social and economic conditions in Latin America as presented in the writings of renowned novelists.”

‘College-going culture’

Barberena discovered the Monterey Peninsula while working as vice president of student services for Hartnell College in Salinas from 1996 to 2008. There, she turned her attention to local high schools, collaborating with them to create a “college-going culture” for students who might not otherwise think of pursuing postsecondary education.

As president of Chabot, she oversaw a \$250 million project to overhaul the college’s physical plant. To help with technical training programs, she established a partnership with City College of San Francisco to train technicians for hybrid cars and another with BMW to provide \$975,000 annually in equipment and automobiles for students to work with.

When asked why she kept reaching

for greater responsibilities, she began by saying, “My country was poor, but doctors were brown, teachers were brown, the president was brown. Brown people were very successful.” And, she added, “In Salinas, Latinos and Latinas are teachers and lawyers. They’re on the city council. They’re middle class.”

To broaden the educational paths that led to those outcomes, she said, “If I’m on the faculty, I can make an impact in the classroom. As a program director, I could affect hundreds of kids. As a dean, I could hire diverse faculty. The bigger your job, the greater your sphere of influence.”

Museum and music

Last fall, she was elected to Monterey Peninsula College’s board of trustees. It’s one of many education-related causes she’s taken up since “retiring.” Among numerous other efforts, she has worked with the Pacific Grove Library Friends and Foundation, the Salinas Valley Chamber, the United Way of Salinas Valley, the Blind and Visually Impaired Center in Pacific Grove, Rotary, Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital’s medical museum, and Chamber Music Monterey Bay.

She said she led and presented programs to schoolchildren who visited the medical museum, and she helped make sure kids could come from Salinas to Sunset Center for concerts.

She also helped create a course offered through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CSUMB, in which she and five other local immigrants from Latin America, Japan, Europe and the Middle East shared their stories of becoming professionals in the United States.

And always, she advocates passionately to make more educational opportunities available for everyone. “It’s the best way to expand your mind, have purpose in life, and just go for it,” she said.

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



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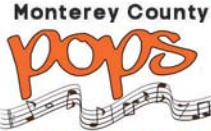
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to be included in this directory

MUSHROOMS

From page 8A

“Those symptoms generally improve in about 24 hours, but damage is already taking place in the liver, which can result in liver failure, the need for a liver transplant and even death,” Locke said.

Those who enjoy foraging for wild mushrooms in the Monterey Peninsula and elsewhere in the county should be certain that the varieties they’re collecting for food are not poisonous or buy them from a reputable mushroom forager.

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula spokeswoman Monica Sciuto told The Pine Cone that it is “very rare that we see patients with poisonous mushroom ingestion,” and that doctors at its emergency department and clinics have not seen any recent cases.

PEDIATRIC

From page 17A

comfortable,” Heidi Pattison, director of clinic services at Mee Memorial, said, adding that officials will provide parents with information about routine check-ups and immunizations and managing chronic health conditions.

Hours for the Children’s Health and Wellness Center are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Funding for the center was made possible with grant money, including a \$350,000 donation from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation.

The building features a mural painted by local artists Paul Redmond and Brenda Scettrini-Saglio, to celebrate “the natural beauty and rich culture of South County.” The Arts Council for Monterey County and The Community Foundation for Monterey County funded the painting.

Mee Memorial operates multiple outpatient clinics, including the comprehensive Albert and Donna Oliveira Clinic in Greenfield, and serves as the primary healthcare provider for nearly 80,000 residents in South Monterey County.

Training for pups

SPCA MONTEREY County is offering a series of puppy training classes that start Jan 18.

“This class focuses on the basics of puppy care, socialization, and training,” the nonprofit said about the six sessions, which are on Saturdays. “During class we discuss behavior, manners, and help you with simple solutions to problems you may be experiencing.”

Each of the Puppy Level 1 courses is one-hour. They will be held at Pet Food Express in the Carmel Crossroads shopping center and cost \$200 for all six sessions.

Puppies need a minimum of their first two distemper/parvo shots to participate in class. Information at spcamc.org/training.

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4Q 2024 | Market Update

Market Gains Traction in 2024

The market notched a slight increase in 2024 with 607 deals closing, up about 5% from last year when we saw 577 deals close in Carmel, Pebble Beach, Carmel Highlands, Carmel Valley, Pacific Grove and Monterey. As buyers have undoubtedly felt, the tight inventory is keeping prices high, which has resulted in a strong total \$ invested in this area this year: \$1.624B in 2024, a 12% jump from the \$1.45B in 2023. This is particularly noteworthy as it highlights a significant market shift in this area when you compare it to before COVID. In 2018 there were 837 deals that closed for \$1.624B, which is a 27% drop in activity but the same overall investment. Most economists predict an increase in inventory in 2025 of about 11%, which at first blush will feel like a great relief to buyers, but if that does translate to our area, that would only result in about 3 new listings in the Rectangle and about 6 in all of Pebble Beach. As such, we’re predicting more of the same in this area next year, where the sales process will likely take a bit longer (than sellers hope) but prices should continue to hold steady and even climb a bit as we work our way into 2025.

Deal-flow slowed considerably this quarter, with just 122 closed escrows, down from 198 last quarter. Monterey closed the most deals this quarter, with 30 escrows closing for \$33.2M. Pebble Beach had a decent quarter with 28 deals closing for just over \$90M, which is down from last quarter but almost double over 4Q23. Pacific Grove slowed to 25 deals closing for \$42M, mostly due to rising interest rates. Downtown Carmel had just 20 deals close this quarter for \$95M, capped by an \$18M deal that closed on Scenic as demand continues to be strong for the top of the market. The Carmel Highlands were a bright spot this quarter with 10 deals closing for almost \$36M, almost double what we saw in the third quarter as demand remains particularly strong for ocean view properties. Quail Lodge continued its strong momentum with 5 deals closing for \$19.6M, which was the strongest quarter for that neighborhood this year. Carmel Valley Ranch and the Preserve both had 2 deals close this quarter, totalling \$3.4M and \$12.2M respectively.

While prices are staying relatively high overall, sellers are having to negotiate more than in previous years. The average discount off list price was 4% this quarter, with Carmel having to come over 6% off list. As such, median sales prices dipped to \$1.725M this quarter, down from \$1.835M last quarter. This dip in pricing is helping to move some listings but is still good news for sellers as it’s over double what we saw a decade ago. Given the tight inventory levels, we anticipate pricing holding steady and climbing a bit next year as more buyers return to the market.



Jessica Canning
Carmel Specialist

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The Carmel Pine Cone

Section 2

Pirates maturing on court, Padre's Anderson named coach of year

THE STEVENSON Pirates absorbed some educational bumps and bruises — and more than a few frustrations — during the initial two weeks of the boys basketball season, losing five of their first six games.

But working through growing pains is the whole point

on a rotation of just eight players.

As his team ventures into Pacific Coast Athletic League Mission Division games this week, second-year head coach Tyler Brown emphasized the one-day-at-a-time journey and is building toward a glowing future.

Peninsula Sports

By DENNIS TAYLOR

for a youthful team, and the Pirates closed out 2024 with a dramatic pivot.

They won three times on consecutive days at a Southern California tournament, reaching the championship game of the Rancho Mirage Desert Classic, relying mostly



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Carmel High alumnus Golden Anderson (at left) was honored as California's Small School Coach of the Year after leading the Padres to a 15-0 record and the Class 5-AA state championship this season.

Home game on Monday

"All of our tests leading up to league play have legitimately been tough. We've played against kids of all sizes, different physicalities, different levels of toughness. We're definitely battle-tested," said Brown, whose squad (4-6 overall) traveled Thursday night to Watsonville for its division opener and will face Marina on Monday in its home opener against a Mission opponent. Tipoff time is 7 p.m.

