The Carmel Pine Cone

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comes 30 years late

By KELLY NIX

WITH NEW water on the way for the Monterey Peninsula — which means a host of permits will soon be issued — a Monterey man was surprised recently to receive a notice claiming he hadn't fulfilled the conditions of a water permit issued to him nearly three decades after

David Fockler in late March received a note from a Monterey Peninsula Water Management District "conservation technician" informing him that the district issued a water permit for his property on Jan. 17, 1997, but that a final inspection had not been done and was necessary to "confirm compliance with the permit's requirements."

"Included in the water district's letter was a wrinkled, yellow copy of the 1997 permit — 28 years later," Fockler told The Pine Cone.

'We apologize'

The notice from the government agency said, "We understand that some property owners may have forgotten about the permit or might not even be aware that a remodel requiring a water permit took place on their property. If this applies to you, we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

However, the district's note to Fockler went from forbearing to threatening a few lines later, and it warned of

A 'notice of

completion'

from the county,

but not from the

water district

consequences if he didn't comply with its order.

"Please be advised that properties not in compliance with district water permit requirements may be subject to the recording of a notice of non-compliance on the property title, along with other potential actions," the agency said.

The district went on to say that if it is required to

record such a notice, "additional fees will apply." Fockler, though, contends that a final inspection was

"I spoke with a person at the county inspection office, and was told that the recorded notice of completion,

See WATER page 20A

'Open permit' warning City OKs fire map but worries about trees

DOES THE state's new map of fire hazard zones in Carmel mean people will have to tear down their wood fences and cut down trees? Does it mean no more wood roofs should be allowed? Will it drastically affect the look and feel of the city and its urban forest in the future?

At this point, no one really knows, but the city council on Tuesday decided to form a committee to figure it out.

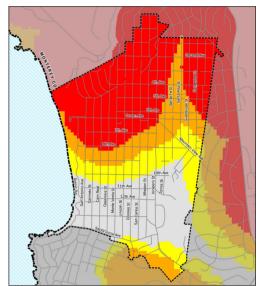
Under an edict from the state, the council also voted

The map and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan adopted by the council last fall have major implications for construction projects and landscaping under state and

No touching branches?

For instance, new and remodeled houses in the riskier areas must have fire-resistant roofs, vents that will block embers from entering, "noncombustible or ignition-resistant" exterior siding and decks, and tempered-glass





The city council really had no choice but to adopt the state's new fire hazard severity map (right), but its impacts on the riskiest parts of the city — including the heavily forested north end, seen in an overhead view at left — could be far-reaching.

May 5 to adopt the new fire hazard severity map released in March by the California Fire Marshal, which designates large areas of the Monterey Peninsula as being at high risk

Major implications

Based on data compiled by Cal Fire, the new map designates 278 acres within the Carmel city limits as "very high fire hazard severity zone," 110 acres as "high," and 100 acres as "moderate," planning director Anna Ginette told the council, while the rest of the city, mostly at the south end and including part of Mission Trail park, is not considered to have an elevated level of fire danger. The new map replaces the last one adopted in 2011.

windows, skylights and doors, according to the building code. Some exceptions are provided for historic buildings.

New landscaping in the high-risk areas would be limited to "fire-resistant vegetation, except for trees planted at least 30 feet from a combustible structure," Ginette said. In a town where the standard lot size is 40 feet by 100 feet, that doesn't leave much space for the minimum three

See HAZARDS page 16A

Council walks back ballot measure on house numbers

■ Instead, working 'to write the book'

By MARY SCHLEY

UNDOING A pledge made by the previous council, the Carmel City Council voted 4-1 Monday night to abandon the idea of putting the long-debated and polarizing issue of street addresses to voters in an advisory ballot measure in November.

Similar to the 2009 question to voters regarding whether to sell Flanders Mansion, the outcome would not have obligated the city to take any action, making it more of a public opinion poll. At the May 5 meeting, administrative analyst Emily Garay estimated a special election would cost taxpayers between \$40,000 and \$60,000, based on information from the Monterey County Elections department, which would administer it.

Taking it seriously

Several residents spoke against a ballot measure but urged the council to get on with the process of creating and implementing a plan that complies with the federal address management system used by the U.S. Postal Service, government agencies, financial institutions, utility companies, and navigation systems in smartphones and cars.

Betty Kullas, who has frequently spoken on the matter, lauded the council for its attentiveness. "It makes all of us who want house numbers feel very good that you're taking this seriously," she said, adding that a ballot measure would be a waste of time and tax dollars.

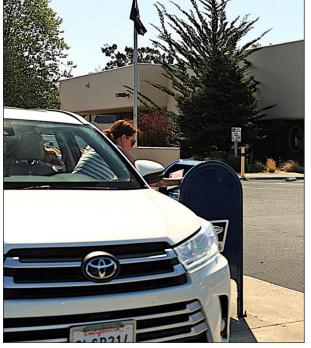
"The health and safety of our village should not be treated like it's a public preference. It's a responsibility," she said. "I hope we have house numbers soon."

See NUMBERS page 24A

BEEFIER BOXES MAKE IT HARDER TO STEAL MAIL

By CHRIS COUNTS

RESPONDING TO complaints about stolen mail - including local incidents of checks being "bleached" and cashed — the United States Postal Service recently



A woman struggles to get her letters into a new theft-deterrent mail-

box at the mouth-of-the-valley post office Thursday.

PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

installed a "high-security" mail drop-off box outside the post office at 3845 Vía Nona Marie. It's one of 15,000 beefed-up boxes the postal service has been placing around the country to counter rising mail theft.

"It's harder to steal mail out of the new boxes," postal service inspector Matt Norfleet told The Pine Cone. "The trade-off is that you can't drop off as large a parcel some things are going be too big."

He urged residents to share their stories about mail theft with his office at (877) 876-2455. He said many residents have no idea that the postal service employs investigators — and he noted that a little information about a theft can go a long way.

"Our investigators want to know as much as they can about where these checks end up," he explained. "Checktheft leads are very valuable to our investigators.

The inspector noted that mail thieves are typically repeat offenders, increasing the chances they will be caught. "Mail theft is not a thing someone does just once,"

Despite the arrival of the new boxes, Norfleet urged postal customers to play it safe. "Leaving your mail in a box at 7:30 p.m. on a holiday weekend is not a good idea,"

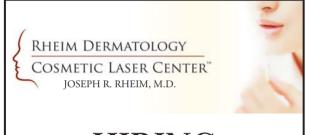
Locals lose checks

Carmel Valley resident Phyllis Cleveland said she was the victim of mail theft at the same post office. She suggested the post office should have done a better job alerting their customers to the risks.

"I was mailing checks to pay bills for a nonprofit," Cleveland explained. "I recently followed up on checks that hadn't been deposited for months, only to find the

See MAIL page 31A

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Sandy Claws

May 9, 2025

A boy and his babe

He went to the SPCA to get a small dog for his mom, a canine companion who could keep her company during the day. He promised to come by to help with the care and feeding of the little animal.

"I walked into the SPCA and saw this 6-month-old Queensland Heeler, a little blue merle, and said, 'Hi, Babe,' a word I'd never before spoken," he said. "It came out spontaneously and became her name."

An SPCA worker studied their interaction and said, "Do you want that dog? She's been brought back several times. Not sure why."

He did want that dog, and so did his mom, but maybe not as much as he did. Babe tended to lie under the coffee table at Mom's, waiting for her boy to come care for her.

"I love that dog," he said. "She loves me and she loves kids, having grown up with my niece and her first baby."

Babe also loves the beach. Actually anything that involves a body of water — a river, a stream, the sea, a beach by the bay.

"In her younger years, Babe was quite the party girl," her boy said. "She'd hang out with all the Labs since she liked to swim as much as they did. She even liked to be tossed in, and off she'd go. Today, she's 14,



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WANTE OF RECENT

By Lisa Crawford Watson



so her hips don't support that, but I'll bet she still remembers the fun."

Babe, who lives in Monterey with her boy, sleeps in a dog bed by his bed. He admits, whenever he smoothes a blanket across her bed, she scrunches it to the side as if to say, "I know you like a nice look, but this isn't my jam."

Peninsula BUSINESSES MAY 23, 2025

One of the things that makes the Monterey Peninsula so wonderful is its outstanding business community, but who are the hard-working people behind all those amazing shops, restaurants and service providers? We will answer that question in our May 23 edition —

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Skincare shop opens, but not that kind

By MARY SCHLEY

WHILE THE city has gone to great efforts to restrict skincare stores downtown in hopes of reducing the street hawking and numerous other complaints they generated, a seemingly similar business has opened at Dolores and Sixth. But Viva Carmel is owned and operated by a licensed doctor, Dr. Julie Kenner, and while she doesn't offer any "body work or complicated/higher level dermatology procedures," or other "insurance-based or more complicated aesthetic or rejuvenative procedures," she's cleared to provide other



PHOTO/PINE CONE FILE

With employees hawking samples and customers getting ripped off, the city restricted cosmetic shops like this one, which has since closed.

treatments and advice.

According to her application for a business license that was subsequently approved March 27, Kenner, who said she is also a PhD scientist, created Viva Carmel "as a non-insurance-based medical facility nurturing well-being and overall

dermatology health through personalized treatments." The application states her customers will receive "detailed and robust objective pretreatment skin evaluations, are guided as to what to use to best fit their particular needs, and receive a customized treatment program."

'Inside-out dermatology'

Kenner's professional consultants will also discuss skincare health, sun protection and cancer prevention, and provide advice on makeup. Product sales will account for 10 percent of the business — which is the city's limit without requiring more planning scrutiny.

But Viva Carmel's main business is "inside-out dermatology," according to Kenner's description, with the remaining 90 percent focused on offering "a holistic approach" to care. "We will provide no-downtime aesthetic treatments such as neurotoxin injections, hair restoration treatments, selected dermatology facials, and other minimally invasive treatments," she said, but no higher-level dermatology. Customers seeking that will be referred to

medical facility.' While some of that language and those services might be reminiscent of the skincare stores that occupied several Ocean Avenue spaces and elicited numerous complaints from customers who said they were duped, associate planner Jacob Olander explained that the business is classified as a medical clinic. He assured Kenner's application under-

her Monterey practice or "another

went the appropriate scrutiny. "Based on my conversations with Dr. Kenner, it is my understanding that she will be doing dermatological examinations of patients," he explained. "In addition to

See SKINCARE page 23A



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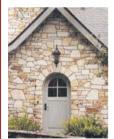
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The Carmel Pine Cone



Police & Sheriff's Log

When fixing requires trespassing

May 9, 2025

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Carmel-by-the-Sea: A vehicle was stopped at Ocean and Carpenter at 0402 hours for multiple CVC violations. The driver and passenger were both found to be on probation and violating their respective terms. The 30-year-old female driver from San Jose was arrested for DUI, and the passenger was arrested for the possession of a controlled substance.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Lost/stolen license plate reported at Guadalupe and Fifth.

Pacific Grove: Trailers on Forest Hill

Boulevard marked for 72-hour parking.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Adult Protective Services report about possible neglect and financial abuse involving a resident at Lincoln and 13th.

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Verbal-only altercation between husband and wife at a hotel at Junipero and Third.

Carmel Valley: Carmel Valley Road resident said a neighbor's workers were trespassing while fixing a fence.

Carmel Valley: Calle de Quien Sabe resident reported a custody order issue.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Carmel-by-the-Sea: Physical altercation between elderly sisters at San Carlos and 11th. One sister was placed on 72-hour evaluation.

See POLICE LOG page 4RE in the Real Estate Section



The gavel falls

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

March 13 — The Monterey County D.A.'s environmental protection unit, along with the district attorney's offices of Santa Clara and Sonoma Counties, have resolved an enforcement action against Gary Garcia, owner of A&G Construction Inc., for failing to test for asbestos and failing to obtain building permits prior to performing demolition and renovation work. Additionally, this settlement resolves allegations that Garcia and his company disturbed asbestos-containing materials during their work at Canterbury Woods senior living facility in Pacific Grove without taking proper health and safety precautions. Garcia paid \$75,000 in civil penalties to resolve these violations, and he and his company were ordered to comply with injunctive terms to prevent future violations.

This enforcement action arose when the

Monterey Bay Air Resources District received a complaint concerning construction activities at Canterbury Woods. The agency investigated and determined that Garcia as well as the corporate owner of Canterbury Woods, Front Porch Communities and Services, violated laws and regulations related to construction activities and asbestos emissions in multiple counties in California.

Asbestos exposure increases the risk of respiratory diseases including lung cancer, mesothelioma, asbestosis and other cancers. Asbestos may be found in a variety of building materials such as fireproofing, insulation, vinyl floor tiles, wall texture coatings, roofing, acoustic ceilings, linoleum backing, taping, as well as other materials. Owners and

See GAVEL page 18A



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Marina women arrested for vandalism

By MARY SCHLEY

LESS THAN two days after receiving reports of extensive graffiti at Cannery Row's Steinbeck Plaza April 30, Monte-

rey Police tracked down and arrested two women believed to have caused thousands of dollars in damage to the historic spot, according to Lt. Ethan Andrews.

"Multiple areas of the plaza, including tables, statues and walls, had been defaced with spray paint and marker graffiti, causing damage estimated to be in the thousands of dollars," Andrews said.

Located at the heart of Cannery Row, Steinbeck Plaza honors famous author and Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck and

"holds historical and cultural significance for Monterey residents and visitors, alike," he noted.

"The senseless defacement of this cherished landmark initiated a swift and thorough investigation by MPD officers," Andrews said.

Steinbeck Plaza is also the site of a large sculptural assembly by highly accomplished local bronze artist Steven







Whyte depicting nine of Cannery Row's most notable characters. Whyte told The Pine Cone that while the base of the piece

See GRAFFITI page 21A

Rollover in Big Sur sparks brush fire

By CHRIS COUNTS

A VEHICLE rollover near Point Sur Lighthouse late Tuesday evening caused a minor wildfire, but it was quickly doused, and the motorist turned out to be OK as well, Big Sur Fire reported.

The car was traveling along Highway 1 when the driver lost control and veered west off the pavement and ignited nearby vegetation. Big Sur Fire soon arrived with an engine and a water tender, followed by Cal Fire, which brought an engine.

Despite the predicament, "the driver was uninjured and able to self-extricate prior to the vehicle catching on fire," the report indicated.

The blaze, meanwhile, was doused before it even burned an acre of ice plant and grass. "Crews swiftly extinguished the vehicle fire as well as the fire in the vegetation," the report added.

The effort benefited from relatively easy access and topography — at least by

See ROLLOVER page 30A



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Democrats reverse course on felony charges for paying minors for sex

By CAITLIN CONRAD

DEMOCRATIC LEADERS in Sacramento reversed course this week, announcing they will make it a felony for adults to pay minors for sex. The news came out Tuesday, after the same leaders fought hard to exclude the felony penalty just days prior and stripped the name of the bill's author from her own legislation for opposing their plan to make it a misdemeanor to pay a 16- or 17-year-old for sex.

AB 379 is designed to support victims of sex trafficking. It would also upgrade the crime of paying a minor for sex to a felony. Sacramento Democrat Maggy Krell wrote the bill to fix a carve-out in a piece of sexcrime legislation signed into law last year.

This week's backpedaling by Assembly

Hollister, and public safety committee chair Nick Schulz came following pressure from California Republicans and Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom to reverse

"The law should treat all sex predators who solicit minors the same, regardless of the intended victim's age. Full stop." said Newsom in a statement last week.

Two-year debate

The debate over what seems like a straightforward idea, harsher penalties for those who prey on minors, has been going on for two years, and not just between Republicans and Democrats, but between Democrats and Democrats.

The can of worms was first opened in 2023 when state Sen. Shannon Grove, legislation to add trafficking of a minor to last Thursday. the list of serious felonies in California. The

bill was opposed by criminal justice reform groups and gay rights activists but did receive Newsom's support Misdemanor spurring the first round of infighting on the issue.

Grove's bill did not pass 17 years olds as written. She was forced to add a carve out saying the increased penalties would not apply if the minor was 16 or 17 years old.

Enter Krell, a former sex-crimes prosecutor, who re-wrote the bill this year to eliminate the carve out for older minors. But fellow Democrats on the Assembly Public Safety Committee forced her to gut

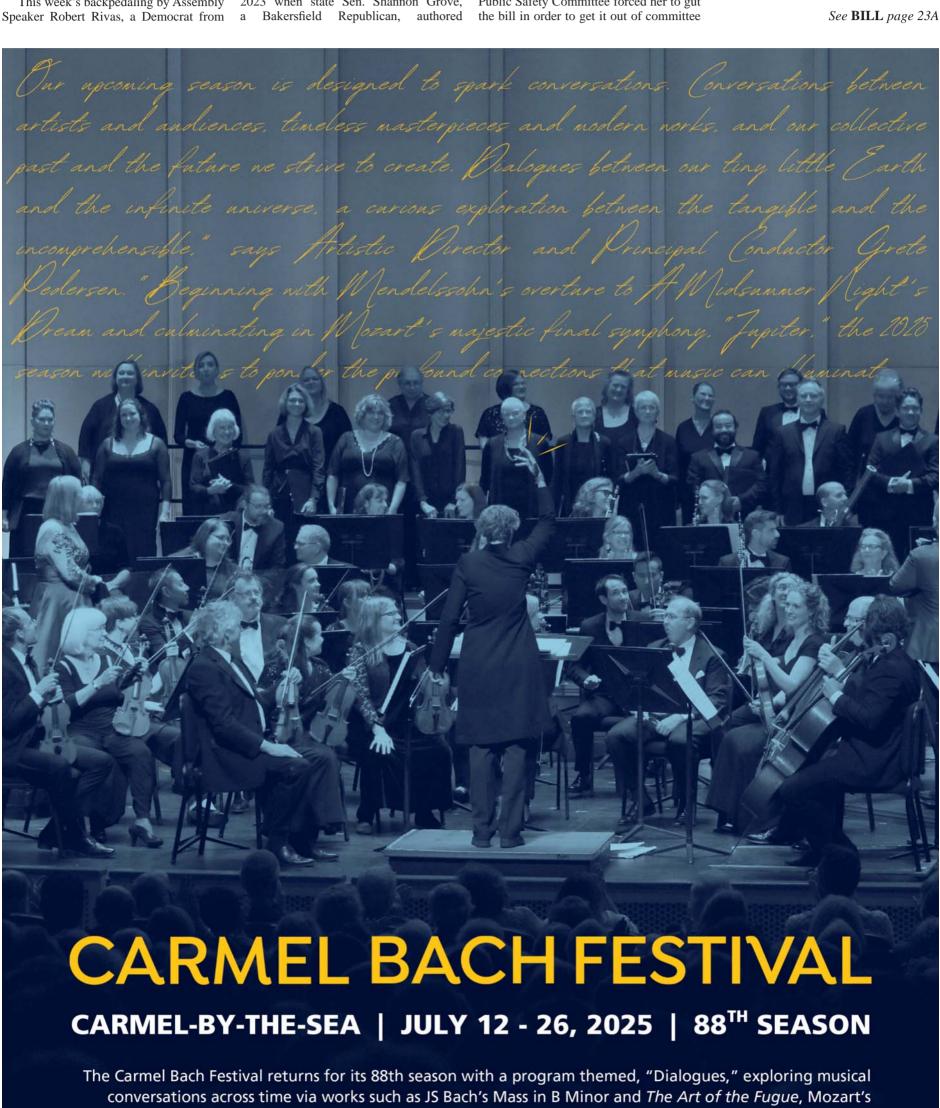
Rivas was one of the harshest critics.

He stripped Krell's name from the bill and declared an intent to deal with the issue

"No one in the room is OK with minors being sold for sex, but this is a nuanced issue and conversation," Rivas said during the hearing.

California Republicans countered that buying sex from minors of any age is a black and

white issue. "There is nothing 'nuanced' about adults buying children for sex," said Assembly



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CVA urges Carmel Valley Ranch to add employee housing, not hotel rooms

It would be

group says

smart business

and benefit the

the community,

By CHRIS COUNTS

INSTEAD OF objecting to a plan to add 29 guest rooms at Carmel Valley Ranch, the Carmel Valley Association is asking the resort to build employee housing. The topic came up Monday at St. Philips Church, where the Carmel Valley

Land Use Advisory Committee met to review the proposal and voted unanimously to recommend that the county approve it.

Plans call for tearing down 29 guest rooms and building 56 new ones — resulting in a gain of 27 units. The 29 units the resort wants to remove are located in a one-story structure, while the new ones

would be part of a two-story complex.

The resort also wants to remove nine oak trees, build on slopes greater than 25 percent, and expand a parking structure to add 27 parking spaces.

Despite the hearing, Brad Nichols, head of development at Geolo Capital, told The Pine Cone the resort has no immediate plans to build anything. Geolo has owned the resort since 2009.

No plans to break ground

"It's just a planning action as we think more strategically about the future of the property," Nichols said. "There's no plan to break ground."

Nichols noted the land is zoned for up to 208 units, while 181 units exist, making it possible for the resort to add 27, he said.

Advisory committee chair Janet Brennan told The Pine Cone the LUAC voted unanimously to recommend approval of

the project.

She conceded that there is no legal basis for stopping the development — nevertheless, the committee also recommended that the resort "work with" county staff "on a voluntary proposal to provide workforce housing."

Some had expressed concern that the

resort has never complied with the county's inclusionary housing ordinance, but that was dispelled. "County staff provided a memo showing it was complied with by paying in-lieu fees," Brennan added.

While Larry Bacon of the Carmel Valley Association agreed that "we never had a legal basis to compel"

the resort to create employee housing, he's hopeful its owner will see merit in the idea which, among its benefits, could reduce traffic on local roads by doing away with the long commutes of many workers.

The resort is Carmel Valley's largest employer.

"I think it would be smart business, and benefit both the owner and the community," Bacon said. "I think it would substantially benefit employee relations and retention."

In response, Nichols said the resort hasn't explored offering employee housing, and he's doubtful it would fit the property's zoning.

But he said they'll take the comments "to heart."

"We would love to see more workforce housing in general in the county," he said.

Next, the Monterey County Planning Commission will weigh in on the plan.

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Panetta wants salary adjustments

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'high cost areas'

more \$\$\$ in

By KELLY NIX

THOUSANDS OF military personnel and Department of Defense employees in Monterey County could see a bump in pay if a local congressman's bill is successful.

Representative Jimmy Panetta, a Democrat who represents the 19th Congressional District, announced April 30 that he'd authored a bill to direct the Pentagon to inform Congress how it figures cost of living adjustments for service members and Department of Defense civilians who are assigned to "high-cost areas." The

funds are intended to offset regional price disparities.

The legislation would also compel the Pentagon to figure whether current methods of determining such cost-of-living adjustments accurately reflect economic realities, and if the 19th District, which Panetta represents, should qualify for such adjustments.

What they 'deserve'

"Many servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians stationed in my district are struggling to keep up with the high cost of living in one of the most expensive regions in the country," Panetta said. "My legislation would push the Department of Defense to reassess how cost-of-living is calculated and ensure that our region, and military families who call it home, get a fair evaluation. Our national security professionals serve us day-in and day-out. The least we can do is ensure that they have the compensation they deserve

to continue that steadfast service."

Panetta's district contains 17 military installations and more than 15,000 military and defense personnel. The district spans from south San Jose to Santa Cruz, down the coastline of Monterey County, and into

northern San Luis Obispo

Panetta's office cited a recent economic analysis that said Salinas-Monterey and Santa Cruz-Watsonville are about 11 percent more expensive than most of the United States.

The Monterey Peninsula congressman's bill would require the Department of

Defense to evaluate housing, groceries, transportation and healthcare costs, and to compare the treatment of Monterey with nearby Santa Clara County, where cost of living adjustments are granted.

Evaluation

Military personnel and their families in the district notified Panetta about the costof-living issue, his office told The Pine Cone this week.

The Personnel and Readiness Department within the Department of Defense would decide, after the evaluation has been completed, how much, if any, cost adjustments would be made for personnel and Department of Defense civilians in Panetta's district.

Monterey County military installations include the Naval Postgraduate School, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey, the U.S. Coast Guard Station Monterey and Fort Hunter Liggett.

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Big raise for P.G. councilmembers

By KELLY NIX

IT'S NOT often people get paid more to do less, but that's what members of the Pacific Grove City Council decided to do for themselves Wednesday night.

Despite overwhelming public opposition, the panel, voted 5-2 to increase council members pay from \$420 to \$966 monthly, and from \$700 to \$1,610 for the mayor. The pay hike will cost Pacific Grove taxpayers an extra \$50,232 annually.

"Your timing kind of sucks because you just reduced your meetings by three, so asking for more money for less work isn't probably going over very well with everyone," one woman told the council.

The resident was referring to a March decision by the council to eliminate three additional city council meetings per year.

Resident Colleen Goldsmith pointed to the city's "urgent needs," including work that needs to be done to its streets, sidewalks, parks and other projects.

"Voting to double the monthly stipend and provide medical insurance is tone-deaf and a bit offensive in this time of economic uncertainty," Goldsmith said.

The council decided against giving themselves medical benefits, at least for now, which could cost taxpayers \$180,000 every year, according to one estimate. But they did agree to continue the discussion regarding such benefits, which has full support from Mayor Nick Smith and Councilman Joe Amelio.

Former councilman Luke Coletti told The Pine Cone after the meeting that "a self-serving mayor and council have used our charter city status to bypass state law in order to give themselves an immediate 130 percent salary increase.'

'A lot of work'

The mayor, though, said he thought the pay increase — which the city hasn't done for more than 25 years — was "reasonable" and noted it's less than other cities, including Marina.

Councilwoman Tina Rau said the pay raise would help make the council more "diverse."

"For those who cannot run because of the financial barrier, this is a way to encourage younger people to throw their name in the hat," Rau said.

Councilman Chaps Poduri defended the pay hike, saying "there is a lot of work

See RAISE page 29A



By CHRIS COUNTS

 ${
m M}$ ARKING THE first time the downtown Monterey landmark has hosted a play since it underwent an ambitious renovation in 1999, California's historic First Theatre hosts performances of "Iliad" by the New Canon Theatre Co. May 15-25.

Based on Homer's classic tale about the Trojan War, the play was written by Lisa Peterson and Denis O'Hare. Directed by Noah Lucé, it stars Patty Gallagher.

"For me, it's a highlight to perform the play in the First Theatre," O'Hare told The Pine Cone. "This play is so old, yet it's been modernized, like the theater — it's a perfect marriage of play and venue.'

Violinist Samantha Bounkaua has composed and will play music during the performance.

"A captivating reimagining of Homer's Trojan War epic, this powerful solo-retelling brings the ancient tale into modern life, capturing the sweeping heroism and haunting horrors of war in a way that resonates deeply today," according to the New Canon Theatre Co. "This unforgettable performance promises to leave audiences spellbound.'

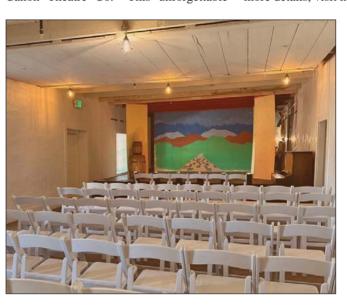
Justine Stock, who co-founded the Seaside-based theater company in 2022, called the staging of the play "a really big deal." "This is the first full-blown production the theater has done since it was closed for restoration.'

Follows big makeover

Located at Pacific and Scott streets, the theater was built by English seaman Jack Swan in the late 1840s and hosted its first play in 1850. It underwent a \$1.35 million makeover in the late 2010s — the work included stabilizing the theater's walls and chimney, and making fire safety and drainage improvements, and ADA upgrades.

The play will be presented Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through May 25. All performances start at 7:30 p.m. except those on Sunday, which begin

Tickets are \$45 for general admission, \$15 for seniors, teachers and active military, and \$15 for students. For tickets or more details, visit newcanontheatre.org.



For the first time since 1999, Monterey's First Theatre is hosting a play. The New Canon Theatre Company's "Iliad" opens Thursday.

PHOTO/MONTEREY STATE



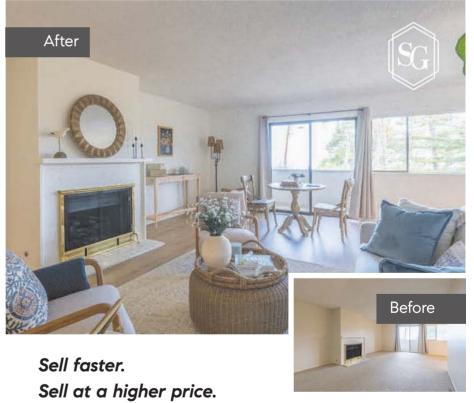
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Diver ignores heavy surf warning at Monastery Beach

By CHRIS COUNTS

A SERIES of photos dramatically shows two California State Parks lifeguards pulling a man out of the surf at Monastery Beach — serving as a reminder of how dangerous conditions can be on local beaches.

The incident happened around 5 p.m. Saturday. About a half hour earlier, a man with snorkeling gear entered Carmel Bay — despite warnings from two state parks lifeguards who told him that the surf was heavier than usual and that it was unsafe to go swimming. He was visiting from the San Francisco Bay area.

"He was pretty committed to doing some free diving," said James Nothhelfer, a state parks public safety superintendent. "A lifeguard told him it was not a good day

to be in the water. He made the choice to go in anyway. A second lifeguard also tried to talk him out of it."

The man swam over kelp beds for about 30 minutes before he tried to exit the water near the center of the beach, where the surf was heaviest.

"He ran into a significant amount of trouble," Nothhelfer reported. "There was a 6- to 8-foot shore break — he was repeatedly battered."

Lifeguards save him

The swimmer, who has not been identified, struggled to get out of the water. He repeatedly came close to reaching the sand, but because the beach there is so steep, water rushing back to the ocean kept pulling him out. Eventually, the two lifeguards — Gavin Delbianco and Noah Ryan — were able to grab his dive belt and drag him onto the beach where he could finally catch his breath.

According to Nothhelfer, the man showed his gratitude to the rescuers and quickly left the scene. He was lucky to have been there on a Saturday — if he had been there a weekday, there's no guarantee that anyone would have been available.

"We have lifeguards patrolling the coast on a daily basis," he reported. "We try to have the tower staffed on weekends."

The site is infamous for its deadly surf

locals call it Mortuary Beach — and Nothhelfer urged people to stay on the



A man who was struggling in the surf near Monastery Beach Saturday is rescued by state parks lifeguards.

> highest part of the beach when they visit and check in with lifeguards if they have concern about the conditions

"They are there to help," he said.



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Man sentenced to life for prison slaying

By KELLY NIX

A CONVICT at a Monterey County prison — who was serving a life sentence for murder — was sentenced to another life term without parole after the fatal stabbing of a fellow inmate two years ago.

On April 30, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Stephanie Hulsey sentenced Juan Jose Bueno after a jury in January convicted him and a co-defendant, Roberto Carlos Cortez, of first-degree murder for the March 21, 2023, slaying of Steven Lovely at Salinas Valley State Prison. The men used prison-made weapons to stab Lovely nearly 50 times. He died five days

Monterey County deputy district attorney Amanda Puck said Cortez testified at trial that "prison politics" were the motive behind the fatal stabbing of Lovely, who was serving a 73-year-to-life sentence for manslaughter.

Cortez "testified that he was part of a particular group in prison and was ordered by the group to attack Lovely," Puck told The Pine Cone Wednesday.

Bueno and Cortez targeted Lovely during recreational time in the day room at the state penitentiary, which is in Soledad. The attack was caught on video.

Release date

Bueno was also convicted of assault by a life prisoner causing death, and possession of a weapon. He had been serving his time at Salinas Valley State Prison for shooting a man to death in 2017 in Los Angeles. He admitted last week that he'd previously been convicted of four strikes under California's three strikes law, including for the Los Angeles murder.

Cortez, who was serving a 21-year prison term for robbery and assault with a firearm but was scheduled to be released, is set to be sentenced June 18, in a Salinas

The investigative services unit of Salinas Valley State Prison and Monterey County District Attorney investigator Erik Morris assisted county prosecutors in the

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Can better feedback boost road safety?

The app is an

easy way for

the public to

report a hazard

By CHRIS COUNTS

WHILE HIGHWAY safety is an issue everywhere, the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury contends that local government can do a better job of making it possible for residents to alert authorities to dangerous conditions.

According to a grand jury report released last week, "Road safety in Monterey County: Where to report a problem," locals don't have an easy way to lodge complaints about unsafe roads.

"The public is often confused about which entity to contact regarding traffic safety concerns or road

maintenance, and even how to submit customer service requests," the report concluded. "Each entity uses a different interface for gathering data regarding traffic safety and maintenance concerns. Forms to request service can be found on most entities' websites, but replies to the citizens filing the complaints are inconsistently handled."

Who do you call?

The grand jury received a complaint from a resident who was hospitalized and needed surgery after a vehicle collision resulting from unsafe conditions. Researching options for addressing this complaint, the grand jury discovered the public is largely unaware of where and how to submit a request for road improvements and traffic safety concerns.

The panel contends it's not always clear to people who they should talk to about a problem. Roads in Monterey County are owned and maintained by different

jurisdictions, most often with overlapping responsibilities," the report indicates. "Processes for road improvement projects and traffic safety are lengthy, complicated, and not easily understood."

To learn more about the topic, grand jury members interviewed representatives

> from several agencies and made visits to the sites of complaints to gain a better perspective.

> The grand jury concluded that the county, along with a number of cities, could make it easier for people to make complaints. Their recommendations included urging Del Rey Oaks and Sand City to add a link to the online

service request form on the home pages of their websites — in contrast to Carmel and most other local cities.

Apps help

The grand jury praised the cities of Soledad and Salinas, along with Monterey County, for offering downloads of apps that make reporting a concern easier. "The app is an easy way for the public to report an issue while traveling in the unincorporated areas of the county," the report suggested

The grand jury also recommended that the Transportation Agency for Monterey County expand the public outreach survey on its website "to solicit public feedback and invite questions from the public regarding its plans and projects as well as traffic and road safety concerns."

"These simple measures will better inform the community and provide citizens with a sense of partnership with entities in improving our roads and highways," the grand jury added.

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Marina is finally getting a swimming pool

By CAITLIN CONRAD

 ${
m THE}$ LAND slated to become the Marina Aquatics & Sports Center was open for public tours Saturday. The city envisions turning the land into a spiffy recreation center with courts for various sports and three pools.

The property at Second Avenue and Ninth Street is home to old military buildings, including a derelict pool used by inhabitants of the former Fort Ord and the old Water City Roller Hockey Rink, which closed in 2020.

Public swimming pools are few and far between in Monterey County. Families on the Monterey Peninsula



A rendering shows the indoor public swimming pool to be built at Second Avenue and Ninth Street in Marina.

rely on the Monterey Sports Center and the Patullo Swim Center in Seaside for year-round indoor recreational swimming, but the Monterey Sports Center is renovating its pool for the next several weeks, making the lack of pools more acute.

Marina's plans to build an aquatic facility are an effort to help better serve its growing population, which includes a lot of young families. More than 3,000 people have moved to the coastal city over the last 10 years, many attracted by new construction and the space to grow that Marina offers.

Amenities galore

Plans for the new aquatic center offer just about every pool amenity you could imagine. The designs show a 10-lane, 25-yard competition pool, a 20-yard lap pool, and a shallow water play pool with graded entry for easy access. The shallow pool includes a play structure, geysers and wall sprays. The 20-yard lap pool will also include features for water volleyball and basketball, and the competition pool is designed to accommodate an inflatable obstacle course. A separate social swim area between the small lap pool and the play area will also include an

underwater bench and massage jets.

The sports center side of the building is designed to provide all of the facilities of a modern gym, with cardio and weight rooms, as well as space for indoor basketball, multi-purpose sports courts and an elevated indoor track. The drawings also show studios and multi-purpose rooms for exercise classes.

See POOL page 25A



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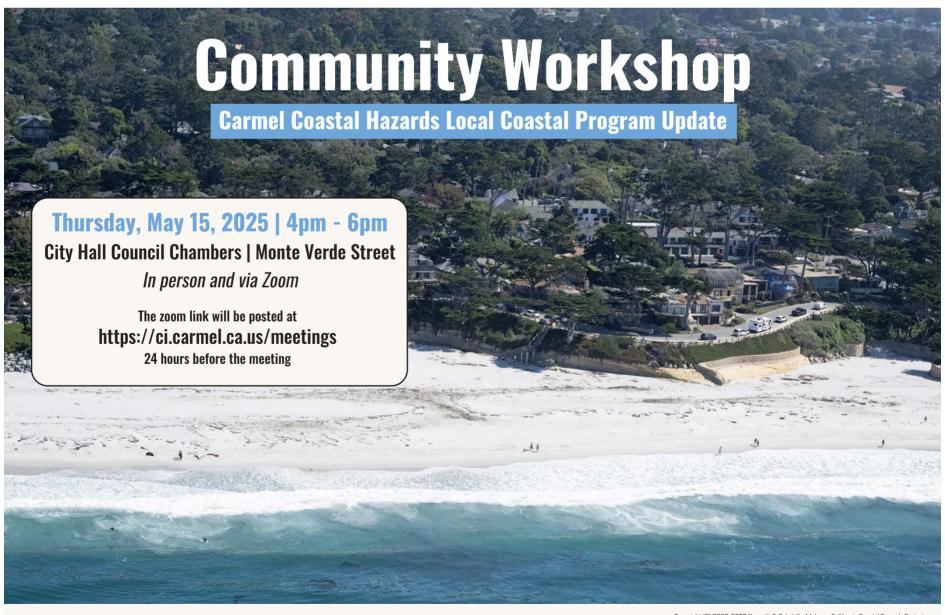
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HAZARDS

upper-canopy trees and one lower-canopy tree called for in the city's planning guidelines.