"We finally stopped turning the ball over 20 times a game — we've learned that we can be successful if we don't give away one-third of our possessions," the coach said. "We're also starting to shoot the ball better than we did in our early games."

Stevenson's pre-division competition has been formidable. The five teams that beat the Pirates in December (Pacific Grove, Templeton, Rio Americano, Palma, Oakdale, and Moreno Valley) had a combined win-loss record of 54-26.

Two of their victories also came against teams with winning records: Coachella Valley (9-5), and Palos Verdes (11-6).

Another high-scoring Olin

The leading scorer, 6-foot-4 junior Cooper Olin, comes from a basketball family that includes his dad, Stevenson Hall of Famer Matt Olin (6-foot-8), who played collegiately at University of the Pacific.

Both older brothers were first-team All-Mission Trail Athletic League standouts. Parker Olin, (Class of 2017), a 6-2 guard who averaged 21 points, 4.6 rebounds, 4.3 assists as a senior, then played at Chico State. Connor Olin (Class of 2020), a 6-5 small forward who was a double-digit scorer as a



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Stevenson junior Kekoa Williams is a 6-5 post who can score, rebound and change an opponent's shot with his long arms and leaping ability.

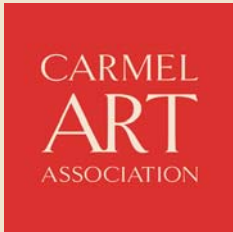
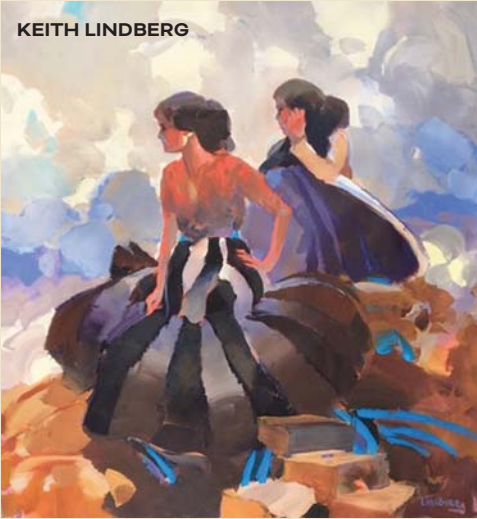
sophomore and junior, then missed his entire senior season with a broken hand.

"Cooper also has been doing a really good job rebounding for us, which has been exciting," Brown said. Olin averaged nearly 21 points per game at the Rancho Mirage Desert Classic, and his 34-point eruption against San Lorenzo Valley in December ranks among the top scoring performances in Stevenson history.

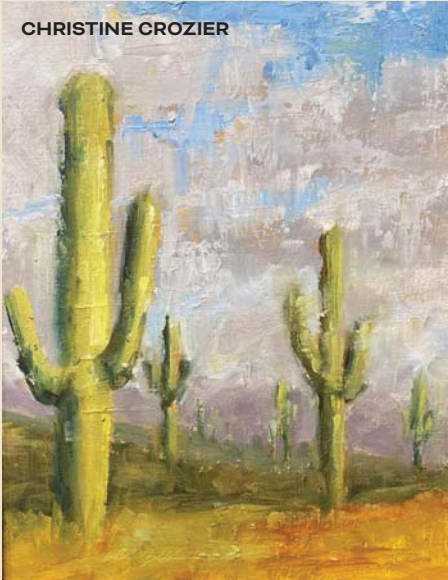
Backcourt stalwarts

Two other underclassmen in the starting lineup are 5-11 guard Derek Diniz, who earned all-tournament plaudits at Rancho Mirage, and Barak de la Rosa, the sophomore point guard.

Continues next page



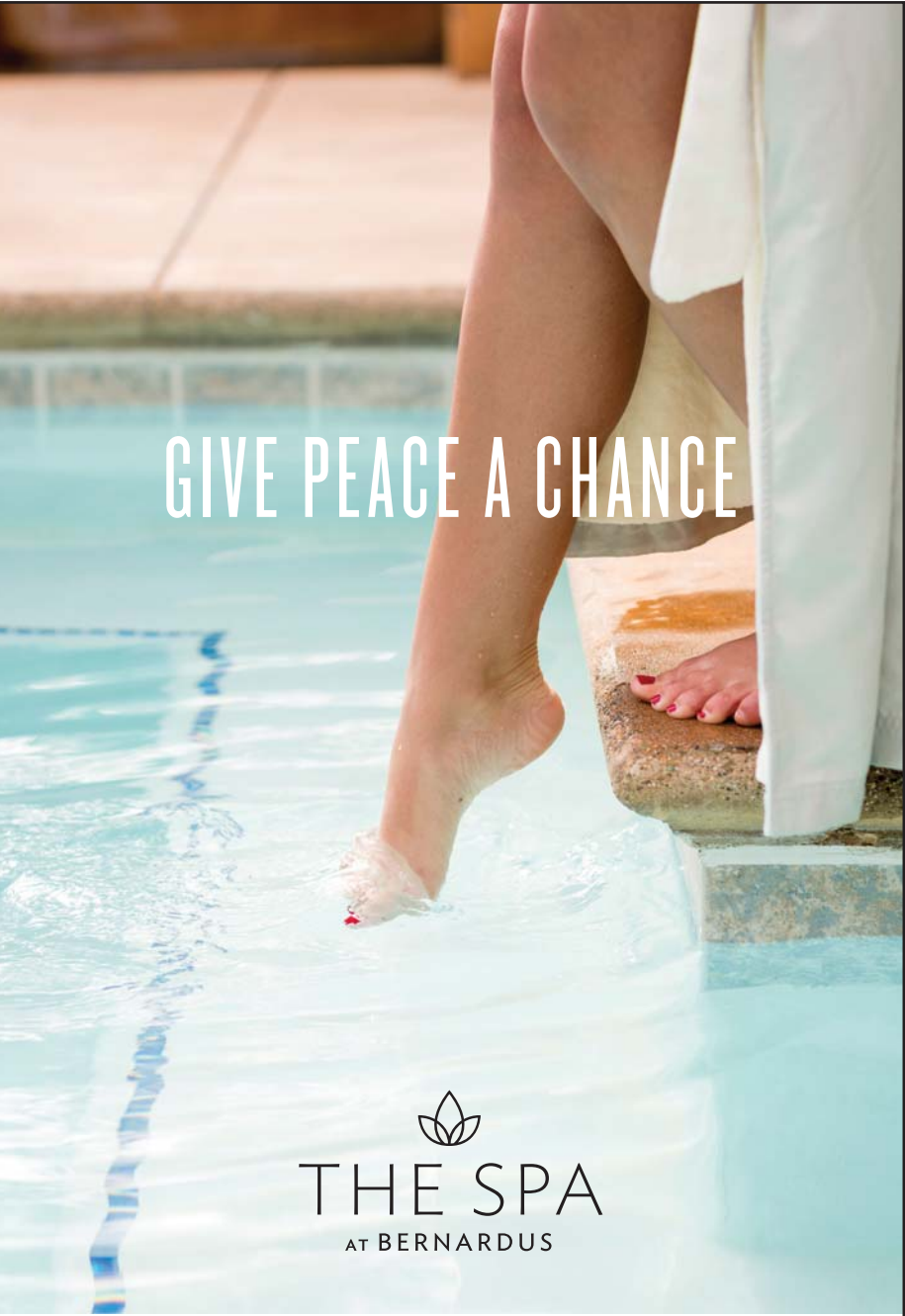
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From previous page

“Barak is a young guy who’s still figuring it all out at point guard — finding his confidence, finding his legs. It’s a trial by fire for him right now, but he’ll definitely be a dynamic player,” the coach said.

“Derek Diniz is a warrior out there — one of those kids you hate if he’s on the other team and love if he’s part of your own,” Brown said. “He’s gritty, and he plays with so much heart and passion that he energizes everybody else.”

Stevenson’s powerhouse senior, Kekoa Williams — 6-5 with long arms and exceptional leaping ability (PCAL runner-up in the high jump).

“He gets up in the air and changes the opponent’s shot. He’s all over the glass, averaging about 10 rebounds. He can score. He and Derek are probably the heart of our defense,” Brown said.

Long hours in the gym

Alex Rushing, a 6-1 off-guard and small forward, spent long hours in the gym last spring to become one of the team’s most improved players.

“He plays extremely hard. He defends. He rebounds. And he’s starting to hit some shots for us,” said the coach. “And he’ll just get better. He’s just now finding his confidence on the court.”

Lincoln Fung, a 5-10 senior, struggled mightily early in the season to score points — “He couldn’t throw the ball in the ocean during our first five or six games,” Brown said — finally having a breakthrough game at the Desert Classic, scoring 12 points in the semifinal victory.

Jack Dalhamer, a 6-foot junior forward, is a physical player (he’s a defensive lineman in football) with a knack for putting himself in the right spot to make a play.

“We want him to embrace that gritty toughness, both offensively and defensively,” Brown said.

Developing depth

Flint Dickson, a 5-11 senior, was a captain on the football team and brings vocal leadership onto the basketball court, said the coach.

“Flint is a high-energy kid, extremely mature, who makes sure we’re organized and locked in,” he said.

Phinn Thomas, a 5-10 junior, is characterized by his coach as a player with a good understanding of the game, and a “3 and D guy,” (a scorer from 3-point range who also plays effective defense).

“He shoots well, and he’s also taken a big step forward on the defensive side,”

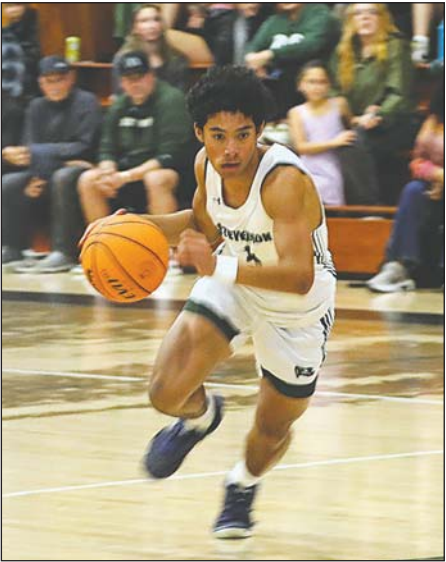
Brown said. “He boxes out, he takes charges, and he dives on the floor. He helps us in a lot of ways.”

An understandable concern is that those first eight or nine players will wear down, as they did on the fourth day of the Rancho Mirage tournament, when Lincoln Fung was unable to attend.

Players vying for playing time on a team in need of depth include juniors Logan Lund, Tyler Hwang, Phinn Thomas, and Jack Rice, and seniors Mitch Peurach and Iason Manthoulis.

Eight playoff veterans

Eight varsity players were also members of the 2023-24 team that went 10-16 overall but qualified for the Central Coast Section’s Division IV playoffs, where they won their opening-round game, then lost in the semifinals.



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Derek Diniz, a junior guard, is a relentless defender with a warrior mentality, his coach said. He earned all-tournament honors at last month’s Desert Classic.

The Mission Division is composed this season of Watsonville, Seaside, Hollister, North County, Marina, Rancho San Juan, Monte Vista Christian, and the Pirates.

“I think every one of those teams is going to be a game for us,” Brown said. “I’m expecting real battles, and we can’t afford to take any of our opponents lightly.”

Anderson coach of the year

Golden Anderson, whose Carmel High football team had a 15-0 season and won

See SPORTS page 39A

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A photograph of a plate of food featuring BBQ ribs, chicken drumsticks, and a bowl of potato salad. The food is served on a red and white checkered paper liner. The background shows more food items and a wooden table.

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A reproduction of a painting showing three women in classical attire. One woman is holding a cigarette, and another is holding a glass. The background is dark with trees.

20 Years

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This Week

Live Music,
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Chamber Music Monterey Bay brings Isadore String Quartet to Sunset Saturday

KICKING OFF the new year with Chamber Music Monterey Bay's second concert of the 2024-25 season, the **Isadore String Quartet** performs Saturday, 7:30 p.m., at Sunset Center.

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

After meeting as students at the prestigious Julliard School in New York City, violinists **Adrian Steele** and **Phoenix Avalon**, violist **Devin Moore** and cellist **Joshua McClendon** formed the quartet in 2019. Their name is a tribute to legendary violinist Isidore Cohen. Quickly earning acclaim, the ensemble captured First Prize at the Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2022 and was awarded a sought-after Avery Fisher Career Grant the following year. The program for Saturday's concert includes Erwin Schulhoff's "Five Pieces for String Quartet," Felix Mendelssohn's "String Quartet in E-flat Major, op. 44 no. 3," Gabriella Smith's "Carrot Revolution," and Maurice Ravel's "String Quartet in F Major." The concert will be preceded by a free talk from musicologist **Ian Scarfe**. Tickets start at \$30. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth. Call (831) 625-2212 or visit chambermusicmontereybay.org.

■ Bach Festival preview

Preparing for its 88th year, the Carmel Bach Festival offers a preview of events Friday, 2 p.m., at Sunset Center. The festival is set for July 12-26, and artistic director and principal conductor **Grete Pedersen** will share details about it.

"If the weather cooperates, we'll be on the outside terrace and enjoy the winter sunshine," festival officials announced. "If it's cold or inclement weather, we'll move indoors to the foyer." Founded in 1935 by Dene Denny and Hazel Watrous, the event is dedicated to celebrating "the works, inspiration, and ongoing influence" of J.S. Bach "by immersing audiences in a festival experience integrating music, education and ideas."

■ Soul sensation

A soul singer who has earned the nickname, "Little JB," due his physical and vocal resemblance to legendary singer James Brown, **Lee Fields** takes the stage Friday, 8 p.m., at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey. Fields — who has released eight LPs since 1979, including 2022's "Sentimental Fool" — will be backed

by **The Monophonics**, a group that brings together "pure timeless heavy soul" with the "warm textures of psychedelic rock." Tickets start at \$43. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or visit goldenstatetheatre.com

■ Who needs new music?

Celebrating the music of the Renaissance and early Baroque periods, **Madregalia** performs Friday, 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 2:30 p.m., at All Saints Episcopal Church. Founded more than two decades ago and featuring more than a dozen singers and instrumentalists, Madregalia will be joined by guest trumpeter **Greg Smith** and a trio of trombonists led by **Sue Mudge**. "Our program will

See **MUSIC** page 37A



The Isadore Quartet performs Saturday at Sunset Center, while guitarist Catherine Broz plays Thursday and Friday evenings at Estéban Restaurant in Monterey.





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A Scotch Egg <i>Fire Roasted Peppers, Pickled & Preserved Vegetables</i>	Swordfish Milanese <i>Heirloom Roots, Sauce Grenobloise</i>	Tarte au Citron <i>Meyer Lemon, Meringue</i>
A Play On a Waldorf Salad <i>Spiced Pecans, Roasted Grapes</i>	Roast Chicken Roulade <i>Baby Turnips, Gnocchi</i>	

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FOOD & WINE

Korea-meets-California cuisine, fresh starts, and tasteful teetotaling

ON THE bottom level of Carmel Plaza, near the Cheese Shop and Wrath’s tasting room, you’ll find Jeju Kitchen — a place that combines American and Korean cuisine in delightful and surprising ways.