Homes in the highest fire hazard zone — the 278 acres covering an area running from the ocean to the northern and eastern city limits and dipping as far south as Eighth Avenue — are also required to have no combustible materials within "Zone 0," a 5-foot buffer around a structure that "should be aggressively maintained to be fire-resistant."

That would mean patio furniture, planters, fencing and anything else within 5 feet of a house should be difficult to burn. But in Carmel, many homes are built with 3-footwide side setbacks and are separated by wood fences. Enforcement of the rules for that zone will begin in three

years, Monterey Fire Division Chief Justin Cooper said.

"So, we're going to be looking at metal fences along with metal roofs," Mayor Dale Byrne observed.

Ban wood roofs?

The codes also impose "defensible space" requirements on landscaping and maintenance beyond Zone 0, such as removing lower limbs on trees, eliminating dead vegetation, keeping branches away from roofs and chimneys, and not having wood stacked within 30 feet of a house.

"There could be potential impacts to Carmel's character as a whole depending on how far-reaching the regulations are," Ginette said.

She recommended the council adopt the new fire hazard map, which must be done by July 8, and designate the entire city as "wildland urban interface," which would impose the more stringent building codes on construction throughout the town, regardless of fire zone. She also

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recommended adopting an ordinance that would give the "fire department clear police powers to enforce defensible space."

And she said councilmembers could approve an urgency ordinance implementing wildfire protection measures, such as banning wood shake roofs and allowing more use of materials like gravel around a house.

Tree questions

Councilmember Hans Buder focused on the landscaping rules that apply within the fire hazard severity zones. The canopies of trees, for instance, should be separated by at least 10 feet — this in a city where thousands of trees have intertwining branches.

Also, non-fire-resistant trees like pines should be planted so that their "drip lines," essentially, the diameters of their canopies, at maturity don't come within 30 feet of a combustible structure. Existing tress must be pruned so their canopies are 10 feet apart, too.

Cooper said the fire department isn't interested in making people cut down trees and is more focused on educating people about the Zone 0 buffer.

'I'd probably have to talk to some of my defensible-space inspectors who are more in tune with this," to get a full understanding of the requirements, he said.

"It's pretty much saying you can't plant a tree in your yard," Byrne said. "This is serious. This is really serious."

Former councilwoman Karen Ferlito argued for giving the fire department the power to thoroughly inspect people's properties for compliance, and Carmel Residents Association board member Nancy Twomey asked for guidance on how to follow the defensible-space rules, since owners have been receiving "defensible space notices" from the fire department containing a checklist of rules and urging owners to declare their properties are in compliance by sending in a form.

Resident Melanie Billig called the restrictions "draconian," and resident Karyl Hall said following the rules could have drastic consequences.

"We might look like Phoenix, eventually," she said.

See TREES next page

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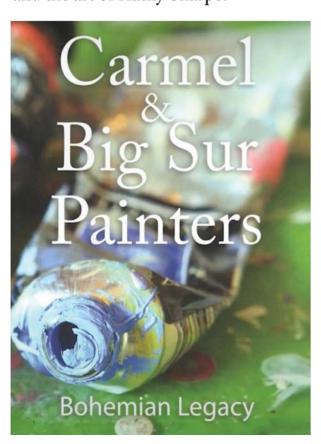


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TREES From previous page

Hall suggested focusing on native plant and tree species that are considered less flammable and decried the idea of removing all the wood fences next to houses that are subject to the Zone 0 buffer.

Cooper tried to calm people's fears regarding losing trees.

"We're not telling people to cut trees down," he said, but rather to keep them pruned to reduce the likelihood of a fire spreading. But people planting new trees on their properties will have to follow the fire rules.

Insurance issues

Given the repeated stories of homeowners losing insurance coverage due to fire risks, councilman Jeff Baron proposed conducting a post-card survey asking property owners about their experiences in order to determine how much of a problem it really is. He also suggested Cooper's staff use drones to look for non-compliant properties, as insurance companies are already doing.

Baron said he'd like to know how the new regulations differ from what's in the Carmel Municipal Code.

Overall, he said he felt comfortable adopting the map and that the outcomes won't be as dire as people believe.

"I was pretty distraught coming in here, too, but I think this can actually be done," he said.

Councilman Hans Buder was less confident. People

Elections office internships

PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

THE MONTEREY County Elections department is accepting applications for its 2025 Leadership in Civic Engagement High School Summer Internship Program, which runs June 23-27, with sessions held from 1 to 3 p.m. daily.

The program is open to incoming high school juniors and seniors who live in the county, and it "offers a hands-on introduction to civic engagement, election processes and community leadership."

The deadline to apply is May 16. To learn more and to apply, visit countyofmonterey.gov/elections. The elections department is located at 1441 Schilling Place in Salinas.

should harden their homes to resist fire, and the city should look at what can be done to reduce risks, he said, but even adopting the map — though it's a fait accompli — "has a lot of serious implications."

"I think this needs a committee focused on this topic," he said, so the rules might be "tailored to Carmel" based on feedback from various professionals, residents and others.

"I don't think punting it back to staff is going to be sufficient," he said. "And I'm hesitant to take action without understanding the implications of some of these things."

Byrne reminded the council it's under a deadline to adopt the new state map.

"Once again, we find ourselves where the state is forcing us into something with a very short timeframe," councilwoman Alissandra Dramov said. "We've got to really make this work for Carmel, and if we rush into something, a lot of times there are unintended consequences."

Additionally, she said she does not want to empower

firefighters to go onto private property during inspections.

Baron further suggested the council consider some short-term, temporary fixes to the code to allow people to harden their houses, such as using gravel instead of wood chips and not allowing any wood roofs, but Dramov, councilman Bob Delves and Buder resisted.

The topic of "wood roofs is not an easy one — that's a three-hour conversation," Delves said. "I would suggest we not have it."

The council unanimously approved the ordinance adopting the state's fire map, as required, and directed staff to return with suggested changes to the municipal code regarding building requirements and landscaping rules to comply with it.

The council did not opt to expand the wildland urban interface to the rest of the city or to adopt the code regarding the fire department's enforcement.

Buder and Byrne also decided to work together on a committee on the topic.

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GAVEL From page 4A

operators of buildings undergoing demolition and renovation must have building materials sampled and tested to determine if asbestos is present before starting work, even if a facility has previously been renovated. In general, where regulated asbestos-containing materials are present and will be disturbed, qualified and licensed asbestos abatement contractors must be used to ensure that all asbestos is removed before it is disturbed.

March 18 — Monterey County Superior Court Judge Rafael Vazquez sentenced Stewart Maxwell Napier, 31, of Pacific Grove, to a 32-month state prison sentence for grand theft of personal property.

On Dec. 10, 2024, Sand City Police Officers responded to Costco for a reported bicycle theft. Investigation revealed a Costco employee had her bicycle stolen on the afternoon of Dec. 9, 2024. When officers contacted the victim, she stated she left her blue and black Trek Marlin 8 bicycle chained to the bicycle rack outside. When she got off work, she noticed her bicycle was missing and the chain had been cut. She advised she paid about \$1,000 for the bicycle. Officers reviewed surveillance footage from Costco and identified Napier riding the stolen bicycle from Costco.

Napier was sentenced to 16 months in prison, which was doubled to 32 months because he had a prior strike conviction within the meaning of California's three strikes law.

Talk on slow ships

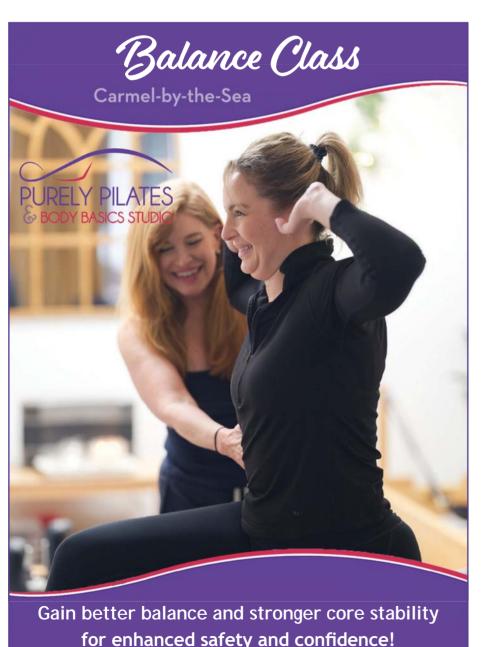
PINE CONE STAFF REPORT

A BIOLOGICAL oceanographer will speak in Diment Hall at The Carmel Foundation at Lincoln and Eighth at 2:30 p.m. May 14 on the topic of having ships travel more slowly in order to protect whales and the environment. Dr. John Ryan, who works with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, will present "Slower Ships, Safer Seas: Making Monterey Bay a Sanctuary for Whales," during a free talk hosted by the nonprofit senior organization.

In 2023, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary joined a voluntary vessel speed reduction program with the goal of protecting whales from being hit by ships.

The MBNMS was added to the 10-knot-limit zone two years ago, and Ryan will discuss how whale habitat in the sanctuary has become quieter and safer as a result.

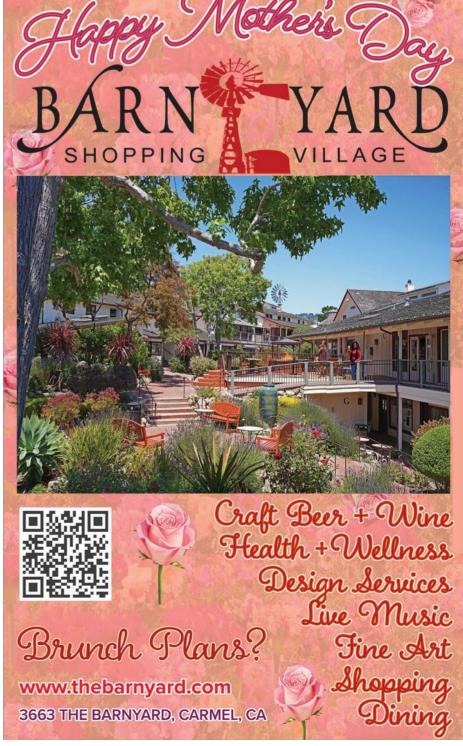
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Stiff penalty for theft conspiracy

By KELLY NIX

A SACRAMENTO man involved in a massive theft ring in which he and his family transported stolen catalytic converters across state lines was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

Tou Vang, 33, along with his brother Andrew Vang and mother Monica Moua, purchased stolen catalytic converters from thieves and sold them to a buyer in New Jersey for more than \$38 million, the United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of California said Tuesday.

"Tou Vang spent the proceeds of these stolen catalytic converters to fund his lavish lifestyle, including to purchase a fiveacre multi-home complex in Rio Linda for \$1.2 million in cash, over a dozen motor vehicles — including two Teslas and two Sea-Doo watercraft — and an additional home in Sacramento," a U.S. Attorney's Office statement said.

'Far reaching'

The Monterey Peninsula has had its share of catalytic converter thefts, but it's unclear if the theft ring involved loot from this area. Catalytic converters, which contain precious metals, are relatively easy to steal. Certain types can fetch more than \$1,000 each on the black market.

As part of Vang's sentence, the attorney's office forfeited more than \$150,000, 13 vehicles, four personal watercraft, jewelry, real estate and other personal property.

Vang "led a network of criminals that

hurt thousands of innocent car owners," Acting U.S. Attorney Michele Beckwith said. "This case represents the kind of far-reaching investigation that federal, state, and local law enforcement partners can do when working together. The U.S. Attorney's Office is committed to continuing its law enforcement partnerships to disrupt criminal conspiracies like this one that target the American people."

The prosecution of Vang is part of a nationwide initiative that dismantled a catalytic converter theft conspiracy. In addition to Vang and his family members, there are 12 defendants in New Jersey, including brothers Navin Khanna and Tinu Khanna, who operated DG Auto and purchased the catalytic converters for more than \$38 million, the attorney's office said.

Vang and his family operated primarily from their private residences and storage units, and did not have a scrapyard or valid business license.

They used the funds they received from the Khanna brothers and withdrew cash from their bank accounts to purchase more stolen catalytic converters.

Among the shipments Vang made to DG Auto was more than 1,000 pounds of high-value catalytic converters, such as those on Toyota Prius vehicles.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the IRS Criminal Investigation with help from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, Sacramento Police and other law enforcement agencies.

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WATER

recorded Dec. 12, 1997, can only be filed after all inspections are completed and approved," Fockler said he told the district. "So, I suggest your copy is there, you just have not found it."

Water district general manager Dave Stoldt said that with more water expected to be available late this year from the Pure Water Monterey recycled water project, his agency wants to clear up old records that are marked "open" in the database. Fockler's account is one of those. The district is contacting customers for the effort.

Though Monterey County officials signed off on Fockler's project in December 1997, Stoldt said they did not verify at the time that there had been a final water inspection, and his agency has no record of such.

"The owner or agent would have been provided with a copy of the inspection report at that time," the general manager told The Pine Cone. "So, yes, the water permit is in 'open' status."

In a brief response to the water district, Fockler wrote, "You cannot be serious," and he pushed back on the idea that the burden to show proof of the final inspection should be on him.

Stoldt acknowledged that the water district's requirement for final inspections have "often been overlooked in the past," but that "changes in permitting systems and practices" have significantly increased compliance in the past decade.

Failure rate

The water district's staff, Stoldt said, have been contacting property owners with unresolved permits by mail, requesting they schedule final inspections. They are given 30 days to respond. If they don't, they get a second notice with an additional 30 days to follow up.

"When no response is received following a second letter, a notice of non-compliance is filed on the title with a copy sent to the owner," he explained. "Usually, the first letter results in an inspection and the property can be cleared, and the recordation of the notice also triggers a significant response. The inspection statistics are reported to the water district board in the monthly water conservation report."

Stoldt said the first inspection failure rate is about 23 percent, usually because homeowners have different types of

See **INSPECTION** next page



The purification facility at Monterey One Water, the sewer treatment plant in Marina, will purify additional wastewater for Monterev Peninsula residents.

photo/monterey ONE WATER



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INSPECTION From previous page

fixtures than were permitted.

"When an inspection fails, the inspector provides the property owner with information about the process to amend the water permit. The two conservation analysts take over after the inspection with the goal of amending and closing the permit."

New water coming

Meanwhile, Stoldt told The Pine Cone a few months ago that Pure Water Monterey will be online toward the end of the year. The facility is being expanded to produce 2,250 acre-feet of surplus water.

Stoldt said this week that crews are working on two separate projects related to

the expansion.

"Inside the advanced water purification facility building at the North Marina treatment plant, they are putting the final touches on installation, testing, and start-up of additional microfiltration and reverse osmosis membranes," he explained. "At the injection well site in Seaside, they will be finishing the installation of pumps, electrical panels and controls, and then start testing and start-up of two new injection wells.'

He added that the project is still on track to come online in October or November.

Stoldt has said the extra water will be enough to supply the Peninsula for a quarter century for all its needs, which Peninsula water provider California American Water disputes. Cal Am says its proposed desalination plant is the only project that can provide a drought-free water supply.

GRAFFITI

From page 6A

was vandalized, the bronze figures were

"I went to check it out today," he said Monday. "It was all back to normal."

Monterey P.D. officers combed through surveillance footage covering the hours leading up to the time the graffiti was reported and discovered two females were responsible, according to Andrews. "The video showed both individuals actively marking multiple locations within the plaza," he said.

Found together

After identifying one of the women as 28-year-old Marina Aiwaz of Marina, police obtained arrest and search warrants for her. On May 1 at around 6 p.m., Monterey detectives, with help from officers from CSUMB, located Aiwaz on campus at Divarty Street and Gen. Jim Moore Boulevard and took her into custody.

She was accompanied by 21-year-old Marina resident Jhoana Lopez, whom detectives recognized as the second person in the surveillance video, and they arrested her as well, according to Andrews.

Investigators searched Aiwaz' vehicle and residence and found evidence of the crimes, including cans of spray paint, markers and etching tools, he said.

Aiwaz and Lopez were taken to Monterey County Jail in Salinas and booked on charges of felony vandalism and conspiracy, with bail set at \$10,000 each.

Aiwaz entered not-guilty pleas Tuesday, according to Monterey County Superior Court records, and remained in jail this week. Lopez made bail, and her arraignment is scheduled for May 21.

Monterey P.D. is investigating similar incidents of vandalism in the city and elsewhere on the Monterey Peninsula, according to Andrews, and the women could face additional charges if they are connected to those crimes. Anyone with information is encouraged to call Sgt. Greg Galin at (831) 646-3872 or leave an anonymous tip at (831) 646-3840.

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The Sutter County Republican and his Assembly Republican caucus have been leading the charge in the media heyday over the debate on the bill, including running attack ads on television featuring teens

"Buying a minor for sex must be a felony, it's unbelievable that some lawmakers are opposed to this. If we aren't protecting the most vulnerable among us, what are we doing?" said Gallagher.

Criminal reform groups and gay rights activists have presented a different argument. Smart Justice California opposed the original bill, arguing it would exacerbate inequalities in the criminal justice system.

The bill, if enacted as written, would have made it a crime to loiter with the intent to purchase sex, as well as increase penalties for those soliciting sex from 16-and 17-year-olds.

Smart Justice says this would risk unintended consequences that could impact older teens, people of color, and the LGBTQ community.

Under current law, older minors are required to prove they are victims of sex trafficking for a felony penalty to apply; otherwise, purchasing sex from them is a misdemeanor crime.

Automatic felonies

On Tuesday, Schultz, the Assembly public safety chair, announced the bill has been amended once again to include automatic felony penalties for adults who solicit sex from a 16- or 17-year-old but with strings attached. The felony will not apply if the adult offender is within three years of the age of the minor. In those cases, the crime would remain a misdemeanor.

"Human trafficking and child exploitation are serious problems in California deserving of tough and nuanced legislative solutions," said Schultz, a Burbank Democrat, in a written statement about the change.

Schultz also said Krell's name will be allowed back on her bill, this time as a co-author. Krell released a statement about the changes to the bill on her Facebook page this week.

"The goal has always been to hammer the creeps who are buying teens for sex and create more support for victims. The new version accomplishes these goals and makes it a felony for a grown man to buy a child for sex," wrote Krell.

Grant program

If passed as amended, AB 379 would create a state grant program for district attorneys prosecuting human trafficking and start a support fund for survivors of sex exploitation.

Shultz and Assemblymember Stephanie Nguyen, an Elk Grove Democrat remain the lead authors on the revised bill. Nguyen is also a member of the public safety committee.

The amended bill passed committee once again Wednesday but has yet to reach the full Assembly.