Don’t be confused — the sign over the door still says “Carmel Burger Bar.” Ashley Wolff explained that she became part owner of the place in December 2023 and full owner last May. Her mom’s Korean, and Wolff was born in Seoul. She’s been tweaking the menu to introduce Korean and fusion specialties and filled out the paperwork to rename the business. When that becomes official, she can change the signage.

The family previously owned the former Café Luna in the Plaza and Pangaea Grill on Ocean Avenue. Wolff’s mom works in her restaurant now, she said with pride. “She’s the heart of all the Korean recipes. They’re traditional items from her great-grandma.” Wolff added that she brings her own “California twist” to all the fusion items.

She kept 10 burgers and sandwiches, although she thinks they will eventually move to a brunch menu. And, she said, “I revamped all the burgers. I eat them like, three times a week.”

Texture, zing

The menu, just one page long, nevertheless inspired the thought, “We really need three more people, so we can try everything.”

We settled on Gangnam Tots (named for a district in Seoul), a Korean pancake made with kimchi — spicy fermented cabbage. Those were followed by spicy bulgogi chicken, and, on the server’s recommendation, beef stone pot.

The tater tots (\$14) came with American cheese, “special sauce,” grilled onions and nori (dried seaweed). They were tasty and rich, with the nori providing a complementary earthy flavor.

The soft pancake (\$18) arrived in wedges served with a citrusy ponzu dipping sauce. Kimchi added texture and a little zing, but didn’t overwhelm everything else, as can easily happen. That became a theme. In every dish, the most assertive ingredients were nicely balanced and got attention by speaking softly, rather than shouting. The



Guests at the recently revamped Stilwell Hotel have exclusive access to a private indoor/outdoor eatery (left) that features wood-fired pizzas and classic cocktails.

dishes also make good use of texture, and all of the presentations are colorful and enticing but not overly fussy. Portions are easily large enough to share.

Despite its “spicy” description and a considerable number of jalapeno slices, the bulgogi chicken (\$34) didn’t register at all as too hot. The flavors of the marinated chicken thigh meat really stood out.

The stone pot (\$28) with marinated boneless beef, veg-

Soup to Nuts

etables, Korean relish and a fried egg, turned out to be the star of the meal. Per the server’s advice, we let it sit while the rice crisped up on the bottom. Then we stirred everything together and added a healthy dose of the house-made gochujang (chili) sauce, which is Wolff’s mom’s recipe and deserves to be bottled and sold at the counter. Yes, it’s spicy — it sneaks up on you — but it’s also full of umami.

The beef was amazingly tender and flavorful.

Other Korean items include short ribs and a kimchi pork belly soup. Wolff said the beef stone pot, salmon rice bowl and tuna poke bowl were best sellers, but that people also sought out Jeju’s “KFC” — Korean fried chicken — which sailed by en route to another table, leaving a tantalizing aroma in its wake.

Fusion items include creamy miso cacio e pepe — a pasta dish made with miso butter, onion puree, cream, soy sauce and sesame oil — and kimchi mac ‘n’ cheese.

Intriguing. Probably calls for a return trip.

■ Souped up and healthy

Every new year, all the places that just weeks before were serving up decadent cookies, Yule logs and other holiday goodies, turn their attention to everyone who has decided to repent of their overindulgence.

Café Carmel on Ocean Avenue between Mission and San Carlos is taking the opportunity to remind customers that, in addition to the usual goodies and espresso drinks, they can get fresh salads, smoothies and a breakfast of fruit, granola and yogurt. Also, January is Soup Month at the cafe, with “cozy bowls of soup made from scratch in our kitchen every week.”

Of course, owner Sarah Cook can’t help that Jan. 24 is National Peanut Butter Day, or that the 30th is National Croissant Day. But that’s where moderation — and maybe a few extra thousand steps — come in, right?

■ Room for pizza

Everyone knows that Foray restaurant — located in the Stilwell Hotel at San Carlos and Fifth and the winner of multiple Golden Pine Cones since it opened a couple of years ago — is open to the public for Happy Hour, dinner and private events.

But they might not know the hotel, which reopened last May after an extensive remodel and a name change, has its own little private, low-key eatery as well. The catch is, to enjoy one of the pizzas made in the wood-fired oven or any of the other items offered on the cafe’s casual menu, you have to be a guest. Staycation, anyone?

Comfy courtyard

Tucked into an interior courtyard filled with couches, chairs, tables and firepits perfect for lounging around, the cafe offers food and drink each evening, including charcuterie boards for up to six people (\$25-\$45) and salads (\$18), one of mixed greens and fall fruits and vegetables and one featuring arugula and beets with toasted walnuts. Both include local ingredients, including goat cheese, whenever possible.

The pizzas, made to order, are the main event and cost \$23 apiece. They are not your typical pizzeria fare, either. Consider the Ed (mortadella, mustard, pickled peppers, ricotta, mozzarella and olive oil) or Not-A-Hawaiian (mortadella, pineapple, pickled peppers, mozzarella and chili flakes). Also on the menu are a fungi pizza with

See **FOOD** next page



Spicy bulgogi chicken at Jeju Kitchen comes with steamed rice and kimchi. It’s one of several menu items made from old family recipes.



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FOOD & WINE

FOOD

From previous page

assorted local mixed mushrooms, ricotta, fried basil, garlic oil, parmesan and red sauce and the traditional Margherita with cheese, tomato and fresh basil.

A rotating dessert of the day is offered for \$15, and guests can enjoy classic cocktails, too, from Manhattans and margaritas to espresso martinis, lemon drops and whiskey sours, as well as beer, wine and nonalcoholic beverages.

Each morning, the cafe also provides breakfasts for the Stilwell’s guests, including serve-yourself hot and cold dishes, pastries and other delights, all diminutive in size and quite delicious, and indoor dining is available morning and evening in case it’s too cold or stormy to be outdoors.

Owned by longtime resident and former Pebble

Beach Co. executive Mark Stilwell, the property is operated by Lark Hotels. Find more information at larkhotels.com/hotels/stilwell-hotel.

■ Dry January?

Putting your relationship with alcohol on hold doesn’t mean you have to sit at the kiddie table with a Shirley Temple or Roy Rogers. Although nonalcoholic wines remain a work in progress, other buzz-free quaffs are widely available and — get this — even taste good. Alvarado Street Brewery’s Froth Water and Southern Hemisphere Froth Water are both made with hops for a beer-y flavor but “zero alcohol, zero calories and zero hangover.” One taster reported that they were “delicious, and not at all filling.”

Mocktails at the restaurant’s Carmel bistro include a kiwi cooler with coconut, lime, vanilla and club soda, and Coconut Dreams, with coconut, OJ, lime and pineapple.

ASB’s original Monterey spot at 426 Alvarado St. carries Best Day Brewing’s nonalcoholic Hazy IPA and Electro-Lime. The latter is a refreshing, light lager with lime



Café Carmel is welcoming everyone who made New Year’s resolutions with some healthy menu items like this colorful beet salad. Also available are smoothies, a break-fast of fruit, granola and yogurt, and homemade soups that change regularly.

and sea salt that’s reminiscent of a Corona with a little wedge of citrus — but, we daresay, tastes even better.

Montrio at 414 Calle Principal in Monterey has a blood orange shrub (nonalcoholic beverage) with house-made sherbet plus soda and lime, and Passionate Lime, with passionfruit and lime, as well as strawberry-basil and grapefruit concoctions. Check out your own favorite bartender’s offerings — they’re almost certain to having something to tide you over until February rolls around.

Sally Baho, Elaine Hesser and Mary Schley contributed to this column.

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CALENDAR

Il Vecchio hosts live music every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m., featuring Blues Night on Tuesdays and Jazz Night with the Cena Trio on Thursdays. Also showcased are local artists quarterly – Matt Mesero’s “Night Vision” black and white photography exhibit continues through February. Visit ilvecchiorestaurant.com for more.

Jan. 10-11 – Join Madregalia!! for a New Year’s concert of works from the Renaissance and early Baroque. Concerts begin 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2:30 p.m. Saturday at All Saints Episcopal Church, Dolores and Ninth, Carmel. Members of the Pastyme Consort will be featured on violins, viols, shawm, dulcian and recorders. Also featured is a trio of sackbuts (early trombones) led by Sue Mudge. Greg Smith will enliven the concert on natural trumpet. Hear a variety of vocals and instrumentals including major works by Giovanni Gabrieli and Michael Praetorius. We look forward to seeing you in this continued celebration of 20 years of Madregalia!! Suggested donation \$25.

Jan. 15 – Enjoy a lighthearted evening of jazz and other hits from Yale University’s The Whiffenpoofs, the oldest collegiate cappella ensemble in the nation, returning to St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church at 7 p.m. after last year’s concert sellout. \$35 adults, \$25 students and children under 12, under 5 free. Tickets at the door or at <https://whiffs.ticketbud.com/whiffenpoofs-in-monterey> 28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel Valley. To learn more visit stdcv.org.

Jan. 16 – Jam Session 6 to 9 p.m. at Shearwater Tavern/ Enjoy the night in collaboration with Lalo Blanco Tequila, Wente Vineyards & music by Casey Frazier. Meet our Chef, Jae Moon, who will prepare street tacos. Pay as you go for tacos, wine or full bar. Outside event around our beautiful open fire pits – dress accordingly. Children & dog friendly event and encouraged. 3665 Rio Road, Carmel, CarmelMissionInn.com

Jan. 20 – “Are You Afraid of Change?” Professor Mihai Nadin will provide timely insights into the limitations of Artificial Intelligence in contrast to human intelligence. 2 p.m. Carmel Woman’s Club, San Carlos and Ninth. Open to the public. \$10 guests/members free.

Jan. 20 – Free MLK Day concert, presented by Monterey County Pops! Event begins 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. with Southern-style lunch provided by Kona Jerry. First 250 guests eat free. Concert begins 12:30 p.m. with the orchestra and featuring vocalists Brenda J. Thomas and Jackie Craghead. Setting is the Oak Woodland Community Garden, Marina Library Lawn, 190 Seaside Circle, Marina. Details at montereycountypops.org.

Jan. 26 – Live concert “Songs of Hope, Harmony and Healing,” 4 p.m. at the Center for Performing Arts, Carmel High School. Award-winning artists include Cindy Alexander, Alisa Fineman, Kimball Hurd and Lisa Spector. Event benefits the Breast Cancer Assistance Group of Monterey County and Congregation Beth Israel Caring Circle. For tickets and sponsorship information, contact www.carmelbethisrael.org/form/BCAGfundraiser.html

Jan. 29 – Baum & Blume Catering celebrates Lunar New Year 2025, Year of the Serpent! Gung Hay Fat Choy! The chefs of Baum & Blume will be creating a delicious take-out menu for The Lunar New Year. Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley (831) 659-0400.

Jan. 30-Feb. 2: Sign up now to volunteer at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. You are welcome to use your volunteer badge to spectate the event before or after your shift on the day/s you volunteer. For more information: email us at Info@CarmelYouth.org, visit our website, www.CarmelYouth.org, click “How to Contribute” & then “Volunteer,” or call (214) 906-1361.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20241985

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:

Grey Skye Enterprises, 266 Reservation Rd., STE F, Marina, CA 93933

County of Monterey

Registered Owner(s):

Grey Skye Enterprises LLC, 266 RESERVATION ROAD SUITE F. MARINA CA 93933; CA

This business is conducted by a limited liability company

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 09/20/2024

S/ Diana Allison Pound Grey, Member

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 10/29/2024

12/20, 12/27/24, 1/3, 1/10/25

CNS-3877648#

CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: Dec. 20, 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 2025. (PC 1208)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242258

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:

BLUE ZONESPROJECT, 252 MAIN STREET SALINAS, CA 93901, County of MONTEREY

Registered Owner(s):

BLUE ZONES, LLC, 200 SOUTHDALE CENTER, EDINA, MN 55435; DELAWARE

This business is conducted by A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on OCTOBER 1, 2018

S/ AMELIA CLABOTS, CFO

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/11/2024

12/20, 12/27/24, 1/3, 1/10/25

CNS-3879012#

CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: Dec. 20, 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 2025. (PC 1209)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242196

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

QUEENDOLYNE, 45030 MERRITT STREET, KING CITY, CA 93930

County of MONTEREY

Registrant(s):

GUZMAN GROUP LLC, 45030 MERRITT STREET, KING CITY, CA 93930

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.

GUZMAN GROUP LLC

S/ WENDOLYNE GUZMAN, MANAGER

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 12/03/2024.

12/27/24, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17/25

CNS-3880149#

CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: Dec. 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2025. (PC 1212)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24CV005321

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, DAVID DAVIN NGANGA aka DAVIN DARRELL NGANGA, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

A. Present name:

DAVID DAVIN NGANGA aka DAVIN DARRELL NGANGA

Proposed name:

DAVID DAVIN NGANGA

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: Feb. 4, 2025

TIME: 11:00 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. Wells

Judge of the Superior Court

Date filed: Dec. 16, 2024

Publication Dates: Dec. 20, 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 2025. (PC 1213)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242295

Filing type: NEW FILING - with CHANGE(S) from the previous filing.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CARMEL CAPITAL GROUP, 2 NE of Santa Rita on 2nd Ave., Carmel, CA 93921.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Registered Owner(s):

JOE VILLARREAL, P.O. Box 953, Carmel by the Sea, CA 93921.

DOMINGO TOMAS ALVAREZ VILLANUEVA

This business is conducted by a general partnership.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 31, 2019.

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/ Joe Villarreal

Date signed: Dec. 18, 2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 18, 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: Dec. 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2025 (PC 1214)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242185

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BACK TO WILD, 45 Southbank Rd., Suite A, Carmel Valley, CA 93924.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: VILLAREAL HOLDINGS, LLC

State of Inc./Org./Reg.: NV

This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 3, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*

S/Nicholas Edward Villareal, CEO

Date: Dec. 3, 2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Dec. 3, 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: Dec. 27, 2024, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2025. (PC 1218)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20242108

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **HEART N SOUL WELLNESS, 1077 Cass St., Monterey, CA 93940.**

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: HEART AND SOUL WELLNESS PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT INC., 680 Lighthouse Ave. #776, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

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 Oct. 10, 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 that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). *I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes public record upon filing pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).*

S/Jennifer Carkquist, President

Date: Oct. 30, 2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on Nov. 14,

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: Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025. (PC 102)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 24CV005464

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, ELENA VLADIMIR NEZHINSKY, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

A. Present name:

ELENA VLADIMIR NEZHINSKY

Proposed name:

ELENA VLADA NEZHINSKY

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: Feb. 18, 2025

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

DEPT: 14

The address of the court is 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The Carmel Pine Cone.