SKINCARE

From page 3A

her examinations, she stated she will be providing minor/noninvasive treatments. After my review of the proposal and consultation with the other planners, it was determined that it did qualify as a medical clinic."

If it had been considered a skincare store, Viva Carmel would have been subjected to a hearing before the planning commission, which must approve all use permits.

Since it's not, the business was approved over the counter in late March.



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The Carmel Pine Cone

NUMBERS

From page 1A

Resident Colleen Logan said it would make little sense to put the issue to voters when it's clear "addresses are not optional, they're required by law."

A ballot measure would amount to little more than a "costly survey," she said, and asked the council to "give Carmel street addresses quickly."

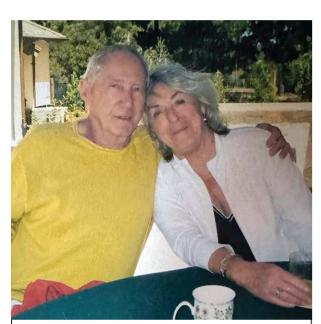
Resident and community activities commissioner Donna Jett urged councilmembers to act. "I still do not understand why the five of you do not vote on this," she said. "We get to the moon, and the five of you act like getting an address will take years."

Jett suggested the council already has all the information it needs to make a decision. "I think you're wasting money and time," she said.

Several others made similar remarks, including former councilwoman Karen Ferlito, who has long argued in favor of formal street addresses, and many proponents sent letters. "Make the decision that complies with state law," Ferlito said.

And San Antonio Avenue resident Laura Overett agreed an election would be expensive and a poor use of funds. "But I strongly support having addresses," she said.

Street address opponent and "fourth-generation Carmelite" Linda Smith, who lives on Lincoln Street, said she finds those who favor house numbers disrespectful of the



STANLEY D. BANTA

Stanley D. Banta, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully in his home on March 31, 2025, at the age of 94. Stan was born on August 17, 1930, in Pacific Grove, attended Pacific Grove High School and Monterey Peninsula College. He spent most of his life in P.G. and on the Monterey Peninsula. Stan lived a full life filled with joy, laughter, a deep love for his family, and an intense competitive nature.

After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, Stan married the love of his life and wife of nearly 70 years, Dennise. Stan spent most of his career at PG&E where he retired as district electric superintendent for the Central Coast. At work, he was known for his fastidiousness and attention to detail. After retiring, Stan became a competitive tennis player and ultimately was ranked among the top 10 doubles players in the nation for his age group. He was an artist and fantastic cook!

Stan was preceded in death by his wife, Dennise Ives Banta; and his son, Steven Dean Banta. He is survived by his children, Michele (Mickey) Wilson and William Banta (Jeannie); his grandchildren, Robert Banta, Eric Banta (Jessica), Monique Wilson Riley (Rich), Danielle Banta, and George (Jamie) Wilson IV; and his great-grandchildren, Tanner Banta, Harper Dennise Riley and Sebastian Riley.

We would like to thank the staff at Brightstar Care Monterey, the Hospice VNA of the Monterey Peninsula for their loving devotion and support, Meals on Wheels for their extremely dedicated drivers, Community Hospital — the absolute best Wound Care Department anywhere, and all those who provided loving care to our

Rest in peace, Dad, you are now with Mom.

A Celebration of life for both our parents, Stan and Dennise Banta, will be held in August.

city's long-held traditions and accused them of having "a cavalier attitude."

While many residents who want to maintain the status quo have spoken out in the past, Smith suggested they are now "very intimidated by the onslaught of folks who really want addresses" and said a ballot measure could give them a chance to "have their say anonymously."

'You have not heard from everyone in the community," said resident Melanie Billig, agreeing that "some people in the community are just intimidated" and that most residents are reluctant to speak at council meetings. She suggested taking the issue to voters in 2026.

The majority of the council favored abandoning the idea of a special election, and councilman Bob Delves made a motion to that effect, which was seconded by Mayor Dale Byrne.

"Undoing what the last council did sounds like a step back," councilman Jeff Baron argued, despite the "words that maybe sort of sound like we're moving forward."

"I do not see a dedication to progress here," said Baron, who supports implementing addresses.

The council voted, with Baron dissenting, to pass Delves' motion.

'Writing the book'

Meanwhile, after saying last month that he'd been approached by residents who want to help research the issue and receiving an informal go-ahead from most of the council, Delves formed a committee that has met regularly since then. Its members include Nancy Twomey of the Carmel Residents Association, former longtime city councilwoman Paula Hazdovac, resident Kevin Ruess and city staffer Emily Garay, who has presented several reports on the topic.

He explained the group plans to "write the book" on all things addresses, starting with "goals and history" and running through the post office and home mail delivery, emergency dispatching and response times, community and service planning input, requirements for addresses, potential numbering systems and possible implementation plans.

He acknowledged much of the content has already been gathered, considering the extensive amount of staff time spent on researching the issues and presenting them to past and present councils. But other areas, such as how service providers deal with the city's lack of formal addresses and how a new system would be rolled out, need far more research, analysis and input.

When their work is done, ostensibly by Aug. 1, Delves suggested, their book should include everything needed to make a decision, and the committee could embark on a "book tour" in mid-September to share the information beyond the walls of city hall. The full council could be updated in October and take some sort of action the following month.

Councilman Hans Buder wondered how useful the exercise would be.

"My concern is we're going to wait three months and get a regurgitation of what we already know," he said, noting the numerous meetings, staff reports and comments

PHILLIP WALES

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Phillip Wales on Sunday, April 27, 2025, in Oakdale, Ca. Phil was born on January 6, 1948, to Noma and Justin Wales in San Diego, Ca.

After bravely serving in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1969, Phil settled in Carmel. Phil's fun and exuberant personality was perfectly suited for the hospitality industry. During the '70s, '80s and '90s, he worked at popular spots such as Flahertys, the old



Fox Hill, Latitude 36, Piatti, Ventana, Toots Lagoon, Village Pub and many more. Phil called the Monterey Peninsula home for more than 50 years before moving to Oakdale in 2023.

Phil was preceded in death by his parents, Noma and Justin Wales; and brother, Jim Wales. Phil is survived by son, Brett Wales (Nicole); daughter, Paige Dorrance (Drew) and his beloved grandchildren, Juliette, William, Wesley and Jarrod.

His celebration of life will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 31 at The American Legion in Carmel-by-the-Sea. If you loved or were loved by Phil, please join us in sharing memories, celebrating and raising a glass to him.

received during the past three years.

Instead, he suggested focusing on developing options for address systems that comply with the federal address system, perhaps even through some sort of citywide competition, and then reviewing them, selecting the best options and making a decision.

Instead of holding an election, councilwoman Alissandra Dramov said, the city could pose a yes-or-no question to every resident by sending out a simple post card. If nothing else, she suggested, if the informal poll indicates the majority of respondents want them, that would offer some closure to and acceptance by those who don't.

Baron liked the idea of a post-card survey and said he



The city pays a courier service to deliver mail to residents who cannot make it to the downtown post office.

just wants to proceed with implementing street addresses. He argued for aiming for a goal and a deadline — such as having a usable system in place by Feb. 1, 2026 — and working backward from that point to make it happen.

"We should spend three or four months picking a system," he said. At the same time, work should be underway to determine how it would be implemented, including which agencies would need to be involved and how.

"Those two efforts can and should be done in parallel," he said.

'No proof' post office will go Regarding "the book," Baron said it needs a chapter on legal requirements and that if it's going to discuss mail delivery, it should simply state that there's "no proof that adopting addresses is going to lead to home delivery."

He also said it should acknowledge that a formal address system will serve not just residents, but visitors and part-timers, especially those who need medical help and might otherwise not know how to tell 911 dispatchers where they are.

Mayor Dale Byrne reiterated why the issue remains on the front burner.

"When your police chief, your city attorney and your fire chief stand up in the same public meeting and say this is a public safety issue, I have to listen," he said.

Delves said the group intends to get its work done soon and "get in the sunshine as quickly as possible, so we can get some reaction to it."

"I don't approve change unless I know the cost of the change — and the cost is not just the dollars and cents, it's the intended consequences and the unintended consequences," he said.



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Additional features include offices, a cafe with a commercial kitchen and a patio with tables for gathering and eating.

Marina is budgeting \$40 million to complete the aquatics and sports center, a price tag that's been on the rise for years. In 2019, conceptual designs were released, with what was said to be a \$14 million budget. Cost estimates quickly ballooned to \$22 million when features, including a two-story connector building, an elevated indoor track and the commercial kitchen, were added.

Plans for the project were completed by COAR Design Group of Santa Rosa. Phase 1 will renovate the aquatics facility as originally designed, including a full build-out of the pool building and various pool amenities, at a cost of \$31 million. The city estimates Phase 2 can be built for \$11 million when more funding becomes available. The second phase will build out the remaining sports center as designed, including the elevated walking track.

The City of Marina, where sales tax and property tax revenues have soared, has secured some funding through the Fort Ord Base Reuse Authority and plans to loan another \$11 million from its own general fund. The project could go out to bid as early as this summer, with construction beginning as soon as spring of 2026.

The idea for the project has been in the air for the last 20 years. In 2005, a community survey showed 85 percent of Marina residents wanted an indoor pool and recreation center. Since 2018 the city has been engaging people in the planning process through study sessions, council meetings and, most recently, the site tour on Saturday.

JUDY TATELBAUM

9/22/1938 - 4/17/2025

udy Tatelbaum was born in Rochester, New York, the daughter of Esther Beckler Tatelbaum, and Abraham J. Tatelbaum, M.D., a renowned obstetrician and gynecologist. Her only sibling, David, died in an automobile accident at 20, when she was 17. This loss was the foundation for her extensive work with grief. She graduated cum laude from Syracuse University just before her 21st birthday in 1959, and was a top student achieving a master's degree from Simmons College School of Social Work, 1961.

She worked for two years as a psychiatric social worker at Massachusetts Mental Health Center, Boston, and then for eight years at Payne Whitney Clinic, New York City. While in N.Y.C. she was also a supervisor for several second year social work students from Columbia University and had a small private therapy practice.

After training in Gestalt Therapy with Jim Simkin, Ph.D. in 1972 in Big Sur, California, she moved to Carmel Valley, California and began her psychotherapy practice with individuals and groups.

Judy was committed to encouraging people to face and recover from life's inevitable crises courageously, and to showing people



new possibilities for creating satisfying lives. Over her lifetime, Judy was an inspirational psychotherapist, workshop leader, professional speaker, trainer and educator. For several years she traveled all over the U.S. and also to France, London and Frankfurt to present lectures, workshops and trainings on dealing with grief and loss. She did several similar weekend workshops in the adult extension programs at Cal Poly and Berkeley universities.

She was a volunteer for Grief, AIDS, Hospice and other health-related causes. Congressmen Sam Farr and Henry Mello honored her for her eight years on the Monterey County AIDS Advisory board, for which she was chairperson for three years. At the same time, she led several groups and trainings as a volunteer at the Monterey County AIDS Project, and John 23rd AIDS Ministry.

She was best known for her groundbreaking book, THE COURAGE TO GRIEVE. Since 1980 it has been read by millions. She was equally proud of her second book, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER, and later a fable she wrote about afterlife entitled THE JOURNEY FROM THE LAND OF FOREVER FLOWERS. In 2018 she published a book comprised of 102 of her monthly inspirational newsletter articles entitled INSPIRATION FOR LIVING.

From a profile she wrote about herself: "All of my life, I have been a champion of the underdog, interested in subjects that were not popular, like death, loss and grief, and concerned with questions about why people live? Why people die? How do people survive traumatic circumstances? What does it take to overcome a fatal disease? What causes healing? These pursuits stimulate me and enliven my life. And I like engaging in areas that are less popular, perhaps even secret — like death."

Her greatest loves were her husband, Allan Marcus, who died at age 74 of progressive supranuclear palsy on 6/6/16; her friends; family; her dogs; writing; reading; films and computer Scrabble. She leaves her sister-in-law, Lynn Richards; Allan's two sons, Dan (liana) and Bill (Margaret); and four grandchildren; many friends and clients; and her beloved dog, Lovey.

Donations in Judy's memory may be sent to FUND FOR HOMELESS WOMEN c/o Community Foundation of Monterey Peninsula, 2354 Garden Road Monterey 93940 or PLANNED PARENTHOOD MARMONTE, 316 N. Main St., Suite 100 Salinas, CA 93901 or PEACE OF MIND DOG RESCUE, 615 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

Friends are invited to A Celebration of Judy's Life which will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, 4509 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel.

More information or to respond please contact ziona.goren@gmail.com

DR. ROBERT LAWRENCE PROTELL

Dr. Robert Lawrence Protell, beloved husband, father and friend, passed away on March 29, 2025, at the age of 79. Born in New York City to Seymour and Carolyn Protzel on July 3, 1945, he lived in New York City, Charlottesville, Seattle, Tucson, Stockton, and Pebble Beach before moving to Carmel Valley in 2016 where he resided until his passing.



Dr. Protell (Bob to his close friends and family) is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth; his children, Page (Trip Hartigan), Charles (Deborah Longley) and Peter (Tracy Schegg); his sister, Mary Stuart (Larry Keesen); and his grandchildren, Connor, Tyler, Andrew, Brandon, Piper and Jillian and his faithful dog, Poppy.

Bob graduated summa cum laude from Rutgers University in 1967, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and played on the varsity tennis team. He then earned his medical degree at Weill Cornell Medical College in 1971, where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha

honor society. He completed his internship and residency programs at the University of Virginia, which is also where he met his wife, Elizabeth Holt (after she was dared to date such a bohemian young doctor). He obtained a specialty in gastroenterology at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Bob had a long and distinguished career in medical research and academia, with positions at the University of Virginia, University of Washington, University of Arizona and UC Davis. He taught countless medical students, residents and fellows and published more than 20 research papers. In 1988 he started his private practice in Stockton, California, where he treated his patients with the same kindness and care that he had for his family and friends.

Although throughout his life he was dedicated to the practice of medicine and to his patients, he also made time to pursue his love of tennis, golf and skiing with his family. He spent many winters in Bear Valley skiing and volunteering as the medical director of the ski patrol. He also regularly enjoyed spending time at The Beach Club in Pebble Beach.

Bob was a true gentleman, and will be remembered for his warm compassion, sharp intellect, quiet strength, sense of humor and unwavering integrity.

He will be missed dearly, but not forgotten by those whose lives were made better by his care as a physician, friend, husband, father and grandfather.

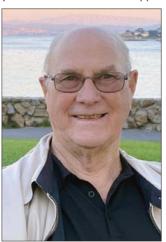
In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Haggin Museum, Stockton, California or to a charity of your choice.

ALVIN W. PAYNE

March 2, 1935 - April 25, 2025

Alvin W. Payne passed away peacefully at age 90 on April 25, 2025, in Thousand Oaks, CA. Though most of his life was lived in California, it began in the Ozarks. Al was born on March 2, 1935, in Treece, Kansas, then soon moved to a rural area near Jay, Oklahoma.

His parents moved the family west to Salinas, California, when he was 10 years old to seek better opportunities. He shined shoes and took on a paper



route as a young boy to help earn money for the family. After graduating from Salinas High School in 1952, he joined the Army, serving as a cryptographer, and was stationed overseas in Heidelberg, Germany. Following his military service, he and a friend toured all throughout Europe, igniting his love of travel and exploration. When he returned home, he put himself through college, earning his degree from San Jose State University. He then became a licensed CPA and opened his own practice in Salinas.

At a St. Patrick's Day party that he almost missed, he met Judith (Judy) Parker from Merced. It was love at first sight. They married in 1963 and had three children together,

Carolyn, James and Christina. He was a loving father and especially devoted to his son, James, who had Down Syndrome.

In the late 1970s, Al started the Alpine Christmas Tree Farm in Prunedale and later built custom homes on part of the property. In 1998, he and Judy moved into a beautiful home that he built in Carmel Valley, of which he was so proud. He loved Monterey County where he worked and lived for over 70 years.

Al loved Jesus and his church community at Compass Church in Salinas. He spent many years volunteering for the Salvation Army and made several mission trips with his church to Ensenada, Mexico, teaching trade skills to children at an orphanage. He also loved traveling, taking the family on many wonderful vacations throughout the years including trips to Hawaii, Lake Tahoe, Nova Scotia and Europe. He modeled how to work hard, save wisely, serve others and love his family. He continued working as a CPA until he was 88, and when he wasn't helping clients, Al enjoyed woodworking and hiking at Garland Ranch in Carmel Valley.

He will be missed by his wife of 61 years, Judy; daughters, Chrissy (Dave) Isaacson, Carolyn (Len) Cole and Christina (Richard) Andrews; grandchildren, Madeline White, Adam Cole, Henry Andrews and Georgia Andrews. He is preceded in death by his son, James Payne.

A Celebration of Life service will begin at 11 a.m. on May 24, 2025, at Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village.

Editorial

YIMBY goes national

THE NO-GROWTH movement, also known as Not in My Back Yard, may have started in California in the 1970s and become a very popular political force in the state over the next 50 years, but it also spread nationwide as people in highly desirable communities in all parts of the country discovered what NIMBY could do for their property values.

What better way to make a \$250,000 house become worth \$2.5 million in just a few years than by limiting the number of competing houses that can be built? The strategy is especially, and perhaps uniquely, effective in places where everybody wants to live, such as along the California coast. The Monterey Peninsula is a prime example of this phenomenon.

By definition, the people of today's younger generations weren't around to buy houses in Pebble Beach, Carmel and Pacific Grove back in the 1980s when they were still affordable. And when millennials, Gen Zers and Xers ask why the town where they grew up is financially out of reach for them, the answer is because their parents and grandparents decided to make it that way

And the scarcity crisis isn't just affecting housing — many types of development have been limited in the name of protecting the environment, resulting in shortages of things like energy, transportation infrastructure and medical facilities.

So dire did these shortages become, even the most ardent fans of big government have started to call for regulatory reform to make it easier to build things. The most remarkable turnaround has been in Sacramento, where Democratic Party leaders, such as Gov. Gavin Newsom and State Sen. Scott Wiener, have fallen all over each other to find new ways to get housing built in this state. Not long ago, they would have been at the forefront of the no-growth movement, but today, they're leading the charge in the other direction. And similar voices have been getting louder nationwide.

On MSNBC this week, after being asked why so little progress had been made extending broadband access to rural communities despite a \$42 billion federal allocation, former Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg said, "It's too hard to build things in America because of excessive regulations."

In her 2021 State of the State address on infrastructure goals, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said her state was "fighting a tangle of regulations that's keeping our roads and hospitals stuck in the last century."

Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte also sounded the alarm. Speaking in 2023 about a delayed \$400 million water storage and infrastructure project, Gianforte complained that "federal red tape is holding back Montana's water projects. We need to cut bureaucracy to deliver for our families."

That same year, even President Joe Biden bemoaned the fact that the country was "losing confidence" in itself.

"We can get really big things done," the former president said. "We can do anything. We really can."