(s) Thomas W. Wells

Judge of the Superior Court

Date filed: Dec. 23, 2024

Publication Dates: Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025. (PC 106)

LEGALS DEADLINE:

Tuesday 3:00 pm

legals@carmelpinecone.com



NOTICE OF VACANCY INVITATION TO RESIDENTS TO SERVE ON DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) Board of Directors desires to make an appointment of a qualified person to fill a vacancy on the Board. The five-member Board is the governing body of the District. Its members are elected to serve four-year terms of office. The person appointed to fill the vacant Board member position will assume the office February 26, 2025 and must stand for election by District voters in the District's general election on November 3, 2026, if they wish to continue to serve on the Board for any subsequent full term. Other qualified candidates may also seek office in the November election.

Candidates for the Board of Directors' vacancy must be residents of the District, citizens of the United States and be a registered voter. Applications, including biographical information, will be received until 3:00 p.m. February 14, 2025. The Board will review written applications and other submitted information.

All candidates will be invited to make an oral statement and answer questions in support of their application to the Board of Directors on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 9 a.m. at the special board meeting.

The Board meets monthly on the last Thursday at 9:00 a.m., and members may also be assigned to standing and ad hoc committees of the Board.

For more information, interested individuals may contact CAWD at 831- 624- 1248 or stop by the office at 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, CA 93923. An application may also be requested via email from downstream@cawd.org.

Ken White
Carmel Area Wastewater District Board President
District map: <https://www.cawd.org/district-map>
Publication dates: January 10, 2025 And January 31, 2025
Publication dates: Jan. 10 & 31, 2025 (PC111)

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE

Please take notice that the following real property will be sold by private sale by Andrew H. Swartz, Partition Referee, on February 14, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at Chicago Title Company, 26609 Carmel Center Place, Carmel, CA 93923, pursuant to an order of the Monterey County Superior Court: Street Address: Lobos Street 5th NE of 2, Carmel, California 93923; Assessor's Parcel Number: 010-011-014-000; Legal Description: "LOT 12, IN BLOCK 19, AS SAID LOT AND BLOCK ARE SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED "MAP OF CARMEL CITY, MONTEREY COUNTY, CAL., SURVEYED BY W.C. LITTLE, APRIL 1888", FILED FOR RECORD MAY 1, 1888 IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, IN VOLUME 1 OF MAPS, 'CITIES AND TOWNS', AT PAGE 52." (Hereinafter, the "Subject Property") Please take notice that the Subject Property is being sold by private sale by Andrew H. Swartz, as Partition Referee appointed in the matter of Johnson v. Miller, Monterey County Superior Court case number 23CV000923. The sale is being made pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 873.640, et seq. The Subject Property is sold in an "As Is" condition with no warranties or representations. Offers must be submitted in writing on a California Association of Realtors form contract. All sales are subject to court confirmation. Offers must be submitted to Carmel Realty Company, c/o Courtney Jones, P.O. Drawer C, Dolores Street South of Seventh, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921, and must be received on or before January 31, 2025. This date may be extended by the Partition Referee. A Motion to Confirm Sale of Real Property and any associated overbids will be held in Department 13a of the Monterey County Superior Court, 1200 Aguajito Rd, Monterey, CA 93940, on February 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Publication date: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 2025 (PC109)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE of ROSE M. KUNIN, aka ROSE KUNIN, aka ROSE MARIE KUNIN Case Number 24PR000599

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ROSE M. KUNIN, aka ROSE KUNIN, aka ROSE MARIE KUNIN.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by KELLY CATHERINE BOSSUT in the Superior Court of California, County of MONTEREY.

The Petition for Probate requests that KELLY CATHERINE BOSSUT be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: Jan. 22, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Dept.: 13
Address: Superior Court of California, County of Monterey, 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940.
If you object to the granting of

the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the **later of either (1) four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a *Request for Special Notice* (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A *Request for Special Notice* form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
Roxanne T. Jen and Karishma Patel

McDowall Cotter, APC
2070 Pioneer Ct.
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 572-7933

This statement was filed by Superior Court of California, County of Monterey on Dec. 20, 2024.

Publication dates: Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2025. (PC108)

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT. 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Date of Sale: **01/28/2025 at 9:00 AM.** Place of Sale: **At the main entrance to the County Administration Building at 168 West Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901. NOTICE is hereby given that** First American Title Insurance Company, a Nebraska Corporation, 1 First American Way, Santa Ana, CA in care of: 400 S. Rampart Blvd, #290 Las Vegas, NV 89145 – Phone: **(702) 304-7509**, duly appointed Trustee under Notice of Delinquent Assessment ("NDA"), and pursuant to Notice of Default and Election to Sell ("NOD"), **will sell at public auction** for cash, lawful money of the United States of America, (a cashier's check payable to said Trustee drawn on a state or national bank, a state or federal credit union, or a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings bank as specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state) **all right, title and interest** now held under said **NDA**, to wit: Multiple Time-share Estates as shown on **Exhibit "A-1"** (as described in the Declaration recorded on **06/21/2002 as Document No. 2002058802** as amended) located at **120 Highlands Drive, Carmel, CA, 93923** with APN shown herein. The Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address shown herein. All recording references contained herein and on **Schedule "1" attached hereto** are in the County of **Monterey, California**. Said sale will be made, without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, as to title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum due under said NDA, plus accrued interest thereon to the date of sale, estimated fees, charges, as shown in sum due on **Schedule "1"** together with estimated expenses of the Trustee in the amount of **\$475.00**. The claimant, **H.I. Resort Condominium Association, Inc., a nonprofit mutual benefit California corporation**, under NDA delivered to Trustee a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located, and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. **First American Title Insurance Company, a Nebraska Corporation. APN: 241-351-004-000. Batch ID: Foreclosure HOA 144883-HVC76-HOA. Schedule "1": NOD Recording Date and Reference: 09/23/2024; 2024033999**, Contract No., Owner(s), Lien Recording Date and Reference, Sum Due; 800000775, Rene Marasigan and Ramona Marasigan, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,263.13; 800000946, Charles F. Diggs and Diana G. Diggs, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,261.91; 800001147, Richard L. Rosenberry and Kathleen A. Rosenberry, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$850.27; 800001267, Aurelio Del Prado Estrella and Annabelle Gacad Estrella, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,379.75; 800001340, David Patrick Matanane and Cynthia Rose Matanane, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,261.91; 800001364, Larry Dean Owens and Dorothy Morse Owens, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,366.64; 800002020, Li-Tsu Chien Sadler and Adam B. D. Sadler, As Trustees Of The Sadler Family Trust Dated May 1, 1996, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,308.18; 800002250, Bruce A. Mews and Peggy A. Mews, 07/24/2023 Inst: 2023022301, \$6,408.74; 800003416, Heirs And/Or Devises Of Karen Lee Irvine, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,456.76; 800003465, Jim Lou Nyholt, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,333.33; 800003555, Joseph Maurice Gregorich and Cynthia Leigh Garcia, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,271.57; 800003746, Richard Kevin O'connor and Carole Anne O'connor, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,321.05; 800003907, Eleanor Anne O' Donnell, 07/24/2023 Inst: 2023022301, \$5,641.33; 800004654, Taylor Moor, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$2,607.34; 800004772, Roland Gerald Fuette and Mary Lou Fuette, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,312.87; 800005645, Jaspreet Dhillon and The Unrecorded Interest Of The Spouse Of Jaspreet Dhillon, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,732.53; 800005814, Douglas Souther Brown and Diane Gail Brown, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,429.53; 800006004, Kalle Varav and Michelle Varav, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,608.51; 800006222, Arnold Thoroughman, 07/24/2023 Inst: 2023022301, \$1,039.82; 800007212, Antonio Blanco Rizarri and Rhodora Abejo Rizarri, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,324.34; 800007497, Matthias Will, Trustee Of The Mobley-Will Living Trust Dated August 16, 2016, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,279.53; 800007503, Francis Greig Gorman and John William Embrey, III, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,542.58; 800007910, Gary Vandeverter, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,283.71; 800007914, Carin Lane, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,283.71; 800008075, Gary Michael Van Deventer, 06/28/2024 Inst: 2024022614, \$3,254.44. **Exhibit "A-1":** Contract No., Undivided Interest, Unit No., Fixed Week No., Frequency; 800000775, 1/51, 45, 35, annual ; 800000946, 1/51, 70, 1, annual ; 800001147, 1/51, 47, 40, annual ; 800001267, 1/51, 58, 27, annual ; 800001340, 1/51, 46, 41, annual ; 800001364, 1/51, 24, 31, annual ; 800002020, 1/51, 78, 25, annual ; 800002250, 1/51, 49, 46, annual ; 800003416, 1/51, 71, 30, annual ; 800003465, 1/51, 30, 41, annual ; 800003555, 1/51, 36, 42, annual ; 800003746, 1/51, 55, 40, annual ; 800003907, 1/51, 05, 5, annual ; 800004654, 1/51, 92, 5, annual ; 800004772, 1/51, 52, 19, annual ; 800005645, 1/51, 46, 26, annual ; 800005814, 1/102, 49, 36, even year ; 800006004, 1/102, 61, 35, even year ; 800006222, 1/102, 58, 52, odd year ; 800007212, 1/51, 69, 27, annual ; 800007497, 1/102, 73, 50, even year ; 800007503, 1/102, 17, 15, even year ; 800007910, 1/51, 48, 28, annual ; 800007914, 1/51, 76, 29, annual ; 800008075, 1/51, 71, 32, annual.

Publication dates: Jan. 3, 10, 17 2025 (PC101)

File # 15952235 T.S. No.: 24-14241-168 Loan No.: *****0001 **Notice of Trustee's Sale Deed of Trust**, Assignment of Rents, and Fixture Filing (hereinafter referred to as 'Deed of Trust') You are in default under a deed of trust dated 6/27/2017. 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 a 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 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. 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. Original Trustor(s): Signature YHM Land LLC, a California Limited Liability Company Duly Appointed Trustee: WT Capital Lender Services, a California corporation Recorded 7/3/2017, as Instrument No. 2017035228 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Monterey County, California Date of Sale: 1/21/2025 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At the main entrance to the County Administration Building, 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$1,886,523.22 Estimated Street Address or other common designation of real property: York Highlands, Lot #18, Monterey, CA 93940 Legal Description: Real property in the unincorporated area of the County of Monterey, State of California, described as follows: Parcel One: Lot 18, in the County of Monterey, State of California, as shown on that certain map entitled Tract no. 1513 York Highlands resubdivision which map was filed in the office of the recorder of the County of Monterey, State of California, recorded May 31, 2012 in book 24, of map page 34. Parcel Two: A non-exclusive easement for road and utilities over that parcel designated as "Parcel M", as shown on that map entitled "Tract 1452 Monterra Ranch Phase 10", filed December 1, 2005 in volume 23 of maps, "Cities and Towns", page 16 in the office of the County recorder of Monterey County, California. Parcel Three: A non-exclusive easement for road and utilities over that parcel designated "Monterra Ranch Road Parcel L" as shown on that map entitled "Tract no.1450 Monterra Ranch Phase 8" filed September 14, 2005 in volume 23 of maps, "Cities and Towns", page 14, in the office of the County recorder of Monterey County, California. Parcel Four: A non-exclusive easement for road and utilities over that parcel designated "Parcel R2", as shown on that map entitled "Tract 1419 Monterra Ranch Phase 6", filed June 16, 2004 in volume 22 of maps, "Cities and Towns", page 56, in the office of the County recorder of Monterey County, California. Parcel Five: A 40' wide access and P.U.E. purposes over and across "Parcel H" for benefit of lots 21 and 22, as shown on the above map, recorded May 31, 2012 in book 24, of maps, page 34. A.P.N.: 259-261-018-000 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. 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. In the event that the Deed of Trust described in this Notice of Trustee's Sale is secured by real property containing one to four single-family residences, the following notices are provided pursuant to the provisions of Civil Code section 2924f. 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. Bidders at the trustee auction must make cashier's checks payable to WT Capital. Third party cashier's checks will not be accepted. 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 559-228-8393 or visit this internet website www.wtcap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 24-14241-168. 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: Effective January 1, 2021, 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 (559) 228-8393, or visit this internet website www.wtcap.com, using the file number assigned to this case 24-14241-168 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. Date: December 20, 2024 WT Capital Lender Services, a California corporation 7522 North Colonial Avenue, Suite 111 Fresno, California 93711 (559) 228-8393 WTCap.com By Nate Kucera, Chief Executive Officer (IFS# 37606 12/27/24, 01/03/25, 01/10/25)

Publication dates: Dec. 27, 2024; Jan. 3, 10, 2025 (PC1220)

MUSIC

From page 32A

consist of a variety of vocal and instrumental works for Christmas and the new year, including major works by Giovanni Gabrieli and Michael Praetorius,” the group announced.

The church is located at Dolores and Ninth.

Live music Jan. 10-16

■ Big Sur

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

■ Carmel

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

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



Jazz singer Rebecca Sayre will be joined by guitarist Bruce Forman Tuesday at Gusto Pasta and Pizza in Seaside.

singer **Debbie Davis** (cabaret, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), **The Andrea Carter Trio** (jazz and pop, 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.

De Tierra Vineyards tasting room — singer and guitarist **Kip Allert** (Sunday at 3 p.m.). Mission and Fifth.

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Dino Vera** (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

La Playa Hotel — guitarist **Glenn Bell** (jazz, Tuesday at 5 p.m.) and singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Thursday at 5 p.m.). Camino Real and Eighth.

The Links Club — **The Rogue Roost-**

ers (rock and blues, Friday at 7:30 p.m.), **Octane** (rock, Saturday at 7:30 p.m.), Songwriters Showcase (Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., sign-ups start at 6:30 p.m.). Carmel Plaza, Mission and Ocean.

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 Valley

Bernardus Lodge & Spa — pianist **Michael Culver** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea’s Fault Duo** (jazz and pop, Saturday at noon), pianist **Martan Mann** (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Folktales Winery — singer and guitarist **Jacob Chase** (Friday at 4 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Rory Lynch** (Saturday at 2 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Sunday at 11 a.m.). 8940 Carmel Valley Road.

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

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — **The Dave D’oh Show** (alternative, pop and soul, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

■ Monterey

Albatross Ridge Winery and Kitchen — singer and guitarist **Kito Rayburn** (Friday at 6 p.m.), **Magenta Spreen** with singers and guitarists **Talmon Owens** and **Kristen Gradwohl** (“dreamy soundscapes, vocal harmonies, storytelling, and mindful melodies,” Saturday at 6 p.m.). 316 Alvarado St.

Bon Ton LeRoy’s Smokehouse — Open Mic Night (Thursday at 7 p.m.). 794 Lighthouse Ave.

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

Cibo — **The Dave Holodiloff Duo** (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer **Lee Durley** and pianist **Bill Spencer** (jazz, Tuesday at 7 p.m.), singer **Miranda Perl** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz and swing, Wednesday at 7 p.m.). 301 Alvarado St.

Estéban Restaurant — guitarist **Catherine Broz** (Spanish music, Friday and Thursday at 5 p.m.). 700 Munras Ave.

InterContinental Hotel — guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Friday and Saturday at 7 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.