California and the rest of the country spent decades putting up barriers to progress, but the Golden State is showing that even the most powerful bureaucracy can be subdued if enough political will is brought to bear — especially if the people who put up all those barriers are suddenly striving to tear them down.

BEST of BATES



"No, we're Unitarians. We pray to whom it may concern."

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

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

Lawsuit 'demands action' Dear Editor,

The claims of sexual harassment, racial discrimination, retaliation, and disregard for students, staff, and parents alleged against CUSD Superintendent Sharon Ofek outlined in former River School Principal Alberto Ramirez's lawsuit demand action. Ofek should be placed on administrative leave pending an independent investigation. The CUSD Board of Education needs to take immediate action. It sends a dangerous message that protecting those in power matters more than safeguarding students and staff.

Sarah Hines, Carmel

'Deeply concerning' Dear Editor,

The lawsuit filed against CUSD by Alberto Ramirez for \$1 million in damages contains deeply concerning allegations against CUSD superintendent Sharon Ofek. The community has entrusted CUSD board members with the responsibility of doing the right thing when issues arise, yet is doing nothing about these allegations. The allegations raised are not minor and need to be taken seriously.

The lawsuit filed by the former River School principal claims that Ramirez warned district leadership about a teacher who struck a student but was ignored, that Ramirez was retaliated against for advocating for student safety and teachers' rights, and that Ofek made repeated inappropriate visits to his office, asked inappropriate questions and made inappropriate and offensive comments. He also says Ofek disparaged CUSD teachers as "overpaid and "spoiled" and alleges racial discrimination, including being underpaid and used for political gain due to his Latino identity.

Ramirez quotes Ofek as saying, "We don't owe anything to the parents."

CUSD has had seven superintendents in nine years. The district's history has been well documented, yet the school board, notably Sara Hinds and Jason Remynse, voted to appoint Ofek without a public process or community input.

Why has the board not put her on leave and started an investigation into these very serious allegations againt her when it has done so with previous superintendents?

The board needs to immediately place Ofek on administrative leave and hire a neutral party to investigate Ramirez's allegations against her. The board needs to

See **LETTERS** page 28A

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■ For complete contact info: https://carmelpinecone.com/contact.html

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Deliveries: 734 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove CA 93950

Telephone: (831) 274-8593

Email: mail@carmelpinecone.com or *firstname*@carmelpinecone.com

The Carmel Pine Cone

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

His life is one experiment after another

Y OU MAY remember local teacher Stan Wyman from last week's front page. Though most of the shine went to his students, a group of sixth graders he's taught to build and remotely-operate underwater robots. From that description alone, you already know a thing or two about Wyman, who remembers his primary school teach-

ers better than most. You might, too, if your first science class took place on a beach in Santa Cruz.

We teach as we were taught, as Wyman is fond of saying. "I'm a product

of public schools. I had awesome teachers who were all about experiential education." Granted, this was the 1970s — meaning when Wyman, a Santa Cruz native, wasn't learning how to macrame, tie dye, woodwork or compose poetry, he and his classmates were probably outdoors.

Wyman remembered, not a



For local science educator and historic restoration specialist Stan Wyman, creating purpose is a constant process.

little wistfully. "We were given tools to cut leather and wood, we were pouring hot wax onto fabric to do batik dyeing. You'd have one teacher taking 30 students down to the beach so we could beachcomb and build mobiles with what we found. That was an early physics lesson, learning about things like leverage and balance."

Great Lives

By LILY PATTERSON

What he experienced early on, he later found the words to describe. Turns out, teaching 10-year-olds how to build robots really puts your proverbs to the test.

'A guide on the side'

"One thing I've heard over the years "You know, our teachers weren't is 'Don't be a sage on stage, be a guide on the side.' That always stuck with me,"

> Wyman reflected, speaking to The Pine Cone a week after the Marine Advanced Technology ter robotics competition, where six Del Rey Woods Elementary School students competed, with Wyman as their guide on the side. He'd spent four months wiring and buoy-ing with this group of sixth graders, who in January approached their principal about forming a science club. A Seaside resident and lifelong science educator, Wyman just happened to volunteer at the right time.

> Next year, he will bring the elective back to Del Rey Woods, as well as to Seaside Middle School, and continue honing his curriculum — a collaborative student-teacher effort, 15 years in the

Back in September 2011, Wyman returned to his science classroom at John Gutierrez

See LIVES page 31A

From the mayor's desk —

Why are you making it so hard?

By DALE BYRNE

IN 1995, I sat next to retail consultant Ray Consodine on a flight. He was working on his book, "WAYMISH: Why Are You Making It So Hard ... for me to give you my money?" I later hired him to emcee my company's users conference and traveled to Denver with him. When the book came out, it featured a chapter about me specifically, my intolerance for inefficiency after an arrogant rental car agent delayed my team's business trip in Denver. That experience led me to drop Budget from my company's list of approved vendors — a sizable revenue loss for them due to poor service.

So how does this apply to Carmel? Our village is full of passionate, creative people who launch businesses, renovate homes or upgrade properties. My wife and I experienced the intricacies of Carmel's planning process firsthand through five major projects — four in Carmel-by-the-Sea and one on Carmel Point. Over eight years, we learned how to navigate the system

and overcome frustrating obstacles. These projects helped increase property tax revenue by nearly \$250,000 annually — a win for our schools and city budget. There is no question we could have done more if the process were easier.

■ Exceeding expectations

Since becoming mayor, I've often heard, "Why is it so hard to get things done in Carmel?" It's important to note that city employees don't report directly to me. I rely on our leadership team to manage operations. But, along the way, I continue to learn there are two sides to every story. While we can't always assume the customer is right — due to the regulatory role of public service — we should still strive to exceed their expectations.

Our regulations exist to protect what makes Carmel special, but the way we enforce them shouldn't feel like an impossible test. Sometimes, in trying to preserve

See MAYOR page 30A

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From puppets to Muppets to prisms, LOVER OF ILLUSIONS WORKS HIS MAGIC

 ${
m A}$ CARMEL Valley artist who built a Hollywood career on a talent for illusion will deceive the eye yet again with the multimedia piece he created for the inaugural Monterey Biennial, a show that opens Thursday and runs through Aug. 31 at the Monterey Museum of Art.

The juried exhibition showcases the

work of 122 artists from seven Central Coast counties, including 54 from Monterey County.

Jim Dultz assembled solid, clear, acrylic rods over an original archival

print to create "Low-tech Lenticular No. 2," a 9-by-9-inch beguilement that appears to move and morph as its viewer changes position, altering the angle of the light.

Lifelong love of illusions

"I've loved illusions since I was a child, and this is a very simple one. As you move, the light changes the pattern. Lenticulars are how 3-D postcards are made," explained Dultz, who also creates optical trickery by strategically positioning prisms over colorful backgrounds.



At his home in Carmel Valley, Jim Dultz shows off some of his unusual pieces of art, called lenticulars, that seemingly trick the eye.

Those luminous apparitions are part of an impressive body of work Dultz has created since 2011, when he retired from an award-winning career as an art director and production designer in the film and television industry.

Over nearly four decades in Hollywood, he collaborated to create magical, mystical,

Carmel's Artists

By DENNIS TAYLOR

sometimes dystopian movie sets for films like "Flatliners" (1990) and "Back to the Future Part III (1990), "Tank Girl" (1995), and "What Dreams May Come" (1998).

Among his numerous television credits are "Star Trek: The Next Generation," "Amazing Stories," and "Muppets Tonight."

In retrospect, he believes his career path was always monodirectional.

"I had marionette puppets when I was 5 years old, and puppetry is all about illusions, because puppets can't do anything

by themselves," said Dultz, son of an artist and a songwriter who made their livings as a cocktail waitress and a grocery clerk. Their creativity rubbed off.

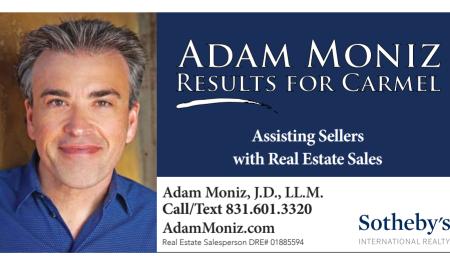
Cardboard camera

"My first invention, when I was 4 or 5, was a cardboard 'camera' with a black cloth that I could drape over my head, like an old-time photographer, as I pretended to take somebody's picture," he remembered.

If he learned that a family member would be visiting, he'd pull out his crayons, draw a cartoon of that person, then hide his artwork inside the "camera," to be unveiled after he pretended to take the photo.

From kindergarten on, he was performing puppet shows and magic tricks in his backyard in Reseda, and directing his classmates

See ARTIST next page





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From previous page

every year in school plays.

At 18, Dultz created his own theater group and was staging plays at a dance studio in Chatsworth. One of them was praised in an L.A. Times article that called it "an excellent production" and "well directed.'

Soon after he graduated from high school, the 18-year-old got married, began working at Kinney's Shoes and quickly got promoted to assistant manager. Then he was transferred to Santa Maria, where he clashed with the district manager.

"He was a jerk — the kind of guy who enjoyed bar fights," Dultz remembered. "I decided pretty quickly that if this guy was an example of what I was aspiring to become, well, that wasn't for me.

At 19, after attending Art Center College of Design on a scholarship, he worked a summer job at Magic Mountain until he learned that a new union — the National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians, also known as NABET had been formed.

Sweeping the soundstage

"I walked in there, got hired to sweep a soundstage, and that's how I got into the industry," said Dultz, whose NABET jobs included working for a set-director company and then loading, unloading and driving trucks.

"It took 35 years, but I just worked my way up," he said. "I became an assistant prop master, a prop master, a set director, an assistant art director, an art director, and, for the last 10 years of my career, a production designer."

A typical day on a movie set involved a 12-to-16 hour shift, but complications that arose during filming sometimes resulted in all-nighters.

"If somebody gets sick or hurt, or something else unexpected happens, and we couldn't shoot, we could be up all night," said Dultz, whose job as an art director was to do whatever it took to get the set ready. On a big movie, with an elaborate set, there were often a lot of moving parts.

For "What Dreams May Come," starring Robin Williams and Cuba Gooding Jr., Dultz was in charge of creating Heaven.

"We'd do lots and lots of research to figure out what we wanted. I'd make a rough sketch of the concept and give it to the illustrator," he said. "I'd watch as the

illustration was being made, so I was sure they were doing what we wanted."

The illustration would be sent to set design, where they built a foam-core model for the director, who typically examined it with a mini-camera and decided what needed to be enlarged, made smaller or altered. The construction crew and set decorators took over from there.

"As the art director, I made sure everything happened," he said. "It was very high-stress, but there was never a time when I didn't want to do it - it was so much fun."

For an episode of the "Amazing Stories" TV series, Dultz built a wax museum. "I brought my 5-year-old daughter, Natalia, to the set one day," he reminisced. "Danny DeVito, the star of that episode, took her by the hand, walked her all over the place, stopped at my wax museum and said, 'Wow! Look what your daddy made!""

Dream job: The Muppets

Dultz made multiple movies over a 12-year period alongside Oscar-winning production designer Eugenio Zanetti, a volatile personality who took offense when his trusted art director — the childhood puppeteer — accepted an offer to work on "Muppets Tonight" television series.

"Eugenio was absolutely furious, but I had followed (Muppets creator) Jim Henson since the 'Ed Sullivan Show' days, and I had watched the Muppets with my kids," he said. "So that was really a dream job for me."

In 2000, Dultz, who was two years divorced, met Carmel Valley native Ellen Osborne at a film festival in Aspen, where they worked together on a movie called "Sheer Bliss." He was the production designer and she was the location manager.

Their collaboration evolved into a friendship, then a romance.

Osborne is an animator, writer, director and filmmaker who won a Student Academy Award for a documentary she co-produced as a senior at San Francisco State.

She is also a grandchild of Samuel F.B. Morse, who developed Pebble Beach and River Ranch, the then-500-acre property where Ellen and her siblings, Charley, Polly and Susan, grew up.

Dultz and Ellen Osborne became cohabitants in 2001, then moved in 2004 into a home they designed at River Ranch. They got married in 2005.

In 2011, at age 58, Dultz retired from the film industry with multiple awards, notably an Oscar nomination for "What Dreams May Come," and Emmy Awards for "Muppets Tonight" and "Star Trek: The Next Generation.'

He and Ellen are voting members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the organization that chooses the Oscar winners.

"We watch all the new movies and vote on them every year," he said. "We also go to film festivals, which are a lot of fun.

"We can go to the Oscars anytime we want, and went three or four times, but stopped because it kept getting more expensive. Last time we went, the cheap seats were \$300 a ticket."

In retirement, Dultz began volunteering

for multiple organizations on the Peninsula. He has served on the boards of the Youth Arts Collective in Monterey, where he also has been a mentor, and the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts in Carmel.

The opening celebration for the Monterey Biennial will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Monterey Museum of Art. Visit montereyart.org for more information. See images of Dultz's paintings, cartoons, sculptures and 3-D art creations at jimdultz.com.

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

LETTERS

From page 26A

share a clear plan with the public and commit to protecting staff who raise concerns.

Mary Peitso, Carmel

Measles and autism Dear Editor,

I read with alarm and disgust the "measles and autism" letter submitted last week by a Richard Fox. I'm reluctant to use the MD title after his name upon digesting the same "quackery" espoused by new Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert Kennedy Jr.

It amazes me that he appears proud of sending unvaccinated children to the Pacific Grove Unified School District, as well as other local school districts. He touts the same vitamin A treatment as Kennedy, which does absolutely nothing to stop the spread of the disease, let alone relieve its horrible symptoms.

I wonder how many "unvaccinated" children he has set up to not only get the measles, but spread it to others within the Robert Down school because he has convinced parents to not vaccinate their young children. And like our secretary of health and human services, he decries vaccines as causing autism, wherein so very many, many scientific and peer reviewed articles have proved they are not the causative factor.

Perhaps Fox can get together with Kennedy to feast on a meal of road kill bear and whale-carcass head while they work together to find the exact cause of autism by a "guaranteed" timeline of September

Meanwhile, how many more local children will be primed for a measles outbreak thanks to this bogus and dangerous mindset and parents that he convinces to not vaccinate their precious children?

Don Lassig, Pacific Grove

Rent control makes things worse Dear Editor,

California's housing crisis is not due to a lack of regulation, but rather a surplus of it. The recent shelving of AB 1157 — a bill that would have expanded California's rent control laws — is not just a legislative victory for property owners and housing advocates. It is a reprieve for the very renters it claimed to protect.

Supporters of rent caps argue they shield tenants from skyrocketing prices, but the evidence points to a more troubling truth: rent control reduces housing supply, discourages investment, and deepens the affordability crisis.

AB 1157 proposed cutting allowable rent increases to 2 percent plus inflation, removing exemptions for single-family homes, condos and accessory dwelling units, and eliminating the sunset clause of existing law. While that may sound like a win for tenants, these policies carry severe consequences. When property owners can't keep up with rising maintenance costs, property taxes, or inflation, they withdraw from the market. Developers hesitate to build new housing in markets with capped returns. In short: fewer units are built, and existing ones deteriorate.

This isn't theoretical. According to testimony from the California Apartment Association, multi-family housing permits declined sharply following the rent control debate over Proposition 33. And housing advocates like California YIMBY warned that extending caps to ADUs — one of the few growing housing segments — would

See MORE LETTERS next page



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A short drive to historic downtown Truckee and to ski resorts. Open to exchange homes in Carmel by the sea for a minimum of one week.

Please contact Chris Bowers: Oursweetretreat@yahoo.com or 530-448-9734



MORE LETTERS From previous page

choke off one of California's last lifelines

for organic growth. Rent control doesn't just punish large developers, it crushes the small, independent property owner who may be renting out a single unit to help pay their mortgage. These are the people still reeling from Covid-era rent losses — and they are the ones who will sell, convert, or pull out of the market altogether under tighter

If we want affordable housing, we must build more housing. That means encouraging investment, streamlining approvals, and protecting property rights — not strangling supply with political quick fixes that ultimately hurt renters the most.

Rent control is not a housing solution. It's a housing deterrent.

Rosemarie Barnard, Prunedale

Council salaries Dear Editor,

The Pacific Grove City Council jumped on the bandwagon of salary increases because other Peninsula cities did this. However, Pacific Grove is a city of just 15,000, so it is not a good comparison with Salinas, Monterey and Marina.

Furthermore, the timing seems a bit inappropriate after our council voted to reduce its meetings by three, so asking for more money for less work isn't going over

There are hundreds of P.G. residents volunteering hundreds of hours contributing time and expertise for the betterment of our community, so this agenda item to basically double compensation is kind of offensive when so much of our infrastructure projects aren't funded.

Without the consent of the citizens of Pacific Grove, this council wants to change the fundamental relationship between its elected officials and all of the folks who voted for them.

The city doesn't have the money to restore Chautauqua Hall, a facility it rents out, and volunteers and fundraising citizens are handling that while it suggests council raises. What about all the outstanding improvement projects not done? What about the double money spent on the whole housing element and double-consultant fees paying that's still going on?

And health insurance for less than parttime positions. Should some of our commissioners that dedicate as much or more time to this community be getting compensated, too?

Not one of the councilmembers campaigned on raising pay or obtaining costly health benefits.

Just because the state allows this doesn't mean it's a good idea. This is not a salary. It's a small compensation. It's not a job. It's a public service.

And to those public letters stating, "You have to pay better to get better representation," is running for city council like having a part-time job for necessary income?!

Christie Italiano-Thomas,

Pacific Grove

RAISE From page 10A

involved as a council member."

"Just today." Poduri said. "I have been in meetings for six hours and 40 minutes."

About 20 people who addressed the council opposed the pay increase and medical benefits. Smith cut public comment on the topic from three minutes to 90 seconds, a move that frustrated some speakers.

Councilwoman Lori McDonnell and councilman Paul Walkingstick dissented, voting against the pay raise. Like numerous residents, they asked that the issue be placed on a ballot, but a substitute motion by Walkingstick to do that failed.

The pay hike will go into effect 30 days after the second reading of the ordinance, which is later this month.



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WATCHES

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MEET THE OWNER: My name is Stan Walter, I'm from Wabash, Indiana. After serving in Korea with the US Army, I became an expert in the gold and silver industries. I've been active in my community serving as city councilman, member of the Rotary club and Deacon at my church. I founded Precious Gems & Metals in 1979, serving customers in the United States for over 40 years. We have an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau! Due to recent global unrest, gold and

silver prices are strong! It's a great time to consider cashing in!

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MAYOR From page 27A

the village, we unintentionally put up hurdles. That's our version of WAYMISH.

To preserve our charm while moving forward, we might more often shift from "No, because ..." to "Yes, if ..." Creative ideas should spark conversations about what's possible — not be met with a list of prohibitions. Some could lead to Carmel's next beloved business or

What if, instead of "code compliance officers," we had "business liaison representatives" whose role included helping residents and entrepreneurs meet our standards while maintaining charm and function? They could suggest alternatives for music, heaters or lighting, rather than just issuing citations.

■ City hall as a partner

This isn't about relaxing rules — it's about improving the experience. Just as Carmel's best businesses succeed through hospitality, so can city hall. We're fortunate to have a dedicated, knowledgeable staff who care deeply about this community. They've already taken meaningful steps — making documents more accessible, streamlining processes, and introducing automation.

With an even more collaborative and responsive approach, we can be a government that listens first and helps people move forward. Let's assume good intent, communicate clearly, and work toward win-win outcomes.

The good news? We're already making progress. I've had encouraging conversations with city staff about enhancing customer service alongside regulatory compliance. There's openness, and we're seeing real movement.

■ Invitation to engage

Of course, there's more work to do, and we need your help. If you've run into what felt like unnecessary red tape, share your experience. Let's identify the pain points and solve them together. Rules should protect, not frustrate. Processes should support, not discourage.

So, let's ask ourselves: WAYMISH? And more importantly, how do we make it easier? Carmel should be a place where creativity, community and commerce thrive in the same space — not in spite of city hall, but because of it.

To hear a podcast generated from this column, go to cli.

Dale Byrne is mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea. His email is dbyrne@cbts.us.

ROLLOVER

From page 6A

Big Sur standards.

What was left of the vehicle was towed away the next Six days earlier, on May 1, Big Sur Fire assisted with

the rescue of a volunteer trail worker who had injured her ankle and was unable to walk. The volunteer was found near Barlow Flat Camp, which is located about 8 miles along the Pine Ridge Trail east of Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. The incident happened around 11 a.m. Video posted online shows the helicopter hovering over a steep wooded gorge while hoisting up the victim.

"Due to the remote location, a California Highway Patrol helicopter was utilized for a hoist rescue," according to a report from the CHP. The helicopter delivered the patient to a waiting ambulance at a nearby landing zone. She was transported to a local medical facility.

And two weeks before that, Big Sur Fire and a CHP helicopter came to the aid of a hiker who was injured along the same trail. The man had fallen about 200 feet and sustained major injuries. He too was hoisted to safety and transported to a hospital.

PUBLIC NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250727
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MASTERPIECE CONSTRUCTION, 13365 Taft Cir., Salinas, CA

County of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY.

Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.:
MASTERPIECE CONSTRUCTION INCORPORATED.

State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA
This business is conducted by a corpora

tion.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or

names listed above on April 1, 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 suant 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 Cale Sections 2050, 627). ernment Code Sections 6250-6277)

S/Mayra Cardenas Dorado, C.F.O. Date: April 15, 2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 15,

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 ness Name Statement must be tiled betore the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in viola-tion of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 1441) et seq., Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC 516)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME
File No. 20250789
Filing type: ABANDONMENT:
County of Filing: Monterey
Date of Original Filing: Nov. 24, 2021
File No.: 20212592
The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: ANDY'S AUTO SPORT, 1100
Presidio Rd., Pebble Beach, CA 93953.
Name of Corporation of as shown in the
Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: INTEGRATED
STRATEGIC RESOURCES INC, 1100 Presidio Rd., Pebble Beach, CA 93953.
County of Principal Place of Business:
Monterey
State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA

Monterey State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA This business is conducted by a

corporation. S/Eric Ferguson, President April 25, 2025

April 25, 2025
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS
TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who

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 misdemenaror punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollors (\$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).

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 25, 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: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC517)

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250815
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PC EXPERTS, 1920 Constitution
Blvd. #23, Salinas, CA 93905.
County of Principal Place of Business:

MONTEREY Registered Owner(s): ROJAN DAYAO FRANCISCO.

This business is conducted by an individ-

Registrant commenced to transact busiregistrant commenced to transact observes under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Dec. 1, 2002.

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/Rojan Francisco
Date signed: April 30, 2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Monterey County on April 30,

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 does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025 (PC 518) 2025 (PC 518)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20250570

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are)

Registered Owner(s): JANE MARIE MITCHEL, 1051 Alameda St., Monterey, CA 93940.. This business is conducted by an individ-

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 24, 2025.

names listed above on March 24, 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/Jane Mitchel

Date signed: March 24, 2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on March 24,

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 Busi-ness 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 viola State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).
Publication Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 30, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250753
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ARTISAN CAPITAL PARTNERS,

11835 W. Olympic Blvd. #1155 E., Los Angeles, CA 90064. County of Principal Place of Business: LOS **ANGÉLES** Name of Corporation or IIC as shown in

NAME OF CORPORATION OF LEC & SHOWN IN the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: NWF ADVISORY GROUP LLC. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA This business is conducted by a limited lia-

bility company.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on April 9, 2015.

BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant 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-Act (Government Code Sections 6250-6277).

S/Heather Scully, Chief Opertions Officer Date: April 9, 2025

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 18,

Clerk of Monterey County on April 18, 2025.

NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictifitous 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 Fictious 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 Fictifious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). fessions Code).

Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC 520)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250788 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 SKE ENTERPRISES LLC, CA

266 RESERVATION RD, STE F, MARI-NA, CA 93933 This business is conducted by A LIMIT-ED LIABILITY COMPANY

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 09/20/2024 S/DIANA ALLISON POUND GREY, MEMBER

member This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/25/2025 5/9,5/16,5/23,5/30/25 CNS-3899658#

CARMEL PINE CONE

Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, Publication Date 2025. (PC 521)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 20250786

The following person(s) is(are) doing

business as: RENTAL DEPOT, 2200 DEL MONTE AVE, MONTEREY, CA 93940, County of MONTEREY

Registered Owner(s): RENTAL DEPOT. INC. MONTE AVE MONTEREY, CA 93940; CA This business is conducted by A COR-

PORATION Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 04/01/2002
S/NICOLE KIRK SAULNIER, PRESI-

DENT This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on 04/24/2025 5/9, 5/16, 5/23, 5/30/25

CNS-3922653# CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC 522)

Lien SaleCity of Monterey Harbor,
250 Figueroa Street, Monterey,
05-20-2025@ 11:00am CF STEVEN F. EDWARD HIN# NONE, CF SEARAY HIN# SERP1265B090 5/9/25 CNS-3922647#

CARMEL PINE CONE Publication Dates: May 9, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250776

Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COASTAL INK TATTOO, 11637 Del Monte Blvd. #B, Seaside, CA 93955.

of Principal Place of Business: MONTEREY Name of Corporation or LLC as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: COASTAL INK L.L.C., P.O. Box 271, Marina. CA 93933. na, CA 93933. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA This business is conducted by a limited lia-

bility company. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or

ames listed above on N/A. names listed above on N/A.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL IN-FORMATION 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 thous and 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 (Gov-

errment Code Sections 6250-6277). S/Rudy Canchola, Managing Member Date: April 21, 2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on April 23,

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 ness 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 viola-tion of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 official of the state of the sequence of the seq. Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC 524)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 25CV002266 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner, LIAM CONNOR SHOFF, filed a petition with this court for a decree chang-ing names as follows:

A <u>Present name</u>: LIAM CONNOR SHOFF

<u>Proposed name</u>: LIAM CONNOR VAN DEN BERG

IIAM CONNOR VAN DEN BERG
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 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: June 24, 2025

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

The address of the court is 1200 Aguajito Road, Monterey, CA 93940. Date filed: April 30, 2025

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 newspoper of general circulation, printed in this county: The Carmel Pine Cone. (s) Thomas W. Wills

Judge of the Superior Court Date: April 30, 2025 Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025. (PC 525)

ABANDONED PROPERTY AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the abandoned personal property described below pursuant to Sections 1983 and 1988 of the California Civil Code.

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on MAY 23 2025 at 10:00 a.m. on the premises where said property has been stored where said property has been stored and which are located at Leonard's Lockers Self Storage, 816 Elvee Dr., Salinas, Ca 93901, the following described goods:

BAYAN OSWALDO ROSALES GARCIA

- C64 - Misc. Goods

- CO4 - MISC. Goods Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is where is and must be re-

moved at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settle between owner and obligated party.
5/9, 5/16/25
CNS-3923076#
CARMEL PINE CONE

Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 2025.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250822 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following page (4) The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MELIS COMMUNICATIONS, 10830 Merrith St., Suite 1, Castroville, CA 95012.

Registered Owner(s): PAMELA RUIZ FLORES, 13425 Agua CalirAMELA ROZ FLORES, 13425 Agua Cali-ente, Castroville, CA 95012. JORGE SERAFIN GONZALEZ ZALAZAR, 13425 Agua Caliente, Castroville, CA

This business is conducted by a married

couple.
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL
INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT
IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code the registrant knows to be false is quilty of a mischangapor. to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Nosatia duality (\$1,000). S/Pamela Ruiz Flores Date signed: May 1, 2025 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Monterey County on May 1,

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 NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025 (PC 528)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

NAME STATEMENT
File No. 20250806
Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING.
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CATRACHA'S FASHION, 443 E.
Alisal, Salinas, CA 93905.
Registered Owner(s):
ERLIN ENEYDA GOMEZ "CAMPO, 940
Iverson St. #6, Salinas, CA 93901.
This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business

Registrant commenced to transact pusiness under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 2020.

BY SIGNING, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true any material matter 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/Frlin F. Gome:

2025 (PC 531)

S/Efin E. Gomez
Date signed: April 29, 2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Monterey County on April 29,

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 filina of (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Nan be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize this statement does not insert administer the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30,

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 20250613 Filing type: ORIGINAL FILING. The following person(s) is (2011) The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: LEASHES & LOVE DOG SERVICES, 10 Paseo Seguno, Salinas, CA

Registered Owner(s):
KAY SUZANNE HEALEY.
This business is conducted by an individ-

Registrant commenced to transact busi-

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 28, 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/Kay S. Healey
Date signed: March 28, 2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk of Monterey County on March 28, 2025.

NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name (a) of Section 17920, a Fictifious 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 the use in this state of a Fichinous Business. Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See Section 1441) et seq., Business and Professions Code). Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025 (PC 532)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S) (UCC Sec. 6101 et sea, and

B & P 24073 et seq.)
Escrow No. 15185-JP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made. The name(s) and business address of the

The name(s) and business address of the seller(s)/licensee(s) are: GIANINA ROSE-ANNE BRISTOL AND JASON FRANKLIN BRISTOL, 1112 FOREST AVENUE, PACIFIC GROVE, CA 93950 Doing business as: PG BOTTLE SHOP All other business names(s) and adress(es) used by the seller(s)/licensee(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s)/licensee(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s)/licensee(s), is/are: The name(s) and address of the buyer(s)/applicant(s) and address of the buyer(s)/applicant(s) is/are: PACIFIC GROVE BOTTLE SHOP INC, 1112 FOREST AVENUE, PACIFIC GROVE, CA 93950.

The assets being sold are generally described as: FURNITURE, IXTURES, EQUIPMENT, TRADE NAME, GOODWILL, T

scribed ds: FURNITURE, FIATURES, EQUIPMENT, TRADE NAME, GOODWILL, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE, AND ABC OFF SALE GENERAL LICENSE #21-608601 and is/are located dt: 1112 FOREST AVENUE, PACIFIC GROVE, CA

The type of license to be transferred is/ are: ABC OFF SALE GENERAL LICENSE dre: ABC OT SALE GENERAL LICENSE #21-608601 now issued for the premises located at: SAME. The bulk sale and transfer of alcoholic

beverage license(s) is/are intended to be consummated at the office of: ACT ONE ESCROW, INC., 6131 ORANGETHOR-PE AVE., STE 180-E, BUENA PARK, CA 90620 and the anticipated sale date is JUNE 9, 2025.

The bulk sale is subject to California Uni-The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.

The purchase price of consideration in connection with the sale of the business and transfer of the license, is the sum of \$1,200,000.00, including inventory estimated at \$200,000.00, which consists of the following: DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT: CHECK \$10,000.00; CASH \$1,190,000.00; TOTAL CONSIDERATION \$1,200,000.00.

\$1,190,000.00; TOTAL CONSIDER-ATION \$1,200,000.00. It has been agreed between the seller(s)/ Icansee(s) and the intended buyer(s)/ transferee(s), as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions code, that the consideration for transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Departtransfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

GIANINA ROSEANNE BRISTOL AND JASON FRANKLIN BRISTOL, Seller(s)/

Licensee(s) PACIFIC GROVE BOTTLE SHOP INC, Buyer(s)/Applicant(s) 3721910-PP PINE CONE 5/9/25 Publication Dates: May 9, 2023 (PC 534)

LEGALS DEADLINE: Tuesday 3:00 pm call or email: Irma (831) 274-8645 legals@carmelpinecone.com

LIVES From page 27A

(formerly Bolsa Knolls) Middle School in Salinas. He was full of ideas, fresh off an Underwater Robotics 101 course organized by the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Peninsula-based Marine Advanced Technology Education Center. Founded in 1997, the center offers education, resources and a competitive platform for young engineers to apply their classroom knowledge to real-world challenges, with a special focus on remotely-operated vehicles. There are thousands of these robots scattered across the world's oceans, transmitting scientific, historical and commercial information, and performing tasks undoable by humans alone.

The purpose of the summer session was to teach educators how to open this world to their students. To Wyman, it was exactly the idea he'd been looking for, after the principal at Bolsa Knolls had approached him to brainstorm an enrichment class.

Within two years, he'd expanded the elective to 7th grade and eighth grade. At one point, 140 students were committed, on top of regular classes, to the two-year program. Such a big group fostered what Wyman called "tremendous mistakes.

"I thought we'd just start building robots. It sounds obvious, but kids don't know what they don't know." So he created an electrical engineering curriculum from scratch, making things like circuit boards and soldering approachable for even his youngest students. Then there were a few years of "dead last" finishes at the marine technology center's regional robotics competition — which made the eventual victories all the sweeter.

Keeping in touch

Soon, Wyman and his students began making annual pilgrimages to Elkhorn Slough around Christmas time, deploying their submersibles to measure and document the changing tides of their local estuary. Eventually, his middle school students started to beat out high school teams at the annual competitions. One semester, a group of eighth graders persuaded the harbormaster in Monterey to let them install cameras off the Coast Guard jetty to keep an eye on ocean pollution and assist in cleanup efforts. Between 2011 and 2022, Wyman earned recognition from the aquarium, taught other teachers how to integrate robotics education and served as a judge for regional and global Marine Advanced Technology Education championships.

"A lot of kids keep in touch with me," he smiled. "I had four or five former students who attended Cal Poly and

MAIL From page 1A

checks were never received by the various businesses, and they hadn't notified us of no payment. My Rotary Club also had a check stolen that was modified for a larger amount, but the bank caught it."

While Cleveland said she appreciates the sturdier boxes, she said they're difficult to access for drive-through

In December, a Carmel Highlands couple reported that a \$62,000 check they dropped off at the Vía Nona Marie post office was cashed by an unknown person. They credited the United States Postmaster General's office with helping them to get their money back.

On its website, the postal service reports that inspectors like Norfleet and others recover "more than \$1 billion in counterfeit checks and money orders every year."

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ended up as engineers, either for terrestrial or underwater

Wyman has always been his own test subject, whether learning how to build robots, teach chemistry in Spanish or repair historic buildings. But if you're the sort of person who thrives on trial and error, unexpected outcomes are sort of the point.

In the mid '80s, for instance, failing to find a job as a social studies teacher after he graduated from UC Santa Cruz set off a happy chain reaction. Only by earning teaching credentials in other subjects would Wyman discover his fondness for physics and chemistry. With a couple of jobs under his belt, he decided he'd like to try teaching science — in Mexico, inspired by an aunt and uncle who had taught at American schools across Central and South America. He met his future wife while working in Durango, a striking mountainous region inland from the Pacific coastal state of Sinaloa.

Summer jobs

A decade later, a lengthy mail exchange brought the couple back to California with their two young children in tow. Wyman had received a job offer from a middle school in Greenfield, and he welcomed the homecoming. 1995 was the first of many years teaching in Monterey County public schools, and the moment he realized he was in exactly the right place.

"With high schoolers, there's a lot of, 'Is this going to be on the test, Mr. Wyman?' And I understand that, because they're worried about getting into college," he said. "But it's different with middle schoolers. It's 'What do we get to do today?' They get excited just to use magnets or a graduated cylinder."

A foray into retirement in 2022 produced another unexpected outcome: a new career. Around 2018, Wyman was looking for a break between semesters at Bolsa Knolls Middle — something productive that had nothing to do with teaching physics, chemistry or robotics. So he began working summers for the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District and the National Marine Sanctuary, there employed as a kayak-bound peace officer. Tourists could get slapped with a \$500 fine for interfering with marine life

employed as a kayak-bound peace officer. Tourists could get slapped with a \$500 fine for interfering with marine life

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— or Wyman and his fellow volunteers could approach, coax the offending paddleboarders away from an adorable little otter and answer all kinds of questions about the poor creature they'd been trying to pet.

In 2019, he figured an application to California State Parks would land him in an information kiosk for the summer. Instead, he was ushered onto the maintenance team, tending parks and trails, from Garrapata, to Zmudowski state beaches. Once they heard he was planning to retire, his state parks boss asked Wyman to join the team full-time.

Restoring old buildings

Within a year he'd specialized, and some of your favorite local landmarks are better for it. As a member of the California State Parks historic restoration crew, Wyman has tackled multi-year projects, from downtown Monterey, to the Tin House in Big Sur. Last year, he repaired pillars at the Old Custom House using historically accurate mortise and tenon joints instead of bolts. The 1827 structure is the oldest public building on the West Coast. Wyman estimates the last significant batch of repairs took place in 1907.

He promises that then some of the historic structures at the former Odello artichoke farm at the mouth of Carmel Valley will stand for "another 100 years," after major restoration to the workshop and barn. Wyman and his team used old-growth redwood and steel nails for the work, based on black-and-white photos and anecdotal input from members of the Odello family.

The way Wyman sees it, a sense of purpose comes with the process. "Teaching gave me purpose, and now I feel a new sense of purpose, working for the people and history of California. I've been a public servant my whole life, so I'm just continuing what I do."



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The Carmel Pine Cone

After nailbiter season finish, young Stevenson sailing team has time to regroup

THE COLDEST, wettest and windiest sport in high school athletics — sailing — has attracted a hardy, adventurous gang of Pirates at Stevenson School, where the program celebrated its 50th year in 2025 with a promising roster of, well, young salts.

"I think we were all a little bit disappointed last week when we missed out on a top-three finish at the Pacific Coast Championships," said assistant coach Terry O'Hare, whose two sons are part of a sparkling future for the program at Stevenson. "We were in a real battle for second and third place — those spots on the podium were up for grabs to the very end. It was a tight finish, and it was pretty painful to finish fourth by a single point."

Everybody returns

The good news — great news, in fact — is the entire team will have a whole summer to digest that disappointment before they begin again in a sport that has fall and spring seasons.