Midici Pizza — saxophonist **Arman Sangalang** and guitarist **Adam Astrup** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), **Brian Stock Quartet** (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer **Nina Hadzi-Antich** and guitarist **Brice Albert** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa — pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Peter**

Corr (jazz, Sunday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Tamas Marius** (jazz, Monday at 6 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Tuesday at 6 p.m.), guitarist **John Sherry** (rock and blues, Wednesday and Thursday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

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

Puma Road at Portola Plaza — singer and guitarist **Matt Masih** (Friday at 5 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kito Rayburn** (Saturday at 5 p.m.), **Smoky Vegas Project** (“classic lounge,” Sunday at 4 p.m.). 281 Alvarado St.

Salty Seal Pub — **Rachel Strung and Soul Service** (r&b, Friday at 8 p.m.), **The Edge Band** (rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.), **Santa Cruda** (reggae, Sunday at 4 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.

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

Sly McFly’s — **Everyday People** (“classic Latin rock with an old-school twist,” Friday at 9 p.m.), **The Bridget Marie Band** (r&b and funk, Saturday at 9 p.m.), **5 Star** (rock and soul, Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

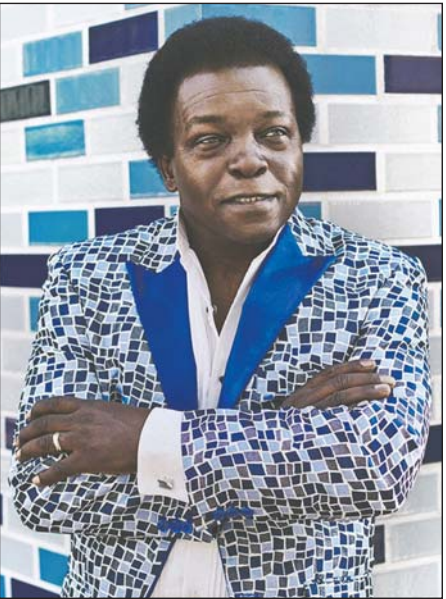
■ Pacific Grove

Asilomar Hotel and Conference Grounds — singer and guitarist **Casey Frazier** (Friday at 4 p.m.), multi-instrumentalist **Gary Regina** (jazz, Thursday at 4 p.m.). In the Phoebe Hearst Social Hall, 800 Asilomar Ave.

Il Vecchio Restaurant — **The Cena Jazz Trio** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 110 Central Ave.

Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant — singer and guitarist **Rags Rosenberg** (Friday at 7 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Kevin Smith** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), **Andrea’s Fault Duo** (“folky stuff mixed with surprises,” Monday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Holysea** (Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). 1180 Forest Ave.

The Pacific Grove Art Center — “Hootenanny” “acoustic jam session (Satur-



Now in his seventh decade as a performer, soul singer Lee Fields takes the stage Friday at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

day at 7 p.m.). 568 Lighthouse Ave.

PG’s Meetinghouse — singer **Meredith McHenry** (Friday at 6:30 p.m.), **Arman Sangalang Trio** (jazz, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Dan Frechette** and singer and violinist **Laurel Thomsen** (roots and folk, Sunday at 11 a.m.), Open Mic (Tuesday at 6 p.m., sign up by 5 p.m.). 599 Lighthouse Ave.

■ Pebble Beach

The Lodge at Pebble Beach — singer and multi-instrumentalist **Alison Sharino** (Friday at 6 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Scott Slaughter** (Saturday at 6 p.m.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Meredith McHenry** (Thursday at 6 p.m.). In the Terrace Lounge at 1700 17 Mile Drive.

■ Seaside

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

To update these listings, email chris@carmelpinecone.com

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Continues on next page

Police Log: Carmel-by-the-Sea, Jan. 30, 31

Citizen reported losing a glove while walking in the area of San Carlos north of Ocean.

Juvenile male on bicycle failed to stop at multiple stop signs while riding downhill at a high rate of speed on Junipero.

Issued a citation and referred to the diversion program.

CAA WELCOMES 2025 WITH ‘CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY AND ARTISTRY’

KICKING OFF the new year, Carmel Art Association hosts a public reception Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. for the grand opening of its annual All Members Show.

The gallery’s Lili Mendez called the show, which showcases the talents of 79 of its members, “a dynamic celebration of creativity and artistry.”

“From bold new works that explore fresh perspectives, to cherished pieces brought out from studio collections,

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

the exhibition offers a compelling journey through the evolving world of art,” Mendez said. “Visitors will be treated to a captivating mix of paintings, sculptures and other mediums — each reflecting the individual voices of our artists.”

The reception will feature live jazz by the Rick Forchino Combo.

The show will be on display through Feb. 3. The gal-



In a new show at the Pacific Grove Art Center, painter Elizabeth Murray uses bold colors and brushstrokes to celebrate trees.

lery is on Dolores between Fifth and Sixth. carmelart.org

■ ‘It’s cool to be square’

In a show opening Friday at the Pacific Grove Art Center, “It’s Cool to Be Square,” students from P.G. High School were asked to pour their creativity onto a wood panel.

“I challenged all my returning students to create a work of art using a square wood panel to express their individual artistic voice,” teacher Matthew Kelly said. “The objective for the project included having a clear artistic intention for their work while selecting art materials which demonstrate knowledge.”

Kelly said the students took on the challenge with great enthusiasm.

“Not only did each student put forward their best effort, but there was nonstop excitement among the young artists to push their levels of creativity,” he added.

Also new at the art center are displays by painters Elizabeth Murray (“Rites of Nature — In Kinship with Trees”), Oya Yilmaz Bolgün (“Layers of Existence”) and Yuliya Greben (“Inner Universe”), along with a group show by seniors at Monterey High School who participate in its arts-media-performance academy.

The center will be have a public reception for the artists Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. The shows will continue through Feb. 27. The gallery is located at 568 Lighthouse Ave. pgartcenter.org

■ Creative couple collaborates

A husband-and-wife duo — painter Robin Sawyer and sculptor Chris Sawyer — team up to present a show, “Brush and Chisel,” which opens Friday at the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m.

“The exhibit pairs artworks from the Sawyers in unexpected ways, sometimes crossing boundaries and exploring the two mediums through the investigations of color, surface, and optical perception,” a description of the show reads. “Robin’s paintings, conversely, engage with her

husband’s sculptural concerns by taking up ideas long associated with three-dimensional art such as balance, composition and context. By combining elements of painting and sculpture, these works exist beyond well-known restrictions of what art can do and upset the balance of previous ideas of what art can be.”

The exhibit will be on display through Feb. 15. The Cherry Center is located at Guadalupe and Fourth. carlcherrycenter.org

SPORTS

From page 30A

the Division 5-AA state championship, has been honored as California’s Small School Coach of the Year.

Anderson’s Padres also captured the Pacific Coast Athletic League’s Mission South Division, Central Coast Section, and NorCal crowns in 2024.

The Padres are 25-1 over the past two seasons.

Anderson took Carmel to its only other CCS championship in 2009-10, his first year as head coach of the Padres, when they went 12-0.

He has guided the team to 10 league crowns in 15 seasons. Five of those teams took their only losses of the year at CCS.

His overall record as a head coach is 139-37, not counting the abbreviated Covid year, when the Padres were 1-1.

Anderson is a 2017 graduate of Carmel High, where he played quarterback, throwing for 1,501 yards and 14 touchdowns as a senior.

He went on to play quarterback as a freshman and wide receiver as a sophomore, when an injury ended his playing career at the University of Redlands. He earned a degree in social science from Stanislaus State, and returned to Carmel High as a teacher and coach in 2003.


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

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Continues from previous page

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