This year's 13-sailor roster was composed of three juniors, four sophomores, five freshmen, and, believe it or not, an eighth-grader. Head coach Bradley Schoch had no seniors this season.

"I think we had a good year, overall, but I guess we'd also call it a building year," O'Hara said. "It was really exciting to watch the progress of a very young team with several kids who had never sailed before. We're not graduating anybody, so we're expecting to be strong next year."

High school regattas are typically separated into Gold



By DENNIS TAYLOR

and Silver divisions — similar to varsity and JV divisions allowing sailors of various skill levels to race competitively in 13-foot, double-sail, FJ (Flying Junior) sloops, which are relatively fast and very agile, each with a skip-



per and a one-person crew.

Stevenson's most successful pairings this season were sophomore co-captain Patrick O'Hara and freshman Marc Cheung, and juniors Liah Yamamura and co-captain Claire Lee. Both teams competed in Gold and Silver races.

Their combined efforts produced the aforementioned fourth place out of 29 teams from 27 high schools, including Carmel and Pacific Grove, in the Silver Division of the Pacific Coast Championships on the Oakland Estuary April 26-27, the final regatta of the season.

The O'Hara-Cheung sloop sailed seven top-10 finishes during the weekend, and the Lee-Yamamura boat placed among the top 10 four times.

Those performances represented significant improve-



(Left) Skipper Liah Yamamura and crew Claire Lee had a strong 2024-25 sailing season for the Stevenson Pirates,and expect to be better next year. (Above) Freshman Marc Cheung, a first-year sailor, and sophomore co-captain Patrick O'Hara, were Stevenson's most successful pairing at this year's Pacific Coast Championships, where they helped the Pirates to a fourth-place team finish.

ment over the Pirates' eighth-place team finish (out of 20 schools) at the NorCal Championships March 29-30 in Redwood City.

"Marc Cheung is somebody who had never sailed before, and we paired him with my son, Patrick, who was mentored last year by Max McCormick," a member of the Class of 2024 who is sailing for the College of Charleston in South Carolina, O'Hara said. "Patrick really enjoys sailing with Marc.

"Marc is going to be a great sailor," predicted the coach. "He's a kid who listens and absorbs what he learns. He makes mistakes but learns from them, and they com-

Continues next page

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The Carmel Pine Cone

From previous page

municate well."

Yamamura, an experienced sailor, skippers the boat she shares with Lee — another simpatico combination.

"Leah is an awesome sailor who makes good decisions on the water, and she's the one who really pushes Patrick," O'Hara said. "My son's mission at every practice is to stay in front of Leah.'

Lee, her crew, is exceptionally enthusiastic and organized, the coach said.

"Claire, our other co-captain, keeps all of our statistics," O'Hara said. "She also has a lot of friends and is the one who gets everybody else on the team involved in social things.

Other rising stars include sophomores Ryan Ferguson and Dillan Spence, both of whom compete at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club, along with Nate Burgstone and Myah Solomon, both promising freshmen.

The eighth-grader, Tommy O'Hara — Patrick's brother — also competed in a couple of high school races this season and figures to have a bright future with the team.

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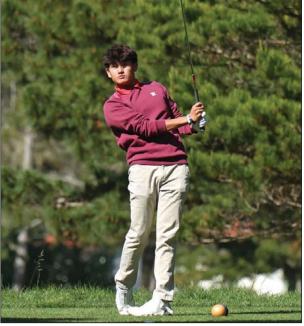
Stevie Thomsen (Connecticut College) and Carmen Berg (Yale University) are other Stevenson alumni who sailed at the collegiate level this season.

CCS playoff updates

Boys golf: Stevenson's Luke Brandler and Carmel's Jonathan Chen each shot a 3-under-par 68 earlier this week at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch to win their individual Central Coast Section qualifying tournaments and help their schools qualify full teams for Tuesday's CCS finals at the same venue.

Brandler, the 2023 and 2024 CCS medalist, will be pursuing his third sectional crown at the tournament, where Stevenson will be chasing its second straight team title.

The Pirates won the team title at Tuesday's qualifying tournament, powered by Brandler, Steven Lai and Zachary Hawkins, who tied for fifth at 73, and Calvin Etcheverry and Johsh Chadha, who tied for 14th at 74. Marc Sasetia's score of 76 — good for 23rd place in the 84-player qualifier — didn't count in the Pirates' tournament-best team score of 362 strokes, which was 18 better than second-place Gunn High School.





Carmel's Jonathan Chen, top, and Stevenson's Luke Brandler, above, shot 68 at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch this week to win their CCS qualifiers. Tuesday at the same venue, they'll lead their teams into the CCS finals – where Brandler is defending champion.

In the other qualifier, Chen's 68 was 2 strokes better than the scores of the five golfers who tied for second place, and 6 strokes better than his closest teammates, Julien Cho and Ethan Haas, who tied for 32nd place at 76 strokes. Colin Dean carded a 78 to place 41st, and Cullen Pritchard scored 80 for 47th place.

St. Ignatius won the team trophy at the qualifier at 367 - four strokes better than Bellarmine. The Padres were fourth at 378.

The first group at the CCS Championship tournament tees off at 8 a.m. on Tuesday.

Swimming and diving: PCAL champion Beckett Heywood, a senior at Stevenson, participated Tuesday in the CCS 1-meter diving competition at DeAnza College. Heywood was undefeated this spring during the regular

Results from that meet were unavailable.

Swimming prelims are Thursday and Friday, with the CCS Championships starting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Independence High in San Jose.

Boys tennis: Stevenson and Carmel, the top two finishers in the Pacific Coast Athletic League's Gabilan Division, were scheduled to play in Wednesday's opening round of the CCS Team Championships.

Stevenson (12-0 in the Gabilan, 14-2 overall), had a first-round match at home against Los Gatos (10-4) for the right to play Saratoga (11-2, seeded No. 3 in the 24-team tournament), in Friday's second round.

Carmel (8-4 Gabilan, 9-5 overall) traveled Wednesday to face Cupertino (15-2). The winner earned the right to play No. 1 Menlo (22-1) in the second round.

Wednesday's results were unavailable. Quarterfinals are Monday on the home court of the higher seed. Semis are Wednesday and finals are May 16 at Bay Club Courtside in Los Gatos.

Lacrosse: Playoffs in boys and girls brackets will take place Monday (quarterfinals), Wednesday (semis) and May 17 (finals.)

Stevenson girls (9-0 Gabilan, 13-3-1 overall) and boys (9-0, 15-2) were postseason qualifiers as division champions and will learn their opponents after Sunday's seeding

Boys volleyball: Carmel boys volleyball ended its regular season Tuesday on a five-game winning streak capped by a victory at Monterey that made the Padres and Toreadores co-champions of the PCAL's Gabilan Division with 8-2 records.

Carmel is 16-9 overall and Monterey is 20-11.

Both schools qualified for next week's CCS playoffs, which will include Open, Division 1 and Division 2 brackets. Those brackets will be seeded on Saturday.

The CCS tournament will be played Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at home sites. Saturday's championship games will be played at Harker School in San Jose.

Baseball and softball: CCS tournaments are scheduled May 24-31. Carmel and Stevenson baseball, and Car-

mel softball, are positioned to earn postseason berths. Dennis Taylor is a professional freelance writer in Monterey County. Contact him at scribelaureate@gmail.



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Folksinger shares new CD, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy at Golden State

A FAMILIAR FACE and voice around town, singer and guitarist Rags Rosenberg presents a free "evening of song and poetry" Friday, 5:30 p.m., at Hofsas House.

A gifted wordsmith and folk musician who did lengthy stints back east and in the desert, Rosenberg will play music from his new album, "Song of the Bricoleur." The record has been in the works for a year, and the songs explore what Rosenberg calls the "topsy-turvy" times we live in today.

At Hofsas House, Rosenberg will be backed his band, The Rag & Bone Shop, which features singer Taylor Safina, keyboardist Bill Spencer, bassist Jesse DeCarlo and percussionist Marcie Chapa. "I've got a great band backing me up, and there's going to be some new poetry thrown in for good measure," Rosenberg said.

Besides being the Poet in Residence at the Hofsas House, Rosenberg plays frequent gigs on Fridays, 7 p.m., at Julia's Vegetarian Restaurant in Pacific Grove, and often at the Carmel farmers market.

On a High Note

By CHRIS COUNTS

Hofsas House is located on San Carlos between Third and Fourth.

■ Big, bad and swingin'

A group that helped spark the swing revival in the 1990s — and played the halftime show at the 1999 Super Bowl — Big Bad Voodoo Daddy takes the stage Thursday, 7 p.m., at Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

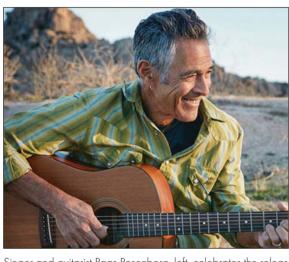
Led by founding singer and guitarist Scotty Morris, the band found commercial success with singles hit like "Go Daddy-O," "You & Me & the Bottle Makes 3 Tonight (Baby)" and "Mr. Pinstripe Suit," along with well received albums like "Americana Deluxe," "This Beautiful Life" and "Save My Soul."

Tickets start at \$29.50. The theater is located at 417 Alvarado St. Call (831) 649-1070 or go to goldenstatetheatre.com.

■ Trio plays Beethoven, Brahms

A trio of instrumentalists, violinist Livia Sohn, cellist Luigi Piovano, and pianist Bernadene Blaha, play music

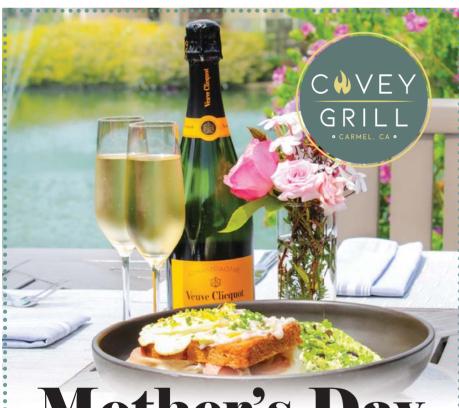
See MUSIC page 39A







Singer and quitarist Raas Rosenberg, left, celebrates the release of a new album Friday at the Hofsas House, Bia Bad Voodoo Daddy, center, takes the stage Thursday at Golden State Theatre, Seth Mulder & Midnight Run play bluegrass Tuesday at Monterey United Methodist Church.



MIUUIICI'S IV

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FOOD & WINE

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The Carmel Pine Cone

■ International flavor

On Sunday, May 11, visitors and locals alike are invited to Roy's at Spanish Bay

for a special brunch featuring some of the restaurant's classic Hawaiian-fusion cuisine. Served a la carte from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., the sitdown meal will include spe-

cial items made with extra love. And carbs.

How about some cinnamon and orange pull-apart rolls, or coconut pancakes with strawberries and cream cheese? No?



The award-winning Sardine Factory offers a Mother's Day feast that would please even the pickiest of moms.

Maybe an Australian lobster medallion with saffron beurre blanc, a braised lamb shank, or a Manchego-crusted filet mignon with caramelized Maui onion purée would be more to your liking.

Also at Spanish Bay, Pèppoli is putting on a grand buffet with all the breakfast favorites like eggs and pancakes, as well as focaccia sandwiches, a seafood display, carving station and assorted desserts. It

Soup to Nuts

will be served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is priced at \$195 for those 13 and older, \$90 for kids 6 to 12, and complimentary for the littlest diners. Beverages are not

included. For reservations, call (800) 877-0597.

Still searching for a suitable present? The Pebble Beach Mother's Day Gift Guide at tinyurl. com/ywwca5d8 is packed with ideas for any mother, whether she enjoys tennis, a game of golf or a relaxing afternoon at the spa. "A complimentary spa gift is also available with any Mother's Day package," says the resort's staff.

■ Prix-fixe princesses

In Carmel Valley, Quail Lodge will celebrate with a special prix-fixe menu at the Covey Grill. From 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., diners can start with a choice of aspara-

See FOOD next page

Last Minute Items for Mother's Day

at The Best Corner in Carmel
ACROSS FROM DEVENDORF PARK

Fresh Cut Flowers & Roses
Orchids & Hydrangeas
Sweet Treats from Lula's Chocolates
Gizdich Pies • Marianne's Ice Cream
Local Wines & More

START YOUR MORNINGS OFF RIGHT

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MEXICAN WEEKDAY LUNCH SPECIALS 11:30 'TIL SOLD OUT
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ORGANIC PRODUCE • FULL SERVICE GOURMET DELI • READY MADE ENTREES

Famous Prime Rib Carving Station with

Thursday, Meatloaf \bullet Friday, Poached Salmon \bullet Saturday, 1/2 Chicken Scalloped potatoes, vegetable medley, garlic bread \bullet 4pm - til sold out



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FOR MONTEREY COUNTY LOCALS & MILITARY

A SAMPLING FROM OUR MENU:

BROILED SALMON | SKIRT STEAK

MONDAYS-THURSDAYS

Must present Monterey County or Military ID.

Parties of 8 or less. Not valid holidays.



SCAN FOR FULL MENU



OPEN DAILY AT 10:30AM FishHopper.com

831 372-8543 700 Cannery Row

FOOD & WINE

FOOD From previous page

gus and burrata salad, citrus-cured salmon, or stone fruit salad. Entrée options include a croque madame sandwich with rosemary ham, Point Reyes cheese and truffle bechamel, crab salad eggs Benedict, avocado toast with a fried egg, or Angus beef. The feast will conclude with desserts, among them that springtime favorite, strawberry

be available.

Price per person is \$72 for adults and \$30 for children 5 to 12, and does not include tax or gratuity. Reservations are

shortcake. A special kids' menu will also

required and can be made by calling (831) 620-8860 or visiting opentable.com and searching for Covey Grill.

■ Wining women

McIntyre Family Wines and Boekenoogen Wines host a Mother's Day brunch with three wine selections, a corsage for each "leading lady," and "an afternoon of delectable food," organizers say. Catering will be by Mirth, a Carmel Valley business. Some of the company's signature staples include enchilada cupcakes, chicken noodle soup, mustard roast chicken and more.

Nonalcoholic beverages will be provided for those under 21. The brunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Mirth's

facilities at 13762 Center St. Reservations are required; the cost is \$125 per person. For more information, go to mcintyrevineyards. com, click "Visit Us" and select "Winery Events."

■ Funny ladies

The wine garden at Folktale winery (8940 Carmel Valley Road) is planning an afternoon of stand-up comedy for mothers. Kira Soltanovich, a comedian, actress and writer who has appeared on



Where better to toast Mom than at Spanish Bay? Pebble Beach Resorts also offers a package tailored just for mothers.

"The Tonight Show" and Fox's reboot of Groucho Marx's "You Bet Your Life," will headline. Jeanette Marin, "whose fierce, funny and fearless mom-humor is guaranteed to hit home and have you in stitches," according to organizers, will open the show.

Doors open at 3 p.m., and the comedy starts at 4. Guests will enjoy reserved seat-

ing with table service, and seasonal bites and drinks will be available for purchase. For more information, call (831) 293-7500. To purchase tickets, which range from \$25 to \$50 (with discounts for wine club members), visit folktalewinery.com/upcoming-events.

Continues next page



Excellent bubbly and a gourmet croque madame alongside the beautiful scenery of Quail Lodge might be the best answer to the Mother's Day brunch question.

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136 Olivier St., Monterey Near Old Fisherman's Wharf (831) 644-9007 WWW.BENIHANA.COM









From previous page

■ Grand dame

One of the oldest restaurants on the Monterey Peninsula, the Sardine Factory at 701 Wave St. in Monterey, is celebrating Mother's Day in a classic fine-dining setting with a three-course prix-fixe menu served from noon to 8 p.m. for \$79 per person. Starters include a choice of seafood bisque or green salad, and among the entrée selections are 50-day aged prime rib with potatoes and spinach, filet mignon and butter-poached lobster with truffled potatoes, grilled wild salmon, and pan-seared sea scallops with risotto. Classic cherries jubilee, chocolate cremeux (a creamy chocolate dessert) or raspberry panna cotta will

finish the meal. In addition to the prix fixe, limited a la carte and children's menus will

To make reservations, call (831) 373-3775 or go to sardinefactory.com.

■ A Spanish accent

Estéban in the Casa Munras Garden Hotel at 700 Munras Ave. in Monterey will serve brunch from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A bottomless mimosa bar lets everyone pair cava with a choice of fresh juices, including guava, strawberry, pineapple, peach, grapefruit or the original, orange. If you're hankering for something with a little more spice or kick, there's also a buildyour-own Bloody Mary bar.

Menu items include Baja fish tacos crispy beer-battered rockfish with grilled

BST TAVERN 2021

Shearwater Tavern and the Carmel Mission Inn

present

Mother's Day Jazz Brunch

in collaboration with "Just Jazz Foundation"

Sunday, May 11th · 11am to 2pm

Full Shearwater Tavern breakfast menu

plus three brunch specials:

Reservations are strongly suggested

Grilled Airline Chicken

with mushroom/spinach

mash & whole grain

mustard jus

Dessert

chocolate panna cotta

Spring Salad

Green Beans with radish, hearts

of palm, goat cheese & cider

vinaigrette

Seared Ahi Tuna

with pea risotto

& roasted tomato nagé

3665 RIO ROAD, CARMEL · SHEARWATERTAVERN.COM

Leon Joyce Jr.

pineapple salsa, pickled red cabbage, jalapeno and arugula aioli — and what promises to be a refreshing jicama and watermelon salad. The Sunrise Burger is made with a blend of wagyu and chuck on a brioche bun and topped with an over-easy egg, bacon, smashed avocado maple aioli on a brioche

Not enough beef? A dish of Australian wagyu and eggs comes with country potatoes green chimichurri sauce. King salmon is offered with mixed greens and strawberries, shaved fen-

nel, cucumber, cherry tomatoes and feta cheese, topped with citrus vinaigrette.

Other dishes skew more toward breakfast, like Otto's French Toast with vanilla whipped cream, berries and maple syrup.

View the full menu at hotelcasamunras.com/our-menus/mothers-day-brunch. Reservations are highly recommended and can be made by calling (831) 375-0176 or emailing info@estebanrestaurant.com.

■ In other food news ...

Hofsas House Hotel on San Carlos



A few furry friends looking for new homes will hope to capture hearts at a fundraiser for Peace of Mind Dog Rescue.



Scheid will share its wines during a fundraiser at Hofsas House benefiting senior pups and senior people.

north of Fourth Avenue invites wine lovers and dog enthusiasts to join this year's incarnation of Locals' Favorites Wine Fridays, a series of fun and charitable evenings in support of Peace of Mind Dog Rescue. Hosted at the hotel's poolside meeting room, these events "blend local wines, community spirit and a heartfelt cause," said a hotel representative.

The next two events will be held May 16 and July 18 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For \$15 per person, each ticketholder will get "light nibbles" with one glass of wine, and additional glasses are available for \$5 apiece.

> Scheid Family wines will be featured at the May gathering, while Twisted Roots will be poured in July.

> All proceeds will benefit Peace of Mind Dog Rescue, a nonprofit dedicated to helping senior dogs and senior people. Since 2009, the organization has supported more than 5,000 senior dogs and their guardians, giving older pet owners one fewer thing to worry about.

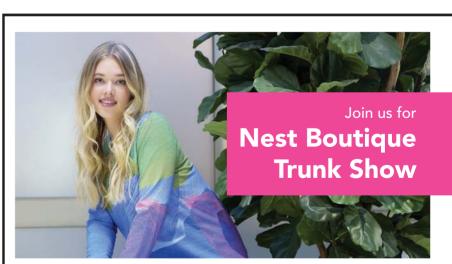
"We are thrilled to host these events and bring our community together to support the incredible work of Peace of Mind Dog Rescue," said Carrie Theis, owner of Hofsas House Hotel. "With great wine and even greater purpose, we look forward to an inspiring year of giving back."

Seasonal markets open

Spring marks the return of Mon-

See **WINE** next page





Friday, May 9, 2025 & Saturday, May 10, 2025 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Bringing you fashion pieces by Claire Desjardins and Carré Noir.

Tasty refreshments, fine snacks, and desserts will be served.

Donation contributions will be made to support I-Help on May 9, and to Our Neighborhood Pet Project on May 10.

> **Nest Boutique** 229B Grand Ave Pacific Grove, CA 93950 831-333-9184 | www.nestinpg.com







WINE From previous page

terey Bay Certified Farmers Markets' seasonal markets in Carmel Valley and Monterey, offering the freshest local produce and specialty items while being smaller and less crowded than the year-round weekly Friday market.

The market at the Barnyard shopping center returns May 6 and is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays through the end of September. It's billed as "a charming weekday market with a leisurely pace and a spectacular array of California-grown fruits, vegetables and artisanal products."

Regular vendors include favorites Blue Heron (for the best little gem lettuce around), P&K, which turns out perfect strawberries and often draws a huge line at the Friday market, and Minazzoli, which is best known for stone fruits but farms nuts and other crops, as well.

Sunday vibes

Similarly intimate, the Sunday market at Del Monte Center starts May 11 and welcomes shoppers from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., the same hours as the regular Friday market there. It's located in the back parking lot near California Pizza Kitchen, so there's plenty of free parking, along with a "peaceful Sunday morning vibe," and runs through the end of September.

More information, including vendor lists for each seasonal market, can be found at montereybayfarmers.org.

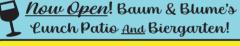
■ Master Makers dinner

The Annex Wine Bar at Seventh & Dolores in Carmel will host a special five-course dinner May 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. to "showcase the bounty of land and sea, thoughtfully paired with selections from the Moët Hennessy portfolio," said spokesperson Ashleigh Poland.

The evening will begin with French 75 cocktails, followed by a first course of seared diver scallop with caviar and blini paired with Moët & Chandon Brut Impérial. Other dishes in the lineup will feature local halibut and sauvignon blanc, beef carpaccio with Château d'Esclans rosé, char-grilled steak with Joseph Phelps cabernet sauvignon, and chocolate panna cotta with semi-dry champagne. Upgrades are available, too.

Tickets are \$200 plus tax and tip and can be ordered at theannexcarmel.com/events. Discounts are offered for Folktale Wine Club members.

Elaine Hesser and Mary Schley wrote this week's column.



Lunch Menu Highlights

Tasty Apps ~ Fresh Soup & Salad du Jour BBQ Onion Quesadilla, Antipasti Salad, Grilled Pork Burger, Veggie Kraut Dog, Mushroom Raviolis w/Sage-Shallot Butter + Di's Desserts, Wines & Beers!

For Lunch Reservations please call 659-0400

<u>Regular Hours:</u> Lunch: Thurs-Sat 12-3pm Takeout: Tues-Sat 11:30-7 Boutique: Mon-Sat 11:30-7 Catering Office: by appt.



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Hours 5-9 Wednesday-Monday, Closed Tuesday

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MUSIC

From page 35A

by Beethoven and Brahms Thursday, 7 p.m., at the Sand Box in Sand City.

"The program features Beethoven's *A major Cello Sonata*, a work of warmth and innovation, alongside Brahms' lush and lyrical *Piano Trio in C major*, a testament to his melodic brilliance," the Sand Box said. "Together these musicians bring to life music that traverses the emotional spectrum."

Tickets are \$40 for general admission and \$25 for students and active military. The Sand Box is located at 440 Ortiz Ave.

■ Free on Fridays

Sunset Center's series of free outside concerts on Fridays — Terrace Hour — is back in May and June. The series kicks off May 16 with a show by singer and guitarist **Flaco el Jandro** at 6 p.m. Sunset Center is located at San

Carlos and Ninth.

No tickets or reservations are required. "Bring your family, friends and fur babies," Sunset Center said.

Live Music May 9-15

■ Big Sur

Big Sur River Inn — singer and guitarist **Rick Chelew** (folk, Saturday at 12:30 p.m.), **Paige Too** (jazz, Sunday at 1 p.m.), singer and guitarist **Victor Veysey** and bassist **Kemen Waddell** (Thursday, funk, jazz and country). 46800 Highway 1.

Fernwood Resort — **Deep Trees** (folk and rock, Saturday at 10 p.m.). 47200 Highway 1.

Carmel

Barmel — singer and guitarist **Tony Burciaga** (Sunday at 7 p.m.). In Carmel Square on San Carlos north of Seventh.

Continues next page



Make a Real Difference in Someone's Life

OMBUDSMAN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The Alliance on Aging Ombudsman program is looking for caring individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of residents living in long-term care facilities.

Ombudsmen Volunteers:

- Advocate for residents' rights and quality of care
- Help residents understand their rights
- Listen, support, and help resolve concerns
- Conduct routine visits to Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living facilities

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE

Contact Elizabeth Campos ecampos@allianceonaging.org 831-655-7563

OR

Visit our Ombudsman open house: May 14th 10am-2pm 280 Dickman Ave, Monterey, CA

OMBUDSMAN CERTIFICATION TRAINING WILL BEGIN ON MAY 19 2025

Cypress Inn — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Friday at 7 p.m.), pianist Gennady Loktionov and singer Debbie Davis (cabaret, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.), The Andrea Carter Trio (jazz and 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.

Hyatt Carmel Highlands — singer and pianist Dino Vera (jazz, blues and r&b, Saturday and Thursday, both at 6 p.m.). 120 Highlands Drive.

La Playa Hotel — guitarist Glenn Bell (jazz, Tuesday

at 5 p.m.), mandolinist Dave Holodiloff (jazz, Thursday at. 5 p.m.). Camino Real and Eighth.

The Links Club — Meez (rock, Friday at 7:30 p.m.), The New Wave Band (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 — pianist Michael Culver (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.), guitarist Glenn Bell (jazz, Saturday at noon), singer and pianist TJ Kuenster (jazz, Saturday at 6 p.m.), guitarist John Sherry (rock and blues, Sunday at 11 a.m.). 415 W. Carmel Valley Road.

Edgar's Restaurant — Evergreen (pop and folk, Friday at 5 p.m.). 8205 Valley Greens Drive.

Trailside Cafe in Carmel Valley — The Deja Vu Duo (alt-rock, Saturday at 6 p.m.). 3 Del Fino Place.

Monterey

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

See LIVE page 42A







MANUFACTURING ACCURACY IN MOVEMENT

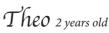
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Butters 1 year old

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Sermon title: 'IESUS OFFERS US A CRASH COURSE

IN IN-DEPTH FORGIVENESS' Pastor Paul Wrightman

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Anne@carmelpinecone.com to be included in this directory













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> For a full listing of our groups through 2025, please visit www.pgtravel.com/group-travel Please call us for reservations or more information!



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Roasted Beet Salad

Steamed Mussels & Fries

Arugula, goat cheese, and tarragon vinaigrette

Crab Cakes

Steamed Mussels & Fries
Coconut curry, thai basil, ginger and marsala

Mango chutney & greens

choice of **ENTREES**

Prime Rib

Whipped yukon gold mashed potato, asparagus, sour cream horseradish, classic au jus

Cioppino

Clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, seabass, roasted garlic & saffron broth

Rack of Lamb

Asparagus, fingerling potato, caramelized mushrooms, brandy peppercorn sauce

Double Bone Berkshire Pork Chop

With a creamy whole grain mustard sauce, kale & apples, mashed potatoes

*Choice of Housemade Dessert from our pastry case



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LIVE From page 40A

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

The Carmel Pine Cone

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.

Hyatt Regency Monterey
— multi-instrumentalist Gary
Regina (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.),
singer and multi-instrumentalist Casey Wickstrom (rock
and blues, Saturday at 6 p.m.).
1 Old Golf Course Road.

InterContinental Hotel—singer and guitarist Zack Freitas (Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 9 a.m.), guitarist John Sherry (rock and blues, Saturday at 7 p.m.), guitarist Terrence Farrell (Latin music, Sunday at 9 a.m.). 750 Cannery Row.

Midici Pizza — singer and guitarist Pablo Riviere, flutist Kenny Stahl and bassist Patrice Wallace (jazz, Sunday at 5 p.m.), singer Akina Miyata and keyboardist Bill Spencer (jazz, Thursday at 6 p.m.). 467 Alvarado St.

Monterey Plaza Hotel — multi-instrumentalist Gary Meek (jazz, Friday at 6 p.m.),

singer and pianist **Scott Brown** (jazz and pop, Saturday at 6 p.m.), pianist **Steve Mann** (jazz, Sunday at 9:30 a.m.), pianist **Martan Mann** (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.), singer and multi-instrumentalist **Meredith McHenry** (Wednesday at 6 p.m.). 400 Cannery Row.

May 9, 2025

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.

Salty Seal Pub — Blind Pass (rock, Friday at 8 p.m.), The Edge Band (rock, Saturday at 8 p.m.). 653 Cannery Row.



Violinist Livia Sohn and others will play music by Beethoven and Brahms Thursday.

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

Sly McFly's — The Money Band (pop and rock, Friday at 9 p.m.), The Hackjam-

See SING page 45A

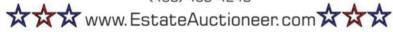
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CALENDAR

May 9-10 – Shop for Mother's Day at Baum & Blume! Crystal earrings & pendants, scarves, elegant opera dusters, spring hats, handmade soaps, stained glass ring boxes, Mother's Day cards, popup paper bouquets and gourmet treats! Open 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat., Baum & Blume and The Carriage House, 4 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley (831) 659-0400.

May 10 – Carmel Valley Lodge's Spring Maker's Market from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 8 Ford Road, Carmel Valley Village. Food and drink, local artists, craftspeople, galleries and more! Admission is free. Bring Mom and have a fun day in the sun! See you all there!

May 10 – Mother's Day Floral Design Workshop at Gallery Nila with Lauren Walsh, featuring handmade pottery, fresh local flowers and mimosas! Workshop set 10 a.m.-noon, just in time for Mother's Day! Register at www.laurenwalshfloraldesign. com Gallery Nila Fine Art + Floral, 665 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove. (831)383.8969.

May 10-11 – "Celestial Voices," a musical journey that explores the stars and heavens through a variety of choral music, from jazz to classical to popular. Concert begins 7 p.m. May 10 and 3 p.m. May 11 at the First United Methodist Church of Pacific Grove. Tickets are \$20 to \$30 with a \$5 discount when you purchase from a Monterey Peninsula Voices choir member. Tickets at MPVoices.org

May 16 – 18th Annual Women's Fund Luncheon of the Community Foundation for Monterey County: "Strength, Resiliency, Hope." This inspiring event features a conversation with artist and author René Romero Schuler. Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa, 1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey. Reception 11 a.m., Luncheon noon-1:30 p.m. Tickets: give.cfmco.org/WomensFund2025.

May 19 – Neil Hotelling, author and historian, will share stories of the history of the Woman's Clubs movement in America and our very own Carmel Woman's Club. 2 p.m. Carmel Woman's Club, San Carlos and Ninth, Carmel-bythe-Sea. Open to the public. Guests \$10/ members free.

May 19 – The Monterey Peninsula College Orchestra, directed by David Dally, will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the MPCTheatre. The 50-piece ensemble will perform Mozart's "Magic Flute" Overture, Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony," and Prokofiev's "Classical Symphony." Tickets are available at the door only: \$10 general admission, \$5 students and military.

May 21 – "Hands & Hearts @ Hidden Valley" is a lively and meaningful evening honoring those affected by cancer. It features food, wine, raffle, silent auction and live music from the 60 East Band and Anne & Pete Sibley. Event set for 5:30 to 10 p.m. at Hidden Valley, 104 W. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley. Admission is \$125. www. hpcchealingtouch.org

May 27 – The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB) presents a dinner lecture by Mr. Robert Kimmitt, former ambassador to Germany and former deputy secretary of the U.S. Treasury. Presentation topic is "Defining National Security." The dinner event takes place at Hilton Garden Inn, Monterey. To learn more visit www.wacmb. org

June 14 – Crawfish Boil & Cajun Sausage Demo by Chef Peter Braback. Enjoy live Cajun tunes, feast on spicy Louisiana classics and come ready to socialize. Event is set for 5 to 8 p.m. at Quail and Olive, 14 Del Fino Place, Carmel Valley Village. Tickets at Eventbrite.com or call (831) 659-4288

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Students shine in art contest, Marjorie Evans Gallery welcomes painter

A BRILLIANT, Billion of Stars," an acrylic painting by Vivian Ming, a student at Pacific Grove High School, took third place in the annual Congressional Art Competition hosted by Congressman Jimmy Panetta.

Ming describes her piece as an homage to the women of the world. It shows a young female figure with her face covered by two hands, "casting a shadow across her face and blocking her view, a representation of how many women have their opportunities and potential blocked

Art Roundup

By CHRIS COUNTS

from them," Ming said. "Her face is ambivalent, seeking to peek through the spaces in the hands to the universe outside, yet still unsure of the existence of the sky."

While the painting conveys a sense of helplessness, it also offers hope. "Just beyond the hands is a bright and brilliant galaxy, full of billions of stars, representative of each woman, shining bright," the artist said.

One of Ming's classmates, Sophia Spivey, received an honorable mention for distinctive style for her painting, "What Becomes of Roads No Longer Traveled?"

More than 6,500 student-artists participated in the lat-



A striking painting by Pacific Grove High student Vivian Ming earned a top prize in the recent Congressional Art Competition.

est contest — including 21 in the 19th Congressional District, which Panetta represents. "Through their expression, these high school artists reflected the beauty, diversity and shared values of our home," the congressman said.

■ 'Color of Paradise'

Drawing creative inspiration from influences around the globe, painter Azadeh Nikou presents a display of her work in Sunset Center's Marjorie Evans Gallery, which will have a public reception for the artist Thursday at 5 p.m.

Born in Tehran, Iran, Nikou studied art in Hawaii before settling in Pacific Grove. Along the way, her art has been shaped by landscape paintings from 10th century China, miniature paintings from 18th century Persia and French Impressionism.

Nikou has explored many avenues of creativity, but she keeps returning to painting with oils. "While I have developed interest and talent in a variety of art mediums such as watercolors, acrylics, printmaking and photography, I have consistently found myself going back to the rich and heavenly colors of oil on canvas," she explained.

Titled "Color of Paradise," the show will be on display through June 20. Open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or whenever there's a theater performance, the gallery is in Sunset Center at San Carlos and Ninth.

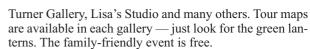
■ New kid in town

Located in the courtyard near San Carlos and Seventh where Barmel is, painter and photographer Dale Diesel's gallery celebrates its grand opening Saturday — just in time to be a part of the monthly Carmel Art Walk, a self-guided tour that showcases more than a dozen downtown galleries from 4 to 7 p.m.

For Diesel, the opening of the gallery marks a short move up the coast. For the past four decades, he has lived in Big Sur, where his carpentry skills earned him a living, and his surroundings inspired his creative talents. For six years, he operated a studio and gallery in the Village Shops just south of Big Sur River Inn.

While the new gallery is located in the heart of downtown Carmel, offering easy access to art-loving visitors, it's mostly made up of windows — giving Diesel little wall space to work with. So he improvised by putting his building skills to work, designing a clever display that showcases his original paintings, giclees and photographs. The gallery features an array of new work by Diesel, along with pieces that date back as far as the 1970s.

Besides the Dale Diesel Gallery, art walk participants include Gallery Sur, Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery, Joaquin



■ Fearless photographers

The Center for Photographic Art welcomes a display Saturday by four artists — Debra Achen, Matthew Finley, Maria Isabel LeBlanc and Katie Shapiro — who received grants from the center last year. The gallery in Sunset Center hosts an opening reception Saturday at 4 p.m. A talk by the photographers starts at 3 p.m. in Carpenter Hall next door.

"Don't miss this opportunity to hear these fearless photographic artists talk about their processes and their journeys," executive director Ann Jastrab said. "These diverse and wondrous projects are unique and riveting, from traditional b&w darkroom prints, to mixed media collage and sculptures, to found photographs that have been altered and assembled into book form, to photographs on glass and other substrates. This year's grantees have honored the roots of photography and also pushed the boundaries of what a photograph can be."

The show continues through June 1. Sunset Center is located at San Carlos and Ninth.



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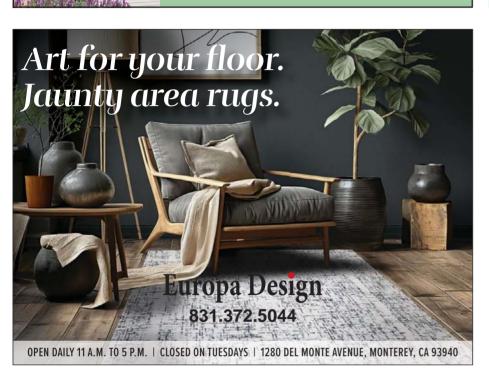
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SING From page 42A

mers (rock, Saturday at 9 p.m.), The Rod Wilson Band (classic rock, Monday at 8:30 p.m.), The Pacific Jack Band (classic rock, Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.), Johnny Tsunami (rock, Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.). 700 Cannery Row.

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■ Pacific Grove

First United Methodist Church — Monterey Peninsula Voices presents its Spring Concert (choral music, Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.). Tickets are \$30 with discounts for active military, seniors, students and kids. 915 Sunset Dr.

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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

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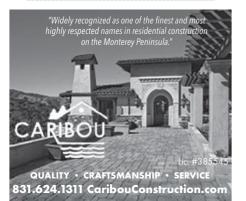


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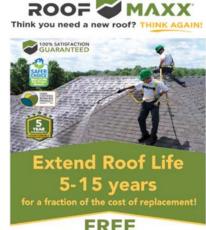
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